



**Regulations Governing Cooperation
Between The OIC General Secretariat and Non-
Governmental Organizations**

Article (1): DEFINITIONS

- 1- **Summit:** The Islamic Summit
- 2- **Council (CFM):** The Council of Foreign Ministers
- 3- **Secretary General:** The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- 4- **General Secretariat:** The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- 5- **Organization (OIC):** The Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- 6- **Member States:** The OIC Member States
- 7- **CPR** committee of permanent representatives as mentioned in article 13 of the charter.
- 8- **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):** The non-governmental non-profit independent legal entities whose members have common goals, apolitical in their nature or programmes, active in social, humanitarian, and cultural affairs, such as education, health, heritage, advancement of women, family, childhood, and youth affairs, relief, media, and other fields of voluntary work.
- 9- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):** A cooperation or partnership framework entered into by the General Secretariat with any NGO defined above. This framework may be a protocol of understanding, cooperation agreement, letter of understanding, or memorandum of understanding.

Article (2): OBJECTIVES

The General Secretariat's cooperation with NGOs aims to contribute to the achievement of the OIC objectives, in total compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit, the Council and sectoral ministerial meetings relevant to the agreed areas and programs of cooperation. This shall be through joint action approved by the host country of the concerned NGO, particularly concerning field study and assessment of basic needs of society, as well as programs for awareness-raising, rehabilitation, social integration, fight against marginalization, exclusion, discrimination, and against propagation of doctrinal ideas leading to wider sectarian division.

Article (3): MODE OF COOPERATION

The General Secretariat shall cooperate with NGOs under memoranda of understanding (MoUs) concluded by the Secretary General or his delegate with NGOs in Member States, whose regulations conform to the provisions of Article (5) below.

The OIC may also cooperate and conclude MoUs with the NGOs of the Muslim Minorities and Communities in non-OIC Member States, provided these NGOs are active in combating Islamophobia, xenophobia, racism, and religious discrimination, and promoting intercultural dialogue and supporting the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds, along with other Muslim world causes advanced by the OIC in its resolutions.

Article (4): AREAS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation with NGOs shall cover social, cultural, scientific, humanitarian, economic and sustainable development affairs as well as family, childhood, and youth affairs, media, combating Islamophobia, racism, xenophobia, religious discrimination, and all other matters that fall within the purview of the OIC.

The MoU defines in clear terms the nature of services agreed between the General Secretariat and the NGO (e.g. consultancy, studies, research, field activities, etc.).

Article (5): CONDITIONS OF COOPERATION

An NGO seeking cooperation with the General Secretariat shall meet the following requirements:

- 1- Have objectives that conform to the OIC objectives;
- 2- Submit evidence indicating that it has been actively working for at least three years in the area of its intended cooperation with the General Secretariat, by way of documents and statements attested to by the competent authorities in its host country with which it is registered;
- 3- Submit statements on its budget in the past three years, sources of income, spending, workers (paid or voluntary) and beneficiaries of its services;
- 4- The General Secretariat should obtain the approval of all Member States of the CPR or CFM to conclude the MoU with the concerned NGO;
- 5- Obtain the approval of the concerned Member State prior to carrying out any fieldwork therein;
- 6- Before concluding an agreement with an NGO, the General Secretariat should consult with the OIC Member State concerned and submit a request to its Foreign Ministry regarding approval to establish such cooperation.

Article (6): DURATION OF COOPERATION

- 1- Cooperation between the OIC and any NGO shall be for a period specified in the MoU and subject to interim reviews and assessment. The Cooperation agreement may extend by way of a written agreement between the parties provided non-objection from Member States and the host country of the NGO. Based on consultations with Member States, the Secretary General may also rescind it at any time if the NGO proves unserious, in prejudice to the OIC objectives and principles, in violation of the agreement, or that it provided inauthentic statements to conclude the agreement. The Secretary General may also rescind the agreement if a Member State discovers that the NGO is an extremist organization or an entity that supports or finances extremism, and in case of liquidation or dissolution of the NGO.
- 2- The OIC Member States shall have the right to request termination of the cooperation agreement with the NGO if proven to be in prejudice to the OIC objectives and principles or the agreement.

Article (7): FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF COOPERATION

The General Secretariat shall not incur any financial burdens due to conclusion of any cooperation agreement or MoU with NGOs, other than the coverage of services that such organizations may extend to the General Secretariat under the cooperation agreement.

Article (8): OBLIGATIONS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to the obligations stipulated in each cooperation agreement,

- 1- The NGO shall abstain from any activity that conflicts with the OIC objectives and principles throughout the cooperation agreement.
- 2- A cooperation agreement shall not establish any institutional status for the NGO within the OIC. It is a framework for cooperation that expires as provided for therein at which point all legal consequence arising therefrom, save for those relating to completing the implementation of prior commitments, shall terminate between the two parties.
- 3- A cooperation agreement shall not accord the NGO the right to use the OIC logo except when implementing activities for the OIC and subject to the prior written consent of the OIC Secretary General.
- 4- An NGO shall abstain from violating the national law and regulations of any OIC Member State during its operation.

Article (9):ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The concerned NGO may enjoy the following privileges under the agreement as per each case:

- 1- Attend the OIC meetings, including sectoral ministerial conferences, related to the scope of cooperation agreement between the two parties, provided non-objection by the host country of the NGO and the OIC Member States, and provided a written invitation is extended to the NGO to attend the meeting.
- 2- Benefit from the OIC activities, such as training courses, programmes and symposia.
- 3- Participate in the execution of activities and events held or overseen by the General Secretariat in those fields relating to the subject of agreement.

Article (10): RESPONSIBILITY AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

- 1- Any dispute that may arise between the two parties regarding the substance of the agreement shall be resolved by negotiation based on the common objectives and mutual benefit of both parties.
- 2- If either party decides to revoke the cooperation agreement, it shall notify the other party with that decision, in writing, within one week prior to the termination of cooperation.

Article (11): AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT

Both parties may propose amendments to the cooperation agreement if such amendments would improve its substance or facilitate its execution provided the adoption of such amendments by both parties. The amendments shall be adopted by a complementary agreement subject to the same procedures followed in the original agreement.

Article (12): ENTRY INTO FORCE

The text of the MoUs shall be submitted to the CPR or CFM for appraisal. Cooperation agreements concluded under the present regulations between the General Secretariat and NGOs shall enter into force based on the prior approval of the CPR or CFM upon their signature by the OIC Secretary General or his delegate, and by the duly delegated representative of the NGO.

Article (13): ENTRY OF RULES INTO FORCE

The present regulations shall enter into force upon their ratification by the Council and cannot be amended without its prior approval.
