

Speakers of Chambers of Algerian Parliament to "PUIC":

Strategic Issues Face Muslims



The Speakers of the two Chambers of the Algerian Parliament: Council of the Nation and the National People's Assembly, Their Excellencies Salah Goudjil and Ibrahim Boughali, addressed in separate interviews with the "PUIC", issues of strategic importance to the Islamic World and its People's: including joint Islamic action; victory of Palestine; reality of growth and development; migration of brains and youth; ramifications of Climate Change; preparation of a health system to face epidemics.

For details read inside pages

INDEX	
Interview with Hon. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali	2
Interview with Hon. Mr. Salah Goudjil	6
Article by HE. Mohammed Yazid Bin Hamouda	10
Council of the Nation of Algeria	12
National People's Assembly of Algeria	13
Visit to the Rohingya Camps	14
The 1st Meeting of the Minorities Committee	16
The 1st Extraordinary Meeting of the Political Committee	17
The 47th PUIC Executive Committee	18
16th PUIC Conference	20
Parliamentary News	24
Secretary General's Activities	28

Istanbul Hosts 16th PUIC Conference

Under the High Patronage of H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, the PUIC Conference held its 16th Session in Istanbul, on 5-6 Jumadul Awwal, 1443H, corresponding to 9-10 December 2021. The Conference was attended by (32) delegations, including (9) Speakers of Parliaments, (6) Deputy Speakers, (17) Heads of Delegations, as well as (12) Observers. His Excellency, President affirmed that Al Quds is not the cause of a group of brave Muslims only, but rather a common cause of the entire Islamic World.

see page 20

Editorial



By Mouhamed
Khouraiichi Niass,
Secretary General

This new issue of the «PUIC» news bulletin is produced at a time when the PUIC continues its 24-year march forward of unstinting efforts to realize the noble objectives of the Union.

All the PUIC members (numbering 54) are keen on the success of this march under huge banner titled solidarity, cooperation and understanding proceeding from Islamic brotherhood in fulfillment of the saying of Almighty Allah, "Indeed believers are brothers".

The continuous action for the rapprochement of points of view, durable coordination and direct dialogue are mechanisms adopted by the PUIC to realize its objectives, and for this purpose, it has convened, up to now, (18) conferences, two of them were emergency conferences, whereas the Union's organs held scores of meetings.

Although the march is long and needs patience and determination, yet all these meetings, throughout the PUIC history, were pervaded by a spirit of understanding, cooperation and interest, on the part of members, in order to preserve the unity of the organization. The PUIC General Secretariat has always been keen on the continuity and regularity of the sessional meetings. The Coronavirus pandemic disrupted this situation.

However, we look forward to the future with big hope after the pandemic has disappeared... almost.

Here we are resuming all our meetings.

The 17th Session of the PUIC Conference is being convened in Algiers on 29 and 30 January, 2023, together with the related meetings.

We hoped that this conference was held in 2022. Although the host Republic of Algeria was quite ready for this, but, regrettably, we were not able to do it during the previous year. The Palestinian cause continues to be the pivotal issue in all our meetings because it is the essential cause of the Islamic Ummah, a cause of right and justice, a cause of defending the Islamic sanctities. We pray to Almighty God to grant us, : "Help from Allah and a speedy victory". We hope that the new year will be a blessing for everyone, and that we are able to cover steps along the road towards the realization of pride, dignity, plenty and prosperity for our Ummah.



Speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly to the "PUIC": Drawing Up PUIC Strategy Commensurate with Contemporary Challenges

H.E. Mr. **Ibrahim Boughali**, Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Algeria, in his interview with the "PUIC" addressed several issues of importance to the Islamic World. The interview focused on activation of joint Islamic action; The Palestinian Cause ; challenges of modernity and development; African health system; migration from poor countries; and Climate Change. Following is the text of the interview:

» **PUIC:** The motto of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference is the "Islamic World and the Expectations of Modernity and Development", and the role of Parliaments in realizing this ambition and hope. How can Parliaments make modernity and development a concrete reality through the legislative process?

Mr. Boughali: First of all, there is a need to explain that parliament, in addition to being an official institution, and one of the public authorities of the state, is distinguished by springing from society and closely attached to it. It is, therefore, necessary to be always in the core of the interests and aspirations of societies. And as the connection between modernity and development is so close that it is impossible to imagine one without the other, the defining of concepts in a plain and clear manner, as well as advancing these expectations, are responsibilities that fall on the shoulders of Parliaments, primarily.

It is, therefore, incumbent on Islamic States to have their own approaches to address the expectations of modernity and development which are based on foundations and principles originating from their religions, cultural and civilizational values, considering that genuine development and modernity ought to be a mirror that reflects the identity of the society i.e. putting material components to the service of advancing science, technology and knowledge which are coming to us, and consciously adapting the various provisions of modernity without total immersion in the incoming alien values, and without prejudice to the fundamentals of our Islamic identity and creed. Parliaments, considered as the most open and interactive institutions with societies, have firstly the responsibility for awareness, informationally, culturally and even religiously, of the importance of erecting this ideological immunity through which it is possible to sieve whatever ideas that come to us, and to upgrade the expectations imposed on us by modernity and development.

Taking up the Algerian experience, Algeria has made modernity one of the most outstanding specifications of development, on the various economic, cultural and human levels. The Algerian Parliament has kept abreast of this orientation, whether at the level of texts through achieving the twinning of modernity and development in the various laws which have been studied and ratified in various sectors, as well as at the level of

practice, and being keen to render the tools of the age and the purpose of development in the core of the legislative and control action which the parliament assumes, while at the same time preserving the essentials of the Algerian nation, its identity with its three dimensions, Islamic, Arab and Amazigh.

» **PUIC:** During the first Conference of Presidents, and leaders of African Parliaments, which was hosted by Abuja, Capital city of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on 9 and 10, May 2022, you stressed the necessity of preparing a health system in Africa aimed at dealing with epidemics and pandemics such as Covid-19 Pandemic, through a specific strategy. Can you Excellency shed more light on the strategy to which you referred in view of its significance to the African continent?

Mr. Boughali: It must be recalled, at the outset, that the lessons learned from this pandemic include the importance of scientific development of societies, and control of technologies of the age, as well as the significance of building strong national economies. Therefore, the African strategy approved in order to prepare a health system capable of addressing epidemics and pandemics was built on several elements and initiatives which may be crystallized into legislations and interventions. The First part of this strategy focuses on enhancing

the health structures in African countries, and scientific research in the health field. The meeting affirmed the necessity of supporting and intensively investing in the health sector, in such a way as to re-qualify its infrastructure, and the local production of vaccines, together with focusing on scientific research, and qualifying scientists in preparation to any similar challenges in future.

The second Part focuses on the personnel of the health sector in terms of doctors, nurses, technicians, and other workers related to this sector. It stressed on knowledge of all the needs of these personnel and workers, including the issuance of encouragement and incentive laws to enable them to do their work in the best conditions and avoid their emigration abroad. I open a bracket here in order to address the problem of brain drain from which Africa is suffering as well as most of the states of the Third World, and which constitutes one of the most outstanding challenges that ought to be confronted. The majority of the outstanding researchers and doctors who work in the biggest research centers and world hospitals come from Africa and Arab regions. Many of them have received their education in their countries of origin, Algeria is the best example of this. Consequently, it is necessary to find out an urgent and effective solution to put an end to this exhausting of human energies and enable our countries to benefit from them.

The Third part of the African strategy focuses on the financial and economic aspects. The meeting called for establishing urgent funds in the framework of financial laws for confrontation and protection and to tackle any extraordinary incidence of epidemic and similar crises. It also urged on supporting national economies with laws that guarantee protection of national companies and institutions by way of issuing laws with collection nature that lessens duties, incentivizes investment and protects work jobs. It includes other measures in this regards, such as supporting local agriculture, controlling the food chain and developing relevant industries in a way supportive of food security, which seek to create a strategic stock of renewable basic materials in a regular manner in addition to social support and protection by laws and measures that relate to vulnerable categories as well as the most affected professions such as transportation and tourism, and also urgent investment in new technologies, artificial intelligence

 **Islamic States are duty-bound to have their own approaches to deal with the challenges with modernization and development**

 **Algiers Declaration which crowned the meeting of the Palestinian factions constituted an important step to bring the Palestinian again to the forefront.**



and digitalization in order to ensure the proceeding of work and commercial exchanges even under health quarantine and border closure. It may be known that this African strategy stressed the importance of including the climatic dimension and its impacts in all strategies and laws and emphasized extending support and actual participation of women and youth in the various initiatives, and for their contribution to the resurgence of the economy as well as the diversification of the sources of financing.

» **PUIC: The World has witnessed receding of the Coronavirus Pandemic. How do you envision reactivation of joint Islamic action in the framework of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States?**

Mr. Boughali: The Coronavirus Pandemic has constituted one of the most important challenges that faced human beings, and greatly impacted PUIC activities, as well as joint Islamic action. Notwithstanding its effects, the pandemic highlighted wonderful values of solidarity, brotherhood

and altruism. In this juncture, I salute PUIC initiatives and efforts to confront the pandemic and assist the less developed Muslim countries. I also salute the huge efforts of exerted by some states, including Algeria.

It is worth mentioning that the crisis of the Coronavirus Pandemic has shown shortage in our joint Islamic action, and placed us before a reality that many of the objectives to which we have aspired did not materialize, and that there are big challenges and quick developments we find ourselves facing, which no state can single-handedly confront or stand steadfastly in front of it, that require us as an Islamic nation to work diligently, with a quick tempo, and carry out deep revisions in method, programs, tools, and introduction of deep reforms that qualify the PUIC to become an effective instrument for joint action at the Parliamentary level, and actual contribution to realize Islamic solidarity, and support and follow up governments in this regard, and what Islamic peoples aspire for. From here, it has become necessary to draw a strategy for the PUIC based on a new approach that conform to the spirit of the age and the challenges which it imposes that enables our organizations to achieve a bigger breakthrough in the international arena for the sake of caring for the interests of the Islamic Ummah, and defending its causes in the light of the various experiences and lessons learned from previous stages. This, specifically, is the basic objective of the 17th Conference which Algeria is hosting. It is also the essential motive for choosing its motto: "The Islamic World and Expectations of Modernity and Development". Also it is not possible to ignore the economic factor and its significance in enhancing and activating political action, and the building of stronger bridges between peoples, consequently, the PUIC has to focus on the post- Covid-19 phase, on developing economic cooperation among Islamic countries, and the preparation of a more appropriate ground for an economic Islamic bloc which will be supportive of the PUIC.

» **PUIC: Although The Palestinian Cause began during the past century, yet the struggling Palestinian People still face the most cruel kinds of injustice, where Muslim Worshipers are denied access to Al-Aqsa Mosque, First Qibla and Third of the Holly Sanctuaries, to perform the rituals of their Islamic Religion because of the persecution of**

□ Algerian experience has rendered modernization one of the most poignant determinants of development while preserving the essentials and identity of the Algerian nation.

□ The Coronavirus pandemic revealed wonderful values of solidarity and brotherhood in our Islamic World and exposed the shortage in joint Islamic action.

□ It is imperative to coordinate between PUIC States to face the common challenges in the field of Climate.



the Israeli Occupation authorities. How does your Excellency view the PUIC Role in realizing further mutual solidarity among the Member Parliaments, in order to support the legitimate struggle of the unarmed Palestinian people?

Mr. Boughali: First of all, it should be remembered that the Cause of Palestine, and Al-Quds, in particular, was, and still is, the central cause of the Islamic Ummah and the PUIC, and perhaps the sine qua non of PUIC existence and the source of its unity and strength. It is the duty of all Muslim states and their parliaments in this space to coordinate and cooperate in international and regional fora in order to extend the necessary support, defend this cause and reintroduce it to forefront, and thwart all attempts to remove it from international agenda under the shadow of escalating crises which the world is witnessing today. It is also an obligation to affirm the importance of Al-Quds as an integral part of the Palestinian territory as enshrined in international conventions, and to propagate its religious significance and face the occupation designs to obliterate the identity of the city and change its features. It is certain that “Algiers Declaration” which crowned the meeting of the Palestinian Factions has constituted a really important and successful step to bring the Palestinian cause back to the forefront, a matter which has been further enhanced after the Arab Summit which was hosted by Algeria in the First of November, especially after it adopted the Algiers Declaration and its initiative for the sake of unifying the Palestinian rank. The duty of Parliamentarians in all Muslim countries within the PUIC space is to support this cause and adopt the road map paper which the Algiers Declaration has drawn up. They also have to support the demand for Palestine’s full membership at the United Nations, because this constitutes a strong push in favor of the Palestinian

Cause, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility vis-à-vis the Palestinian people, in addition to providing material and moral support to the Palestinian People, and stressing that upholding to international legitimacy through the two-state solution is the one way towards a durable and comprehensive peace. In my view, the PUIC is also called upon to carry out a big task at the level of the media to face the blackout which is imposed on the suffering of the Palestinian People, and unmask the criminal practices of the Israeli occupation in Al-Quds as well as in different Palestinian regions, and urge the various forces advocating peace and brotherhood among peoples to maintain solidarity with the Palestinians and their legitimate right to resist, to life, and to the establishment of their independent state.

» **PUIC:** Millions of migrants live in appalling conditions having been compelled to leave their homelands because of disputes, wars, poverty and hunger. How can the phenomenon of migration and displacement be addressed, especially in PUIC countries?

Mr. Boughali: Dealing with the phenomena of migration and displacement and concomitant complications is not an easy matter. Addressing them must be based on a sound framework, and carried out with a comprehensive and integrated conception that is not devoid of mechanisms of cooperation and recourse to wisdom. PUIC countries, like other states, are facing the ramifications of migration and displacement as regions of origin or crossing or destination, and the outcome of all this on various levels, whether in security because the connection of this phenomenon sometimes, regrettably, with terrorism, organized crime, or the economic or social even health levels, that necessitate the deployment of further efforts to face this

phenomenon, whether on the international domain by way of bilateral or collective cooperation agreements; or at the domestic level through legal or security treatment, and the creation of institutions concerned with this phenomenon, together with the necessity of prevention, protection, upgrading and pre-emptive treatment of the factors causing this phenomenon, whether in security, social or developmental dimensions, and that the humanitarian approaching must be the main determinant in dealing with the migrants and displaced people in a manner that preserves their dignity and the rights of the states receiving them, and ameliorating the burdens imposed upon them by world waves of displaced people and refugees. Algeria adopts a comprehensive approach aimed at eliminating the root causes of these phenomena which are basically represented in political instability, conflicts, terrorism, trans-border organized crime, in addition to poverty and the lack of development, and other factors. This tackling takes place through addressing various crises and disputes by peaceful means and without foreign interventions, and enhancing development in deprived regions aimed at assisting their citizens to settle, according to a balanced conception based on cooperation and solidarity, and at the same time stresses observation of the humanitarian aspect in dealing with refugees and the displaced in such a way as to preserve their humanitarian rights and dignity. I view this approach as the most appropriate to deal with the questions of migration and displacement which face different PUIC States, in addition to the necessity of action to include the dimension of migration and migrants in the policies of development at the national and regional levels, and act to adopt policies which are apt to place migration in context, and to steer them in a good way, together with enhancing cooperation with the states of destination and the transition States, on the one hand, and the states of origin, on the other, through initiating projects for structuring economic development that contributes to the settlement of the population, ensure basic services in these regions, and enhancing training and cooperation aimed at upgrading the qualification of local administration in response to the demands of development. Furthermore, there is another issue which is not less significant. That is, the necessity of not viewing migration from the angle

of suffering and the harsh humanitarian conditions of the migrants only. But there is also another dimension in this issue concerning the qualified people living abroad which the PUIC States should have a special policy towards them, aimed at encouraging benefiting from them, and to confront the phenomenon of brain drain.

»PUIC: The Algiers Declaration adopted by the 47th Meeting of the PUIC Executive Committee, which was hosted by your august Parliament, affirmed the necessity of cooperation among the Member Parliaments to address the issue of Climate change. How do you envision the possibility of realizing this objective in reality?

Mr. Boughali: Algeria was among those States which hastened to ratify all agreements on climate, and undertook several measures to face climate change, whether through including them as constitutional rules to protect the environment, or creating an

□ It is necessary to find an urgent and effective solution to put an end to exhausting human resources through brain drain, and to enable our countries to benefit from them.

□ The Obligation of Islamic States and their Parliaments is to cooperate and coordinate in order to extend the necessary support to the Palestinian Cause, and thwart all attempts to remove it from the international agenda.

economic, social and environment council, the tasks of which include proposing solutions for environmental problems, and offering concrete consultations...ect. The best example for Algeria's attention to this matter is the participation of the President of the Republic Mr. Abdul Majid Teboun in the Summit of World leaders in the Conference to the Parties of UN Framework Agreement concerning climate change (COP27) in Sharm-e-Sheikh, Arab Republic of Egypt. The Algerian Parliament, in harmony with these orientations, effectively contributed to enhancing the legal arsenal, and accommodate the national legislations concerning climate and environmental change vis-à-vis the present circumstance. It also approved, as an initiative, to create a parliamentary network about the environment and the Climate which allowed even representation in it of deputies from previous legislatures, aimed at contributing to finding solutions and proposals that would help in confronting this challenge. The Parliament also participated in the proceedings of the Parliamentary Forum on climate change which was organized by the Climate Parliament last November in Luxor (Arab Republic of Egypt). In my view, PUIC Parliaments are invited to keep abreast of the endeavors of the international group on climate change and its negative impacts. This should be an essential pivot in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and accompanying the government policies aimed at accommodation with the climate change, and acting to the participation of all categories of society to confront its effects, while being keen on the contribution of approved laws to the enhancement of the national capabilities to manage the environment in a sustainable manner and the protection of the climate. Also to contribute to the preparation of national plans and strategies which are based on sound environmental policies, in addition to awareness, and the formation of a strong political will to pressure in the direction of supporting and encouraging the sources of renewable energy and preservation of forests. Close coordination between parliaments from different states is an indispensable imperative in this field. The PUIC must have its own outlook and initiatives aimed at creating larger cooperation and coordination frameworks among the Member Parliaments in this regard. *



Speaker of the Algerian Council of the Nation to the “PUIC”:

Action to Enhance Palestinian National Fabric

H.E. Mr. **Salah Goudjil**, the Speaker of the Algerian Council of the Nation spoke to the “PUIC” news bulletin stating his vision and ideas concerning several of the issues and causes with important reflections and ramifications on the development of events in the space of the Islamic Ummah, as well as the regional and world domains. Following is the text of the interview :

» **PUIC:** The motto of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference is development and renaissance, as well as the role of parliaments in realizing this aspiration and hope. How can parliaments render this development and renaissance into a concrete reality through the legislative process?

Mr. Goudjil: Parliaments have big and direct role in achieving development, and upgrading the level of resurgence and modernity. Their wide power, and legislative and control mechanisms enable them to exercise their pivotal role in implementing the global development agenda, by contributing to drawing up appropriate plans and mechanisms by way of proposing relevant laws and ratifying

the legislation of the best practices in distributing the budget in development sectors, in addition to studying priorities, and following up the progress made in implementing projects by way of questioning and field visits. We have selected the subject of development and modernity for the Algiers Conference in view of the dire need of Islamic States for a genuine developmental renaissance, wherein we invest our capabilities in such a way as to serve our peoples, and considering that the future is for modernity, digitalization and keeping abreast of technology in all fields. We have to learn lessons from the past and reject encapsulation in antiquated practices. Modernity is the way to a renewed world. Our duty is to go hand in hand with this orientation in order to preserve our distinctions and specificities as an Islamic world with a deep rooted history together with development renewal and openness. In this framework, I reiterate from this august Parliamentary forum, the impossibility of achieving any progress or development without full sovereignty, which, in turn, does not come without supporting the national political decision

through the independence of the economic decision, in reality and not verbally, and with actual, well – studied real practices, which are certain of the legitimacy and efficacy of this sovereign right without going back or doubting.


This is the orientation adopted by new Algeria whose pillars have been laid by the President of the Republic Mr. Abdul Majid Teboun, through a promising development program, in which is materializing the independence of the political and economic decisions in such a way as to serve the interests of the people and the state away from all forms of dependency or hegemony. This has resulted in several resolutions and measures directed towards the realization of a genuine economic renaissance, emanating from the 2020 constitution which has been approved by the Algerian people in the First of November, 2020, which has solidified democratic practice, and opened for Algeria economic horizons worthy of the new historical stage. The most recent of these resolutions have been the revision of the currency and loan law in order to keep abreast of the deep economic reforms which we began to reap its first fruits, also the ratification of the text of the


law on investment, which goes hand in hand with the positive mobility of this sector in the new Algeria.

» **PUIC:** Although the Palestinian Cause began during the past century, yet the struggling Palestinian People still face the most cruel kinds of injustice, where Muslim Worshippers are denied access to Al-Aqsa Mosque, First Qibla and Third of the Holy Sanctuaries, to perform the rituals of their Islamic Religion because of the persecution of the Israeli Occupation authorities. How does your Excellency view the PUIC Role in realizing further mutual solidarity among the Member Parliaments, in order to support the legitimate struggle of the unarmed Palestinian people?

Mr. Ghoudjil: Breaching the inviolability of Al-Aqsa Mosque and closing it in the face of worshippers is a barbaric behavior to be added to the repulsive practices from which the Palestinians suffer in silence, such as displacement, detention, killing, persecution, usurpation of land and properties, deportation of citizens and the building of settlements before the ears and eyes of the international community. This is a colonialist methodology, the aim of which is to sow despair and despondency in Palestinian ranks, and push them towards capitulation.

The Palestinian Cause has been, and shall remain, the pivot of our action, struggle and core issue. The laxity of the international community continues to extend all types of unconditional backing and support to the Palestinian People until the restoration of their legitimate rights and establishment of their state on the borders of 4th June, 1967, with Al-Quds as its Capital. This is in accordance with international reference and resolutions of the International legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative of the Beirut Summit of 2002. In this context, I recall the Algiers Declaration, adopted by the Thirty-First Arab Summit, which was hosted by Algeria on 1 and 2 November, 2022, where the Palestinian Cause came at the top of its agenda. Leaders of Arab States praised the deployed Arab efforts for the sake of unifying the Palestinian ranks, and they welcomed the signing by the Palestinian brothers of the “Algiers Declaration” emanating from the

 **Modernization is the road towards a renewable world. We must keep abreast of this orientation in such a way as to preserve our distinctions and specificities as an Islamic World.**

 **The Palestinian Cause has been, and will remain, the pivot of our action and struggle. It is our core cause.**



Conference on gathering the factions in order to realize Palestinian national unity, which was convened on 12 and 13 October 2022, under the patronage of the President of the Republic Mr. Abdul Majid Teboun. They also affirmed the centrality of the Palestinian cause and the absolute support to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to freedom, self-determination and the materialization of a fully sovereign independent Palestinian state.

The Palestinian cause necessitates complete transparency in all stances. We, parliamentarians, in our capacity as representatives of peoples who are passionately attached to the cause of Palestine and Al Aqsa Mosque, shoulder the responsibility for demanding this transparency, and also to spread the voice of the cause to the world through the mechanisms of parliamentary diplomacy,

and act to solidify relationship among the brothers in Palestine away from schisms and internal seditions on which the occupation is feeding.

Praise be to Allah this materialized through the Algiers accord. This historic meeting which gathered all parties and put an end to the discord among the brothers for the sake of realizing unity, and focusing efforts on confronting the Israeli occupation with one heart and one voice, following endeavors and efforts preceded by sincere intentions vis-à-vis our primary central cause.

Algeria was keen on putting an end to the long-years state of schism between the brothers in Palestine. This is based on our historic experience in confronting the biggest colonialist force in the world at the time, and from the success of our revolution, Revolution of the First of November, 1954, which was firstly based on realizing unity among the Algerians as a first and most important step, which is indispensable to achieve victory.

As a Mujahid, who participated in this revolution, I saw closely the keenness and persistence on avoiding all forms of discord, through calling on Algerians to be involved in the great war of Liberation without any political, ideological or ethnic membership, and without calculations for party or category or personal interests. This is what has achieved the great people's national power which defeated a fierce colonialist power that lasted 132 years.

The PUIC has deployed praise – worthy efforts in the fields of defending the Palestinian Cause, whether in the framework of the PUIC Palestine Committee or in regular or extraordinary conferences. Or through its participation in regional and international parliamentary organizations. Also PUIC presence brings together Muslim People is in itself a guarantee of the Islamic Unity which we need in such circumstances. It is incumbent on us, as an effective parliamentary organization to continue to propagate the Palestinian Cause and its development at parliamentary fora, and urge world parliaments and the liberals to actually confront the Israeli occupation, and stop the Zionist colonialist tide in the Arab and Islamic regions.

» **PUIC:** The World has witnessed receding of the Coronavirus Pandemic. How do you envision reactivation of



Welcoming the Algiers Declaration emanating from the reunification Conference for the sake of realizing Palestinian National Unity.

joint Islamic action in the framework of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States?

Mr. Ghoudjil: The Islamic States, like other world states, have suffered from the ramifications of the proliferation of the Coronavirus. Praise be to God, this pandemic has receded, thanks to Allah, then to the efforts of the states and governments, which accommodated its conditions in accordance with the required protective measures and arrangements, and also thanks to the understanding, cooperation and solidarity of peoples. It is worthwhile to ponder today how to recover from this critical phase, and raise the post – Corona expectations in order to upgrade the economies of our states, especially amid the ambiguity and accelerating changes known now to the world financial order. We may consider this phase as an opportunity for contribution to reconstruct the world economic order, and head towards a new order which is more beneficial, safe and fair for our peoples. Also to enhance effective world values such as the principles of non-alignment

which Algeria calls for strengthening according to a new orientation away from the logic and concepts of the cold war era, especially with the increasing the sharp international polarization which does not serve the interests of our states, and obstructs the realization of the aspirations of peoples towards peace, progress, development, justice and sovereignty. The Changes which the world witnessed in the post- epidemic phase is an occasion for rallying ranks of the people of the PUIC, and unifying visions in order to get involved once again in the contexts which serve their interests. Parliamentarians have a big role in this endeavor through the available legislative and supervision mechanisms. In the framework of our Islamic world, solidarity and joining forces in difficulties are sublime values engendered from our civilizational heritage and the tenets of true religion, which we can practically materialize through the PUIC. There are many matters which we can do by way of coordination and cooperation among parliaments to introduce appropriate alternatives to our specificities, and urge our governments to enhance cooperation and intensify

partnership agreements in various fields.

» PUIC: Millions of migrants are in harsh conditions after being compelled to leave their countries because of disputes, wars, poverty and hunger. How can the phenomenon of migration and displacement be dealt with, especially in PUIC Countries?

Mr. Ghoudjil: The question of migration and displacement is intertwined with all the renewed challenges facing the world today. Its solution depends on the seriousness of implementing effective policies, not only for protection, reintegration and resettlement, but to eliminate totally the real root cause of these phenomena which impinge on the dignity of individuals, and threaten national security, and settlement of societies, and exhaust state budgets. Among those causes is colonialization, terrorism and violent extremism, as well as disputes, crises, grave violations of human rights, in addition to the regression of the levels of economic development, and the increase of the tempo of climate change which take away the essentials of living, and regrettably, enlivens the movement of migration and displacement from affected regions.

In this context, it is our obligation, as parliamentarians to contribute towards drawing up final solutions through supporting the right of peoples to self-determination, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, and the adoption of peaceful option in settlement of

disputes, and cementing the policy of peace and national reconciliation, enhancing democracy, and achieving the big objectives of sustainable development, together with adoption of the approach of reconciliation, dialogue, and opting for an effective developmental strategy as successful solutions to eliminate violence, extremism and terrorism. We have experienced the effectiveness of this approach in our successful experience in Algeria.


We, in Algeria, focus, in addressing these issue, and all just issues in the world, on the parameters of our foreign policy which is based on our November reference, the most important pillar of which is supporting justice and equity, and the right to freedom and sovereignty, from which springs our total support of the right of peoples in their self-determination. PUIC involvement in this endeavor gives parliaments an appropriate space to contribute to this subject. We have touched this through the attention of the PUIC Conferences and specialized Committees to the issue of migration and refugees which is regularly on the agenda of the PUIC work. We look forward to bigger materialization of Islamic Parliamentary cooperation through coordination of positions in international and regional fora, and advocating a comprehensive and balanced and solidarity approach in which the interests of countries of origin, countries of transit and countries of destination in a balanced form, while pushing towards intensifying cooperation and advancing economic partnership among PUIC States, and utilizing parliamentary diplomacy to counter colonialism and solve disputes.

» PUIC: The “Algiers Declaration” adopted by the 47th Meeting of the PUIC Executive Committee which was hosted by your august Parliament, affirmed the necessity of cooperation among the Member Parliaments in order to address the issue of Climate Change. How do you view the possibility of achieving this objective in reality?

Mr. Goudjil: Of course, we have to raise the standard of cooperation among the PUIC Member Parliaments to address the issue of climate change which is striking the states of the world in varying degrees. Regrettably most of the peoples who were hurt by its consequences fall within the circle of

developing states in a way that exacerbates their economic burdens in the face of this imminent global danger. Facing climate changes depends on the extent of states respecting their commitments adopted by the sessions of the Conferences of the parties to the UN framework agreement on climate change, also elimination of the causes, including the mad utilization of natural resources and the unequal economic race, together with shouldering the full responsibility by the perpetrators through serious rectification of all the distortions which have led to this grave

 **We must, as an effective Parliamentary organization, continue to push forward the Palestinian cause, confront the Israeli Occupation and stop the Zionist colonialist tide in the Arab and Islamic areas.**

 **The Challenges witnessed by the world in the Post- epidemic phase are an occasion for our states to rally their ranks and unify their visions in order to be involved in the frameworks which serve their interests.**



environmental situation. Parliaments, as a party participating in the parties' conferences, where parliamentarians stated their approaches and initiatives, and all possible solutions that materialize in laws and legislations which they ratify. Our roles are important and clear. The PUIC can establish a collective framework which guides these efforts and speaks about what is right in this matter which exhausts our states and peoples. We can also exchange experiences within the PUIC activities, and crystallize unified positions that serve our interests and decreases the ramifications of climate change on the economies of our states. Lastly, allow me to welcome the PUIC members in Algeria on the occasion of the convening of the 17th PUIC Conference and Related Meetings during the period 26 to 30 January 2023. We are proud of hosting these important parliamentary proceedings. We, in Algeria, are proud of our civilizational belonging to the Islamic World, and we feel gratified to uphold to our tolerant Islamic religion, not only in independent Algeria which has been keen to register this firm belonging in all its constitutions since the ramification of the first constitution by the Algerian People on 8 September, 1963, even a long time before that. Algeria fought colonialism which is well – versed in crushing civilizational identities and utilization of religions in order to besiege the source of light which guides peoples towards their freedom and dignity, and, and strangulation of their natural aspiration to liberty. Our jihad was launched for that purpose and because of this, it was crowned with resounding success. The land and also religion were liberated. The successful Revolution of First of November 1954 set free the Algerians, men and women, and enabled them to freely exercise their religious rituals, after the French destructive colonialism stole their right for more than a century. And as you know the destructive colonialist ideology is based on changing extremism, bigotry and terrorism into religious entities aimed at fighting the moderation in the Islamic religion. Therefore, we will continue the battle today through our support and steadfastness of religious moderation, which is based on the values of compassion, cooperation, dignity, freedom, and the respect of Man and the right of peoples to self-determination.

For Sustainable Development from the Archipelago to the Atlantic



By: Mohammed Yazid Bin Hamouda

Deputy of the National People's Assembly of Algeria,

Member of the PUIC Executive Committee



On every occasion in which the PUIC meets, discussions are opened, and dialogue and debate are established in a civilized and refined manner, which is motivated by concern and the general interest of peoples who hope in their parliaments for what is right for their conditions and statuses.

The choice of Algeria to host the seventeenth session (17), as much as we consider it a commendation and a medal of honor and appreciation, we see in it a good selection, and a good

affection. Algeria, which the free and honest people are not accustomed to, except for the principled position, the missionary word, and the good and sincere will in everything that concerns the Islamic nation in general. That is why you will not see from Algeria anything but truth, and you will find in it nothing but sincerity, as before it was a keeper of promises, a servant of covenants, a hoister and a holder of banners. Some scholars and some analysts may make mistakes when they

cannot imagine the existence of a relationship of some importance between parliamentary institutions and developmental, cultural, economic and commercial activities that produce wealth and finance.

They have their excuse if it comes to the traditional “old editions” and “copies” of these “parliaments”, whose auxiliary subsidiary and institutions were dominated by the “ideological proposition” that does not go beyond the idea, and does not cross the boundaries

of a non-binding proposal. But when we take a closer look at the values axis, the geopolitical field, and the geostrategic space, in which the parliaments of Islamic countries can move, raise, or aspire to, we find that they have the capabilities that qualify them to be a polarizing axis, not a polarized fringe, by activating the “proposal authority” in coordination with field wealth-producing institutions. What helps in all this is what we are witnessing from the beginning of the disintegration of the old axes, and the emergence of new axes of polarization, that possess finance, wealth and weapons, with a strong desire to “reorganize the world” and create “new maps” in a way that guarantees their economic and ideological interests for survival, expansion, and development if possible. There are many field evidences, perhaps the most important of which is the “Corona virus” with all its political exploitation through not innocent readings, and the Russian/Ukrainian war, which made old Europe in the eye of the storm, in addition to its disturbance of European luxury and the prosperity of the North, which is considered by its beneficiaries a red line, and finally, the Arab/Chinese summit, meaning that the financial bloc and the strategic location have “shone” in coordination with the awakened dragon, as well as the American/African summit, which aims to compensate for potential geostrategic and economic losses in the Middle East.

These profound pivotal changes make the PUIC face the inevitability of searching for a comfortable “location” for all its members, or building a pole on the axis of the archipelago of

Indonesia/the Atlantic Ocean, as planned and theorized by the philosopher of civilization “Malik bin Nabi”. For our part, we suggest to him the name “Islamic Association”, which can make other people’s spaces a popular market not only for its economic products, but also for its valuable and cultural products, as it has the largest ever-exhaustive reservoir of values, which is the Islamic message with its eternal human values. The “Archipelago / Atlantic” axis can transform these values into a cultural and artistic product that sweeps away other human fields, in light of this dubious spiritual thirst from which all humanity suffers. Also, the union can be an “Islamic League”, in terms of its role in linking Islamic energies, developing them, recommending them, and introducing them to each other, especially if we know that the “gray matter” that finances the world with ideas and creativity is almost half Muslim, but most of it lives in diaspora and a state of wandering, in countries that invest well in human talents and competencies, without caring about religion, race, sect or party, as is the case in many Islamic countries, with great regret. What is preventing these popular representative bodies from extending ties of cooperation and coordination with thousands of cultural and scientific organizations, bodies and institutions spread across this axis, in order to work on our ancient common history, exploit its rhetoric and events, and revive it in artistic molds with human contents? And that America has achieved its global presence in “Hollywood” before it achieved it with the “Marines” and the “B 52”, and let us take an example in this also with the

“Harry Potter” series by the British writer “JK Rowling”, because in its material income it has exceeded an oil well. It is not difficult for the PUIC Member parliaments to pay the utmost attention to the economy, it seeks to be an ambassador of goodness and goodwill between countries, opening horizons for joint production, by introducing the producing entities (contracting or companies) to each other, and facilitating the possibilities for the transfer of expertise and capital. Of course, in coordination with the guardian and specialized authorities, because it is illogical for the capabilities of the Islamic nation to remain in the banks of its enemies. An activity like this is enough to set in motion an economic mechanism beyond what everyone imagines, in terms of air and sea routes, and a flourishing tourism movement, in a way that guarantees sustainable development. All of this is done within a clear framework of transparency that respects many of the historical, political and sectarian specificities of this or that country. Because the difference is mercy, as stated in the heritage.

Algeria, which hosts the seventeenth session of the PUIC Conference, is striving to consolidate this “integral movement” in any diplomatic endeavor it adopts, undertakes, or bets on, it does not believe in separating the endeavors she undertakes, especially in this era when the means of communication have been able to cancel borders and distances, but rather cancel time.

Algeria believes in field work and field application of everything that is agreed upon on blank papers or drafts in closed meetings.



□ Deep pivot changes in the world puts the PUIC before the inevitability of seeking a comfortable “position” of all its members.

□ “The Islamic Concorde” from the Archipelago to the Atlantic Ocean possesses the biggest reservoir of values, which is the “Islamic Message”



H.E. Mr. Salih Goudjil Speaker of the Council of the Nation

Born in 14 January, 1931,
Patna State, Algeria

● Mujahid, and Member
of the National Liberation
Army since the beginning
of the Liberation Revolution
until restoration of National
sovereignty in 1962

● Assumed Leadership
positions in the National
Liberation Front Party

● 1979-1986: Minister
of Transport and Marine
Fishery

● 2007-2012: Elected
Deputy in the National
People's Assembly for the
State of Setif

● January, 2013: Appointed
member at the Council of the
Nation for the Presidential
Third for a term of six (6)
years

● January, 2019: Re-
appointed Member at the
Council of the Nation for the
Presidential Third for a
term of six (6) years (until
January 2025)

● 29 January 2019: Deputy
Speaker of the Council of the
Nation.

● 9 April 2019: -23 February
2021: Acting Speaker of the
Council of the Nation

● 24 February, 2021:
Unanimously Elected
Speaker of the Council of
the Nation

● 24 February, 2022: Re-
elected, unanimously, as
Speaker of the Council of
the Nation for a term of three
years



Council of the Nation of Algeria

The Council of the Nation was established in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of 28 November 1996, which includes 182 Articles, 52 of which concern the Council of the Nation. Article 98 of the Constitution has stipulated that a parliament composed of two chambers: The National People's Assembly and the Council of the Nation, "shall exercise legislative power", "and has sovereignty in the preparation of laws and the voting thereon". Thus the Algerian Parliamentary System is built on the principle of the (Parliamentary duality).

The existence of the Council of the Nation in the Algerian Parliamentary System realizes several objectives, the most important of which are:

Solidifying plural democracy and free expression in the legislative institution.

Guaranteeing good national representation, which in more diversification, integration and harmony, through the adoption of the standard of the regions side by side with the standard of the population; Enhancing and effectuating decentralization at the national level, through the activation and revival of a new dynamism in local communities,

Ensuring the balance between the institutions of the State and maintenance of its stability.

The Council of the Nation is composed of (174) members according the Constitution of First November, 2020, whereas in the past it was composed of 144 members.

The Two Third of (2/3) if the Council's members are elected by secret indirect balloting from among and form the members of the municipal people's councils, as well as the state people's council to the tune of two (2) members for each state, i.e. to a total of (116) members. The President of the Republic shall appropriate the remaining third (1/3) i.e. (58) members from among the national personalities and the qualified people in the scientific, professional, and economic fields. The terms of the Council of the Nation shall be six (6) years, half of the number of members are renewed every (3) years. This process is called partial renewal. The Council of the Nation's steering and organizing are governed by the provisions of its establishment (Constitution) as well as organizational provisions enshrined essentially in the Organic Law No. 16/12, dated 22 Zul Qaeda, 1437H corresponding

to 25 August 2016, which specifies the organization of the National People's Assembly and the Council of the Nation as well as their work, and their functional relations between themselves and between the government, and also by interval regulations of the Council of the Nation which the Council approved in a public session on 25 Ramadan, 1438H, corresponding to 30 June, 2017.

» Standing Committees:

Council of the Nation has (9) Standing Committees as follows:

- 1- Committee on Legal and Administrative Affairs, Human rights, Local Organization and Regional Structure and Division
- 2- Economic and Financial Affairs Committees
- 3- National Defense Committee
- 4 Committee of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Algerian Community Abroad
- 5- Agriculture and Rural Development Committee
- 6- Committee on Education, Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, and Religious Affairs
- 7- Equipment and Local Development
- 8- Committee on Health, Social Affairs, and National Solidarity
- 9- Committee on Cultural, Information, Youth and Tourism



National People's Assembly of Algeria

The First legislative elections in Algeria were conducted on 20 September, 1962 i.e. a few months following national independence. The aim for establishing the elected assembly for a term of one year was to enact the Basic Law of the country. In fact, that allowed the promulgation of 10th September, 1963 constitution which focused, in particular, on the principle of the unicameral parliament. On 22 November, 1967, the national arena witnessed, in the framework of completing the institution of the Algerian State, the promulgation of a new constitution which provided, as per (Article 126) for the establishment of one house called the National People's Assembly charged with the legislative power. On 25th February, 1977, the Assembly was elected for a term of (5) years and was regular renewed in 1982 and 1987.

The Constitutional amendment on 23 February, 1989, maintained the principle of unicameral through the preservation of the National People's Assembly, although, on the other hand, it dedicated the principle of the separation of the legislative, executive and judicial power (Article 92). The resignation of the President of the Republic led to the halting the process of renewing the structure of the Assembly whose term had already expired, which resulted

in a state of legal void, leading to the installation of transitional structure (higher state council, national consultative assembly, and the transitional national assembly) pending the making constitutional amendment on 28 November, 1996 which introduced changes by creation a bicameral parliament, which was composed then of the National People's Assembly (380 Deputies), and the Council of the Nation (144 Members), constituting at that time, the first pluralist parliament of independent Algeria. Members of the National People's Assembly number now 407 Deputies, of whom 398 Deputies represent the total electoral constituencies at the national level. Eight Deputies represent the community living abroad. Article 121 of the 2020 Constitution stipulated that the members of the National People's Assembly shall be elected by secret direct public balloting. Article 12 of the 2020 Constitution stipulated that the people are free to choose their representatives. Article 16 considered that the elected Assembly is the framework in which the people express their will and observe the general authorities. Also Article 116 stressed that the parliamentary opposition enjoys rights that enable it to actually participate in the parliamentary proceedings, including parliamentary diplomacy.

»» Structures and Organs of the Assembly

The internal regulations of the National People's Assembly have defined, on the basis of the text of the constitution and the Organic Law, which specifies the organization of the National People's Assembly and the Council of the Nation and their work as well as the functional relation between them and the government, and also the structures and organs of the Assembly, most prominently: The Speaker, Bureau of the Assembly, Committee of Presidents, Committee on Coordination, The Parliamentary Group, The Standing Committees.

»» Standing Committees:

1- Committee on Legal, Administrative and Freedoms Affairs / 2- Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and the Diaspora / 3- National Defense / 4- Finance and Budget / 5- Economic Affairs, Development, Industry, Trade and Planning / 6- Education, Higher Education, Scientific, Research and Religious Affairs / 7- Agricultural, Marine Fishery and Environment Protection / 8- Culture, Communication and Tourism / 9- Health, Social Affairs, Labor and Vocational Training / 10- Housing, Supply, Irrigation and Urban Development / 11- Transport, Wire and Wireless Communications / 12- Youth, Sports and Collective Activity.



H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali
Speaker of the National
People's Assembly of
Algeria

Family Status: Ibrahim Boughali, Born on 3rd March, 1963 in Qhadaya, Married and father to 4 sons,

● Parliamentary Group: Liberal Deputies "Unity and Change List"

● Education: License Degree from the Institute of Political Science and International Relations in 1986- University of Algeria

● Professional and Political Track: 1989 Director, Ghardaya Agency for the National Fund for saving and Reserve.

● 1995 In charge of Superior tasks at Al- Baraka Bank.

● 1997- 2017 Director Ghardaya Agency for Algerian Tourist Club

● 2017- July 2020 Member of the State People's Assembly. Head of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Irrigation of the People's Assembly of the State of Ghardaya.

● 20 July 2020 Speaker of the State People's Assembly, State of Ghardaya. He was called the Engineer of Reconciliation.

Since 8th July 2021 Speaker of the National People's Assembly. For this post, which is the third highest post in the State, he got (295) votes out of (407)

Accompanied by PUIC Secretary General:

PUIC Committee Visits Rohingya Camps

From 18 December to 22 December, 2022, H.E. Mouhamed Khouraihi Niass, the PUIC Secretary General accompanied a delegation from the Committee on Muslim Communities and Minorities of the PUIC who visited Bangladesh in order to be informed about the conditions of the Rohingya refugees, and declare solidarity with Bangladesh, which hosts, now more than 1.2 million Muslim Rohingya, who have fled because of a savage military campaign in their homeland the Rakhine State in Myanmar, in August 2017. The Delegation was headed by Dr. Orhan Atalay, Rapporteur of the Committee of Muslim Communities and Minorities (from Turkish Parliament). The Delegation also included Dr. Abolfazle Amoui (from

Iranian Parliament); Mr. Bashir Lubiga Sampa (from Ugandan Parliament); in addition to a number of other officials from the PUIC and the Parliaments concerned. The Delegation met with the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Bangladesh, Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury. It also met with the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh Dr. AK Abdul Momen, as well as with the Minister of education Dipu Moni. The delegation also met with Mr. Johannes van der Klaauw, UNHCR Representative in Dhaka. The Delegation visited the camps of the Rohingya refugees and listened to their legitimate requests to return to their original homeland with the guarantee of their rights and living in safety, security and dignity in their land.







First Meeting of the Committee on Muslim Communities and Minorities:

Demanding Respect of the Rights of Minorities

The Committee on Muslim Communities and Minorities, subsidiary of the PUIC Standing Specialized Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations held its first meeting on Friday, 27 May, 2022, in Ankara, Republic of Türkiye. The meeting witnessed a wide-range exchange of views on the future work of the Committee which was formed as per resolution of the 16th Session of the PUIC Conference, held in Istanbul on 10 December 2021.

Those who made interventions were unanimous on affirming the importance of establishing this committee in order to be a PUIC tool for contributing to the protection of the rights of these minorities and extending a helping hand to them pursuant to the obligation of Islamic brotherhood. They expressed their deep concern about the incidents of hatred and Islamophobia targeting Muslims, particularly in European states. They called on non-Muslim States to put an end to discrimination, and amend their legislations accordingly.

They considered that the Committee is concerned with events in occupied Palestine, especially the systematic destruction of Islamic antiquities and sanctities, and pursuing a policy

which constitutes the extreme kinds of hatred and Islamophobia.

They also spoke about the suffering of the Rohingya, Muslim Uighur minority in China, as well as, the suffering of Muslims in India, especially those in Kashmir region, and the ordeal of Muslims in the Central African Republic.

During the meeting, Prof. Orhan Atalay, delegate of Türkiye and Rapporteur of the Committee, spoke about the broad lines of the draft report which he intends to present to the next Conference about the issues on human rights.

H.E. Mr. Mouhamed Khourachi Niass, the PUIC Secretary General affirmed that the rights of the Palestinian people are the rights of the entire Islamic Ummah, and that the Palestinian cause is in at the forefront of PUIC action.

The interventions focused on the following points;

Proceeding from the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human rights, calling for respecting the rights of Muslim Communities and Minorities in non-PUIC Member States which face challenges, obstacles and problems emanating from discrimination, repression and suppression which necessitate the importance of continuous coordination among PUIC members

through this committee for the sake of helping these minorities, and protecting their religious, cultural, civil, political as well as economic rights, and preservation of their Islamic identity. The Speakers referred to the suffering of the Muslim Rohingya Minority in terms of suppression, deportation and killing in Myanmar which have led to the migration of more than one million Muslims to neighbouring Bangladesh, and called for the necessity of expediting finding a solution to this tragedy. They also spoke about the suffering of Muslims in India, especially in the occupied Muslim Kashmir region and in others, and called for holding India responsible for its flagrant and systematic violations of the human rights of Muslims. Stressing that the Committee should make the resolutions adopted by the OIC and the PUIC the basis of its work in the field of caring for Muslim minorities together with benefitting from whatever is produced by the concerned organizations and research centres in the Member States in this regard.

Acting to guarantee protection of the Palestinian people from war crimes and crimes against humanity, or actions tantamount to them, perpetrated by the Israeli colonialist forces and their settler terrorist gangs.



Extraordinary Meeting of the PUIC Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations:

Adoption of Rules of Procedure for Muslim Communities and Minorities Committee

The 1st Extraordinary Meeting of the Standing Specialized Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations was held in Ankara, Republic of TURKIYE, on Thursday 26 May, 2022. The Meeting was attended by members of the Committee, as well as two members of the Troika.

The Rapporteur, Prof. Orhan Atalay, delegate of the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Türkiye, expressed that: "The rise of hatred against Islam is a fundamental human rights issue. Immediate intervention is essential to eradicate the painful consequences of this disease before it occurs. This intervention requires both measures to be taken at the national level, and cooperation between states. There is a need for effective and efficient cooperation of the international community around a common political will." The Rapporteur added "I would like to draw your attention to the situation of our Muslim Turkish brothers living in Western Thrace. The Religious freedoms and ethnic identities of our Western Thrace compatriots are not accepted by Greece". He went on to say that "The situation in Cyprus cannot be ignored when it comes to the human rights violations faced by Muslims". The Rapporteur stressed that the "Humanitarian crisis faced by the Rohingya Muslims, who left their lands and became refugees as a result of the

violence they were subjected to, unfortunately, continues to be serious".

He also asserted by saying "We convey our sensitivities and expectations regarding the situation of the Uyghur Turks, and other Muslim minorities in China to the Chinese side in our bilateral contacts."

The Meeting also adopted the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Muslim Communities and Minorities, following insertion of the necessary amendments which included, in addition to the preamble, (8) Rules. Rule (3)

specifies the objectives of the Committee, some of which are: Analyzing the current situation of the Muslim Communities and Minorities in non-PUIC Member states; Preventing potential violations through dialogue based on mutual understanding; acting to cease ongoing violations; promoting sustainable peaceful coexistence in related countries; respecting the human rights of Muslim Communities and Minorities. Objectives also include examining allegations and complaints of violations of human rights of Muslim Communities and Minorities. The Committee may consult eminent experts and academics, hold hearing, organize fact-finding missions. It may also organize seminars and meetings as well as prepare printed and printed multimedia materials in order to raise awareness to the issue of human rights.

Following the election of Türkiye as its Rapporteur, the Committee elected, from among its members, members of the Committee on Muslim Communities and Minorities on the basis of two members from each geographical group, as follows:

-The African Group: Niger and Uganda, - The Arab Group: Kuwait and Palestine, -The Asian Group: Iran and Indonesia, In addition to the above, there are the three members of the Troika: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Türkiye,

Necessity of Helping Muslim Minorities and Preserving their Rights and Islamic Identity





In the 47th Meeting of the PUIC Executive Committee:

Focusing on Solidarity of Islamic Ummah

In response to a kind invitation extended by the Algerian Parliament, the PUIC Executive Committee held its 47th Meeting at the International conference Centre (CIC) in Algiers on 13 March, 2022. The Meeting was attended by Members of the Executive Committee participated in the Meeting, while the representatives of Burkina Faso and Cameroon were absent. (List of Participants is attached)

The Session was opened by a recitation of blessed verses from the Holy Quran.

The Meeting of the committee was opened by His Excellency Mr. Brahim Boughali, Speaker of the National People's Assembly of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

In his address Mr. Boughali welcomed the delegations of the States of the PUIC Member Parliaments who gathered to attend the Meeting of the Executive Committee in Algiers. He focused on the unity and solidarity of the Islamic Ummah saying that by meeting under the banner of Islamic cooperation.

His Excellency the PUIC Secretary General Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi NIASS, expressed his happiness to be present on the land of Algeria, land of pride, honour and magnanimity. He offered ample thanks to the Algerian authorities for hosting this meeting, as well as for the

good reception and generous hospitality. He also thanked the Republic of Turkiye for hosting the 16th Session of the PUIC Conference which met in Istanbul, on 10 December 2021. His Excellency affirmed the importance of the present meeting of the Executive Committee, which will make preparations for the coming Session of the conference.

Working Session

The Working Session proceeded under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Brahim Boughali, Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Algeria, who stressed the necessity of unity and solidarity, and called on the committee members to work as a one team.

Item One – Election of Members of the Bureau:

Cote d'Ivoire was elected as Vice-Chairman from the African Group; Malaysia was elected as Vice-Chairman from the Asian Group; Mr. Yazid Bin Hamoudah was elected as Rapporteur from Algeria.

Item Two- Adoption of the Agenda and Work Program;

Item Three- Report of the Secretary General:

The report of His Excellency the Secretary General covered the period spanning the

date of the 46th Meeting of the PUIC Executive Committee, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkiye, on 9th December, 2022, and the current 47th Meeting of the Committee, convened in Algiers on 13 March, 2022. The report of the Secretary General was adopted.

Item Four- Defining the Date of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference:

The PUIC Executive Committee unanimously approved the hosting, by the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference, after it became impossible to be hosted in Tunisia.

The date shall be determined in coordination between the PUIC General Secretariat and the Algerian Parliament.

Deliberations of the Meeting:

Those who made interventions were unanimous in thanking the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for hosting this meeting, underlining that it is convened in highly serious international circumstances which necessitate the PUIC to be on the level of facing these challenges. They also highlighted that there is no other way for achieving this except by solidarity, unity, and the renunciation of sectarianism, ethnicity and doctrinarism proceeding from what has been made obligatory on us by our true Islamic religion.



Algiers Declaration

Adoption of Algiers Declaration. Following are excerpts:

Item Five- Considering the issue of members of the Standing Specialized Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations

Following exhaustive discussion, the members of the Arab Group in the Executive Committee affirmed the right of the Geographical Groups to nominate its members to the membership of all the committees, and the necessity of including the Syrian Parliament among the members of the Arab Group in the Political Committee. Pursuant to this it was decided to withdraw this point from the agenda. The Turkish delegation recorded its reservation about this decision.

Item Six- Examining the draft Rules of Procedures of the Committee on “Muslim Communities and Minorities” committee, subsidiary to the PUIC Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations. The Draft of Procedure were adopted, and that they are to be circulated to the Members to seek their proposals thereon.

Item Seven - Draft Agendas of the 9th Meeting of the Specialized Standing Committees: Agendas of these committees were adopted.

Item Eight- Preparing Draft Agenda of the Subsidiary Organs: Agendas of these Subsidiary Organs were adopted

Item Nine- Drawing up Draft Agenda of the 24th Session of the PUIC General committee: Agenda was adopted

Item Ten- Drawing up the Draft Agenda of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference: The Agenda was adopted

Item Eleven- Adoption of Algiers Declaration and the Report of the 47th Meeting of the PUIC Executive Committee.

We, the members of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC), gathered at the 47th ordinary session, held in Algiers, Algeria, on 10-11 Shaaban 1443 corresponding to 13-14 March 2022, under the chairmanship of the Algerian Parliament;

- Reiterating our adherence to the Parliamentary Union principals and objectives aiming to establish peace, democracy and stability in the Islamic World and to engage the Islamic Ummah in the process of building a world of peace, stability and development,

- Highlighting the pivotal role of the Parliamentary Union as a collective voice of the Muslim world, guided by values of justice, democracy and constructive dialogue in providing adequate solutions to the Islamic world issues, through a consensus-based decision making process for promoting security, stability and development in a peaceful and fair way,

- Being guided by the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the OIC and the statute of PUIC:

- Affirm our respect for the principles and objectives of the Union,

- Reiterate our unwavering support to the Cause of Palestine, the preservation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including the right of return. In this regard, we reiterate our support to the Arab Peace Initiative,

- Stress the importance of raising awareness about Islamic teachings aimed at countering terrorism, violent extremism and religious intolerance; and combating islamophobia and extremist movements,

- Call to promote the role of culture and identity as a means to strengthen collaboration by creating a cultural project aiming at reviving Islamic values,

- Emphasize the importance of organizing international youth fora in order to spread a moderate Islam that embraces various and divers values and cultures,

- Welcome the Turkish proposal of creating a committee for Muslim Minorities within the Union and we thank it for its invitation to hold the Political Committee and the troika meeting to discuss this committee guidelines,



Istanbul Hosts 16th Session of PUIC Conference

Necessity of PUIC Role, Unity of Islamic Ranks

Under the High Patronage of H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, the PUIC Conference held its 16th Session in Istanbul, on 5-6 Jumadul Awwal, 1443H, corresponding to 9-10 December 2021. The Conference was attended by (32) delegations, including (9) Speakers of Parliaments, (6) Deputy Speakers, (17) Heads of Delegations, as well as (12) Observers.

The Conference was inaugurated on Friday morning, 6 Jumadul Awwal 1443H, corresponding to 10 December 2021, at Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul, with the presence of His Excellency Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, and the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly, H.E. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sentop, as well as members of the Assembly, and the Members of participating delegations. Proceedings of the Conference took place under the theme: (Sharing, Conscience and Islam: Palestine, Migration and Afghanistan).

The ceremony commenced with recitation of Verses from the Holy Quran. Then H.E. Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, PUIC

Secretary General delivered a speech in which he offered sincere thanks to H.E. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for gracing the Conference by attending its inaugural Session. He also expressed thanks to Professor. Mustafa Sentop, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, for hosting the 16th Session of the PUIC Conference, and for the excellent organization of the Conference. He affirmed the importance of this Session which comes two years after the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Then H.E. Mr. Sayouba Ouedraogo, Chairman of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights at the National Assembly of Burkina Faso delivered the speech on behalf of the Speaker of the Assembly and President of the PUIC 15th Conference, H.E. Mr. Alassane Bala Sakandé, who could not attend because the date of the Conference coincided with the commemoration of the Independence Day of his country. In his speech he expressed thanks to the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for organizing the Conference, and the warm reception as well as the

generous hospitality. Then he addressed the Palestinian cause, and offered thanks to the Islamic parliament of Iran for hosting the emergency meeting of the Palestine Committee.

Afterwards, H.E. Prof. Mustafa Sentop, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, delivered his speech. He welcomed those attending this new session of the PUIC Conference. He stated that Türkiye has hosted the Conference, being convinced of the importance of the PUIC, and the necessity for it to play its complete role under the shadow of the fast moving transformations which the world experiences all around us. He requested the unity of the Islamic rank.

Then H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, expressing his welcoming of holding the Conference under the title of (Sharing, Conscience and Islam: Palestine, Migration and Afghanistan). He offered thanks to all those responsible for the Conference. President Erdogan stressed that humanity is struggling against a formidable pandemic which has claimed the lives of more than (5) million people



during the past two years. He underlined that several citizens, including past and present deputies have lost their lives during this critical phase.

His Excellency affirmed that Al Quds is not the cause of a group of brave Muslims only, but rather a common cause of the entire Islamic World, and that defending Al Quds is defending and protecting humanity, and is considered as defending of rights, law, peace, justice and civilization.

His Excellency also pointed out that states neighboring to regions of crises shoulder the major burden in the issue of migration and refugees, and not the Western States whose voices are raised in this regard.

President Erdogan stressed that Muslims, not only combat the Coronavirus pandemic, but also combat a rising level of Islamophobia and human crises. He said “we cannot allow Europe to be transformed into a detention camp for our Muslim brothers of whom 35 million live in Europe. We, as a PUIC, should take steps which are more resolute against Islamophobia and the hate discourse.”

The Working Session:

Having performed the Friday prayers in Aya Sofia historic mosque, the Conference resumed its proceedings at the Congress Palace in Istanbul, on Friday evening, 6 Jumadul Awwal 1443H, corresponding to 10 December, 2021 under the presidency of H.E. Professor Mustafa Sentop, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye. The Outstanding Subjects addressed by the Speakers:



Cause of Palestine is Basic Cause of Muslims

PUIC: Enhancing Coordination and Interdependence

»» FIRST: THE CAUSE OF PALESTINE:

- Durable peace necessitates establishment of two states in Palestine, and there would be no solution to the conflict without this.
- Requesting to revitalize Al Quds Fund, and supporting the (UNRWA), in order to support the steadfastness and resistance of the Palestinian people.

»» SECOND: AFGHANISTAN ISSUE:

- The requirement for leading to the stability in Afghanistan and the improvement of the situation therein is the formation of an inclusive government with the participation of all categories, in order to ensure the rights

of the Afghan people, including women, and men, from the Pashtun, the Tajik, the Hazara, and the Uzbek.

- We address an appeal to all sisterly countries to help the brothers and sisters in Afghanistan in order to overcome the current challenges. The real opportunity now is to put an end to the 40-year war in Afghanistan.

»» THIRD: MIGRATION AND REFUGEES:

- The movement of illegal migration is increasing due to its linkage with the networks of organized crime which is investing in the tragedies of human beings, and causes human catastrophes through drowning and collective death of migrants.
- Calling to enable youth to live in dignity and safety in their original countries by way of resolving disputes, as well as extending the necessary international aid in order to enhance development in countries affected by migration.

»» FOURTH: ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY:

- One of the major purposes of the PUIC has been to enhance cooperation and interdependence among Muslim brothers. We must uphold to these purposes.

»» FIFTH: SITUATION IN KASHMIR:

- The cause of Kashmir is one of the causes of the Islamic Ummah whose solution has been waiting for a long time. The non- solution of the issue causes frustration and anxiety among Muslim youth.



Istanbul Declaration

At the Closing Session, His Excellency Professor Orhan Attalay, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye read the Istanbul Declaration. Following is some of the paragraph of the Declaration: -

We, the Speakers of Parliaments and Heads and Members of Delegations of the Parliaments of the OIC Member States, assembled at the 16th session of the Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC), held in İstanbul, Türkiye, on 09-10 December 2021, under the theme of “Sharing, Conscience and Islam: Palestine, Migration and Afghanistan”;

Expressing our deep thanks and gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Mustafa Şentop, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, for having kindly placed this Conference under his High Patronage; thereby ensuring all conditions for the success of its proceedings which have been marked by a fruitful and high-quality debate on current global issues of concern to the Islamic world;

Reiterating our adherence to the founding principles of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), particularly the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of States, and the peaceful settlement of conflicts by means of dialogue;

Reaffirming our determination to pursue our positive and efficient contribution to the development of the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, particularly for the establishment of world

peace, regional security, and respect for human rights and state sovereignty;

Reaffirming the pivotal role of the respect for human rights and the strengthening of democracy in the development, harmony and prosperity of our societies;

Recalling the important role and responsibility of our Parliaments in promoting the respect for human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination at national and international level;

Convinced of the advisability and necessity of efforts to resolve regional and global issues and crises, with an Islamic understanding that prioritizes conscience and sharing.

Deeply concerned by the critical humanitarian situation as well as the remaining terrorism threat and high risk of instability in Afghanistan.

Cognizant of the severe consequences of the ongoing regional and global refugee crisis and keeping in mind that providing humanitarian aid to the refugees is a great burden which cannot be left to just host countries and the countries in the region;

Alarmed by the disturbing rise of racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and hate speech throughout the world and the major threat they constitute against the peace and harmony of our societies;

Taking note of the fact that misinformation, disinformation and fake news have proliferated at an alarming rate; and noting with great concern that disinformation and fake news which are disseminated especially on the social media platforms, are used to mislead populations, create social tensions, foment hate crimes and discrimination,

and contribute to rising of Islamophobia, populism, racism, and, xenophobia and incite violence against Muslim minorities in non-PUIC member countries;

Underscoring the need for greater inclusion in the PUIC agenda and institutional monitoring of the human rights violations suffered by Muslim minority communities in non-PUIC member countries;

Recalling the risks stemming from the scourge of terrorism towards our collective security, stability and prosperity as well as its unjust impact on the image of the Islamic World, and restating the need to combat terrorism through a comprehensive strategy without making any discrimination among terrorist organizations;

Reiterating the importance of ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease;

● **Reaffirm** the central place of the Palestinian Cause in the concerns and advocacy action of our Union and of our countries and peoples; as well as our solidarity with the people of Palestine in their quest for their legitimate rights to establish an independent State with the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

● **Urge** the United Nations and its specialized agencies to provide the necessary protection for the Palestinian people as well as for the monuments and the architectural and cultural sites in the occupied territories; and also to force the Israeli occupation power to lift the unjust blockade imposed on the Palestinian people;



● **Emphasize** our support for an inclusive and representative political system that protects fundamental human rights of all components of the Afghan people;

● **Call on** international community to increase the efforts to provide urgent humanitarian aid to Afghanistan through effective, transparent and accountable mechanisms, and take measures to protect the livelihoods of the Afghan people;

● **Emphasize** the need to develop common policies to reduce migratory pressure on member states and to support their efforts for the safe, voluntary and dignified return of the displaced people;

● **Encourage** international community to take joint actions to address the root causes of refugee crisis in the source countries and to develop policies to ensure minimum economic, political, and social conditions of living in the countries of origin for the sake of a sustainable prevention of irregular migration flows;

● **Acknowledge** the ongoing humanitarian suffering of the Rohingyas in and outside of Myanmar, call upon Myanmar to provide without delay the right conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all Rohingya refugees to their homeland, reaffirm that for ensuring global and regional peace and stability, all outstanding issues in the region, including the Jammu & Kashmir dispute, need to be resolved in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions;

● **Emphasize** the importance of addressing misinformation, disinformation and fake news at international level, call on the



□ Designation of International Day to Combat Islamophobia

□ Doubling Efforts to Tackle Climate Change

actors of the international community to work on international standards and mechanisms to tackle these challenges;

● **Call on** the international community to take joint concrete action to counter dangerous trends, especially in non-Muslim countries where Muslims are more and more subject to violent acts of discrimination, racism, Islamophobia and hate speech;

● **Welcome** the decision taken by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation designating 15 March as an “International Day to Combat Islamophobia”; and call on the international community to recognize and commemorate the mentioned day accordingly;

● **Authorize** the Committee on Political Affairs and Foreign Relations to constitute

a special committee to monitor the human rights violations and challenges faced by Muslim minority communities in non-PUIC member countries.

● **Call for** strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights, religions and beliefs;

● **Acknowledge** the need to embrace a comprehensive strategy against terrorism so that terrorist propaganda, financing of terrorist groups and recruitment activities are tackled adequately;

● **Reiterate** the need to avoid double standards while dealing with terrorist organizations;

● **Call for** close cooperation among our countries in order to scale up efforts to tackle the destructive effects of climate change and contribute in an active manner to global climate action;

● **Reiterate** our support for strengthened global climate action and declare our commitment to enhance our cooperation and joint actions for climate change adaptation and resilience;

● **Call on** the international community for more coordinated efforts in solidarity, especially in the context of ensuring timely access to COVID-19 vaccines and medical supplies for all humanity;

● **Express** our deep feelings of gratitude to the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for the excellent working conditions, warm hospitality, and great attention extended to the guest delegations.



PUIC Parliament Speakers Update

The past few months saw the election of new Speakers of Member Parliaments, while others were reelected. Following is an update of Parliamentary leadership situation:

- ▶ 10 January 2022, reelection of HE. Mr. Mohammed al-Halboosi, as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Iraq.
- ▶ 25 January 2022, election of HE. Mr. Talant Mamytov, as Speaker of the Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic
- ▶ 7 February 2022, election of HE. Mr. Dansa Kourouma, as President of the Transitional National Council of the Republic of Guinea.
- ▶ 8 February 2022, election of HE. Mr. Yerlan Zhakanovich Koshanov, as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- ▶ 16 February 2022, election of HE. Mr. Rouhi Fattoh, as Speaker of the Palestine National Council.
- ▶ 25 February 2022, reelection of HE Mr. Salih Goudjil, as Speaker of the National Assembly of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- ▶ 4 April 2022, election of HE. Mrs. Anita Annet Among, as Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda
- ▶ 14 April 2022, election of HE. Mr. Fabakary Tombong Jatta as President of the National Assembly of the Gambia
- ▶ 28 April 2022, election of HE. Mr. Raja Pervaiz Ashraf as Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Pakistan
- ▶ 28 April 2022, election of HE. Sheikh Aden Muhammad Nur Madobe as Speaker of the People's Assembly of the Federal Parliament of the Federal Republic of Somalia
- ▶ 28 April, 2022 reelection of HE. Mr. Abdi Hashi Abdullah, as Speaker of the Somali Senate.
- ▶ 25 May 2022, HE. Dr. Muhammad Bagher Ghalibaf on his re-election as Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- ▶ 30 May 2022, HE. Prof. Aboubacar Toguyeni on his election as President of the Transitional Legislative Assembly of Burkina Faso
- ▶ 31 May 2022, HE. Mr. Nabih Berri on his re-election to the presidency of the Majlis Al-Nuwab of the Lebanese Republic
- ▶ 8 June 2022 HE. Mr. Adama Bictogo on his election as President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire
- ▶ 13 September 2022 HE. Dr. Amadou Mame Diop on his election as President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Senegal
- ▶ 19 October 2022 HE. Mr. Ahmed Abdulaziz Al-Saadoun, on the occasion of his election as Speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly
- ▶ 13 December 2022 H.E. Mr. Shakiyev Nurlanbek Turgunbekovich, on the occasion of his election as the Speaker of the Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- ▶ 13 December 2022 H.E. Mr. Ahmed Bin Salman Al-Mossallam on the occasion of his election as Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- ▶ 13 December 2022, H.E. Mr. Ali Bin Salih Al-Salih on the occasion of his reelection as Speaker of the Shura Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- ▶ 13 December 2022, H.E. Dr. Ousmane Bougouma, on the occasion of his election as Speaker of the Transitional Legislative Assembly of Burkina Faso.
- ▶ 13 December 2022, H.E. Mr. Ahmad Al Safadi on the occasion of his election as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ▶ 13 December 2022, H.E. Mr. Faisal El-Fayez, on the occasion of his reelection as Speaker of the Senate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ▶ 25 December 2022, H.E. Mr. Johari Abdul, on the occasion of his election as Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malaysia.



Algeria

H.E. the Speaker of the National People's Assembly Mr. Ibrahim Boughali visited Abuja, Nigeria, on 8 May, 2022, in response to an invitation from his Nigerian Counterpart to participate in the Conference of Speakers of African Parliaments (COSAP) in the Post-COVID-19 period, titled economic recovery in Africa through parliamentary leaders. Mr. Boughali stressed in the Conference, the necessity of establishing a health system in the continent to deal with epidemics through a strategy that gives priority to health expenditure and locally producing vaccines and adoption of digitalization in the health field. He stated that the African centre for Disease Control, as well as the African Agency for Medicines, which Algeria hopes to host its headquarters, will play a pivotal role therein.



Azerbaijan

The Baku Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network, under the motto "Boosting the role of national parliaments in promoting global peace and sustainable development", kicked off at the Heydar Aliyev Center, on 30 June. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the conference and announced that his country, which currently chairs the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), put forward an initiative on establishing the organization's support office in New York. Parliamentary delegations from 40 countries and representatives of nine international organizations attended the Baku Conference which aimed to discuss how to boost the role of national parliaments in promoting global peace and sustainable development. The Azerbaijani leader expressed confidence that the NAM Parliamentary Network not only will contribute to solidarity among member states, but also will establish close working relations with different parliamentary organizations of the world.



Benin

On the occasion of the inauguration of the 1st photovoltaic solar power plant, which took place on Tuesday July 19, 2022, the President of the Assembly, Louis Vlavanou recalled the precious contribution of Parliament to carry out this project. "If today we are here, it is because the National Assembly has played a significant role. First of all, a legislative framework was needed to pave the way in order to allow the private sector and all those who want to practice in the energy field to be able to have a free hand to do so. We voted for the electricity code and this is the legislative framework. Without this law, nothing could have been done, H.E. the Speaker said. According to the Beninese government, the Illouloufin photovoltaic solar power plant is capable of supplying 40,000 homes with electricity, and will prevent emissions of 23,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year.



Chad

The 2nd Conference of Presidents of the G5 Sahel Interparliamentary Committee was held in N'Djamena, the Chadian capital on July 21, 2022. This conference was held under the theme: "The role of

parliaments in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism in the Sahel.» This two (2) day meeting would allow parliamentarians from the G5 Sahel space to reflect on their role in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism also on the revitalization of the G5 Sahel Interparliamentary Committee (IPC). To this end, during this meeting, parliamentarians examined the statutory texts of the IPC G5 Sahel in order to improve the functioning of this institution to adapt it to current contingencies.



Côte-d'Ivoire

Chaired by the Speaker of the Ivorian National Assembly, the 47th Plenary Assembly of the APF was held at the Kigali Convention Center on July 8 and 9, 2022. The President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie, H.E. Mr. Adama Bictogo delivered a masterful speech in the chamber of deputies of Rwanda. As his mandate came to an end, and on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, he indicated that the APF should take strong, coherent, concrete legislative measures that are perfectly adapted to the needs of the populations, and all things that would make the APF "a truly French-speaking economic space, more open through better freedom of movement of goods and people". Mr. Bictogo challenged French-speaking parliamentarians by reminding them of one of the objectives of the APF, which is "to promote democracy, the rule of law and human rights within the French-speaking community.



Arab Republic of Egypt

H.E. Dr. Hanafi Jabali, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Egypt, affirmed, during the proceedings of the opening session of the 8th World Conference of Youth Parliamentarians, held in Sharmal Sheikh, on 15-16 June, 2022, that the Egyptian State has an ambitious vision to enable youth to cross national frameworks, and that is what made Egypt keen on initiating World Youth fora which furnish fertile ground for exchanging youth views and experiences vis-à-vis various world issues and challenges. On Climate change, an agenda item, Dr. Jabali affirmed that the issue of Climate change is an exceptional challenge, serious, multi-dimensional and with negative ramifications. He stressed that no voice will be louder than the voice of saving planet Earth from that eminent danger.



Indonesia

Hosted by the Indonesian Parliament, the 144th IPU Assembly brought together some 110 national parliaments on the theme 'Getting to zero: Mobilizing parliaments to act on climate change', from 20 to 24 March 2022. In one of the first major in-person events in the region since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IPU and the Indonesian Parliament were able to convene hundreds of parliamentarians from around the world, including 30 Speakers of Parliament. Strict health protocols allowed the Assembly to take place safely. Nearly 39 percent of MPs attending were women, close to the absolute record at an IPU Assembly. Almost 27 percent of participating MPs were under 45 years old, an absolute record for an IPU Assembly. This demonstrates that a new generation of young parliamentarians are starting to emerge, encouraged by the IPU through incentives such as the "I say yes youth in parliament!" campaign. The Assembly concluded with the adoption of the Nusa Dua Declaration, in which the world's parliamentarians recognized the urgent need to address the climate crisis. The declaration outlines the national action parliaments need to take to implement the Paris Agreement, including accelerating the transition to clean energy, ensuring the inclusion of marginalized members of society and enhancing global cooperation for joint climate solutions.



Iraq

The House of Representatives of Iraq voted on 26 May, 2022, chaired by Speaker Mr. Mohammad Al Halbousi, on a proposal to criminalize normalizing with the Zionist entity. The House unanimously voted on the proposed act, submitted by the Legal Committee. Criminalizing of normalization with the Zionist entity came in order to preserve the Islamic humanitarian national principles of Iraq, and the parameters of the Iraqi people to defend Palestine, its people and the entire Arab peoples whose territories have been occupied. It is also meant to deter all who seek normalization and establishment of relations with the usurper entity. Mr. Halbousi offered, on behalf of the House, his thanks and appreciation to the august deputies, inter alia, the members of the legal Committee, for contributing to and

backing of the Act. He also congratulated the Iraqi people on this achievement.



Iran

The Iranian parliament approved on 27 November 2022 a bill for Iran's membership to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The bill was approved by the overwhelming majority of the lawmakers. Mr. Abolfazl Amouei, the spokesman for the National Security and Foreign Policy Commission of parliament, said that the parliament's approval of Iran's membership to the SCO contains an international message of «Iran adopts multilateralism in the field of foreign policy.»



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The Committee on Palestine in the Senate issued a statement on the developments in Palestine on 18 December, 2022. The statement explained: "The Committee on Palestine in the Senate is following with the utmost concern the developments of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories where the occupation authorities are opting for more savage and sadistic methods against our people in Palestine, by employing various means of suppression, murder, assassination, detention, and proceeding with judaization of the land and usurping further territories through expanding in the building of settlements. Now the extreme right in the occupation entity joined the extreme right government which is supported by the USA Administration. We are required to take steps at a high level of coordination between the various state organs to confront probable Israeli policies and steps usually taken by the extreme right against the land and people of Palestine.



Kazakhstan

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, H.E. Mr. Yerlan Koshanov proposed to CSTO to enhance fight against terrorism legislatively. Addressing the 15th plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTOPA) in Moscow on 5 December 2022, Mr. Koshanov confirmed the readiness of Kazakhstan to develop a CSTO model law on countering terrorism. He went on to say that since its inception the CSTO has proved

to be important and efficient and become an effective mechanism for ensuring security and stability in the region. He also said that crisis and disputes, conflicts and threats still remain in the CSTO space.



Kuwait

Forty-two deputies in the Kuwait Parliament issued a statement on 29 November, 2022, on the occasion of the World Day for Solidarity with the Palestinian People. They confirmed their support to the Palestinian cause and rejection of normalization with the Israeli occupation. They also confirmed their backing to the stationed fighters and the resistance, and rejection of normalizing with the Zionists and the importance of taking the Israeli criminals to the courts. The deputies requested Arab and Islamic governments to support the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their rights and take the occupation authorities to International justice fora because of their crime. They affirmed that supporting the Palestinian cause and the struggle of the Palestinian people is one of the firmly established official and popular parameters.



Lebanon

The Speaker of the National Assembly H.E. Mr. Nabih Berri stressed, during his meeting with Arab Foreign Ministers, in the presence of the Secretary General of the League of Arab State, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Abul Gheit, on 3 July, 2022, that Lebanon will not forget its brother Arabs, and that it will not forget Taif, Doha or Kuwait. Now, Lebanon wants its brothers to come and be involved in addressing its complaints. As regards Syria and developments of the Palestinian Cause and the Israeli aggression, President Berri said, "Today you are in Lebanon, we miss Syria which witnessed at dawn today, a new Israeli aggression through Lebanese airspace. At least your meeting is requested to denounce the aggression, ..being the weak action. The other thing, all the Arabs must recognize that there will be no Arabs without Palestine. We must be aware of the design against Al Quds and Palestine.



Palestine

Speaker of the Palestine National Council, H.E. Mr. Rouhi Fattouh,

called on international parliaments to expeditiously move in order to protect the Palestinian people and put an end to the repeated Israeli war crimes. He affirmed the necessity of the enactment by these parliaments of legislations which provide for boycotting Israel, and stopping military and commercial cooperation with it in commitment with International law, and preventing it from violating human rights, as well as halting the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories. In a press release on 25 October, 2022, Mr. Fattouh cautioned against the ramifications of the continuous crimes of the Israeli occupation against the Palestinians and stability of the entire region. He denounced the double horrible crimes by the occupation in Nables and Ramallah, and resulted the martyrdom of six young men. He affirmed that the Palestinians will not be broken, and that such crimes will not prevent the Palestinian people from demanding freedom and establishment of their independent state with Al Quds as its capital.



Pakistan

National Assembly Speaker H.E. Mr. Raja Pervez Ashraf said on the inauguration of the National Coordination Forum – an online Portal for coordination among women Parliamentary Caucuses – that Parliamentary democracies are the only vanguards of human rights, gender equality and sustainable developments in a country. He said that women have been at the center of development agenda of SDGs. While recognizing the role of women in the development of Pakistan, he said that without integration of women in legislation, economy, and politics, Nation's development remains a distant dream.



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

H.E. the Speaker of the Majlis Ash-Shura, Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Al Sheikh stressed that the kingdom of Saudi Arabia supports joint Arab action and backs All Arab and Islamic causes, primarily the Palestinian Cause. He affirmed that the Kingdom stands by the side of the Palestinian people in order to reach a just and comprehensive solution by the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the borders of 1967,

with Eastern Al Quds as its Capital. H.E. referred, during the proceedings of the Extraordinary 33rd Conference of the Arab Parliamentary Union, which was hosted by the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 21 May to the importance of cooperation between parliaments in the Arab and Islamic states in order to assume an effective parliamentary role, and to exercise their role in all parliamentary fora in defense of the Palestinian people and their just cause until they recover all their rights over their territories.



Syrian Arab Republic

The People's Assembly held its thirty-first sitting of the Seventh Ordinary Session of the third legislative term, under the presidency of H.E. Mr. Hamoudah Sabbagh, Speaker of the Assembly, during which it recalled the 41 commemoration of the ill-omened decision adopted by the usurper Zionist occupation entity to annex the occupied Syrian Arab Golan on 14/12/1981. In an address by the Speaker he said that despite all strong denunciations issued by several states, and regional, international and Arab organizations and bodies, the most recent of which was the resolution of the UN General Assembly, which demanded Israel to end its occupation of the Syrian Arab Golan, and the resolution which affirms that Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are "illegal and constitute an obstacle to peace".



Republic of Türkiye

H.E. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop, President of the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Türkiye, and President of the 16th Session of the PUIC Conference called for action against Israeli eviction policies. In a statement issued on 24 January 2022, he said: The ongoing policies, evictions and displacements of our Palestinian sisters and brothers in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood as well as in other Israeli-occupied lands we have been witnessing since last Ramadan are against human rights and international law. We condemn the eviction of the Salhiya family, struggling to survive in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Al-Quds. As the Term President of the PUIC, we are confirming our full support for the

honorable struggle of the Palestinian people, and we are inviting the international community not to turn a blind eye any longer, declaring that the attacks towards the demographic and legal status of Al-Quds are the biggest obstacle for the search of a lasting solution and peace.



United Arab Emirates

The 16th Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, held on 9 March, 2022, its meetings, hosted by UAE in Dubai with the attendance of 120 participants, representing parliaments and governments. H.E. Saqr Bin Ghobash, Speaker of the Federal National Council, affirmed the selection by the Assembly of three subjects for discussion which express the common responsibility for analyzing the situation in the Arab region, and the Mediterranean region, in particular, and the extent of its effect, and being affected by the existing international situation, which makes us look forward to the adoption by the Assembly of effective, positive and active results that realize the joint messages and aspirations of our peoples in renouncing wars, and confirming security, peace, coexistence and tolerance for all humanity, and also in revising national and regional legislations and strategies, which enhance the principle of coexistence, and the realization of international peace and security, confront climate change and combat terrorism.



Uganda

The Speaker of Parliament H.E. Mrs. Anita Among urged government and United Nations (UN) officials, to ensure that the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reach the most marginalized and vulnerable communities in Uganda. Among was speaking at the Sustainable Development Goals conference at Kampala on 17 June 2022. The event is being held under the theme, 'Building an effective model to accelerate the SDGs in the Post-Covid-19 era'. Among also gave a reassurance of Parliament's commitment to oversee and ensure accountability for the efficient and effective delivery of expenditures, laws and programs which have a direct impact on the people. "Parliamentarians establish an accountability enabling environment through enactment of laws, but also have direct responsibilities for ensuring accountability through their oversight efforts. In doing this, Parliament ensures government programs and SDG aspirations reach and make sense to the common person," she said.

On the Sidelines of the IPU 145th Conference:

Islamic Group Approves Pakistan's Proposal



The Islamic Group held its consultation meeting in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda, on 10 October, 2022, on the sidelines of the 145th IPU Assembly Meeting. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Sheikh Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Speaker of the State Council of Sultanate of Oman, and attended by a large number of PUIC Member Parliaments. The attendees discussed the proposals offered concerning the emergency items to be included in the Conference agenda. Pakistan and Iraq submitted separate proposals. The meeting charged H.E. the PUIC Secretary General Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, with following the matter with the Pakistani and Iraqi delegations in order to reach the possibility of consensus on a single proposal. In the end the Pakistani proposal was given the priority, which reads "Formation of a world Fund/Financing facilities for countries liable to be affected by the impacts of Climate change to tackle the losses and damage caused by Climate.

Islamic Group Supports Indonesian Proposal



H.E. the then Speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, Mr. Marzouq Al-Ghanim, chaired the Coordination Meeting of the Islamic Group on 20 March 2022, in Indonesia, on the Sidelines of the proceedings of the IPU 144 Conference. The Meeting was attended by a number of Speakers and participating delegations. The Meeting reviewed several subjects included in the agenda of the Conference, inter alia, the emergency items. It was agreed that the Islamic Group would support the emergency item submitted by Indonesia. Also during the meeting, a proposal was offered concerning amendment of the IPU Statute to the effect that firm sanctions would be taken, even application of the expulsion from IPU membership in case the parliament whose state occupied or launched an aggression against the territories of another state. The Meeting also emphasized the necessity of giving priority to the files connected with the states of the Islamic Group, to be discussed, especially in the presence of other files with similar subjects.

Secretary General Visits Cote D'Ivoire: Ivorian National Assembly Agrees to Host 18th PUIC Conference



On 29 June 2022, H.E. the Secretary General met, at the headquarters of the Cote D'Ivoire's Parliament, the First Deputy Speaker of the Ivorian National Assembly, Mr. Fregbo Guete Basile Mesmin. H.E. the Secretary General discussed Ivorian Parliament about the possibility of the Assembly's hosting of the 18th Session of the PUIC Conference, scheduled to be held by one of the states of the Africa Group.

The National Assembly of Cote D'Ivoire approved with pleasure, to host the Conference, and that the details would be discussed following the official announcement thereof during the Conference which will be held in Algiers in January 2023.

Secretary General Meets with Dr. Ghalibaf



H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khouraiichi Niass, PUIC Secretary General, met with H.E. Dr. Muhammad Baqer Qalibaf, Speaker of the Iranian Islamic Parliament, on November 1, 2022, at the Parliament headquarters. During the meeting, issues of common concern were discussed. The Speaker of the Iranian Parliament expressed readiness to develop cooperation relations with the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States in all fields, for the benefit of the two institutions. During this meeting, H.E. Dr. Qalibaf affirmed the readiness of the Iranian Islamic Parliament to provide all necessary assistance to improve the performance of the Union's work and to strengthen parliamentary cooperation between Islamic countries.

Secretary General Affirms Absolute Support of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



H.E. the PUIC Secretary General Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi expressed his absolute solidarity and support of kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its rejection of statements on its position following OPEC+ decision and linking it with international conflicts or political motives.

His Excellency affirmed on 1 November 2022 that the kingdom of Saudi Arabia has the right to take all measures to protect its interests against the fluctuations of energy prices and also to preserve the interests of producers and consumers alike. He stressed that he definitively rejects all unjust statements and calls against the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, affirming the necessity of commitment by all to the principle of mutual respect among states, and enhancing common interests.

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Secretary General Offers Condolences to the Palestinian People



H.E. the PUIC Secretary General Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, expressed his deep sentiments of sadness and grief for the passing away of the combatant Salim Al- Zaanoun (Abu Al -Adeeb), former Speaker of the Palestine National Council, and a founder of the PUIC.

In his message to H.E. Mr. Rouhi Fattouh, on 15 December 2022, Speaker of the Palestine National Council of the State of Palestine, the Secretary General offered heartfelt condolences to Mr. Fattouh, and through him to the family of the deceased and the brotherly Palestinian people. He prayed to Almighty God to shower the dear departed with His mercy and grant everybody patience and solace.