

## Recommendations of the Southern Africa Waqf Training Course held in Pretoria, South Africa, 4- 6 December 2009 – 17-19 Dhu Al Hijjah 1430



**W**hereas the participants who attended the Southern Africa Waqf Training Course were drawn from Uganda, Kenya, Zanzibar, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mauritius, and South Africa as per the register of attendance.

Whereas the trainers included academics and persons both from abroad and South Africa.

Whereas the main sponsors of the Course were the Islamic Training and Research Institute (IRTI) (a member of the Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB)) and the Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation (KAPF) together with local sponsor the National Awqaf Foundation of South Africa (Awqaf SA).

Whereas it is hereby acknowledged that the Southern Africa Waqf Training Course is a direct result of the recommendations of the International Waqf Conference held in Cape Town during August 2007 co sponsored by the aforementioned sponsors.

NOW the following recommendations were made and approved by the participants, trainers, and sponsors at the recently held Southern Africa Waqf Training Course in Pretoria, South Africa.

(The region shall mean all countries within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) together with neighbouring countries with Muslim minority communities).

### **Ulama Training**

1. That special waqf training programmes be held for Ulama in South Africa and the SADC region.

### **Specialised Training**

2. That specialised Training programmes eg Strategic Planning, Waqf Asset Management, Investments, Corporate Governance, Implementation etc be held in the region.

### **Country Specific**

3. That country specific Waqf Training programmes be held in each country within the region.

### **10 day Intensive course**

4. That special 10 day comprehensive intensive waqf training programmes be held for target groups in the region.

### **Research**

5. A research project be undertaken to determine and document the status quo of Awqaf in each country within the region.

### **Implementation**

6. Each country in the region to investigate the possibility, feasibility, and the preparation of a working document/business plan for the implementation (initiation, establishment and continuous growth and expansion) of a civil society national Awqaf Foundation for their respective countries.

### **Declaration of Special Awareness Calendar**

7. A special day or period during the Islamic Calendar be declared an International Waqf Awareness Day/ Week/ Month. It is further recommended that the month of Muharram and the second Friday of Ramadaan be accepted for this purpose and that organisations, media, and imams be encouraged to create heightened awareness during those days/periods.

### **Establishment of an Appropriate Structure**

8. A Southern Africa Awqaf Development Council or other appropriate structure be established and that Awqaf SA provide the necessary leadership in this regard to take the process forward for the purpose of networking and developing the Awqaf sector in the region.

9. An appropriate international structure be established for the purposes of strategic planning, thinking, and supporting the international waqf sector as outlined in the 2007 International Waqf Conference, Southern Africa.

### **Follow up of 2007 Recommendations**

10. Recommendations of the International Waqf Conference, Southern Africa held in Cape Town during 2007 be followed up and where appropriate be implemented regionally.

### **Structured Courses**

11. That structured courses be written up in modules to facilitate learning and training.

### **Pool of Experts**

12. That a pool of knowledgeable speakers be developed for the region.

### **International Muslim Minorities Waqf Conference**

13. That an International Muslim Minorities Conference be organised with the assistance of the above named sponsors

### **Follow up & Accountability**

14. That country, regional, and local participants ensure that the foregoing recommendations are implemented with the support of relevant stakeholders and that their respective organisations and institutions be encouraged to lead the process. In the interim, feedback shall be given to Awqaf SA as the co-ordinating body with progress reports on a six monthly basis commencing June 2010.

The foregoing recommendations were approved by the sponsors, course participants, and trainers.