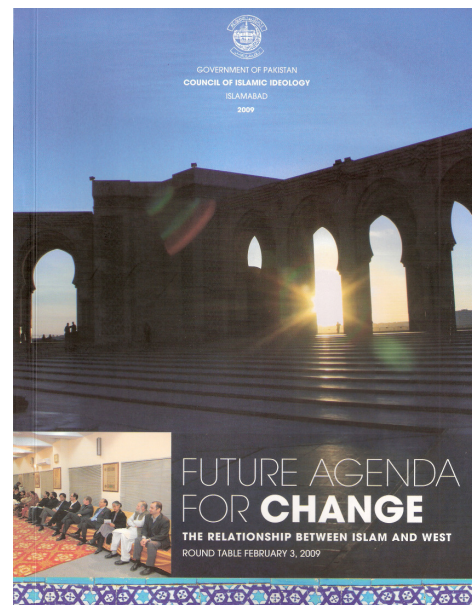


CII launches report on 'Future Agenda of Change':

An auspicious event, Round Table 'Future Agenda of Change' was organized by the Council of Islamic Ideology on 3rd February, 2009 in the Auditorium of the Council. Ambassadors from different countries accredited in Islamabad participated in this event to share their views about the problems faced by Muslims and the West. The participants noticed the problems being faced by the Muslim world and made important suggestions that will be helpful in enabling better relationship between Muslim Countries and the West.

The Council feels proud to launch an exclusive report on this roundtable titled "Future Agenda of Change". A brief introduction of the report and a comprehensive summary of the recommendations made in the round table are given here:

Believing in the strength of the Muslim Ummah and striving for the mission to avert all the atrocities faced by the Muslim world, Council of Islamic Ideology, holding a strong disposition that the new world order may see the Muslim world as a peace keeping and a nation which promotes love, brotherhood and humanity amongst the mankind, gathered high profile representatives from all over the world to come and join hands for the noble cause of making the world believe that the Muslim world is a peace loving nation and not a nation that promotes terrorism and killing of innocent lives. The U.S agenda of change has been welcomed by all Muslim countries. The U.S. agenda of change has been welcomed as a serious step forward to all of the Muslim countries. In this respect Council of Islamic Ideology played a pivotal role and provided a forum for all Muslim leaders to convey their deliberations to the West.



The main issue surrounded the theme that there is a strong need to promote better relationship of the Muslim world with the West as was indicated by the newly elected president of the United States Barack Hussain Obama.

A successful round table was organized by Council of Islamic Ideology on 3rd February, 2009. Ambassadors from Muslim countries and Japan, Germany, U.S.A. and Russia participated in this event and shared their views about interfaith harmony between the Muslim world and the West which is the need of the hour.

ROUND TABLE PARTICIPANTS

H.E. Mr. Ali S. Awadh Assery,
Ambassador,
Embassy of Saudi Arabia
H.E. Dr. Mohammad Riad Hussain
Ismat,
Ambassador, Embassy of the Syrian
Arab Republic
H.E. Mr. Kais Subhi Al-Yacoubi
Ambassador, Embassy of Republic
of Iraq
H.E. Mr. Masha'allah Shakeri,
Ambassador, Embassy of Islamic
Republic of Iran

H.E. Mr. Ridhwan A. Mustapha,
Acting High Commissioner, The
High Commission of the Federal
Republic of Nigeria
H,E Mr. Mohammad Saidi,
Dy. Head of Mission, Dy
Ambassador,
Charge d' Affairs.
Embassy of Kingdom of Morocco
Mr. Akira Mirzutani,
Dy. Chief of Mission, Embassy of
Japan
Mr. Danila Ganich,
Counselor (Political) Embassy of
Russian
Federation
Ms. Kathrina Lack
Secretary, (Political Wing) Embassy
of Federal Republic of Germany
Dr. Manzoor Ahmad,
Rector, International Islamic
University

Ms. Tamana Salikuddin,
(Political Officer) Embassy of United
States of America
Tahira Abdullah,
Human Rights Activists,

Khurshid Nadeem,
Columnist

Madam Shagufta Jumani,
Minister of State for Religious Affaris.

Syed Hamid Saeed Kazmi,
Federal Minister for Religious Affairs

OBSERVERS

Mr. George Hadgson,
1st Secretary(Political) British High
Commission UK
H.E. Mr. Cassuim,
Dy. High Commission, High
Commission of the Republic of South
Africa
Mr. Nicholas Coghlan,
Counselor, High Commission of
Canada
Mr. Jaser Ahmed M. Mohammad,
Charge d' Affairs, Embassy of the
State of Palestine
H.E. Mr. Ahmad Shabizan Bin Abdul
Samad,
High commissioner, High
Commission of Malaysia

During the Conference very important issues were put to the table, some important recommendations were given in the Conference:

Common Goals

The Round Table identified the following goals.

Common goals for which Muslim and Western Countries must join hands:

Eradication of poverty

Protection of environment

Elimination of the causes of terror and extremism

Development of human resources

Goals for which all Muslim countries must strive on their own:

- Good governance
- Rule of law
- Peace and Justice
- Knowledge based society
- Welfare and development

Steps taken in Muslim Countries

- Government of Pakistan's continuous efforts towards Enlightened Moderation and Reconciliation. Council of Islamic Ideology programs on Islam and the west and Interfaith harmony.
- OIC has prepared Ten years Program for the Muslim world.
- Several initiatives have been taken by Muslim countries, e.g., Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Morocco and others, for Interfaith dialogue aiming to learn to coexist in harmony.
- Several Muslim countries, including Egypt, Saudi Arabia and others have begun programs for the successful rehabilitation of youth involved in extremism.

MAIN ISSUES IDENTIFIED

The round table identified the following, among others, as issues which require immediate attention of both Muslim and Western countries. These issues require in depth analysis and thorough studies to identify the causes and to propose strategies for future:

- Terrorism, including terror employed by the state
- Islamophobia
- Governance
- Poverty
- Hegemonial Globalism

Important strategic actions were proposed for the Muslims and the Western Countries.

Strategic actions proposed for Muslim Countries

- Reviewing the Western and extremist writings on such critical issues as Jihad, Khilafa, Amr bil'l ma'ruf, and freedom of religion in the light of the Qur'an and Sunna.
- Developing a strong intellectual and scholarly base in the Muslim world for the reinterpretation of Islam.
- Encouraging exchange of ideas within Muslim countries
- Building a critical intellectual mass in the Muslim world
- Making Muslims aware of their vulnerability due to lack of knowledge and piety.
- Promoting a true perspective of Islam by cultural exchange and by an interaction between Muslim Ulama and scholars in the West.
- Encouraging self criticism and the culture of tolerance in public sphere.
- Initiating debates on human rights, women empowerment, protection of non-Muslim minorities, freedom of speech, association and assembly.
- Developing independent and credible media.

Strategic suggested for the Muslim Countries

- Understanding Islam without political biases.
- Recognizing the positive role of religion
- Reviewing the possible role of Islam in the West as a strong force that can play a bridging role between Muslim and Western countries.
- Appreciating the civilization contribution of Islam.
- Listening to Muslim countries rather than dictating them in their foreign policies.
- Respecting the symbols of Islam
- Rooting policies in sincerity for purposeful relations
- Owning Muslim population not as minority but a part of their civilization.
- Building relations on commonalities and strengthen them.
- Adopting multilateral politics and policies.
- Establishing visionary institutions.
- Cultural exchanges for better understanding.

Governance and Poverty

- Denying support for dictatorial regimes.
- Strengthening civil societies.
- Supporting governments combating injustice, poverty and exploitation.
- Discouraging states violating international law.
- Reorienting World Economy organizations like WTO to prevent unfair terms of trade and disparity between rich and poor.
- Allocating necessary budget for Education, economic activity, and health care in poor areas.