Det Udenrigspolitiske Nævn 2005-06 UM-del - Bilag 55 Offentligt

Januarisones Vin Mio

12 October 2005

His Excellency Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Prime Minister Kingdom of Denmark

Excellency,

The undersigned Ambassadors, Cd'a.i. and Head of Palestinian General Delegation accredited to Denmark take this opportunity to draw your attention to an urgent matter.

This pertains to on-going smearing campaign in Danish public circles and media against Islam and Muslims. Radio Holger's remarks for which it was indicted, DF MP and Mayoral candidate Louise Frevert's derogatory remarks, Culture Minister Brian Mikkelsen's statement on war against Muslims and Daily Jyllands-Posten's cultural page inviting people to draw sketches of Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) are some recent examples.

We strongly feel that casting aspersions on Islam as a religion and publishing demeaning caricatures of Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) goes against the spirit of Danish values of tolerance and civil society. This is on the whole a very discriminatory tendency and does not bode well with the high human rights standards of Denmark. We may underline that it can also cause reactions in Muslim countries and among Muslim communities in Europe.

In your speech at the opening of Danish Parliament, Your Excellency rightly underlined that terrorists should not be allowed to abuse Islam for their crimes. In the same token, Danish press and public representatives should not be allowed to abuse Islam in the name of democracy, freedom of expression and human rights, the values that we all share.

We deplore these statements and publications and urge Your Excellency's government to take all those responsible to task under law of the land in the interest of inter-faith harmony, better integration and Denmark's overall relations with Muslim world. We rest assured that you will take all steps necessary.

Statsministeriet

1 4 OKT, 2005

Given the sensitive nature of the matter, we request an urgent meeting at your convenience. An early response would be greatly appreciated.

Please accept, Excellency, best wishes and assurances of our highest consideration.

(Fugen Øk)

Ambassafor of Turkey.

(Mohammad Ibrahim Al-Hejailan) Ambassador of Saudi Arabia.

Ambassador or Saudi Arabia.

12 Hegaly

(Ahmad Danialy)

Ambassador of the

Islamic Republic of Iran

(Mona Omar Attia)

Ambassador of Egypt.

(Latifa Benazza)

Ambassador of Algeria.

(Mohammad E.R. Rimali)

Libyan Embassy.

(Maie F.B. Sarraf)

Head of Palestinian General Delegation.

(Javed A. Qureshi) Ambassador of Pakistan.

(Perwitorini Wijono)

Ambassador of Indonesia.

(Sead Maslo)

Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(El Houssaine Oustitane)

Charge d'Affaires a.i. of Morocco.

CC: H.E. Mr. Per Stig Møller, Foreign Minister, Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Copenhagen, Denmark.