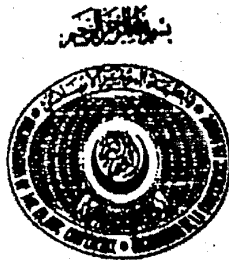


Organisation of the Islamic Conference
The Secretary General



مكتب الأمين العام
الإسلام العالم

OIC/SG-01/2005 - 4943

Jeddah, 15 October 2005

Excellency,

It is with deep sadness and concern that we have been observing the smear campaigns conducted against Muslims and their religion in the Danish public circles and media. We have been informed about the insulting remarks by Radio Holger, DF MP and Mayoral Candidate Louise Frevert and the Danish Minister of Culture, as well as the blasphemous invitation of the cultural page of one of the Danish newspapers for the derogatory caricatures of Prophet Mohammed.

We understand that the Muslim Danish citizens are considerably alarmed and feel threatened in the face of this ever increasing trend of intolerance and degrading discrimination against them, in which every Muslim is treated as a potential terrorist and criminal.

The General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which with a membership of 57 states is the proper international institution to represent the Muslim World, has recently been endeavoring to develop mutually beneficial ties of cooperation with the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the institutions of the European Union with a view to contributing to the efforts for inter-cultural and inter-religion dialogue and harmony as well as against the rising trends of Islamophobia in Europe.

In this framework, we believe that these dangerous developments in Denmark, unfortunately, neither will facilitate our common endeavors against xenophobia and Islamophobia nor will it make any positive contribution to the efforts of the international community to reinforce inter-faith and inter-cultural harmony and dialogue. Certainly, it is also not going to ease your task to socially integrate the Muslim minorities into the mainstream Danish community.

It is evident that the first and foremost step to prevent the further escalation of the situation is the unequivocal stance of the Danish Government by taking all necessary measures. The General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, while expresses its concerns, stands ready at the same time to cooperate and support all the steps which will be taken to enhance understanding, harmony, tolerance and dialogue in Europe by the Danish Government or other European countries.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu

H.E. Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen
Prime Minister
Royal Danish Republic of Denmark

