

18 APR 2001

FUIW-Charter

FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC VARSITIES NOW HAS A CHARTER

KUALA LUMPUR, April 18 (Bernama) -- The second general conference of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) has adopted a charter for the federation, the first since its inception in 1987.

"This is the first time since FUIW's inception in 1987 that we have a solid charter that governs the activities of the federation," FUIW secretary-general Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri told reporters on the sidelines of the conference, here, today.

He said the charter defined the shape and role of the federation as well as the procedures for the conduct of its executive council and general conference.

Dr Abdulaziz said the new charter also outlined, among others, the role of the secretariat-general, voting system, financial procedures and touched on legal aspects pertaining to the federation.

The three-day meeting, attended by representatives from more than 90 universities, was opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday.

Dr Abdulaziz said the meeting also confirmed the admission into FUIW of 32 universities which submitted their request during the federation's fourth, fifth and sixth executive council sessions. The sixth session was held here from April 15 to 16.

The federation now has more than 180 universities as its members.

He said the final day of the Kuala Lumpur conference tomorrow would issue a statement on the situation in Palestine and Palestinian educational institutions which were suffering from Israeli aggression.

Four Palestinian universities were FUIW members but the representatives of two were not here due to movement restrictions by the Tel Aviv regime, he said.

Dr Abdulaziz, who is also director-general of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Isesco), said FUIW would hold its third general conference in the United Arab Emirates in December 2003.

He thanked Dr Mahathir, the Malaysian government and the Malaysian people for their contribution in making the conference a success.

-- BERNAMA

MAM AHH JK