



MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Press release

19 June 2006

AZERBAIJAN HOSTS THE 33RD SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) begins today in Baku, Azerbaijan, and will convene through 21 June 2006. The Baku session has a special significance since it is the first meeting to be held at such a level after the third extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah in December 2005.

The Makkah summit, which adopted the Ten-Year Programme of Action, is considered a turning point in the history of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. The Special Launching Ceremony on the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action will be held on the sideline of the Opening Ceremony of the 33rd Session of the ICFM in Baku, under the patronage of President of Ilham Aliyev, who will be the Chairman of the Opening Ceremony of the Ministerial Meeting.

The problem of Islamophobia, the situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, issues of Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, Cyprus and the situation of Muslim minorities in non-Muslim countries, especially in Thailand and southern Philippines will be among the main issues on the agenda of the ICFM.

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