



# نشرة الاتحاد العالمي للجمعيات الطبية الاسلامية

e-newsletter of Federation of Islamic Medical Associations

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Beloved Members of the FIMA Family, Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalamu Alaikum

With the grace of Allah Almighty FIMA has concluded its 36th Council meeting and celebrated its 38th anniversary. FIMA, the Federation of Islamic Medical Associations was founded on 31 December, 1981 (1401 H). It is the umbrella body of IMAs and Muslim medical and relief organizations worldwide. The first FIMA Council meeting was held on 29-31 August 1981 in Orlando, Florida and was chaired by Dr. Ahamd Elkadi. Ten founding members also participated in formulation of the council and

*Continued on Page 11*

## 36TH FIMA COUNCIL MEETING / FOURTH INTERNATIONAL MUSLIM LEADERS CONSULTATION (IMLC) ON HIV - AIDS, KAMPALA, JULY 2019

The long awaited FIMA Council Meeting was held in Kampala, Uganda on 22-23 July 2019. Having landed at Entebbe Airport, which is situated along Lake Victoria, we were shuttled to the hotel in a bus. Just looking out from the airplane and seeing Lake Victoria was a sight to behold. We landed close to sunset making it even more spectacular.

The distance from Entebbe to Kampala is about 30 kilometers. One would think that this journey (from a major airport) to Kampala would take 30 minutes at the most but it took us 1 hour 45 minutes to reach our hotel due to busy traffic. It was enjoyable as we got to know some of the other delegates who had landed at the same time. The FIMA pre-council ExCo meeting was held on 21st July to look into the reports to be presented and to finalize the agenda of council meeting and over-see the preparations of 4th International Muslim leaders Consultation on HIV-AIDS.

The inaugural ceremony was held on Monday 22nd Monday in conjunction with opening session of "Fourth International Muslim Leaders Consultation" (IMLC) on HIV / AIDS. Many notable dignitaries, both local



*FIMA office bearers with council members*

**Editor:** Dr. Tanveer Zubairi, Ex. President, FIMA | **Assistant Editor:** Sajjad Saleem  
Dr. Ihsan Karaman, President, FIMA | Dr. A. Rashid A. Rahman, General Secretary, FIMA

(from the Ministry of Health of Uganda) and international like the US Ambassador to Uganda, the WHO representative in Kampala etc. were present. We then broke away for the FIMA Council Meeting which took us through to Maghrib. The meeting opened with welcome address by the FIMA President Dr. Ihsan Karaman, he greeted all the delegates from around 20 countries who have travelled to such a distant place for the cause of FIMA, he appreciated the efforts of local IMA especially Prof Maged Kagimu, who made best efforts for years to make these two events, historic land marks in the history of FIMA. Dr. Kagimu also welcomed the FIMA fraternity and thanked the FIMA international delegates who accepted the IMAU invitation to travel to Uganda, the pearl of Africa. Dr. Abdul Rashid presented the minutes of the 35th FIMA council meeting held in Amman, Jordan. Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman, executive director of

FIMA presented his report with emphasis on the achievement of FIMA save vision projects especially the masters and diploma programs in Ophthalmology, running successfully in collaboration with Manhal university, Hergeisa, Somaliland. Dr. Parvaiz Malik presented his report as the executive director (USA, North America & UN affairs). The treasurer's report was presented by Dr. Yakoob Essac in absence of Dr. Ashraf Jeddar. Dr. Atallah Ruahily presented the report of FIMASAC and intimated the dates and venue of FIMA students camp and the next Umrah Camp. Dr. Musa presented report of FIMA safe water and FIMA advisory council. Dr Tanveer Zubairi presented report of FIMA e-newsletter and special projects assigned to him. Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman gave details of the 37th FIMA council meeting to be held in April 2020 in Islamabad and he welcomed the family in advance

and offered a number of facilities and incentives to the attending delegates including free registration and meals for all the international delegates and arrangements for sightseeing and challenge of exploring the picturesque beauty of the Northern areas of Pakistan.

In the interim, at the FIMA Council Meeting, many old relationships were reinforced and many new friendships established. This was certainly wonderful. There were representatives from 20 countries ranging from Malaysia in the Far East to the USA. Many of the African countries were represented together with our Middle Eastern colleagues including those from Palestine, Syria, Yemen and Saudi Arabia. It allowed us the opportunity to gain, at first-hand, knowledge about their respective countries. We were most certainly taken aback by some of the information given to us with the



*Prince with FIMA delegates from Nigeria, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Malaysia.*



*Prince Kassim with Dr. Tanveer Zubairi, Dr. Tehmina Khan, Dr. Sadia Haroon and Prof Hafeez ur Rehman.*



*FIMA President and secretary discussing the agenda items.*



*Prince Kassim Nakibinge Kakungulu*



*Dr Ayub Twaha, secretary general of the conference and back bone of IMAU.*



*Dr. Ahmed Hakawi - Represented the Minister of Health, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.*

current happenings in countries like Afghanistan, Turkey and Yemen.

As a first at a FIMA meeting, the South African delegation organized the first FIMA Fajr Walk on Tuesday morning. Three Saudis, two Bangladeshis and three South Africans were the inaugural participants. It proved to be highly entertaining and brotherly like the post Fajr walks at IMASA conventions. It will certainly evolve and become a permanent fixture at future FIMA meetings.

In the concluding session the elections of FIMA executive committee and office bearers were held. The same cabinet was entrusted to carry on except the addition of NDF, Bangladesh as the incumbent ExCo member in lieu of IMA of Indonesia. The FIMA lifetime achievement award was unanimously granted to Dr. Ashraf Jeddar, who has a long and memorable history of actively

working for the FIMA relief and its treasury. He will be honoured and decorated with this memento in the next FIMA council meeting in Islamabad (2020).

One of the outstanding memories of this trip is the simplicity of the people who hosted us and the Ugandan people in general. Their hospitality was quite magnificent. Their willingness to help in whatever way was truly remarkable. They may not be considered to be sophisticated in what they do nor may they have all the latest resources. However their willingness to help, accommodate ones requests and general warmth was a lesson that will long live in my memory. May Allah reward them. They have also seen to it that Islam is functional and plays an important role in their lives. May Allah bless them at all times.

The delegates in the leisure time following the FIMA meetings

visited the source of the River Nile and Lake Victoria. It was at a place called Jinja, about 80km from Kampala. If you mispronounce it as JINGA, you would think that one would get fresh water prawns there!

To get to Jinja, we crossed the river Nile over a magnificent bridge. We were told that photographing of the bridge was not allowed. Apparently many of the businesses in Jinja were owned by the Indians who were booted out by Idi Amin. We learnt that once Idi Amin was overthrown, many of the Indians were requested to return and, offered their businesses in return. Some returned while others passed their businesses to empower the locals.

The Nile River is 6650km long. It is made up of the White Nile and the Blue Nile. The Blue Nile has its origin in Ethiopia while the White Nile has its origin in Jinja. The town is small with a few places to stay.



*Reception and Gala dinner hosted by the Prince Kassim of Kampala, Uganda*



*Reception and Gala dinner hosted by the Prince Kassim of Kampala, Uganda*



*The newly elected office bearers of FIMA(2019-21), NDF, IMAM, ED, Hayat Foundation, IMAKSA and IMAN.*



*Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman presenting the Executive director's report*



*Dr. Muhammad Youssef (Egypt), Dr Nazrul Islam(Bangladesh), Dr Syed Khalid Rasheed (Afghanistan) and Prof. Dr. Ibn e Kholdun (Bangladesh)*



*IMA Malawi, the new associate member joins FIMA family.*



*L-R Hajat Sarah Kaye Kagimu with Mrs Zerina Khan at Kibuli Masjid*

An entrepreneur would really love to be here and try and set up some hotels. However, the road leading to it would need to be sorted out first. By the way Uganda is very green with adequate rainfall. On our drive to Jinja we saw plantations of sugar cane, tea, bananas and maize. The road stalls had a wide variety of fruit and vegetables.

To get to the actual source of the river, one hops onto a boat and one can either do a short, medium or long ride. One has to wear a life jacket and the boat then takes you to the source in a few minutes. At this point, in the days gone by, was a 7 meter deep waterfall.

At the exact source of the Nile, there is most certainly a differential in the water. The quality of the water is the same. However 70% of the source of the White Nile is from Lake Victoria while 30% comes from underground akin to a

borehole. One can actually see the water bubbling up in this area. When the boat went across the demarcation point, the water is calm and there was no flow as in a lake. On the other side the boat moved along with the flow of water.

The Lake Victoria is supplied by multiple tributaries. It is found in 3 countries: Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. One also remembers the incident of Hadrath Umar (RA) who addressed a letter to the river when it was not flowing and the letter was thrown into the river. It has not stopped flowing since, It is reliably told. Some of the delegates also went to the point of Equator, crossing the Uganda and Queen Elizabeth Park Safari with game drive, enjoying the exotic wildlife and its migration with breath-holding beauty of Lake George and Lake Edward with visit to the out of the world falls of.....

It is perhaps worth noting the history of Islam in Uganda. Islam

was introduced in Uganda by the Arab traders in 1822 when one of the kings, King Suuna accepted Islam. A piece of land was then given to the King later and a Masjid was then built subsequently by the succeeding King. What is remarkable is that in the suburb of Kibuli is a preschool, a primary school, a high school, a university and a medical school with the Kibuli hospital being the teaching hospital. As the narrator, who gave us the history, told us one could spend one's life in Kibuli from birth to death. The current Prince, Prince Kassim Nakibinge Kakungulu hosted the Gala dinner which was truly a magnificent social event. There were different items of food and the atmosphere was relaxed with the Prince being very humble and meeting all the FIMA delegates.

It is through meetings of this nature that one meets others, learns about them and assimilates knowledge.



*A meeting with Chief Imam of Uganda at the historic Kibuli Mosque , Kampala.*



*Dinner hosted by Dr Mahmood Algazzar, the CEO of Kibuli Hospital, Kampala.*



*Exploring the crossing of equator through Uganda.*



*Dr. Khamisah Abubakar from KAMMP, Kenya*



*Delegates at the reception hosted by Prince Kassim at his Royal residence.*



*FIMA delegates visiting Jinja, the source of river Nile.*



*FIMA delegates visiting Jinja, the source of river Nile.*

FIMA afforded this opportunity. To Prof Magid Kagimu and his IMA Uganda Organizing committee, FIMA President Prof Ihsan Karaman and his FIMA troops and all the other delegates.

Five new associate members have been formally accepted to be in FIMA family: Rohingya Doctors

Association in Saudi Arabia; Union of Egyptian Medical Professionals; Medics Worldwide; Malawi Islamic Medical Association (MIMA); Kibuli Muslim Hospital of Kampala Uganda. A new project was presented and approved by the Council. It is called the 'FIMA Surgical Training for Africa' Project. A Task Force has been

formed for implementation, consisting of Prof. Mohammad Yusseof from Egypt, Dr. Mahmoud from Kibuli Hospital and Prof. Hafeezur Rehman Executive Director from PIMA.

*(The report is partly prepared from excerpts of Mohamed Mulla IMA South Africa).*



*First session of the FIMA council meeting 22nd July 2019*



*Delegates from Palestine, Sudan and Saudi Arabia.*



*Dr Sofian Homeidah presenting the report of IMA Palestine.*



*Dr. Ammar Daood, IMA Jordan*



*Dr Mahmood Algazzar, the representative of newly inducted associate member of FIMA, The Kibuli Hospital, Kampala.*



*Dinner hosted in the honor of FIMA council members on 24th July.*



*A meeting with Chief Imam of Uganda at the historic Kibuli Mosque, Kampala.*



*Dr. Atallah Ruhaily and Saudi delegates visiting the SAB Hospital, Kampala*



*Dr. Sameer, President IMAKSA visiting the pharmacy of SAB Hospital.*



*Briefing given by Medical Superintendent of Syedna Abu Bakr Hospital, Kampala.*

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL MUSLIM LEADERS CONSULTATION ON HIV AND AIDS KAMPALA UGANDA, JULY 2019

**THEME:** INTEGRATING GOD'S GUIDANCE AND RELIGIOSITY, TO FAST TRACK THE RESPONSE TO END HIV/AIDS.

We the delegates of the 4th International Muslim Leaders' Consultation on HIV/AIDS gathered in Kampala;

Reaffirming the International Muslim Leaders' Consultations on HIV/AIDS convened since 2001 to promote and coordinate the Islamic and faith-based approach to HIV/AIDS by learning and sharing experiences;

The inaugural ceremony of the 4th International Muslim leaders consultation on HIV-AIDS on 22nd July.

Recalling the UNAIDS Strategy 2016-2021 which calls to action to fast-track the response towards ending AIDS;

Recalling the World Health Organization's Global Health Sector Strategy on HIV 2016-2021 whose targets are; to reduce new HIV infections; zero new infections among infants; reduce HIV-related deaths; and have 90% people living with HIV tested; 90% treated; 90% virally suppressed;

Noting with concern that globally, 37.9 million people were living with HIV and 1.7 million people became newly infected with HIV in 2018. That over 29 million people who use drugs are estimated to suffer from drug use disorders, and of those, 12 million

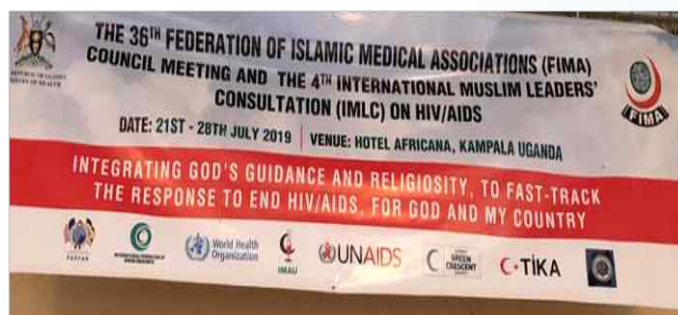
are people who inject drugs, of whom 14 per cent are living with HIV;

Guided by the Presidential Fast Track Initiative on ending AIDS as a public health threat in Uganda by 2030; **HEREBY ENDORSE** the outcomes of the 4th International Muslim Leaders' consultation on HIV/AIDS as follows;

**URGE** the Governments to;

Review the HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care policies to incorporate quality religiosity as a key component in fighting the epidemic in individuals, families, communities, health facilities and Health training institutions;

Establish mechanisms (at



*Prof. Sheila Tlou- Chair, Global HIV Prevention Coalition- Represented UNAIDS*



*Dr. Amone - Represented the Uganda Minister of Health*



*Dr. Zepher Karyabakabo- Represented the Uganda AIDS Commission*

National and sub-national levels) that allow frequent interreligious interactions to discuss HIV/AIDS prevention using quality religiosity;

Strengthen faith-based approaches to fast track delivery of comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care through streamlining interreligious cooperation and effective use of quality religiosity at all levels of care.

URGE Religious organizations to;

Promote interreligious cooperation by identifying similar faith teachings that support HIV prevention, treatment, care and continuously remind their communities to utilize these faith teachings effectively;

URGE the communities to;

Be tolerant, remind and strengthen each other to utilize their faith teachings in HIV prevention, treatment and care activities in the communities;

URGE the families to;

Create an enabling environment for family members to adhere to faith teachings that support HIV prevention, treatment and care;

URGE the individual to;

Actively seek for religious knowledge to understand your God and his guidance to you in dealing with HIV prevention, treatment and care;

URGE People living with HIV/AIDS to;

Utilize God's guidance in their faith teachings for HIV prevention, treatment and care;

URGE Health facilities to;

Provide an enabling environment for interreligious cooperation for health workers and patients to practice their faiths as they provide and utilize HIV prevention and treatment services;

URGE the Health Care training institutions to;

Provide an enabling environment for interreligious cooperation for teaching staff and students to practice their faiths as they teach and study including; issues related to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support;



Muslim leaders from IMAs and partner organizations attended the 3 day long academic and scientific activity on role of religious beliefs/God's guidance in combating the challenge of HIV-AIDS.



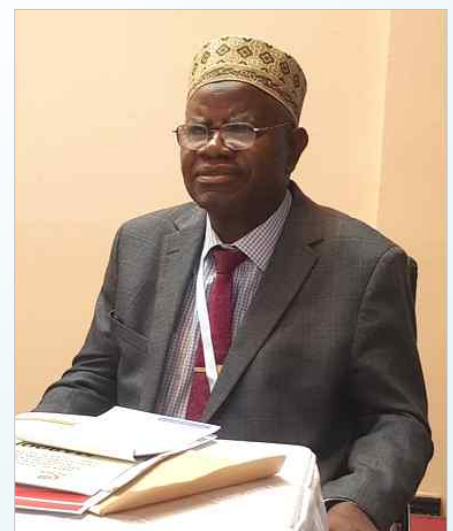
Dr. Ihsan Karaman presenting the token of appreciation to the director UNAIDS, US Ambassador and Health Minister of Uganda are also on the stage along with Dr. Maged Kagimu, the conference Chairman.



Dr. Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam - WHO Representative



President FIMA, Dr Ihsan Karaman and Chairman of the conference Dr. Maged Kagimu.



CALL upon Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA) and all relevant stakeholders including, national and international partners, the United Nations system, Civil society and donors;

To include and support quality religiosity in their respective work on prevention, treatment and care for HIV/AIDS and advocate for interreligious cooperation;

To identify and promote

mechanisms to support countries in the provision of sustainable funding for the HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programmes that incorporate quality religiosity;

REQUEST the Director-General of the World Health Organization; To provide the necessary technical support and advocacy to enable Governments incorporate quality religiosity and its effective use into national HIV/AIDS programmes; To develop

evidence-based norms and guidelines on effective use of quality religiosity in the HIV/AIDS programmes in order to achieve the prevention and treatment targets of the global strategy; In consultation with Governments and Partners, to develop a system for regular monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the progress in incorporating quality religiosity and its effective use in national HIV/AIDS programmes.



*FIMA delegates in the inaugural session.  
(Dr. Youssef, Dr Sofian, Dr. Omar, Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman)*



*Dr. Mustafa Ssaka, Dr. Parvaiz Malik,  
Ms. Mallac (US Ambassador), Dr. Tehmina Khan*



*WHO Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus addressing delegates via video. Please visit: <https://we.tl/t-LWaf7NORxs>.*



*Some distinguished delegates at the Opening Ceremony*



*FIMA promoting partnerships with WHO: FIMA President Prof. Ihsan Karaman hands over a certificate to Dr Frank Lule from the WHO Regional Office for Africa in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, as a symbol of partnership with WHO.*



*FIMA promoting partnerships with People Living with HIV/AIDS: FIMA President Prof. Ihsan Karaman hands over a certificate to Rev. Canon Gideon Byamugisha of International Network of Religious Leaders Living with or affected by HIV and AIDS (INERELA+) as a symbol of partnership.*



# FIMA SAVE-VISION MASTER'S IN OPHTHALMOLOGY PROGRAM (SOMALILAND) IN FULL SWING, SAYS FIMA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Prof. Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman, executive director FIMA and Dr. Sadia Haroon visited Somaliland and stayed there for four days: Following activities were conducted during his visit.

1. Supervised a 3 day workshop on "Concept and Implementation of Islamic Hospital." Seventy doctors, nurses and administrators participated. They were from different parts of Somaliland and Somalia and represented 10 different hospitals.
2. External examiner for 3rd semester DOMS.

3. Conducted a module of Ophthalmology curriculum for DO students.
4. Delivered a lecture on Professionalism and Ethics for young doctors and senior students in University of Hargeisa. UOH is FIMA's partner for DO and MS programs.
5. Visited Gollis University - Hargeisa and had a meeting with President, Prof. Saeed.
6. Visited medical and Dental faculty of Amoud University in

Borama which is beautiful city 100 km away from Hargeisa adjoining Ethiopian border and had a meeting with Dean of Medicine and Dean of Dentistry of Amoud University.

7. Visited Makkah Eye Hospital-Borama, established by one of our Ex DO Student Mohammad Usman. This is the only eye care facility in this city.

Prof. Sadia Haroon, taught a module of Biochemistry to 2nd year students of Hargeisa University. This was a 16 hours teaching over 4 days.



Certificate given to 70 participants of IHC Workshop held in Hargeisa



Visit of Makkah Eye Hospital-Borama established by our old student of DOMS. Only eye care facility in that city.



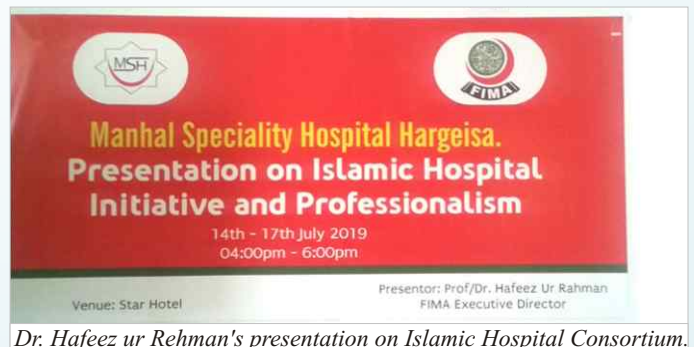
Dinner with students of current batch of DOMS.



Meeting with leadership of IMA of Somaliland.



With Deans of Amoud University -Borama.



Dr. Hafeez ur Rehman's presentation on Islamic Hospital Consortium.

# PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES & GOVERNMENT FREE TREATMENT DAY AT SAIDINA ABUBAKAR ISLAMIC HOSPITAL ON THE DAY OF THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE CONSULTATION



*Saidina Abubakar Islamic Hospital on the Closing Ceremony Day.*



*Patients in the queue to collect Free medicines after prescription by the doctors on the day of the closing ceremony.*



*Dr. Sufian from Palestine getting a Presidential Hand Shake on behalf of FIMA Delegates from His Excellency the Vice President of the Republic of Uganda Hon. Edward Sekandi who represented His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.*



*Professor Magid Kagimu handing over resolutions of the Consultation, for consideration of operationalization, to His Excellency the Vice President of the Republic of Uganda Hon. Edward Sekandi who represented His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.*



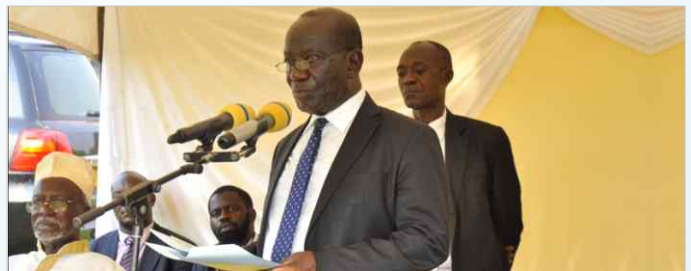
*Professor Magid Kagimu handing over resolutions of the Consultation, for consideration of operationalization, to Rt Hon. 2nd Deputy Prime Minister, Al Haj Kirunda Kivejinja, who represented the Rt. Hon Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, the leader of Government business.*



*UNAIDS Country Director, Dr. Karusa Kiragu, speaking at the closing ceremony of the Consultation.*



*Rt. Hon. 2nd Deputy Prime Minister, Al Haj Kirunda Kivejinja, reading the speech of the Rt. Hon Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda.*



*His Excellency the Vice President of the Republic of Uganda Hon. Edward Sekandi reading the Speech of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, who officially closed the Consultation.*

## REMAINING MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

preliminary constitution was drafted and later it was approved in 2nd Council Meeting held in December 1983 in Khartoum-Sudan. Dr. Syed Mubin Akhtar was elected as the first Chairman of FIMA.

So far 36 meetings of FIMA Council have been held in various member countries. The 36th FIMA council meeting was recently concluded in Kampala, Uganda. There are 29 full members and 25 associate members of FIMA presently. Five new associate members were inducted during the 36th FIMA council meeting including Rohingya Muslim doctors in Saudi Arabia, Union of Egyptian Medical Professional, Medics Worldwide, IMA Malawi and Kibuli Muslim Hospital, Uganda. I take this opportunity to welcome them on becoming members of FIMA family.

The 36th FIMA Council meeting was a great success, it was hosted by IMA of Uganda, under the able leadership of Prof Dr. Magid Kagimu and his dedicated team including the secretary general, Dr. Ayub Twaha and so many others. The council meeting was attended by 20 members and associate member countries. It was a great opportunity to meet with brothers from various countries of the world and to exchange ideas and develop mutual interaction and cooperation.

The reports of individual IMAs, ExCo, executive director's and treasurer were presented during the two days council meeting. FIMA projects include Islamic Hospital Consortium (IHC), Consortium of Islamic Medical Colleges (including ACCCME) FIMA Relief, FIMA Save Vision, FIMA Save Smile, FIMA Save Dignity, FIMA life savers, FIMASAC, FIMA safe water, FIMA Year Book HIV/AIDS Resource Center, FIMA addiction prevention initiative in collaboration with International Green Crescent societies, FIMA Website & FIMA e-newsletter.

The 36th FIMA Council meeting was followed by a marathon session of 4th International Muslim Leaders' Consultation on HIV/AIDS held from 22nd till 26th July 2019. Theme of the conference was: Enhancing interreligious cooperation to increase quality religiosity and its effective use by individuals, families, communities, health facilities and health care training institutions, to fast-track the response for Prevention, Treatment and Care, Support and Control of HIV/AIDS and HIV-risk addictions. Detailed plenary sessions with interactive discussions were held. Top faculty including local scholars and foreign renowned speakers shared their valuable experiences. The deliberations of this important

consultation were appreciated and supported by the Ugandan health ministry, International NGOs and UN bodies including WHO and UNAIDS. The conference proposed actionable resolutions on the implementation of the key points in the fast track initiative, from a religious perspective (please see the details on page 9)

During these years new projects in the fold of FIMA have also emerged and established themselves as separate institutions including FIMA Save Vision, CIMCO and IHC. FIMA has an advisory status with United Nations as a member of ECOSOC. FIMA is also a partner with WHO, OIC and many other international bodies. Separate half day sessions were held for CIMCO and IHC on 22-23 July.

FIMA projects including FIMA save vision is virtually the backbone of this project in Pakistan heralded by PIMA, the POB (Prevention of Blindness program) held a number of camps during last one year and a new state of the Art eye hospital has been established in Lahore, Pakistan. A number of new IMAs are getting involved in the global initiative for eradication of prevention of blindness. The joint venture of FIMA with Manhal University, Hargeisa, Somaliland is a success story in the area of empowering the impoverished areas of Somaliland & Sudan in successfully launching and conducting a postgraduate eye training program. So far around a dozen eye specialists, who graduated from the Manhal and Riphah University are now serving in the remote areas of the country and playing a vital role in preventing blindness.

IMAs and affiliates lead by IMANA, IMAM, IMASA and NDF of Bangladesh with visible presence of volunteers from Pakistan, Egypt, UK and other places are continuing efforts to extend medical relief to the Rohingya refugees from Burma inside Bangladesh. We need enormous financial support to continue our ongoing relief activities. All the IMAs are urged to play their vital role at this critical juncture.

In the last, I congratulate the newly elected office bearers of FIMA executive committee, including Hayat Foundation, Islamic Hospital Jordan, IMAKSA, IMAN, IMASA and NDF (Bangladesh). I am sure the newly elected office bearers will follow the footsteps of their preceding role models in furthering the high ideals of this great organization. Please remember the FIMA office bearers in your prayers.

Wassalam

**Prof. Dr. M. Ihsan Karaman**  
President, FIMA

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