



WORLD FORUM
FOR MUSLIM
DEMOCRATS

SPF THE SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION

**Second International Conference
World Forum for Muslim Democrats**

23-24 November, 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

The Second International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats was held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 23-24 November 2015. The conference gathered Muslim leaders and prominent democrats in Asia, the Middle East, Turkey, and Europe to establish a platform for intellectual discussions on the promotion and strengthening of democracy and democratic movements in the Muslim world and to generate a conversation over these topic between the Muslim and non-Muslim worlds.

This platform is a bold initiative that unequivocally and unabatedly seeks to determine the narrative that freedom, justice, democracy and the rule of law are rightfully the Muslim agenda. It seeks to reemphasize the true, peaceful and pluralistic nature of Islam as well as strives for an Islamic resurgence that ensures the rule of law, good governance, social justice and cultural empowerment where there is no gender, ethnic or religious discrimination. It also aims to demonstrate possible contributions of Muslim Democrats to the debate on theory and practice of democracy throughout the world.

At the very outset, the participants of the Second International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats,

Express its deepest condolences to the victims of the recent terrorist attacks that took place in France, Lebanon, Egypt, Nigeria, Turkey, Mali and Cameroon. Our thoughts and prayers goes to the families and loved ones they leave behind;

Condemn in the strongest terms possible the aforementioned terrorist attacks which have no place in Islam and do not and should not represent the more than one billion Muslims across the world that subscribe to peace, compassion and humanity.

Further, the participants of the Second International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats,

Recalling the achievements made in the First International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats and the related Final Statement issued at that same conference to establish a common platform for leaders, intellectuals, and professionals of the Islamic faith, together with their associates from other faiths and persuasions;

Reaffirming Islam's innate quality as a universal religion with its flexibility and capacity to adapt to new political, social and economic environments;

Reaffirming the significance of gender rights in Islam;

Recognizing the significant role of Indonesia as the world's most populous Muslim nation and third largest democracy in promoting the values of moderation, tolerance, understanding and inclusivism;

Alarmed by rising extremism, extremist violence and terrorism in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Pakistan and other parts of the world;

Noting with deep concern the threat posed by the continuous and expanding terrorism activities carried out by *Daesh*/ISIS/ISIL (and groups/individuals inspired by them) in the Middle East, North African countries and Europe to peace and security;

Noting with deep concern the rise of marginalization, alienation and social injustice against minority Muslims in both the non-Muslim world and the Muslim world;

We, the participants of the Second International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats therefore,

State the urgent need to moderate and ameliorate the voices of intolerance, extremism and exclusivism with the strengthened voices of moderation, tolerance, understanding and inclusivism;

Condemn the persistence of ethnic and religious persecutions in different parts of the world;

Call upon the Muslim world to actively engage in global efforts to ameliorate the problems of refugees and internally displaced persons and to enhance their welfare and protect their human dignity;

Call upon the Muslim world to continue and enhance networks and channels of communication in sharing best practices and experiences in moderating and challenging the voices of intolerance, extremism and exclusivism with the voices of moderation, tolerance, understanding and inclusivism.

Call upon the Muslim world to embark upon a coordinated and sustainable effort to achieve social justice through improving the quality of governance, developing solutions against poverty and ensuring the protection of human rights for all, including for ethnic and religious minorities within and across countries;

Express its appreciation for the achievement Indonesia has made in exposing the compatibility of freedom and democracy with Islam;

On that basis, we, the participants of the Second International Conference of the World Forum for Muslim Democrats resolve to hold the third International Conference and expand the participation of countries from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

In addition, we stress our commitment, individually and collectively to undertake the following action:

1. Education

To undertake education program/activities that target youths in the Muslim world to foster a new generation of Muslim Democrats;

2. Social Justice, Rule of Law and Economic Aspects

To pursue social justice and rule of law by calling on governments in the Muslim world to fulfil the Islamic imperatives to provide among other things better health care, education, housing and employment in the spirit of Muslim Democrats;

3. Public Outreach

To enhance media literacy and engage the media in undertaking a conversation for widening and deepening the people's understanding of the common views of Muslim Democrats within and outside the Muslim world in order to reduce tensions between the Muslim and non-Muslim world;

4. Annual Reports

To publish a series of thematic annual reports for encouraging dialogues to promote Muslim Democrats.

The participating institutions have decided to establish a network of offices to undertake the above action plans.

Jakarta, 24 November, 2015

Organizing Committee of the Second World Forum of Muslim Democrats

The Habibie Center, Indonesia

Institute for Policy Research, Malaysia

SETA, Turkey

Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan