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**High Representative of Alliance of Civilizations Initiative H.E. Pres. Jorge Sampaio visited ICYF-DC Headquarter, discussed Youth Alliance of Civilizations Initiative**

On 27 June 2007 UN Secretary General's High Representative for Alliance of Civilizations (AOC) Initiative H.E Pres. Jorge Sampaio at the side of his official programme in Turkey visited ICYF-DC Headquarter in Istanbul. President of the ICYF-DC Mr. Ali Sarikaya and Secretary General Mr. Elshad Iskandarov informed Pres.Sampaio on the Forum's background and its activities since its establishment.

In addition, Mr. Sarikaya and Mr. Iskandarov explained the Youth Alliance of Civilizations Initiative, which proposed by ICYF-DC in partnership with UNDP and ISESCO. The major goal of the Initiative is to highlight the United Nations "Alliance of Civilizations" on a global scale as well as shaping youth dimension of the "Alliance" through the innovative and intergenerational forum designed to bring together youth representatives and influential decision-makers. Youth organizations such as European Youth Forum and Asian Youth Forum to be main partners of this project. Mr. Iskandarov has also briefed UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Baku International High Level Conference which will be center-piece of Youth Alliance of Civilizations to be held in November 2007.

President Sampaio received views and information by ICYF-DC with appreciation and underlined necessity for ensuring that activities under UN AOC are not duplicated and developed in harmonious manner. He has also expressed interest in having Youth Alliance of Civilization Baku event results presented to UN Alliance of Civilizations Forum to be held in 2008 in Spain.