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**THE FIRST MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD (IAB) OF THE  
“YOUTH FOR THE ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS” INITIATIVE WILL BE HELD  
IN NORTHERN CYPRUS**

On **27-29 June 2007** Mr. Elshad Iskandarov, Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC) visited the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. During the visit the Secretary General has held fruitful negotiations with the governmental representatives and non-governmental organizations of TRNC. On 28 June 2007 he met with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of TRNC, H.E. Ass. Prof. Turgay Avcı. Within the framework of discussion of issues pertaining to ICYF-DC cooperation with TRNC Mr. Elshad Iskandarov expressed his thanks for the invitation by Prime Minister of TRNC, H.E. Mehmet Ali Talat to host the First Meeting of the International Advisory Board (IAB) of the *“Youth for the Alliance of Civilizations” Initiative* in *August 2007* in the Northern Cyprus.

As a result of cooperation with the Ministry the Protocol on holding of the First Meeting of IAB was signed. During the meeting ICYF-DC Secretary General has also expressed his satisfaction with fostering of cooperation between the Government of the Northern Cyprus and various OIC institutions including the recent study visit by the OIC delegation to the island. Mr. Elshad Iskandarov has also mentioned that the will of the OIC Member States to contribute to removal of unjust isolation of brotherly Turkish Cypriot people now needs to be filled by concrete actions both by the Member States and the OIC institutions. In this regard he pledged full support by ICYF-DC to extend its cooperation for intellectual development of TRNC youth and their involvement of the Forum’s global projects. Both sides expressed their eagerness of holding the August IAB meeting as a state for concrete cooperation.