Jeddah—A delegation from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is participating in the 7th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 25 to 27 April 2016. The Forum is being held under the theme ‘Living Together in Inclusive Societies: a Challenge and a Goal’ with the participation of over 3000 political leaders, representatives of international and regional organizations, private sector, civil society, academia, youth, arts and media.

The OIC is organizing a number of activities during the Seventh Global Forum of UNAOC. The OIC Secretary General, Mr. Iyad Ameen Madani, has contributed an article with the title ‘Bridging the Gaps between the West and the Muslim World through Sustainable Intercultural Dialogue’ to the book ‘Civilizations’ which will be launched at the Forum.

Furthermore, there will be a networking session on ‘Promoting Multicultural Perspectives to Prevent Extremism’, organized by the Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), a subsidiary organ of OIC, where a message by the Secretary General will be delivered on his behalf by the Director General of Culture, Social and Family Affairs, Mrs. Mehla Ahmed-Talebna. She will also have an intervention during the Group of Friends of UNAOC meeting.

In addition, the OIC is holding a side event in the form of an exhibition titled ‘Jerusalem: A Convergence of Civilizations’ in collaboration with IRCICA. Around 50 historical photographs will be on display depicting diversity of communities and cultures that lived together and interacted peacefully in Jerusalem during the period from the second half of the 19th century up to the First World War.——Email