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*Secretary-General:* Angel Gurría (Mexico).

*Deputy Secretaries-General:* Aart de Geus (Netherlands), Thelma Askey (USA), Pier Carlo Padoan (Italy), Mari Amano (Japan).

*Publications include:* *OECD Factbook*; *Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics* (annual); *OECD Policy Briefs* (20 a year); *OECD Economic Surveys* (by country); *Environmental Performance Reviews* (by country); *OECD Economic Outlook* (twice a year); *Economic Policy Reform: Going for Growth* (annual); *OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook* (annual); *Education at a Glance* (annual); *OECD Employment Outlook* (annual); *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook* (biennial); *International Migration Outlook* (annual); *Health at a Glance* (biennial); *Society at a Glance* (biennial); *OECD Health Data* (CD-ROM; annual); *Financial Market Trends* (twice a year); *Statistics of International Trade* (monthly); *International Trade by Commodity Statistics* (annual); *Main Economic Indicators* (monthly); *Energy Balances* (annual); *World Energy Outlook* (annual); *National Accounts* (quarterly and annual); *African Economic Outlook* (annual); *OECD Observer* (six a year); *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*; *Model Tax Convention*; *Development Co-operation Report* (annual); *Development Centre Policy Briefs*. For a full list of OECD publications, visit the website: <http://www.oecd.org/bookshop>.

### Further Reading

Blair, D. J., *Trade Negotiations in the OECD: Structures, Institutions and States*. London, 1993

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## Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)

Founded in 1969, the objectives of the OIC are to promote Islamic solidarity among member states; to consolidate co-operation among member states in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and other vital fields of activities, and to carry out consultations among member states in international organizations; to endeavour to eliminate racial segregation, discrimination and to eradicate colonialism in all its forms; to take the necessary measures to support international peace and security founded on justice; to strengthen the struggle of all Muslim peoples with a view to safeguarding their dignity, independence and national rights; to create a suitable atmosphere for the promotion of co-operation and understanding among member states and other countries.

*Members (57 as of Feb. 2008).* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen. *Observers.* Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Russia, Thailand, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

*Headquarters:* PO Box 5925, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

*Website:* <http://www.oic-oci.org>

*Secretary-General:* Dr Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu (Turkey).

## Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO)

UNPO is an international organization created by nations and peoples around the world who are not represented in the world's principal international organizations, such as the UN. Founded in 1991, UNPO now has 69 members representing over 100m. people worldwide.

*Membership.* Open to all nations and peoples unrepresented, subject to adherence to the five principles which form the basis of UNPO's charter: equal right to self-determination of all nations and peoples; adherence to internationally accepted human rights standards; to the principles of democracy; promotion of non-violence; and protection of the environment. Applicants must show that they constitute a 'nation or people' as defined in the Covenant.

*Functions and Activities.* UNPO offers an international forum for occupied nations, indigenous peoples, minorities and oppressed majorities, who struggle to regain their lost countries, preserve their cultural identities, protect their basic human and economic rights, and safeguard their environment.

It does not represent those peoples; rather it assists and empowers them to represent themselves more effectively. To this end, it provides professional services and facilities as well as education and training in the fields of diplomacy, human rights law, democratic processes, conflict resolution and environmental protection. Members, private foundations and voluntary contributions fund the Organization.

In total six former members of UNPO (Armenia, Belau, East Timor, Estonia, Georgia and Latvia) subsequently achieved full independence and gained representation in the UN. Belau is now called Palau. Current members Bougainville and Kosovo have achieved a degree of political autonomy. Kosovo has declared itself an independent state, although both Serbia and Russia oppose its sovereignty.

*Headquarters:* 40A Javastraat, NL-2585 AP The Hague, Netherlands.

*Website:* <http://www.unpo.org>

*General Secretary:* Marino Busdachin (Italy).

*Publication.* *UNPO News* (quarterly).

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## World Council of Churches

The World Council of Churches was formally constituted on 23 Aug. 1948 in Amsterdam. In Feb. 2008 member churches numbered 349 from 110 countries.

*Origin.* The World Council was founded by the coming together of Christian movements, including the overseas mission groups gathered from 1921 in the International Missionary Council, the Faith and Order Movement, and the Life and Work Movement. On 13 May 1938, at Utrecht, a provisional committee was appointed to prepare for the formation of a World Council of Churches.

*Membership.* The basis of membership (1975) states: 'The World Council of Churches is a fellowship of Churches which confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and therefore seek to fulfil together their common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.' Membership is open to Churches which express their agreement with this basis and satisfy such criteria as the Assembly or Central Committee may prescribe. Today, more than 340 Churches of Protestant,