## RUSSIAN ADMITTANCE AS OIC OBSERVER

## PRESS RELEASE

Rao Muhammad Akhtar - Press Secretary

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PROF. KHURSHID AHMAD

## **PRESS RELEASE**

<u>Islamabad (July 04, 2005)</u>: Senator Professor Khurshid Ahmad has expressed his shock and anguish on the OIC decision at its Foreign Minister's meeting at Sana to admit Russia as an Observer Member State of the OIC. This is a blatant violation of the Charter of the OIC. This has come at a time when discussions are going on toward reform of the OIC and amounts to an effort to DEFORM it.

"Who is not aware of the Russia's state terrorism in Chechnya", he questioned. "If today Russia has been admitted on the plea that there is sizeable Muslim community in Russia then on what ground tomorrow India's and "Israel's" claim to gate-crash into OIC can be checked. After all India has 15 % Muslim population and "Israel" despite all its illegitimacy as a state, has over 20% Muslim population", he emphasized.

"If this door has been opened, the Senator said, "I am sorry to say this may represent the beginning of the end of the OIC with reference to the objectives for which OIC was established in 1969".

Prof. Khurshid Ahmad asked the Pakistan's Foreign Minister to explain to the nation as to why did he agree to this stabbing the OIC in the back? "Is he not aware that OIC decisions are made on the basis of consensus and even if there was pressure from certain quarters Pakistan must have taken a firm stand and veto this step in the best interests of OIC? Is it not an act of abject surrender, in violation of the objectives of Pakistan's Foreign Policy?", he further questioned Pakistan's Foreign Minister. "Or does it also represent an aspect of the so called "enlightened moderation" our leadership is crying hoarse?", he concluded.