Unofficial Translation



Secretariat of Arab League Council Affairs

> Communiqué issued by the Council of the League of Arab States at the Level of Foreign Affairs Ministers regarding the Crime of Burning a Copy of the Holy Qu'ran in Sweden 29th June 2023

The Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level strongly condemns the heinous crime of burning a copy of the Holy Qur'an in front of Stockholm's main mosque in Sweden on Wednesday, 28th June 2023, the start of the Muslim three-day Eid al-Adha holiday.

The Council considers that this deplorable act, planned to coincide with the Muslims' celebration of Eid al-Adha, the symbol of sacrifice and peace in the Islamic religion, only provokes and inflames the feelings of nearly two billion Muslims in all over the world, and incites hatred and violence.

The Council calls on the international community and Swedish authorities to prevent the recurrence of such acts that incite strife under the cover of freedom of expression.

The Council also emphasizes the importance of addressing dangerous acts of hatred that reinforce manifestations of Islamophobia, incite violence and insult religions, and calls on the international community to consider such acts as a crime of hatred and incitement, which shall be punishable by law. In addition, the Council underlines the importance of concerted efforts to spread and promote a culture of peace and acceptance of the other, to raise awareness of mutual respect values, to enrich harmony and tolerance principles, and to oppose extremism and intolerance.