

Statement of International Ulama Conference on Polio Eradication

Kabul, Afghanistan, 22-23 February, 2015

Praise be to Allah and prayers and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah and on his kin and companions!

We, the Ulama and Jurists of Afghanistan came together –with grace of Almighty and his help- to finally eradicate Polio from all parts of our beloved country. We appreciate the pioneering role of Islamic Advisory Group, which is consisted of Alazhar, Islamic Fiqh Academy, Organization of Islamic Conference, IsDB, on the eradication of Polio. We also support statements and recommendations of the group and its members, such as: Jeddah Declaration 2014 and approve their programs. Alongside, we express our support for conferences of Islamic organization and conferences of ministers of foreign affairs and health and accept their recommendations and decisions for eradication of polio and other diseases.

We, the Ulama of Afghanistan and its jurists, after briefed by some authentic doctors and experts, declare our approval of Fatawas of Alazhar, International Islamic Fiqh Academy, Dar al Uloom of Duband in India and other quarters of Fatwa and decide that:

1. We declare that Polio vaccine is allowed religiously, and is fully in accordance with the rulings of Shariah, its principles and general and specific objectives. We state that parents are under obligation to speed vaccination of polio, for God says; “Those will have lost who killed their children in foolishness without knowledge and prohibited what Allah had provided for them, inventing untruth about Allah. They have gone astray and were not [rightly] guided.” (6: 140). Doctors are of the view that vaccination of polio does not contain any harm and all Muslim countries are applying it for long time used the same vaccination as we use in Afghanistan to eradicate polio;
2. We believe that it is allowed for Afghan passengers, men and women, children and elderly, to use Polio vaccine, so it will ease its final eradication;
3. We encourage all the families to save their children from all the diseases that will affect their health and to use vaccine for prevention of such diseases;
4. Still we are anxious for wrong information that spreads regarding polio vaccine. Therefore, we request media, clergies and others who have role in making of public opinion to endeavor for reconstruction of public opinion regarding Polio vaccine and to uproot the wrongful fear of concerned people;
5. We, the Ulama and the Jurists condemn all kinds of attacks and aggressions on medical groups which work in various parts, instead, we want from all people to help and respect them, this is what the almighty ordered us, saying “And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression.” (5: 2);
6. We reiterate the importance of Islamic solidarity for eradication of polio and stress on the need of eradication of this disease in national and international level;
7. We are thankful to all those who endeavored in organizing this conference in Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and request all concerned people in this state to perform their duties regarding eradication of Polio. We appreciate financial help of Muslim countries and organizations, including the help of Islamic Development Bank.

O Allah, let Your Blessings come upon Muhammad and his family and companions.