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Preface

In the framework of the Organization of Danie 20 peration (OIC) Day, which was celebrated on 8 St., en 2011, the OIC Group of UNESCO decided to at a niz an intellectual round table in the Organization. At dquarters to be coordinated by the Perman to Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNESC and subject chosen for scrutiny was the vital question of "The Role of Muslim Women in the Development of Societies", which well-known scholars and the figures from around the world were invited to ado as through their participation. The following subject is swere selected for the round table:

- the relectivomen and the family in the domain of the progressor slamic countries
- the region of women scholars in the scientific promotion of amic countries
- the role of women writers and artists in the domain of the promotion of the general culture of Islamic countries
- the socio-cultural role of Muslim women in the contemporary world

 the role of Muslim women in inter-cultural dialogue in the world today

The round table was also accompanied by an exhibition of books, photographs and cultural objects from DIC Member States and followed by a reception, which comprised a variety of traditional dishes offered by different Delegations of OIC Member States accompanied by traditional music from Algeria and a demostration of Iranian calligraphy.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to H.E. Mr. Papa Mom. Die Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Sermal & UNESCO and President of the OIC Group of LNESCO, as well as colleagues in UNESCO' Se receive OIC representatives and all the professors and participants in this well-attended event who contributed to its great success.

Given the import are of the subject chosen for our discussions, it was a ided to collect the texts of all the speeches and start emis delivered at the round table, and it is these roundings which are reproduced in the present volume D to the richness of debate and the variety of viewp into a conceptual contribution to understanding of the the borrole of Muslim women in the development of socraies.

Mohammad Reza Majidi
Associate Professor, University of Tehran
Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the
Islamic Republic of Iran to UNESCO