

November 25, 2008

Egypt blocks Kosovo participation in Islamic conference

KosovoCompromise Staff

Egypt is blocking the participation of a Kosovo delegation in the Second Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in Development of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) for political reasons, the Pristina Albanian-language daily Koha Ditore has reported.

In spite of agreement reached in principle with the Conference secretary that a delegation of the Kosovo Foreign Ministry should take part in the OIC ministerial conference to be held in Cairo on Nov 24-25, Egypt has blocked the participation of the Kosovo delegation for political reasons, Koha Ditore said.

An official from the Albanian embassy in Cairo, Ilir Hoxha, had earlier said that the Organisation of the Islamic Conference had allowed Kosovo's participation in the meeting after receiving a request from the Albanian embassy in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia.

Eight out of 57 member states of the OIC have recognised Kosovo's secession so far. Egypt is strongly opposing Kosovo's independence, which it views as a breach of international law.