Religion Education Association Conference
A Holistic Approach to Advancing Education in Muslim Societies
A Collaborative Session Outline

1. Dr. Ahmed Alwani
AEMS: Goals and approach

- Continue the legacy of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) work in education.
- Explore ways education is transformative in Muslim societies.
- Invest in people’s moral and ethical development.
- Offer alternatives to the existing “reform of education” approaches in Muslim societies.
- Provide research-based and data-driven road map for policy, curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment.

2. Dr. Ermin Sinanovic
AEMS: Islamic Concepts

- Culture of learning in Islam
- Funding through waqf (endowment)
- Developmental phases recognized in Islamic sources: childhood, discernment, maturity
- Head, heart, and hands (‘aql, qalb/fu’ad, aydi/niyyah)

3. Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss
AEMS: Research agenda in the “Third Space”.

- Approaches to first, second, and third space.
- Third Space and “Learning to be”.
- Social and Emotional Literacy components.
- Eco literacy and transformative approach to education.

4. Dr. Ilham Nasser
AEMS: Study on “Mapping the Terrain”.

- Research based examination of “Learning to be” in the “Third Space”.
- Focus on socioemotional constructs: empathy, forgiveness, moral reasoning, and community-mindedness.
- Methodology and samples.
- Successes and challenges.