

**PRESENTATION OF THE ISMAILI IMAMAT, AGREEMENTS  
BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND AKDN  
LISBON –22 February 2018  
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**INTRODUCTORY NOTES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
IMAMAT ISMAILI, COMMENDATORE NAZIM AHMAD**

Dear Secretary of State of the Portuguese communities, Mr.  
José Luis Carneiro

Dear President of the Diplomatic Institute, Ambassador  
Freitas Ferraz

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

A few words in the first place to thank Ambassador Freitas Ferraz, distinguished president of the Diplomatic Institute, his cooperation, and that of the Institute, in organizing this presentation. I hope you get to know better, what is Imamat Ismaili and what its activities, especially that of the Aga Khan Network for development.

Secondly, I would take the opportunity to, in the person of the Secretary of State, Mr. José Luis Carneiro-whose presence I thank, express the appreciation of Imamat Ismaili for the commitment that the Portuguese Government has expressed in the development of the relations between both parties. This is what we have found too, either in other high instances of the Portuguese Republic or in the administration, and which have been translated into the conclusion of various bilateral agreements and cooperation actions.

I would like to thank all those present in this sitting, who have wanted to be with us today in this event, which fits the letter and spirit of the International cooperation Protocol signed in 2008. More precisely, and by happy coincidence, on 11 July, very significant date for the Ismaili community, since it was on July 11, 1957, that His Highness the Aga Khan took up his mission as a spiritual leader of the Ismaili community.

A happy coincidence, reinforced by the fact that this presentation take place during the celebrations of the Jubilee of His Highness, which will have its highest point, on 11 July

next in Lisbon, the city where we have our headquarters, under the agreement signed in this House in 2015.

The Foreign secretary is, as he could not be, our privileged interlocutor. Therefore, at the time when we are completing the installation phase of the seat of the Imam at Ismaili-unprecedented task, because in 1,400 years of history this is the first time that the Imam at has a physical headquarters in the current moulds, finding only parallel in the period Fatimid-thought It would be useful to provide structured information about our institutions, our history and the context of our relationship, as well as the potential of the same in Portugal and abroad, now and in the future.

It is a great honor and a great pleasure-and also a great responsibility-to do so today here in this Ministry and before the members of a career known for their great preparation, high level of demand and rigour.

I would like to reiterate our thanks for your presence, in this organised initiative jointly with the Diplomatic Institute, in a collaboration that I am sure will continue in the future.

Thank you.