Riyadh, 25 Muharram 1431H - 11 January 2010, HRH Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Director of King Faisal Foundation, tonight announced the winners of the King Faisal International Prize.

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam for the year 2010 has been awarded to:

**H.E. Recep Tayyep Erdogan**  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

whose achievements, in political and administrative terms, have set an example of judicious leadership in the Islamic world. Erdogan's contributions during his tenure as mayor of Istanbul have been instrumental to the progress of that city. Following his election as Prime Minister of Turkey, he embarked on a series of reforms that quickly established him as a statesman of enormous dimension, while his unyielding position on various Islamic and global issues has gained him the respect of the entire Islamic nation and the rest of the world.

Nationally, Erdogan has pioneered a major campaign of economic, social and cultural reforms that paved the way for substantial national development and placed Turkey among the world's leading countries, economically and industrially, without compromising his ideals of democracy and justice. With the strong support of his citizens, he has also rendered an outstanding service to Islam by fiercely defending the rights and just causes of the Islamic nation, particularly the rights of the Palestinian people. At the global level, Erdogan was one of the Muslim founders of the call for understanding between civilizations, and a strong advocate of dialogue, peaceful co-existence and international cooperation between different cultures throughout the world.
Note to Editor:

• Over cast 32 years, a total of 38 individuals or institutions from 20 different counties have been recognized by the King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam.