Resolution Adopted in the 2nd Commission Meeting of COMSATS held in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 16 – 17 April 2012

We, the participants of the Second Commission Meeting of COMSATS, representing Members of the Commission, hereby resolve as under:

APPRECIATING the efforts of the Government of Pakistan for hosting the Commissions' Meeting in Islamabad;

REALIZING the importance of the applications of Science and Technology for the socio-economic progress of the countries of the South;

RENEWING the member countries' resolve and commitment to support the objectives of the Commission as contained in its International Agreement of October 1994:

EMPHASIZING the need to strengthen the Scientific and Technological Activities of the Commission in the light of new challenges and to enhance its financial strength to achieve its objectives;

APPRECIATING the role of Commissions' Network of Centres of Excellence and the Secretariat in the progress made so far for the socio-economic benefits provided to the member countries through the mechanism of South-South cooperation;

NOTING with satisfaction the adoption of innovative mechanisms by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Centres of Excellence for strengthening the Scientific and Technological Capacity base of the Commission through the introduction of thematic research programmes and its efforts for expanding the membership of the organization;

COMMENDING the support provided by the Government of Pakistan to the Secretariat for successfully carrying out its international functions and obligations;

WELCOMING the election of Ghana as the new Chair of the Commission for the next three years;

The Member Countries of the Commission pledge to:

- CONTINUE extending their full support to the Commission in its efforts of promoting the integration of Science and Technology into member countries' national and regional development plans for achieving rapid socio-economic development in the South;
- 2. **INCREASE** the allocation of funds for strengthening the Scientific and Technological capacities of their countries and make full use of the collaborative forum of COMSATS in these efforts.
- 3. **STRENGTHEN** the role of Focal Points in ensuring the allocation of sufficient funds for the COMSATS' Centres of Excellence based in their own countries, to enable their effective participation in COMSATS' programmes and activities and their full transformation into international Centres of Excellence:
- 4. **PROMOTE** the objectives and programmes of the Commission at the national as well as the international level through diplomatic and other channels and devise effective framework for disbursement of adequate financial contribution to COMSATS on voluntary basis;
- 5. **CONTRIBUTE** towards the COMSATS Endowment Fund of US \$10 M of which a seed amount of US \$1 M is to be contributed by the Government of Pakistan as announced by the Prime Minister of Pakistan in his inaugural address.
- 6. **FACILITATE** the exchange of scientists, engineers, technicians, educationists, scholars and experts among the relevant organizations of the member countries to enhance the pace of activities related to capacity building and transfer of technology;
- 7. **FACILITATE** the continuity of the Commission's Meetings once every three years as stipulated in the Commission's Agreement and agree to convene the next meeting of the Commission in Accra (Ghana) in 2015;

And urge the Executive Director of the Commission to:

- 8. **CONTINUE** making all efforts to achieve the objectives of the Commission with the support of the Governments of the member countries and through its Centres of Excellence;
- 9. **DEVELOP** an Action Plan for the next three years, based on COMSATS over-all five years' strategy in consultation with the member countries;
- 10. **STRENGTHEN** the Scientific and Technological programmes of the Commission through joint technical cooperation projects employing the concept of International Thematic Research Groups in order to provide maximum socioeconomic benefits to the member countries;
- 11. **TAKE** measures to harmonize the 'International Agreement to Establish COMSATS' and the 'Charter of the Network of International S&T Centres of Excellence', which would be considered jointly as COMSATS Statutes.

- 12. **INCREASE** efforts for elevating the S&T capacity and the international status of its affiliated Centres of Excellence;
- 13. **ENHANCE** the campaign for the expansion of the membership of the Commission and Centres of Excellence to achieve wider South-South cooperation;
- 14. **PREPARE** a comprehensive follow-up report on the relevant provisions of this resolution for presenting to the Commission at its next meeting.