

**Communiqué of the  
15th Coordinating Council Meeting of COMSATS  
(24-25 May, 2012), TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center – Turkey**

- The COMSATS' Coordinating Council in its 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting wishes to express its profound gratitude to the Government of Turkey and TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center (MAM) for hosting the Meeting and making excellent arrangements in this regard.
- The members of the Council have learned with great appreciation, the high standards of scientific and technical research being conducted in TÜBİTAK MAM and the contributions this Centre of Excellence has made in promoting the objectives of COMSATS. The Council strongly feels that Turkey's early membership of COMSATS will expand and strengthen scientific and technical cooperative programmes among the member countries for their collective benefit.
- The progress made by COMSATS' Centres of Excellence in achieving their scientific and technical targets is praiseworthy. Utilizing this potential for the promotion of the International Thematic Research projects for accelerating the pace of socio-economic development in the member countries would be highly desirable.
- The Council expresses its great pleasure and satisfaction on successfully holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting in Islamabad-Pakistan in April 2012 through the joint efforts of COMSATS' Secretariat, the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Pakistan and the Governments of the COMSATS' member countries. The Council welcomes the election of the Head of State of the Republic of Ghana as the new Chairperson of the Commission and assures him of Council's full cooperation in the promotion of COMSATS' future programmes.
- The Council endorses and supports the Resolution unanimously adopted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting and expresses its willingness to cooperate with the Secretariat to implement the decisions taken therein.
- The Council appreciates the efforts of the Secretariat for enhancing the membership of COMSATS' Network, and welcomes the addition of the University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Senegal, and re-designation of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Ghana, as COMSATS' Centres of Excellence. The addition of these Centres has imparted great strength to COMSATS' Network and will expand the scope of its technical programmes in the countries of the South.

- The Council commends the role of COMSATS' Secretariat in completing the work on COMSATS' future strategy and feels convinced that the strategy will greatly help in facilitating the progress of International Thematic Research projects in an efficient and cost-effective manner.
- Scientific and technical capacity building in the COMSATS' member countries through South-South cooperation is a central objective of the Network of Centres of Excellence. The partnership of COMSATS with other international organizations such as ISESCO, UNESCO, NAM S&T Centre in promoting the capacity building programmes in COMSATS' member countries is highly encouraging. It is hoped that these esteemed organizations will continue supporting COMSATS in the future as well and more Centres of Excellence will be able to participate in such collaborative activities.
- The Council attached considerable importance to the pressing need of raising more funds for successful implementation of COMSATS' scientific programmes in the member countries. In this regard, it has been felt that systematic efforts need to be made by the member countries, Centres of Excellence and the Secretariat on priority basis.
- The Council, taking note of the substantive para 5 of the Resolution adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting, requests the member countries to contribute generously towards the Endowment Fund of US \$ 10 Million, approved by the Commission.
- The Council reaffirms its full commitment to the objectives of the Network of the Centres of Excellence as laid down in its Charter and expresses its resolve to uphold the spirit and principles of South-South cooperation for sustainable socio-economic development of COMSATS' member countries. The Centres of Excellence renew their commitment to hold Capacity Building Programmes for COMSATS' Member Countries.
- Taking note of the substantive para 11 of the Resolution adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting, the Council approves the constitution of a three member committee to harmonise the provisions of the International Agreement to Establish COMSATS and the Charter of the Network of International S&T Centres of Excellence, to be considered jointly as COMSATS Statutes.
- The Council strongly urges the governments of all developing countries, in general, and COMSATS' member countries, in particular, to allocate at least 2% of their GDP for developing and strengthening the systems of scientific education, S&T research and development, and innovation in their countries that would lead to socio-economic progress and prosperity in the developing world.