Second Commission Meeting Of COMSATS
(Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South)
17-18 April 2012 Islamabad, Pakistan

H.E. SYED YUSUF RAZA GILANI
Prime Minister, Islamic Republic of Pakistan

It is a matter of honour for Pakistan to host the Second Commission Meeting of COMSATS (Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South). The presence of the Ministry of Science and Technology and other high-level officials from COMSATS, 21 member countries in Islamabad is most welcome. I wish all delegates productive and comfortable stay in Pakistan and sincerely hope that their deliberations would lead to enhanced S&T cooperation among developing countries.

Established over 17 years ago, with the patronage of Shaheen Mahmood Benazir Bhutto, COMSATS has made commendable progress for achieving developmental objectives in the countries of the South through the application of science and technology. It is therefore, a matter of pride for this government, particularly, to see the Commission play a leading role in promoting sustainable development.

It is also heartening to note that, over the years, COMSATS efforts in promoting and advancing scientific and technological capacity of its member countries have benefited its member countries significantly. In this age of global competitiveness, there is an acute need to galvanize the strengths of countries of the South, for effectively utilizing their collective human and natural resources, and to forge greater solidarity in support of South-South cooperation, especially in the fields of science and technology. COMSATS, in this regard, has also played a proactive role in providing scientific research services to its member countries through its Network of Centres of Excellence. It is important for the South to make the most of this opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate COMSATS' international role in organizing numerous events, seminars, and conferences for its member countries.

I believe that in order to keep pace with the rapid growth of scientific breakthroughs, Pakistan needs to harness scientific knowledge and come up with new technologies to improve the socio-economic condition of its people. COMSATS can effectively facilitate this process through numerous science-related initiatives. The Government of Pakistan has always not only provided full support to COMSATS but this year shall continue to do so in order to let its international role continue and become strengthened.

I wish COMSATS success in all its future endeavours, and look forward to expressions of support from all delegates during the course of the Commission Meeting.

MIR CHANGEZ KHAN JAMI
Federal Minister for Science & Technology

On behalf of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Pakistan, I feel highly privileged to host the Second Commission Meeting of COMSATS, during which delegations from Member Countries will review the activities carried out by the inter-governmental organization over the past decade and a half and set its future direction with renewed vigor.

COMSATS' commitment and dedication to its basic goal of facilitating the exchange of scientific knowledge, expertise, and information for socio-economic progress in the South, has resulted in a number of noteworthy achievements over the years. I feel COMSATS S&T-based initiatives within Pakistan are of special mention. Its role for the creation of the COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), is remarkable success story. A flagship project of COMSATS, CIIT has been supporting the development of highly skilled human resources. I have the privilege to be the Chancellor of this progressive scientific institution, which has been ranked as the top most I.T. educational institute of the country by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.

COMSATS Information Services (CIS) has also made remarkable progress and has been providing quality services to competitive prices to a broad base of satisfied customers throughout the country. On the other hand, numerous underprivileged people have benefited from COMSATS’ Tele-health services.

Such projects tend to generate considerable goodwill for the beneficial work being done by the COMSATS in aid of socio-economic development and indirectly contribute to ameliorating the impoverished masses by reducing the digital divide.

COMSATS' successes in the creation of networks, formation of partnerships among developing countries for promoting excellence in scientific research as well as in providing sponsorship for research education and training have earned commendations from all developing countries.

I assure all delegations of Pakistani support from the Ministry in its revitalized efforts of finding scientific and technological solutions to societal problems, common to countries of the South and see it playing a leading role in the advancement of science and technology in developing countries in the future.

AKHLAQ AHMAD TARAR
Federal Secretary Science & Technology

I would like to felicitate the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) on the auspicious and much awaited occasion of the Second Commission Meeting. The holding of COMSATS highest forum, I believe, is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for all its member countries and affiliated institutions, which will bring national commitment and give a strong direction to the programmes and operations of the organization.

Built on the foundation laid by the late Prof. Dr. Abdul Salam, COMSATS' scientific excellence has distinguished it in the global scene, and its success lies in the countries of the South, to make concerted efforts for their development. Banking on the commonality of the socio-economic conditions of its member countries, COMSATS' initiatives have remained focused on areas of crucial importance to development of these countries. Some of the areas being focused upon are Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), Natural Products, Agricultural Biotechnology, Climate Change and Environmental protection, and Material Sciences.

The capacity-building efforts over the years and the recent collaborative research activities have contributed greatly to enhancing the role of S&T in the development of the member countries, especially Pakistan, where more than 100 conferences/seminars were organized or sponsored by COMSATS.

On the other hand, the organization’s two major I.T. based projects in Pakistan, the COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) and the COMSATS Telehealth Services, have flourished and blossomed into full-fledged institutions benefitting the country greatly. These initiatives are a testament that COMSATS has remained conscious of the mandate assigned to them, which the leaders of the developing countries gathered to establish the organization in 1994.

Furthermore, COMSATS' success has been in providing support to governments and other stakeholders in the field of Science & Technology provided patronage and holding the COMSATS Consulate Committee Meeting in Abidjan, Nigeria in 2002, under the chairmanship of my predecessor, Minister the meeting was instrumental in gathering the support of governments and other stakeholders in the field of Science & Technology.

I believe that the COMSATS Commission Meeting of COMSATS will have an even bigger impact for the organization and member countries. It is my hope that the delegates will see the potential of COMSATS in achieving its organizational objectives.

DR. EDUARDO POSADA FLOREZ
Commissioner COMSATS Colombia

It is a matter of great satisfaction to note that the Second Commission Meeting of COMSATS has been held in Islamabad. The Country which provides highest level forum to the developing countries in order to address their common developmental challenges, can truly feel proud of its journey so far and the progress made has on way of achieving its goal of promoting judicious use of science and technology for socio-economic development.

The success of the COMSATS can be considerably achieved through its collaboration with other development partners such as UNDP, USAID, and the branchchild of the late Nobel laureate, Dr. Abdul Salam, is a unique organization which can not only help strengthen the cooperative ties amongst the countries of the South but also provide them the necessary impetus to realize growth and development based on science and technology.

It is playing its role through its Network of International S&T Centers of Excellence, which is providing effective means for regional self-reliance through South-South cooperation mechanisms.

Having realized that the scope for scientific collaboration among the countries of the South is immense, the need for the developing countries to help identify key areas of focus and to use science and technology as a catalyst for a positive impact on the socio-economic development of the South. COMSATS member countries share many similarities in terms of climatic conditions, geographical characteristics, biodiversity and ecosystems. In this context, by sharing of experiences and knowledge, it is equally important to have a collective strategy to address their problems.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge and lead COMSATS effective role in sensitizing its member countries to the centrality of science and technology. In its sensitization and development of scientific and technological competence at national and regional developmental plans. The development projects and programmes initiated by COMSATS over the years have been sharply focused in terms of the CPD and expected results. I hope that the organization's dedication to the cause of promoting science and technology will continue to manage the socio-economic interests of the countries.

Second COMSATS Commission Meeting.

COMSATS has played a prominent role in the field of Science and Technology, as well as on the regional level. It is widely recognized for its contributions in the field of education, research, and technology development. The Commission is aimed at providing a platform for members of developing countries to exchange knowledge and expertise in the fields of science and technology.

The COMSATS’ team is committed to playing a strategic role on the international level for the realization of its mission.

DR. IMTINAN ELAHI QURESHI
Commissioner COMSATS Pakistan

COMSATS has the proud privilege of organizing its 2nd Commission Meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan, after the successful organization of the 1st Commission Meeting in Islamabad in 1998. The meeting was attended by representatives from 18 Member Countries of COMSATS, who had a common goal to identify areas of cooperation, solutions to developmental challenges, and strategies for regional self-reliance through South-South cooperation.

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COMSATS
Paving the Way for Sustainable Development through:

- Promotion of Science, Technology and Innovation as a means to fast track socio-economic development
- Mobilization of scientific and technological resources through South-South cooperation
- Capacity building of Member States through a Network of S&T Centres of Excellence

COMSATS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Government of Pakistan for holding its 2nd Commission Meeting and welcomes the member countries’ delegates

Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)
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Email: comsats@comsats.org, URL: www.comsats.org

The Ministry of Science & Technology strives to develop science and technology in Pakistan through the improved utilisation of indigenous resources. We believe that the only way forward for Pakistan is through enhanced research and greater support for local scientific institutes

OUR GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Establishment of institutes & laboratories for research & development
Establishment of science universities
Promotion & development of industrial technology
Initiation of special measures for establishment of venture capital companies for technological development & growth
Prescription of standards and measures for quality control of manufactured goods
Development, deployment & demonstration of renewable sources of energy
The Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) is the national focal point and enabling arm of Pakistan's National Science and Technology (NAST) and the National Universities (NUS) for a number of federal, provincial, and local government science and technology policies. The Ministry has been actively involved in the development of science and technology policies and programs in Pakistan, and has been a driving force in promoting scientific and technological innovation in the country.

Recent achievements of MoST:

- **Research and Development:** The Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (PCSIR) has made significant progress in improving scientific research and development in Pakistan. This includes the establishment of new research centers and the enhancement of the existing ones.
- **Human Resource Development:** The Ministry has been working on developing a skilled workforce in science and technology. This includes the establishment of new universities and the enhancement of the existing ones.
- **International Cooperation:** The Ministry has been actively involved in international cooperation in science and technology. This includes the establishment of new partnerships and the enhancement of the existing ones.

The Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) has been a driving force in promoting scientific and technological innovation in Pakistan, and has been actively involved in the development of science and technology policies and programs in the country.
Pakistan Science Foundation
39 years of services for promotion of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY in the Country

Mobile Science Exhibitions “Science Caravans” for schools
(The program was initiated in 1986) so far more than 2.05 million students from about 7492 schools have participated in Science Caravan activities. Presently, PSF has nine Caravan units; four new are being added under a PSDP project.

S&T Fairs and Traveling Expos
Four National S&T Fairs, and a number of Expos including S&T Expo 2007 “Shaping the Future” (Islamabad-2007) have been organized. Due to law and order situation the focus was shifted to organize International traveling Expos prepared by Centre Sciences, France-UNESCO and partners. In this regard, three International Expos viz. “Experiencing Mathematics”, “The Earth’s Future in Our Hands” and “Biodiversity in Life: It’s Our Life” have been organized in eight cities from all provinces. The next edition of this series is on Chemistry “It’s all about Chemistry” Jan-April, 2012 in Pakistan.

Science Essay and Poster Competitions among all Boards of Intermediate and Secondary Education
Establishment of Science Centres, Museums, Herbaria & Planetaria
Establishment of Science Clubs in schools
Financial assistance to schools for strengthening of Laboratories
Provision of Popular Science Magazines and Scientific Literature to Schools
Popular Science Lectures
Science Popularization through Mass Media
Preparation and Dissemination of Science Posters, Brochures, and Booklets
Commemoration of Special days and events like World Science Day for Peace and Development, Space Week, International Year of Physics, etc.
Implementation of Inquiry Based Science Education-IBSE “La main a la pate-LAMAP” in Pakistani schools.
Indigenous Technology Development and its Commercialization under R&D Industry Programme to pass on direct effect of research to the Society.

KNOWLEDGE GIVES YOU THE POWER TO EXCEL
At Pakistan Science Foundation we believe that knowledge is the way to move forward. By acquiring new technologies and fostering scientific thought we can help to advance our nation through the power of scientific ideas.

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COMSATS - AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) was established in 1994 as a realization of a grand vision, spearheaded by Prof. Dr. ABDUL SALAM, whereby the developmental gap between the North and the South was to be bridged through S&T capacity building in developing countries. Dr. Salam firmly believed that “this globe of ours is inhabited by two distinct species of human beings: the developed and the developing, the rich and the poor. What distinguishes one type of human from the other is the ambition, the power, the plan, which basically stems from their differing mastery and utilization of present day science and technology”. He had earlier established the “International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)” in Trieste (Italy) as an institution providing world-class infrastructure to scientists from the developing countries, who are often isolated and lack adequate facilities necessary for high-quality research in their home countries.

The structure of COMSATS goes a step further from a single research facility catering to the training and research requirements of scientists from a vast group of countries with a wide spectrum of research interests. It envisioned clusters of high quality R&D centres working independently in their national capacities but cooperating with one another as a part of COMSATS’ Network of Centres of Excellence. Currently, 17 such centres spread across three continents are affiliated with COMSATS and provide it an enormous rich resource for scientific cooperation at the level of working scientists. The Heads of these Centres of Excellence are members of the COMSATS coordinating Council, which holds its meetings in different countries on a yearly basis. The coordinating Council is a unique platform, which enables the leaders of R&D organizations to consult one another about the latest developments in their scientific programmes, learn from the best practices and successful initiatives, and, in general, exchange among each other the offers of cooperation and requests for technical assistance. It was further realized by COMSATS’ ponders that the decision-making process in developing countries is heavily dependent upon political patronage and the cooperation of civil bureaucrats. Thus, an international initiative to make Science and Technology the central pillar of the development agenda in the countries of the South can be successful only by adopting a top-down approach to bring about significant shift in innovation policy to perceive the role of S&T and what resources are allocated for its development. Consequently, COMSATS is an apex body comprising Heads of State/Government and its Members, while the highest level functionaries responsible for S&T affairs in member countries, acting as COMSATS’ focal Points, constitute its Consultative Committee. Currently, there are 21 Member States of COMSATS with Prime Minister of Pakistan as its Chairperson. The mission statement of COMSATS is “to help create a world where all nations/states are at peace with each other and capable of living a healthy and happy life to all their populations in a sustainable way, using modern scientific and technological means. The major objectives of COMSATS, as outlined in its Foundation Agreement are: i) sensitize the countries of the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate allocation of resources for research and development, and to the integration of science and technology in national and regional development plans; ii) support the establishment of a Network of Centres of Excellence for Science and Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South; iii) support other major initiatives designed to promote incipient capability-building in science and technology for science-led sustainable development, and to help mobilize long-term assistance from international donor agencies and from governments/institutions in the North and the South to supplement the financing of international scientific projects in the South; iv) provide leadership and support for major North-South and South-South initiatives in science, technology, and research; and v) support the relevant programmes and initiatives of major international organizations working in developing countries and promotion of science and technology in the South.

In order to achieve its objectives, COMSATS has been using a variety of conventional and innovative mechanisms, over the last 27 years. The capacity-building at the level of individuals and institutions has been conducted through seminars, symposia, workshops, training programmes, pilot-projects and sponsorship of scientific visits. Over 150 national and international events have been organized in the specific areas of science and technology that have a direct relevance to the socio-economic development of the member countries. The thrust areas identified in this context are: Information and Communication Technologies; natural production, agriculture, biotechnology, climate change and environmental protection, materials science, mathematical modeling, water resource management, and renewable energy technologies. COMSATS keeps a close watch on scientific breakthroughs and connection is the policy of organizing international capacity-building programmes in partnership with other international organizations, such as Pakistan Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO, NAM-S&T Centre, and Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, in order to gain maximum benefit with limited monetary input. Significant in-kind contribution of member countries is received in the form of hospitality to visiting scientists, local organizational arrangements of international events and travel for participation in COMSATS related meetings. All member countries, especially the country of COMSATS’ Secretariat, Pakistan, should be loaded for their contribution to the cause of COMSATS.

In return for their contributions, all member countries have gained tangible benefits, especially the host country, 20,500 enrolled students, and 2,000 faculty members, more than 400 of which have Ph.D. degrees. The Institute offers 63 degree programmes spread in seven Campuses across Pakistan. The quality of education can be judged by its ranking as the top-most institution of the country in the field of I.T. education, according to a report issued in 2012 by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. CIS is operating successfully although a multitude of internet service providers have entered the field with corporate investment, offering services on highly competitive rates. COMSATS also launched other pioneering projects, which were later taken up by other organizations, such as pilot-project of bio-gas production and the tele-medicine programme. The COMSATS’ project on the provision of medical consultation to remote areas of Pakistan through tele-health facility is being year strategy, the lynchpin of which is a radically new initiative of conducting COMSATS’ sponsored thematic research in areas relevant to direct socio-economic benefits. This will complement COMSATS’ role as a facilitator of scientific cooperation to promote research in specific scientific and technological areas. During the last two years, three ‘International Thematic Research Groups (ITRGs)’ have been launched. This concept is based on extending the most common way modern research is conducted. Generally, there is always a senior professor as Group Leader who engages with several students/post-doctorate or other co-workers as Group Members; all engaged in work on a well-defined theme of research. COMSATS’ ITRGs are different only in the sense that the Group Leader is an outstanding international scientist in one of the member countries, while the Group Members are a combination of local and other scientific workers distributed in different countries interested in the project. The theme of the group activity and the size of the group are left to the discretion of the Group Leader. The three ITRGs currently undertaking research are in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs); ‘Natural Products Sciences’; and ‘Climate Change’. The 2nd Commission Meeting of COMSATS, with participation of Science Ministers of member countries is being held with the objectives, inter alia, of renewing the commitment of the member countries for participating in and supporting the programmes and initiatives of COMSATS; working out solid policy guidelines for the future functioning of the Commission; sensitizing the Member States/Governments and institutions of COMSATS towards the importance of South-South and North-South cooperation in S&T; and mobilizing adequate financial support for the scientific and technological programmes of COMSATS.

It is hoped that deliberations of the 2nd Commission Meeting being held on April 16-17 at Islamabad, transit of ideas toward achieving its organizational objectives, and result in the decisions, recommendations and resolutions that would lead to mainstreaming COMSATS future activities aimed at the socio-economic development of its member countries.
COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) being a Center of Excellence of COMSATS dedicated to empowering the people of Pakistan and Muslim Ummah through modern world-changing research and technology. Some of the distinguished features of CIIT are:

- 07 State-of-the-art campuses
- Ranked among top 10 universities of Pakistan based on International QS Ranking criteria
- ISO-9001:2008 Certified
- Internationally renowned faculty
- Internationally indexed research
- More than 1100 research papers published in International Journals
- Globally academic and research linkages.

Key Programs
Computer Science, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering, Mathematics, Management Sciences, Physics, Bio Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Nanotechnology, Pharmacy, Project Management and Telecommunication Engineering

April 16-17, 2012
Pakistan’s No. 1 Computer Science & IT University as per HEC latest ranking

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PAK-CHINA BUSINESS FORUM 2012
Industrial Exhibition
April 15-18 2012
PAK-China Friendship CENTER
Garden Avenue, Shakar Parian, Islamabad

The COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) is organizing Pak-China Business Forum in order to promote University-Industry linkages to enhance the business and economic activity in the country. The industrial exhibition aims to provide a platform for interaction between Chinese and Pakistani entrepreneurs and businessmen. It is a unique opportunity for companies, SMEs, entrepreneurs, R & D organizations and students to explore business possibilities.

VISIT TIMINGS

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<th>April 17, 2012</th>
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<tr>
<td>Universities/Colleges/Schools</td>
<td>11 a.m. - 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Families</td>
<td>11 a.m. - 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>2 p.m. - 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Business Executives</td>
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(Commission on Science and Technology for the South)
16-17 April 2012 Islamabad, Pakistan

COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

History:
COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), a Degree Awarding Institute (DAI) in higher education, was established in 1994 under the Project of Excellence of the Commission on Science and Technology for the South (COMSATS), which is an inter-governmental organization with 22 member states in three continents; Asia, Africa, and Latin America. CIIT established its first campus in 1995 at Islamabad and was chartered by the Government of Pakistan in August 2003. The journey of success continued for CIIT when it opened up campus in 2006 in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. CIIT, which has also launched the program in Lahore, has also offered to students from COMSATS Member Countries for MS program in selected fields. CIIT has also launched the program in Lahore and has also offered to students from COMSATS Member Countries for MS program in selected fields.

Graduates:
The CIIT is also welcomed international students into its undergraduate programs. In this regard, CIIT has also offered to students from COMSATS Member Countries for BS program in selected fields. CIIT has also launched the program in Lahore and has also offered to students from COMSATS Member Countries for MS program in selected fields.

Ranking:
In February 2012, HEQEC announced Quality Research-Based Rankings of Pakistani Higher Education Institutes in which CIIT has been ranked at number 26 among all 122 universities of Pakistan while it has been ranked number 1 at Computer Science and IT universities.

Research & Development:
The CIIT provides state of the art facilities such as specialized research laboratories, well-stocked libraries including digital library, Wi-Fi and video conferencing facility to promote research and development among faculty and students. The total number of research articles published by the CIIT from 2000 until 2011 is 1,164. The data for 2011 is being compiled and verified by the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) at CIIT. 38 books, five patents, and more than 500 research-based workshops have also been organized by CIIT. The Institute has also established the Intellectual Property Rights Management Team to safeguard the intellectual property rights of the faculty including copyrights of software, patents, and trademarks of their inventions, trade secrets, etc. in support of entrepreneurial and third parties.

Quality Assurance:
In addition to all the above, CIIT has also been awarded international certification of quality ISO 9001:2008 in 2011. Besides, the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) at CIIT has also been placed in the top category of W by the Higher Education Commission in the first ranking of 98 HEIs in the country.

National Testing Service (NTS) and National Testing Services (NTS)
National Testing Service (NTS) was established in 1996 under the Project of Excellence of the Commission on Science and Technology for the South (COMSATS), which is an inter-governmental organization with 22 member states in three continents; Asia, Africa, and Latin America. NTS is the first independent testing service in Pakistan with the aim to provide quality education to the students of Pakistan and the world. NTS also conducts various national and international exams. NTS has also offered to students from COMSATS Member Countries for BS program in selected fields.

Society:
CIIT has a special focus on the society as well. CIIT has also been contributing significantly in service activities, especially in the field of technology and innovation. CIIT has also been contributing significantly in service activities, especially in the field of technology and innovation. CIIT has also been contributing significantly in service activities, especially in the field of technology and innovation.