

# MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENTS

October 2019



Commission on Science and Technology  
for Sustainable Development in the South  
(COMSATS)

# COMSATS' Member States



Bangladesh



China



Colombia



Egypt



Gambia



Ghana



Iran



Jamaica



Jordan



Kazakhstan



Korea, D.P.R.



Morocco



Nigeria



Pakistan



Palestine



Philippines



Senegal



Somalia



Sri Lanka



Sudan



Syria



Tanzania



Tunisia



Turkey



Uganda



Yemen



Zimbabwe

# MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENTS

October 2019



**Commission on Science and Technology for  
Sustainable Development in the South  
(COMSATS)**



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# INTRODUCTION

COMSATS was established in 1994 as an international organization with two major components: The Commission and a Network of International S&T Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South. The two entities were governed under their relevant statutory documents, Agreement to Establish COMSATS and the Charter of the Network.

The process of harmonizing the two documents to constitute COMSATS' Statutes was initiated in response to the advice from the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting (Islamabad, Pakistan, 2012). Necessary amendments in the International Agreement to Establish COMSATS were approved by the said General Meeting. The Charter of the Network was revised by the relevant statutory body, the Coordinating Council, in its 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> meetings (held in 2013, 2014, and 2015, respectively).

The draft Statutes of COMSATS were prepared by COMSATS Secretariat in consultation with Prof. M. H. A. Hassan, Lifetime Member of COMSATS Coordinating Council (Former Executive Director TWAS and Chairperson of COMSATS Coordinating Council) after due incorporation of the approved amendments. The consolidated Statutes were later presented for approval before the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting held in Ghana, in 2015.

The present document contains COMSATS' Statutes with relevant annexures; Statements/Resolutions of the three General Meetings of COMSATS; and Benefits and Obligations of joining COMSATS. The compilation is aimed to provide an easy understanding of some key aspects of the organization to potential members of the Commission and the Network.



# ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS





**"Scientific  
thought and  
its creation  
is the  
common  
and shared  
heritage of  
mankind"**

**Dr. Abdus Salam  
(1926-1996)**



# Statutes of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

## Chapter-I: Establishment and Membership

### Article 1: Establishment

- a) The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", is an intergovernmental organization established in 1994 in Islamabad, Pakistan by representatives of a group of Heads of State/Government in developing countries, through the signing of an international agreement ([COM\\_DOC-1](#)). The following statutes encompass the provisions of the 1994 agreement;
- b) The Commission shall operate in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes.

### Article 2: Membership

- a) The Membership of the Commission shall be open to all Heads of State or Government of the South;
- b) New Members are required to sign an Accession Agreement ([COM\\_DOC-2](#));
- c) Members of the Commission may appoint high level government officials to represent them at the General Meetings of the Commission or to represent them in any other way.

## Chapter-II: Objectives

### Article 3: Objectives and Functions

The Commission shall have the following objectives and functions:

- a) to sensitize the countries in the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate resource allocation for research and development, and to the integration of science and technology in the national and regional development plans;
- b) to support the functioning and activities of the Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South, established at the foundation meeting of the Commission;

- c) to support other major initiatives designed to promote indigenous capacity in science and technology for science-led sustainable development, and to help mobilise long-term financial support from international donor agencies and from Government/Institutions in the North and the South to supplement the financing of international scientific projects in the South;
- d) to provide leadership and support for North-South and South-South cooperative schemes in education, training and research, such as the proposal to set up programmes of scholarships for research at centres of excellence in the South; and
- e) to support the relevant programmes and initiatives of major scientific organisations working for the development and promotion of science and technology in the South.

### **Chapter-III: Structure**

#### **Article 4: Statutory Bodies**

The Commission shall have the following statutory bodies:

- a) The General Meeting;
- b) The Consultative Committee;
- c) The Network of the International Science & Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South (herein after referred to as the "Network"); and
- d) The Secretariat.

#### **Article 5: The General Meeting**

- a) The General Meeting shall consist of all the Members of the Commission or their representatives;
- b) The General Meeting shall be held at least once every three years;
- c) The General Meeting shall be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission by a written invitation;
- d) The General Meeting shall:
  - Elect the new Chairperson of the Commission;
  - Set and approve policies for the long term growth of the Commission; and
  - Issue overall policy guidelines for the Consultative Committee as it deems appropriate.

## Article 6: The Consultative Committee

- a) The Members of the Consultative Committee shall be the national “Focal Points” of Member countries of the Commission;
- b) The Focal Point of the member country hosting the Secretariat shall act as chair of the Consultative Committee;
- c) Subject to the overall policy guidelines adopted by the General Meeting, the Consultative Committee shall be empowered to make decisions on all matters affecting the Commission and the Network. In particular, the Consultative Committee shall perform the following tasks:
  - Coordinate and supervise all affairs of the Commission and, in particular, those concerning the programmes and finances of the Commission;
  - Appoint, as it deems necessary, temporary and standing committees to facilitate the functioning of the Commission;
  - Formulate the general policy of the Network;
  - Assist in the fund raising efforts of individual members of the Network, at the national, regional and global levels; and
  - Assist in the establishment of new members of the Network and in facilitating the upgrading of institutions recommended for membership.

## Article 7: The Network of the International Science & Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South

- a) The Network was established at the foundation meeting of the Commission to pursue the objectives set out in the Charter of the Network ([COM\\_DOC-3](#));
- b) The Network shall operate through a Coordinating Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Network.

## Article 8: The Secretariat

- a) The Secretariat of the Commission shall be permanently located at Islamabad, Pakistan, and the Executive Director of the Secretariat shall be the Secretary of the Commission;
- b) The Secretariat shall work closely with the office of the Chairperson of the Commission in coordinating the Commission’s functions and activities;
- c) The Secretariat shall establish formal working relationships with international and other relevant organizations for the promotion of the Commission’s objectives; and
- d) The Secretariat shall interact with members of the Commission through the respective offices of the Focal Points designated by the Member States.

## Chapter-IV: Chairperson and Executive Director

### Article 9: The Chairperson

- a) The Chairperson of the Commission shall be elected at the General Meeting of the Commission;
- b) The term of office of the Chairperson shall be three years, which can be renewed in the next General Meeting or continued until then;
- c) The Chairperson shall convene and host at least one meeting of the Commission during his/her term of office.

### Article 10: The Executive Director

- a) The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Head of the Government of the Country hosting the Secretariat;
- b) The appointment of the Executive Director shall be made from a panel of candidates recommended by a nominating committee, comprising of Chairperson Consultative Committee, Chairperson Coordinating Council, and Executive Director TWAS;
- c) The Executive Director shall hold office for a period of four years, and may be re-appointed for further two terms of four years each;
- d) The Executive Director shall be the Head of the Secretariat and shall be charged with the appointment and general conduct of the staff of the Secretariat of the Commission, and shall be responsible for the administration of the affairs of the Commission, including its finances;
- e) The Executive Director shall work closely with the Chairperson and the Consultative Committee of the Commission to implement the policies of the Commission;
- f) The Executive Director shall be the Secretary of the Consultative Committee.

## Chapter-V: Finance

### Article 11

- a) The Commission is authorized to accept and receive contributions such as grants, donations, gifts and bequests as well as fees for any services it may render. Acceptance of such contributions shall be affected by the Consultative Committee;
- b) The Commission may invite Members and donor organisations to make contributions towards the costs of COMSATS Secretariat; and

- c) The accounts of the Commission shall be appropriately audited in accordance of best practices.

## **Chapter-VI: Revisions and Amendments**

### **Article 12**

- a) Revisions and amendments of the Statutes may be made with two third majority of the members of the Commission present and voting in a regular Meeting; and
- b) Proposals for revisions and amendments will only be considered if they are received by the Secretariat of the Commission in writing at least three months before the commencement of the next General Meeting of the Commission.

**Signing Membership Documents in the Foundation Meeting  
of COMSATS October 1994, Islamabad, Pakistan**



## Agreement to Establish the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

(Revised on 17 April 2012)

### Preamble

The parties to the present Agreement representing Head of State or Government of the countries in the South:

1. **Realizing** the importance and necessity of a joint political commitment by the Heads of State or Government in the South to place science and technology at the top of their economic agenda and to support major initiatives of common concern aimed at building and sustaining indigenous capacities in science and technology and their application to socio-economic development;
2. **Recalling** the 1988 Trieste Declaration, which was adopted by the Founding Members of the Third World Network of Scientific Organization (including 15 Ministers of Science and Technology and 30 Heads of Science Academies and Research Councils from the South) and in which they resolved to work towards giving science and technology a position of highest priority in their own countries and to strengthen their collaboration with other countries of the South as well as of the North;
3. **Appreciating** the efforts of the former President of the Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNISO), the Nobel Laureate (Late) Professor Abdus Salam, in sensitizing the political leadership in the South to increase funding for research and development and to intensify their cooperation in order to narrow the widening gap between the North and the South in generation of science and new technologies and their utilization in technology production and social services; have agreed as follows:

### Article I: Establishment

- a) The parties to this Agreement declare and endorse the establishment of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS),



hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”;

- b) The Commission shall operate in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

## **Article II: Membership**

- a) The Membership of the Commission shall be open to all Heads of State or Governments of the South. The Members may, however, appoint nominees to attend meetings of the Commission or represent them in other ways.
- b) [ Deleted ]

## **Article III: Mission, Objectives and Functions**

The Commission shall have the following objectives and functions:

- a) to sensitize the countries in the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate resource allocation for research and development, and to the integration of science and technology in the national and regional development plans;
- b) to support the functioning and activities of the Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South, established under this agreement;
- c) to support other major initiatives designed to promote indigenous capacity in science and technology for science-led sustainable development, and to help mobilize long-term financial support from international donor agencies and from Government/Institutions in the North and the South to supplement the financing of international scientific projects in the South;
- d) to provide leadership and support for North-South and South-South cooperative schemes in education, training and research, such as the proposal to set up programmes of scholarships for research at centres of excellence in the South; and
- e) to support the relevant programmes and initiatives of major scientific organizations working for the development and promotion of science and technology in the South.

## **Article IV: The Chairperson**

- a) The Commission shall elect on a rotation basis a Chairperson from amongst its Members for three years' tenure;
- b) The Chairperson shall convene and host at least one meeting of the Commission during the period of three years.

## **Article V: The Secretariat**

- a) The Headquarters of the Network of International Centres of Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South, permanently located at Islamabad, Pakistan, shall also house the Secretariat for the Commission, and the Executive Director of the Headquarters shall be the Secretary of the Commission;
- b) The Secretariat shall work closely with the office of the Chairperson of the Commission in coordinating the Commission's functions and activities;
- c) The Secretariat shall establish formal working relationships with international and other relevant organizations for the promotion of Commission's objectives;
- d) The Secretariat shall interact with members of the Commission through the respective offices of the Focal Points designated by the Member States.

## **Article VI: Finance**

The Commission may invite Members and donor organizations to make contributions towards the costs of COMSATS Secretariat. It shall also mobilize sources of funding to support the Commission's Programmes.

## **Article VII: Revisions and Amendments**

Revisions and amendments in the Agreement could be made with two third majority of the members of the Commission present and voting in a regular Meeting. Proposals for revisions and amendments will be conveyed to the Secretariat of the Commission in writing at least six months before the commencement of the next Commission Meeting.

## **Article VIII: Signature and Acceptance**

The Agreement shall be open for signatures by all Members as defined in Article II. New Members would be inducted on signing an Accession Agreement (**COM\_DOC-2 of COMSATS Statutes**).



## Agreement to Join COMSATS as Member State (Accession Agreement)

[ Draft ]

The Parties to this agreement:

the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), hereinafter referred to as 'the Commission', and the Government of <.....full name of country.....>, hereinafter referred to as <.....short country name.....>;

**Recalling** the joint statement made in the Foundation Conference to establish the Commission, held in Islamabad on 4-5 October 1994;

**Endorsing** the International Statutes of the Commission as an inter-governmental organization comprising of Heads of State/Government;

Have agreed as follows:

### Article I Membership of the Commission

The Head of the State or Government of <.....short country name.....> shall be a Member of the Commission. The Member may, however, appoint a nominee to attend meetings of the Commission or represent him/her in other ways.

### Article II Membership of the Consultative Committee

The Government of <.....short country name.....> shall designate the Head of a relevant Ministry or Government Organization as the Focal Point, representing the Member of the Commission. The designated Focal Point shall be a Member of the Consultative Committee.

### Article III Membership of the Coordinating Council

The Government of <.....short country name.....> may nominate any R&D institution in the country to become a member of the Network of the International Science & Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South. After evaluation and approval by the Coordinating Council, the nominated institution will be inducted in the Network as one

of its Centres-of-Excellence. The Head of this Centre-of-Excellence shall be a Member of the Coordinating Council.

#### Article IV Finances

The Government of <.....short country name.....> may contribute towards the cost of scientific activities conducted by the Commission's Secretariat on voluntary basis or through a separately agreed protocol for mutually agreed annual membership contribution.

#### Article V Duration

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period.

#### Article VI Termination

The State Party to this agreement will have the right to terminate this Agreement giving an advance written notice of six months.

#### Article VII Annexes

The Statutes of the Commission (Annex-1) shall be the integral part of this Agreement.

#### Article VIII Coming into Force

This agreement shall come into force immediately on being signed by the representative of <.....full name of the country.....> and the Executive Director, COMSATS.

Done at <.....venue.....> in duplicate in English and <.....other language, if any.....> this <.....day.....> of <.....month.....>, <.....year.....>, both texts being equally authentic.

#### On behalf of the Government of

<.....short country name.....>

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### On behalf of COMSATS

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director  
COMSATS Secretariat  
Islamabad, Pakistan

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Charter of the Network of the International Science & Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South

(Revised on 13 May 2015)

### Preamble

The Working Committee set up at the First Meeting of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", held in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 04-05 October, 1994:

1. **Convinced** that sustainable economic development in the South cannot be achieved without building and sustaining indigenous capacities in Science and Technology;
2. **Noting** the widening gap between the North and South in the generation of scientific and technological knowledge and its application to socio-economic development;
3. **Calling** for collective effort amongst the countries of the South to achieve self-reliance in frontier science and new technology;
4. **Conscious** that South-South and North-South cooperation is essential in building science and technology capacity in the South;
5. **Recalling** the resolution of the Heads of Governments of Non-Aligned Countries at their 1989 Meeting in Belgrade, which called for joint action by the Governments of the South, the UN System, the World Bank and donor agencies to establish in the South a Network of International Centres for research and training in areas of frontier science and technology and environmental sciences of critical importance to sustainable socio-economic development; and
6. **Noting** the Agreement reached at the First Meeting of the Commission to establish a Network of International Science and Technology Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Development in the South (hereinafter referred to as the "Network");

has agreed on the following:

### **Article 1: Membership**

The Membership of the Network of Centres of Excellence shall be open to any suitably qualified institution proposed by a Developing Country. In principle, there shall be only one centre for each Country but, where merited, more than one institution may be admitted per Country.

### **Article 2: Objectives**

The Network shall have the following objectives:

- a) To assist the countries of the South to build and sustain a critical mass of world-class scientists and technologists in those areas of science and technology, which are of critical importance to sustainable socio-economic development;
- b) To attract talent, reduce brain-drain, and induce competent Third World scientists and technologists working abroad to return to their countries;
- c) To facilitate the transfer of technology and the supply to industry of highly qualified technical personnel;
- d) To assist in finding S&T-based solutions to sustainability issues in the South;
- e) To provide avenues for international cooperation in areas of science and technology of global concern, including those for environmentally sustainable development;
- f) To provide a suitable framework for science and technology assessment and management in the South;
- g) To develop strong links between Members of the Network and production sectors in the South;
- h) To promote joint scientific research and technological ventures of common interest amongst the Members of the Network; and
- i) To assist in carrying out other programmes as assigned by the Commission.

### **Article 3: Functions**

In order to fulfill the above-mentioned objectives, the Members of the Network shall carry out the following functions:

- a) To conduct high-level research and training activities, nationally, regionally and internationally, in the scientific fields of each Node of the Network in order to achieve a



critical mass of highly-qualified personnel in these fields in the South;

- b) To conduct basic and applied research in order to help find solutions to socio-economic development and environmental challenges facing the South;
- c) To conduct interdisciplinary research and modelling in order to devise scientific solutions to problems that have global implications for environmentally sustainable development; and
- d) To provide scientific and technical services to the Production and Services sectors in the South.

#### **Article 4: Organs**

The Network of Centres of Excellence shall have the following Organs:

- a) A Coordinating Council;
- b) A Technical Advisory Committee; and
- c) A Secretariat.

#### **Article 5: The Coordinating Council**

- a) The Coordinating Council shall be composed of the Heads of the Member Centres or their representatives. The Executive Director of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) or his/her representative shall be a Member of the Coordinating Council;
- b) The Coordinating Council shall elect from amongst its Members a Chairperson who shall hold office for three years and who may be re-elected for further terms of three years;
- c) The Coordinating Council shall take decisions on matters related to the Membership of the Network;
- d) The Coordinating Council shall be the controlling body that approves the programmes and budget of the Network and the Secretariat;
- e) The Coordinating Council shall make rules and regulations governing its own procedures;
- f) The Coordinating Council shall meet at least once a year; and
- g) The quorum for a meeting shall be half the number of Members of the Network. The Coordinating Council shall generally take its decisions by consensus. In case of difficulty in reaching a consensus, the Coordinating Council shall take decisions by a simple majority vote of its Members. In the event of equally divided votes, the Chairperson of the Coordinating Council shall have the casting vote.

## **Article 6: The Technical Advisory Committee**

There shall be a Technical Advisory Committee of internationally renowned experts consisting of not more than 10 Members. The nominations for this Committee shall be made by The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and approved by the Coordinating Council.

The Technical Advisory Committee shall have the following functions:

- a) To review and advise on research and training priorities of the Member Centres; and
- b) To assess the scientific merit of institutions proposed for membership of the Network, and to recommend suitable ones to the Coordinating Council.

In fulfilling these functions the Technical Advisory Committee may constitute Specialized Committees of scientists and technologists of high repute in the relevant disciplines.

## **Article 7: The Secretariat**

- a) The Secretariat of the Commission headed by its Executive Director shall also act as the Secretariat of the Network and shall be responsible for all matters related to the operation of the Network. The Executive Director shall be the Secretary of the Coordinating Council;
- b) The Secretariat shall assist the Organs of the Network in carrying out their duties;
- c) The Secretariat shall work closely with the Members of the Commission, TWAS, the Government of Pakistan through its Ministry of Science and Technology and other relevant organizations in discharge of its functions as determined by the Coordinating Council;
- d) The Executive Director shall be assisted by a Management Committee to discharge essential functions of the Secretariat. The Membership and the Terms of Reference of this Committee shall be determined by the Coordinating Council; and
- e) The Secretariat shall assist in carrying out the activities of the Member Centres in establishing collaborative programmes between them, and with other similar institutions. It shall also establish and manage a Technical Assistance Fund to support joint ventures.

## **Article 8: Finance**

- a) Each Member of the Network shall be free to raise funds to fulfill its own requirements;
- b) The Coordinating Council and the Consultative Committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat, shall be empowered to negotiate with donor agencies and international organizations for financial and technical assistance to the Network; and

- c) The Government of Pakistan shall cover the major part of the running costs of the Secretariat. Members of the Commission and the Network will be expected to make voluntary financial contribution to support Secretariat's activities in their Countries.

#### **Article 9: Official Work Language**

English shall be the official working language.

#### **Article 10: Amendments to the Charter**

- a) Proposals to amend any part of the Charter may be submitted in writing to the Executive Director by any Member of the Network; and
- b) The proposed amendments shall be considered at a regular or a special meeting of the Coordinating Council, and shall only be approved by a vote of two-thirds majority of Members voting.

#### **Article 11: Acceptance & Entry into Force**

The Charter shall enter into force after approval by half of the members of the Commission.



**COMSATS Internet Service Technology Park**  
Islamabad, Pakistan



**COMSATS University Islamabad**  
Islamabad, Pakistan



# INFORMATION DOCUMENTS



**Foundation Meeting  
(4-5 October 1994, Islamabad, Pakistan)  
Convened by Prime Minister of Pakistan, Ms. Benazir Bhutto**



## Joint Statement by the Participants of the First Meeting of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

Held on 4-5 October 1994, Islamabad, Pakistan

We, the representatives of Heads of States or Governments of countries in the South, attending the first meeting of the Commission on Science & Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS):

1. **Realizing** the importance and necessity of a joint political commitment by the Heads of State or Government in the South to place science and technology at the top of their development agenda and to support major initiatives of common concern aimed at building and sustaining indigenous capacities in science and technology and their application to socio-economic development;
2. **Recalling** the 1988 Trieste Declaration, which was adopted by the Founding Members of the Third World Network of Scientific Organisations (including 15 Ministers of Science & Technology and 30 Heads of Science Academies and Research Councils from the South), and in which they resolved to work towards giving science and technology a position of highest priority in their own countries and to strengthen their collaboration with other countries of the South as well as of the North;
3. **Appreciating** the efforts of the President of the Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNSO), the Nobel Laureate Professor Abdus Salam, in sensitizing the political leadership in the South to increase funding for research and development and to the South in the generation of science and new technologies and their utilization in technological production and social services;
4. **Convinced** that sustainable economic development in the South cannot be achieved without building and sustaining indigenous capacities in science and technology;
5. **Conscious** that South-South and North-South cooperation is essential in building science and technology capacity in the South; and
6. **Recalling** the resolution of the Heads of Government of Non-Aligned Countries at their 1989 Meeting in Belgrade, which called for joint action by the Governments of the South, the UN System, the World Bank and donor agencies to establish in the South a Network of International Centres for research and training in areas of frontier science and technology



and environmental sciences of critical importance to sustainable socio-economic development;

have agreed on the following:

I. **Endorse** the establishment of the Heads of State or Government Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), with the following objectives:

- a) to sensitize the countries of the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate resource allocation for research and development, and to the integration of science and technology in the national and regional development plans;
- b) to support major initiatives designed to promote indigenous capacity in science and technology for science-led sustainable development, such as the establishment of a number of international research and training centres of excellence in the South, and to help mobilize long-term financial support from international donor agencies to supplement the financing of international scientific projects in the South;
- c) to provide leadership and support for major South-South and North-South cooperative schemes in education, training and research, such as the proposal to set up programmes of scholarships for research at centres of excellence in the South; and
- d) to support the relevant programmes and initiatives of major scientific organizations working for the development of science and technology in the South.

II. **Endorse** the establishment of a Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South with the following objectives:

- a) to assist the countries of the South to build and sustain a critical mass of world-class scientists and technologists in areas of frontier science and technology and environmental sciences which are of critical importance to sustainable socio-economic development.
- b) to attract talent, reduce the brain-drain, and induce competent Third World scientists and technologists working abroad to return to their countries;
- c) to facilitate the transfer of technology and the supply to industry of highly qualified technical personnel;
- d) to assist and advise in finding scientific solutions to complex developmental and environmental problems in the South;

- e) to provide avenues for international cooperation in areas of science and technology of global concern to environmentally sustainable development, including the sharing of information;
  - f) to provide a suitable framework for science and technology assessment and management in the South;
  - g) to develop strong links between Members of the Network of Centres and production sectors in the South;
  - h) to promote joint technological ventures amongst the Members of Network of Centres; and
  - i) to assist in carrying out other programmes as assigned by COMSATS.
- III. Agree to establish the first nodes of the Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South at the institutions recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee instituted by the President of TWNSO, and for which detailed feasibility studies have been received and accepted.
- IV. Invite other countries of the South to submit proposals for additional nodes of the Network, to be reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee.
- V. Set up a Working Committee consisting of Members from Colombia, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria and Tanzania. The Convenor of the Committee shall be the Secretary General of TWNSO. The Committee shall review the draft Charter of the Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South, presented at the first meeting of the Commission; and, taking into consideration further suggestions, representations and comments from Members, shall adopt an Operational Statute of the Network upon its approval by at least half of the Members of the Commission. The so-adopted Statute shall be in force until the next meeting of COMSATS.
- VI. Accept the generous invitation of the Government of Pakistan to set up the Headquarters of the Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South in Islamabad and to host the Secretariat of COMSATS at the Headquarters.
- VII. Invite the Prime Minister of Pakistan to continue as Chairperson of COMSATS for the next three years.

**2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting of COMSATS**  
**(16-17 April 2012, Islamabad, Pakistan)**  
**Convened by Prime Minister of Pakistan, H.E. Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani**



## Resolution Adopted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting of Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

16-17 April 2012, Islamabad, Pakistan

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 Commission 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 Commission's 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;
- **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;
- **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;
- **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;
- **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;
- **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;
- **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:

- **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;
- **Develop** an Action Plan for the next three years, based on COMSATS over-all five years' strategy in consultation with the member countries;
- **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;



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

**3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting of COMSATS  
(27-28 October 2015, Accra, Ghana)  
Convened by President of Ghana, H.E. John Dramani Mahama**





## Resolution Adopted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting of Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

27- 28 October 2015, Accra, Ghana

We, the participants of the Third General Meeting of COMSATS, representing Members of the Commission,

- **Appreciating** the efforts of the Government of Ghana for hosting the Commission's Meeting in Accra;
- **Realizing** the importance of the application of Science and Technology for achievement of the sustainable development goals by the countries of the South;
- **Recognizing** the need to strengthen Scientific and Technological activities of the Commission in the light of new opportunities and challenges and to enhance its financial strength to achieve its objectives;
- **Renewing** the member countries' resolve and commitment to support the objectives of the Commission as contained in its harmonized Statutes approved by the Commission at its 3rd meeting;
- **Appreciating** the role of Commission's Network of Centres of Excellence and the Secretariat in the progress made so far for building S&T capacities of Member Countries through the mechanism of South-South cooperation;
- **Commending** the support provided by the Government of Pakistan to the Secretariat for successfully carrying out its international operations;
- **Welcoming** the re-election of the incumbent Chairperson of the Commission for the next three years;

hereby resolve as under:

- **Continue** extending their full support to the Commission in its efforts to promote the integration of progress in the realm of Science and Technology into Member Countries' national and regional development plans for achieving rapid socio-economic development in the South;

- **Increase** the allocation of funds for strengthening the Scientific and Technological capacities of their respective countries and make full use of the collaborative forum of COMSATS in these efforts;
- **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 transformation into International level Centres of Excellence;
- **Promote** the objectives and programmes of the Commission at national as well as international levels through diplomatic and other channels and devise effective frameworks for disbursement of adequate financial contribution to COMSATS on voluntary basis;
- **Contribute** towards the COMSATS Endowment Fund of US\$ 20 Million launched during the 2nd Commission Meeting (Islamabad) and initiated by COMSATS Secretariat with a token deposit of US\$ 5,000 and PKR. 500,000 towards the Fund;
- **Facilitate** the exchange of scientists, engineers, technicians, educationists, scholars and experts amongst the relevant organizations of the Member Countries to strengthen the activities related to capacity-building and transfer of technology;
- **Facilitate** the continuity of the Commission's Meetings once every three years as stipulated in the Statutes and to convene the next meeting of the Commission in 2018;
- **Express** solidarity with Member States who are subjected to external restrictions hampering the development of their S&T sectors.

And urge the Executive Director of the Commission to:

- **Continue** making all efforts to achieve the objectives of the Commission with the support of the Governments of the Member Countries through respective focal points with the help of its Centres of Excellence;
- **Continue** the current strategy of COMSATS during the next five years, 2016-2020, with emphasis on technical cooperation projects employing, inter alia, the concept of International Thematic Research Groups in order to provide maximum socio-economic benefits to the member countries;
- **Increase** efforts for elevating the S&T capacity and the international status of its affiliated Centres of Excellence;
- **Enhance** the campaign for the expansion of the membership of the Commission and Centres of Excellence to achieve wider South-South cooperation;
- **Prepare** a comprehensive follow-up report on the relevant provisions of this resolution for presenting to the Commission at its next meeting.

## Benefits and Obligations of Joining COMSATS

### Benefits of COMSATS' Membership

The following key benefits are offered to COMSATS' Member Countries:

#### 1. Membership to COMSATS' Statutory Bodies

- The Head of the Government of a Member Country or his representative shall be an ex-officio member of the Commission, which is an apex body for the countries of the South to cooperate for the achievement of sustainable socio-economic development using scientific and technological resources;
- The Focal Point from the designated Ministry of the Member Country shall be the ex-officio member of COMSATS Consultative Committee;
- The Head of an R&D institution of the Member Country affiliated with COMSATS as part of its International Network of S&T Centres of Excellence, shall be a member of the Coordinating Council of COMSATS;
- Scientists and experts from the Member Country are eligible for selection to COMSATS' panel of international consultants, i.e. COMSATS' Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

#### 2. Participation in COMSATS' International Initiatives

- International Thematic Research Groups: Scientists of R&D institutions of the Member Countries can participate in, and become members of, the following International Thematic Research Groups of COMSATS that were established with the aim of conducting joint research in a distribute multinational group format:
  - i. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs);
  - ii. Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology;
  - iii. Natural Products Sciences;
  - iv. Climate Change and Environmental Protection;
  - v. Materials Science;
  - vi. Mathematical Modeling;
  - vii. Construction Materials; and
  - viii. Space Technology and its Applications.

- Distinguished Professorship Scheme: The R&D organizations and universities of Member States can benefit from COMSATS' Distinguished Professorship Scheme, whereby they can benefit from the invited lectures delivered by a group of renowned scientists and professors. The international travel expenses of the Distinguished Professors are borne by COMSATS, whereas local hospitality is offered to them by the host country institution.
- Panel of Experts on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy: COMSATS' Member States can seek free consultancy from COMSATS' Panel of Experts on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy on formulating/reviewing their national policies related to science, technology and innovation.

### **3. Scientific Projects and Programmes**

- Participation in the bilateral technical cooperation projects with any of the internationally renowned Science and Technology Centres of Excellence of COMSATS;
- Participation in technology-transfer programmes as well as Collaborative Research Programmes (CRP) in partnership with international donor/development agencies (e.g. UNESCO, IFS, TWAS, ISESCO, COMSTECH, ICGEB, NAM S&T Centre, etc.);
- Free consultancy by COMSATS' experts for establishing distance education and tele-health services to bring about socio-economic change for the remote and marginalized communities;
- Participation in high-profile policy-making meetings of COMSATS, i.e. General Meetings of the Commission, Consultative Committee meetings and Coordinating Council meetings;
- Monetary assistance for scientific and technological research and development programmes;
- Facilitation for technology transfer (sale/purchase) arrangements.

### **4. Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing**

- Financial, technical and administrative support for co-organizing joint international and regional workshops/seminars/conferences in accordance with the needs of the Member States to facilitate the enhancement of technical cooperation;
- Opportunities for expert exchange in order to build a critical mass of scientists, engineers and technicians necessary for accelerating socio-economic progress of the developing countries;
- Opportunities for short-term trainings as well as post-graduate studies (Masters and Ph.D.), in various disciplines, at International S&T Centres of Excellence affiliated with COMSATS;

- Post-graduate scholarships at COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI), Pakistan
  - Scholarships and training facilities at the International Center for Chemical & Biological Sciences (ICCBS), Pakistan;
  - Scholarships and training facilities at the International Center for Climate and Environment Sciences (ICCES), China;
  - Post-graduate fellowships at the National Research Centre (NRC), Egypt;
  - Post-doctoral fellowships at the Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR), Bangladesh; and
  - Ph.D. scholarships at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU), Kazakhstan.
- Opportunities for academicians of the Member Countries to join CIIT as Visiting Faculty;
  - Travel Grants for scientists/researchers from the Member Countries to attend international workshops, conferences, seminars, etc.

## 5. Publications

- The selected R&D institutions of the Member Countries will receive a free copy of the following publications of COMSATS:
  - i. COMSATS Newsletter (bi-monthly);
  - ii. COMSATS' Journal "Science Vision" (bi-annual);
  - iii. COMSATS' Series of Publications on Science and Technology;
  - iv. COMSATS Annual Report.
- R&D institutions of the Member Countries may avail the opportunity of getting their scientific or research content/papers published and their articles/activities reflected in the above-mentioned publications of COMSATS.
- Scientific institutions in the Member Countries will have access to the electronic databases of COMSATS, including COMSATS' official website and other web-portals.

## Obligations of COMSATS' Member Countries

In order to gain the membership of COMSATS and avail its benefits, the Member Countries may bear the following obligations:

### 1. Signing of an Accession Agreement

The Founding Members signed an International Agreement to establish COMSATS. Subsequently, any developing country may join COMSATS by signing an accession agreement.

## **2. Annual Membership Contribution (AMC)**

Each Member Country of COMSATS is expected to provide financial support in the form of Annual Membership Contribution (AMC), which is maintained by COMSATS Secretariat as a 'Trust Fund', and is used as seed money to initiate the development activities, programmes, and projects, in collaboration with the international partners, in the concerned Member Country. The AMC is voluntary and is in no way a pre-requisite for accession to COMSATS or continuation of Membership.

## **3. Appointment of Focal Point**

The most relevant Ministry or a high level government institution in the Member Country is to be nominated to act as COMSATS' Focal Point.

## **4. Nomination of a Liaison Officer**

In order to keep close contact with COMSATS Secretariat for scientific collaboration, the Focal Point is required to nominate a Liaison Officer for coordination with COMSATS Secretariat.

## **5. Operationalizing South-South Cooperation**

The Member Countries are expected to designate one or more R&D institutions as COMSATS' Centre of Excellence. The Focal Point may convey to COMSATS, the technological requirements of the country where cooperation is required and also the specified areas in which they can offer technology sharing with other Member States.

## **6. Academic Contribution**

The scientific community of the Member Country is to provide input for COMSATS' scientific publications.

# Centres of Excellence



BCSIR-Bangladesh



Embrapa Agrobiologia-Brazil



ICCES-China



TIB-China



CIF-Colombia



NRC-Egypt



CSIR-Ghana



IROST-Iran



ICENS-Jamaica



RSS-Jordan



KazNU-Kazakhstan



NMC-Nigeria



CUI-Pakistan



ICCBS-Pakistan



AQU-Palestine



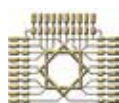
UCAD-Senegal



ITI-Sri Lanka



IRCC-Sudan



HIAST-Syria



TIRDO-Tanzania



CERTE-Tunisia



TÜBİTAK-Turkey





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