

DOCUMENTS (JULY-DECEMBER 2010)

DOCUMENT 1

SECOND MINISTERIAL PAKISTAN-US STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ISLAMABAD

PR. NO. 163/2010

Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi and US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, accompanied by their respective delegations, met in Islamabad on 19 July 2010 for the 2nd Ministerial Pakistan US Strategic Dialogue.

As suggested by Foreign Minister Qureshi, the Dialogues thirteen sectoral working group meetings were held in Islamabad in May, June and July and completed their work ahead of the Ministerial engagement today. The meetings provided an opportunity for senior officials from both governments to discuss possibilities for cooperation.

The joint sectoral working groups include: agriculture; communication and public diplomacy; defence and security; economy/finance; market access; education; energy; health; law enforcement and counter-terrorism; science and technology; strategic stability and no-proliferation; water; and women's empowerment.

Foreign Minister Qureshi and Secretary Clinton expressed great satisfaction on the progress with their Dialogue to date and the growing cooperation between their governments.

Secretary Clinton conveyed the United States support for Pakistan's socio-economic advancement. In this context, she said the United States would, in particular, support programmes and projects in the priority areas of energy and food security and social sector development. Secretary Clinton announced US assistance for Signature Projects in energy, water and health.

The United States will also continue to assist Pakistan in reconstruction and rehabilitation in areas that have been affected by terrorism, especially Swat, Malakand and South Waziristan Agency.

The United States assured Pakistan of its continued support through the Kerry-Lugar-Berman economic assistance package and through international financial institutions. Steps will also be taken to promote corporate sector cooperation and business-to-business interaction.

The United States will continue to support Pakistan's efforts to enhance its trade by seeking greater market access and establishing Reconstruction Opportunity Zones. Both sides expressed the desire to negotiate a Bilateral Investment Treaty.

The United States expressed its support for Pakistan's counter-terrorism efforts and lauded the sacrifices made by Pakistan's law enforcement agencies and security forces.

The Government of Pakistan expressed its continued commitment to eliminate extremism and militancy and to undertake needed legal and structural reforms in order to promote good governance and open the way to economic growth, development and prosperity for the Pakistani people.

Secretary Clinton expressed US support for Pakistan's stability, security, economic and social development and prosperity.

Both sides also shared perspectives on the regional security situation and reaffirmed the importance of advancing stability and peace in Afghanistan and the region.

Both sides affirmed the importance they attach to enhancing this strategic partnership and to further deepening and broadening mutually beneficial cooperation between the United States and Pakistan.

It was agreed that the sectoral working groups will meet again prior to the next session of the Strategic Dialogue to be held in Washington, D.C. before the end of this year. ■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online) July, 19, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/July/PR_163.htm

DOCUMENT 2

SPEECH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER AT INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INDIAN MILITARY'S COLD START DOCTRINE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR STRATEGIC STABILITY OF SOUTH ASIA, ORGANIZED BY SASSI

**Ms. Maria Sultan,
Director General, SASSI
Excellencies, Distinguished guests,
Ladies & Gentlemen,**

Assalam-o-Alaikum.

I am thankful to SASSI for organizing this event and for providing me an opportunity to speak to such an august gathering of scholars.

In a democratic polity like ours, foreign policy reflects hopes and aspirations of the people of the country. Think tanks like SASSI, intellectuals and civil society organizations have an important role to play in informing, shaping and articulating public opinion on important foreign policy and security issues.

The subject chosen by SASSI for this workshop Indian Military's Cold Start Doctrine and its Implications for Strategic Stability in South Asia is both ironic and provocative. It is ironic as only last week I hosted His Excellency S.M. Krishan, Foreign Minister of India in Islamabad as part of our efforts to recommence stalled dialogue in pursuit of our endeavours for durable peace in the region, albeit without a corresponding positive response.

It is provocative as it reminds us about prevailing realities in South Asia and transcends from our ideals of peace and amity, preached by sufis/saints in this land, and ventures into scenarios of war and destruction so often predicted by prophets of doom and destruction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Pakistan remains firmly committed to the objective of peace and stability in South Asia. Our strong commitment to peace and security stems from our conviction that a peaceful and secure environment, regionally as well as globally, is imperative for eradicating poverty; and to ensure sustained economic growth, prosperity and welfare of our people as well as other countries in the region.

It goes without saying that neither peace nor stability could be achieved in isolation. They need strong partnerships, and willingness to build bridges and to walk the talk on the high road to peace and equal security for all the partners. Naturally, this process of mutually enriching partnerships begins with your neighbours.

Fully cognizant of this reality, Pakistan has been pursuing a three pronged approach with India, to achieve durable peace and strategic stability in South Asia. This includes: (a) peaceful resolution of all outstanding disputes, including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir; (b) strategic restraint and conventional balance; and (c) close cooperation for the socio-economic development and welfare of our peoples.

As you are well aware, between 1974 and 1998, Pakistan made several proposals to keep our region free from nuclear weapons. We regularly co-sponsored UN General Assembly resolution to declare South Asia as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. This could not be achieved due to non-cooperation on the part of our neighbour.

As a consequence, we were forced to respond to Indian nuclear tests; which were followed by highly provocative statements by senior political leaders in May 1998.

Our response was not motivated by any ambition for regional dominance or great power status. It was aimed at restoring strategic balance and to deter aggression against our political independence and territorial integrity.

We believe that growing conventional asymmetry between Pakistan and India would seriously undermine the objective of strategic stability in the region. Pakistan, therefore, would continue to pursue various initiatives with India to: (a) strengthen strategic stability, (b) avoid arms race, and (c) prevent conflict in South Asia.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As recognized in the Joint Statement issued after the first Pakistan-India Expert Level talks on Nuclear Confidence Building Measures in New Delhi on 20 June 2004, the nuclear capabilities of the two countries constitute a factor of stability in the region. As mature and responsible nuclear powers, both countries now need to develop a better appreciation of each others threat perceptions and military doctrines. It would help in developing doctrines and strategies that are defensive, rather than aggressive in nature. It is particularly desirable as any sort of military adventurism in South Asia, is neither prudent nor responsible. It has the potential to plunge the whole region into disastrous consequences of unmeasurable proportions.

In this back-drop, floating of concepts like Cold Start doctrine betray strong streak of recklessness. It is hard to imagine that any rational mind could come up with such dangerous ideas. The deterrence theory has withstood intense rivalry between two super-powers throughout the cold war period. One wonders if anyone was now willing to undertake an adventure beyond deterrence.

As the world moves from cold war bitterness to cooperation in diverse fields, do we want South Asia to descend into a new destructive madness? We are not interested in any such venture. I strongly feel that in the interest of regional and indeed global peace, no one should be allowed to pursue such irrational adventurism.

Let me also make it absolutely clear, while Pakistan stands for peace in the region and beyond, we cannot remain oblivious to threats to our national security. Pakistan has the capability and the determination to counter any military adventurism thrust upon us. Our response would be swift and effective. No one should nurture any doubt on this score.

However, I am confident that the Indian political leadership, civil society activists and intellectual elite would discourage any moves or doctrines which have the potential to endanger peace and stability of the entire South Asian region.

In the past Pakistan and India have agreed on several nuclear and conventional Confidence Building Measures (CBMs). These measures were in the nature of risk reduction measures. We believe that the two sides should now go beyond risk reduction measures and work towards measures aimed at restraint and avoidance of an arms race in the region. The Lahore agreement

of 1999 provides the suitable framework to pursue broader CBMs in nuclear and conventional fields, as well as to engage in bilateral consultations on security concepts.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Pakistan is a peace loving country. We wish to develop friendly and cooperative relations with all the neighbouring countries including India. I conveyed this message to my Indian counterpart during his visit to Islamabad last week. I assured him that Pakistan was willing to walk the proverbial extra-mile with India in pursuit of peace, welfare and prosperity of our two peoples. For this, the two countries need to return to the negotiating table with the political will to resolve all our outstanding disputes, including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir peacefully and in accordance with international law and morality.

The Indian side was more focused on Mumbai blasts. I emphasized that terrorism was a common threat. Pakistani nation has been living through many Mumbai's every day. More than 10,000 innocent civilians have fallen victim to terrorism over the past few years. Our material losses exceed US\$ 40 billion. Despite all odds, we remain determined to bring to justice anyone and every one involved in heinous terrorist incidents any where in the world.

Pakistan has been in the forefront of struggle against terrorism. The recent successes achieved by our security forces against terrorists in Swat and other areas of Pakhtoonkhwa and FATA have been lauded by the international community. These successes have come at a heavy cost. More than 2500 personnel of the security forces have offered the ultimate sacrifice. We have offered more sacrifices than any other country in the world. Our actions against terrorists speak louder than words.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

South Asia has seen plenty of conflict, warfare and bloodshed in the past 60 years. The 21st century has brought new challenges for the entire human race. Climate change is increasingly being compared with Weapons of Mass Destructions (WMDs) for its destructive potential. It poses particularly serious challenge to South Asia. We all depend on Himalayan glaciers for our fresh water supplies. An increase of more than two degree centigrade in global temperature may cause sudden melting of all glaciers leading to floods followed by droughts.

Climate change and other issues like poverty eradication, malnutrition and high infant mortality call for closer cooperation among regional countries to evolve joint responses to common challenges. The welfare and prosperity

of our people will depend upon how well we can cope with emerging new challenges.

In conclusion let me reiterate that Pakistan and India should work together to institute a sustained dialogue for peace, stability and prosperity in South Asia. We should not remain hostage to our troubled past. We must rise to the occasion and take bold decisions to lead our people to a more hopeful and promising future.

Thank you.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), July 21, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/FM_Speeches/21_07_10.htm

DOCUMENT 3

JOINT STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT ASIF ALI ZARDARI AND PRIME MINISTER DAVID CAMERON

PR. NO. 184/2010

The President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan HE Mr. Asif Ali Zardari and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP met at Chequers on 6th August 2010.

The President of Pakistan complimented Prime Minister Cameron on his election as the Prime Minister of the UK.

Pakistan and the UK have longstanding relations which are based on shared interests and mutual respect. Both leaders affirmed their commitment to further strengthen strategic and co-operative ties between the two countries by intensifying the UK-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue and confirming a yearly Summit. This Dialogue will deepen consultation on global and regional issues of peace and stability, will include people to people links, enhanced business investment and trade, collaboration in the education sector, and cultural and parliamentary links. The two leaders welcomed the forthcoming launch of the British-Pakistan Foundation as an initiative to promote connections between our peoples.

Both leaders agreed that a strong, stable, secure and economically prosperous Pakistan is vital to global and regional peace and stability. In recognition of this, both leaders agreed to pursue closer development, economic and trade co-operation as part of the intensified Strategic Dialogue.

President Zardari underscored that Pakistan needs trade even more than aid. The Prime Minister said that the UK will continue to be Pakistan's strongest ally in pursuing greater trade access to the EU for Pakistan.

Prime Minister Cameron expressed the UK's support for Pakistan's democratic government and expressed the UK's solidarity and support for Pakistan coping with the damage caused by recent floods. He also expressed

his condolences at the loss of precious lives and sympathy for the bereaved families. President Zardari expressed thanks for the UK's pledge of 10 million of immediate relief for flood victims and for accelerating an already agreed 10 million bridge reconstruction programme.

Among the common challenges facing the UK and Pakistan is the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. Both leaders agreed that terrorism and extremism are global issues and needed to be combated by intensifying cooperation at the global and regional levels.

Both leaders discussed the role being played by the democratic government in fighting against terrorism. The Prime Minister recognised the sacrifices made by Pakistan's military, civil law enforcement agencies and people in fighting violent extremism and militancy and appreciated the efforts of the democratic government. Both leaders appreciated the close co-operation that already exists between respective police forces and other security agencies.

The two leaders agreed that such co-operation needs to and will intensify. In this regard the British Home Secretary would visit Pakistan in the Autumn. They asked the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism to make proposals for enhancing practical co-operation ahead of the visit.

Pakistan and the UK will intensify their strategic engagement and pursue comprehensive Ministerially-led co-operation under the framework of a summit level strategic dialogue process. This will be taken forward through annual contact between the British Prime Minister and the President/Prime Minister of Pakistan. These Summit meetings will be reinforced through regular national security discussions. The two leaders looked forward to the meeting between Pakistani Foreign Minister Qureshi and British Foreign Minister William Hague under the revitalised Dialogue in October.

The President invited the Prime Minister to make an early visit to Pakistan. The Prime Minister was pleased to accept.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), August 6, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/August/PR_184.htm

DOCUMENT 4

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENTS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

President of the Islamic republic of Afghanistan Hamid Karzai, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev and President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Emomali Rahmon, having assembled at their second quadrilateral meeting in Sochi on August 18, 2010, held detailed discussion about the state and prospects of development of the regional cooperation,

Underscoring the need for the consistent implementation of the agreements reached during their first meeting in Dushanbe on July 30, 2010.

Recognizing the particular significance of expanding and strengthening multifaceted cooperation between Afghanistan, Pakistan, Russia and Tajikistan as an essential component of regional stability and economic development,

Welcoming the conclusion of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Trade and transit Agreement and looking forward to its successful implementation,

Expressing concern over the persistent terrorist threat in the region, as well as illegal drugs production and trafficking of such a scope that gives grounds to qualify this illegal activity as a threat to international peace and stability,

1. Welcome and support the launch of the Kabul process and the holding of the High-level International Conference on Afghanistan, which took place in Kabul on July 20, 2010. In this regard, they supported the priority programs developed within the five clusters of security, governance, economic and infrastructure development, agriculture and rural development, human resource development and supported the outcomes of the National Consultative peace Jirga as a milestone in the peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan.
2. Stress the importance of regional cooperation in facilitating the stabilization of the situation in the region including through regional cooperation opportunities available within existing international and regional bodies, including the SCO, in areas such as anti terrorism and counter-narcotics, and call for increased harnessing of the potential of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure for these purposes.
3. Consider it one of their priorities to combat drug threat in an integrated manner throughout the entire chain of illegal drugs production and trafficking ranging from promoting alternative livelihood and agriculture development to eradication, as well as countering the supply of precursors and taking steps to reduce drugs consumption, and instruct heads of anti-drug agencies of their countries to convene as soon as possible a meeting for a substantive examination of relevant issues.
4. Underline the importance of the anti-drug preventive operation Channel conducted under the aegis of the CSTO, advocate increasing the number of states participating in the operation as observers.

5. Express readiness to continue active participation in implementing the provisions of the Plan of Action of the SCO Member States and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking and organized crime, adopted at the Special Conference on Afghanistan held under the aegis of the SCO in Moscow on March 27, 2009.
6. Confirm their intention to actively participate in the activities on combating money laundering and financing of terrorism, especially to eliminate financial channels, connected with illicit trafficking of drug substances and their precursors.
7. Declare their determination to actively counteract illicit trafficking of weapons, munitions, explosives and other types of transboundary organized crime.
8. Express interest in further enhancing regional economic cooperation in trade, economy, investment areas and improving investment environment in the countries of the region and establishing direct ties between the business circles.
9. Support the intention of business circles of Russia, Pakistan and Tajikistan together with the government and business community of Afghanistan to participate in restoring and reconstructing the facilities which have a key importance for the Afghan economy in areas such as transport, energy, natural resources management and urban development and emphasize the need for identifying concrete priority projects in the aforementioned areas including the Salang tunnel, oil and gas facilities in the north of the country nitric fertilizer plant and thermal power station in Mazar-i-Sharif, Kabul house-building plant and Nangarhar irrigation facility.
10. Advocate implementing joint projects in energy and transport infrastructure development in the region, such as the CASA-1000 project aiming to establish a system to transmit electric energy from Tajikistan to Afghanistan and Pakistan, and support the participation of the Russian federation in this project.
11. Express hope that international financial and economic institutions would actively assist in implementing regional economic projects aiming to rebuild the Afghan economy and improve stability in the country and the region as a whole.
12. The Presidents of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan express their solidarity and sympathy with the Government and the people of Pakistan over the colossal loss of precious lives and property caused by unprecedented floods in Pakistan, and appeal to the international community to provide urgent assistance to Pakistan to overcome the effects of this terrible natural calamity.

13. Decided to hold the next meeting of the Presidents of the Islamic republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan in the city of Dushanbe. The concrete date of the meeting will be defined through the diplomatic channels.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), August 19, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/August/PR_196-A.htm

DOCUMENT 5

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ FRIENDS OF DEMOCRATIC PAKISTAN THIRD MINISTERIAL MEETING, BRUSSELS

PR. NO.256/2010

1. The Third Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of Democratic Pakistan (FODP) was held in Brussels on 15 October 2010. It was preceded by a Senior Officials' Meeting.
2. Hosted by the European Union, the meeting was co-chaired by High Representative for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy, and Catherine Ashton, Pakistan Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi. Also attending were the Foreign Ministers and senior representatives of 20 countries and four multilateral institutions.
3. The meeting welcomed the Arab Republic of Egypt as a new member of the FODP.
4. The Foreign Minister of Pakistan conveyed his appreciation and gratitude to the EU High Representative for organising the FODP Ministerial and enabling such high level attendance, which was a clear expression of international support for Pakistan. The Foreign Minister also thanked the FODP members for their participation, as well as their support for Pakistan's development and prosperity and conveyed deep gratitude for their generous flood relief assistance.
5. The meeting expressed condolences for the loss and hardship caused by the devastating floods across Pakistan, which have affected twenty million people. The Ministers noted that the unprecedented need of post-flood reconstruction and rehabilitation should be met by a strong signal of solidarity and tangible support from the international community.
6. The FODP members recognised that reconstruction requirements were daunting and that the Damage Needs Assessment being carried out by the Government of Pakistan, together with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank should be a good basis for an effective and sustainable national strategy aimed at early recovery and long-term reconstruction based

on the concept of “build back better.” The meeting welcomed the resolve of the Government of Pakistan to develop a comprehensive plan of action.

7. The FODP members appreciated the steps taken by the Government in constituting the National Oversight Disaster Management Council (NODMC) and the Government's commitment to ensure transparency, accountability and effective utilisation of resources.

8. The FODP also noted the need for continued efforts by the Government of Pakistan under its reform programme towards economic stabilisation and sustained economic revival, including widening the tax base, and taking other necessary structural measures to generate and enhance the maximum possible domestic resource mobilisation for reconstruction and long term development.

9. In this context, the Friends attached importance to the forthcoming meeting of the Pakistan Development Forum in Islamabad on 14-15th of November, 2010, and looked forward to presentations on Pakistan's economic stabilisation plans and a national plan for reconstruction.

10. The Friends affirmed that the FODP is a Pakistan-led process where international cooperation can be expressed for Pakistan's aspirations to build a strong and prosperous society for its people and looked forward to progress on economic reform. It was agreed that the success of Pakistan's experience in developing a strong democratic system, the welfare and well-being of its people, combating extremism and terrorism and Pakistan's economic prosperity and stability were critical for regional and global peace and stability. They acknowledged that socio-economic challenges had been compounded by the devastation caused by the floods.

11. The Friends noted that better trade opportunities will facilitate economic recovery. In this context, the EU decision to seek a Pakistan-specific WTO waiver was appreciated and should be supported.

12. The FODP members noted progress on the Malakand Development Strategy and considered the Post-Crisis Needs Assessment (PCNA). They endorsed the PCNA and confirmed their commitment to support all its recommendations, welcoming the Government of Pakistan's commitment to lead on urgent implementation of the report. They agreed that progress will be reviewed at the next FODP Senior Officials Meeting. In this context, they expressed satisfaction with the operationalisation of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for financing development projects in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and the Federally-Administered Tribal Areas.

13. Pakistan's energy needs were considered in the context of the Integrated Energy Sector Recovery Report and Plan. The meeting thanked the Government of Pakistan and the Asian Development Bank for the excellent work carried out by the Energy Sector Task Force. The meeting endorsed the report and underlined that implementation of its recommendations would help stabilise the energy sector in Pakistan.

14. The meeting acknowledged water management as an important priority for the Government of Pakistan. It was agreed that the Asian Development Bank, through a Task Force, will prepare a strategy on water management in consultation with the Government of Pakistan. The strategy would take into account all aspects of the issue and its critical relevance to agriculture, development and disaster prevention. It was agreed to have an update on progress at the next Senior Officials' Meeting.

15. The FODP members supported Pakistan's determination to enhance its institutional and administrative capacities and in this context the emphasis laid by the Government of Pakistan on long-term Public-Private Partnerships. They noted that sharing of best practices on effective governance, efficient service delivery, transparency and accountability would significantly help the reform process.

16. The meeting noted the intention of the Government of Pakistan to hold the second Public-Private Partnership conference in Islamabad some time next year and expressed its full support for its success.

17. It was agreed that more regular meetings among officials should be organized in Islamabad to review progress of FODP activities. The meeting agreed that a work plan of activities under the FODP process will be useful.

18. The FODP members welcomed the offer by Turkey to host a meeting of the FODP Working Group on Institution-Capacity Building at a mutually agreed date in the near future.

19. The next Ministerial Meeting of the FODP will be held in the first half of 2011.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), October 15, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Oct/PR_256.htm

DOCUMENT 6

JOINT STATEMENT US-PAKISTAN STRATEGIC DIALOGUE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL

US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Pakistan Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi, accompanied by high-level delegations, met in Washington on October 20-22, 2010 for the US-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue. As the third Ministerial-level meeting of the Strategic Dialogue, this session built upon the goals and objectives set forth in the March 24, 2010 session in Washington, and the progress made during the July 15, 2010 session in Islamabad. The latest round of the Strategic Dialogue confirmed the United States and Pakistan's dedication to cultivating a strategic, comprehensive, and long-term partnership.

The Ministerial Dialogue was preceded by sectoral track engagement on agriculture, communications and public diplomacy, defense, energy, finance and economic cooperation, health, law enforcement and counter-terrorism, water, and women's empowerment.

Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Qureshi reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the US-Pakistan strategic partnership, which was based on shared values, mutual respect, and mutual interests.

Foreign Minister Qureshi conveyed the sincere gratitude of the people of Pakistan to the Government and people of the United States for the valuable humanitarian assistance given in the wake of the tragic floods and for mobilizing international assistance for relief, recovery, and reconstruction. Secretary Clinton commended the tenacity of the Pakistani people as they recover from the catastrophic flooding and pledged constant US support as relief efforts transition into the long-term recovery phase.

Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Qureshi expressed satisfaction on the progress made in the Strategic Dialogue process. Sectoral meetings covered a broad range of subjects with a clear focus on socio-economic development and the establishment of a mutually beneficial partnership. As a culmination of their work over the past seven months, the sectoral working groups compiled action plans that reflect their shared goals and benchmarks, created a roadmap for future engagement, and discussed next steps on implementation of joint projects in every area.

The United States committed to redouble its efforts to seek Congressional enactment of legislation to create Reconstruction Opportunity Zones and for the establishment of an Enterprise Fund. Both sides sought to work closely and collaboratively with the international donor community and international financial institutions to extend economic assistance to Pakistan.

The United States commended the steadfast resolve of the Government and people of Pakistan, armed forces, and law enforcement agencies to defeat terrorists. Pakistan expressed its appreciation for the Secretary's announcement to seek Congressional authorization for a Multi-Year Security Assistance Commitment, a five-year pledge by the United States.

The United States and Pakistan emphasized that a democratic, progressive, and prosperous Pakistan was in the interest of the United States, the region, and the world. The United States and Pakistan renewed their resolve to promoting peace, stability, and transparency throughout the region and to eliminate the threats posed by terrorism and extremism. Both sides remained focused on further deepening their cooperation on a wide range of issues of mutual interest, and during the Pakistani delegation's visit to the White House, President Obama announced his plans to visit Pakistan in 2011 and welcomed President Zardari to Washington.

The United States committed continuing support to assist Pakistan in realizing its full development potential.

Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Qureshi reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the action plans developed by both sides and advancing the strategic partnership between the two countries.

The next round of the Strategic Dialogue is planned to be held in 2011; the sectoral working groups plan to meet prior to the next Ministerial-level meeting. ■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), October 22, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Oct/PR_261-B.htm

DOCUMENT 7

JOINT STATEMENT ON THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT TO SRI LANKA

PR. NO.295/2010

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan paid a State Visit to Sri Lanka from 27 – 30 November 2010. The President of Pakistan was accorded a ceremonial welcome on arrival at the Bandaranaike International Airport on 27th November 2010. During the visit, the President of Pakistan was received by the President of Sri Lanka, who hosted a banquet in his honour. The two leaders held official talks.
2. The official discussions between the two sides were marked by friendship, mutual respect and understanding. The President of Sri Lanka and the President of Pakistan agreed that the civilizational heritage of Sri Lanka and of Pakistan provided the foundation to build a vibrant and multi-faceted partnership. Sri Lanka - Pakistan relations have matured and diversified with the passage of time, encompassing key areas of contemporary relevance.
3. In keeping with their vision of the future of Sri Lanka - Pakistan relations, the two leaders agreed that there is much scope to increase cooperation and to further harness the enormous potential available for consolidating and strengthening the bilateral partnership by building on shared values, leveraging common concerns and interests, enhancing connectivity between the two countries, increasing the synergies of their economies and, reinforcing the institutional framework for cooperation. Both leaders agreed on the need for an increase in the frequency of high level visits between Sri Lanka and Pakistan, including at the Summit level and at the level of the Parliaments, especially based on Parliamentary Friendship Associations established in each of the national Parliaments. The two leaders witnessed the signing of the following:

- a. Visa Abolition Agreement for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports ;
 - b. Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation ;
 - c. Agreement on Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters;
 - d. Agreement on Co-operation in the field of Arts & Creative Studies between the National College of Arts of Pakistan and the University of Visual and Performing Arts of Sri Lanka.
4. The President of Pakistan conveyed his felicitations to President Rajapaksa on the decisive defeat of terrorism in Sri Lanka, after many years of conflict. President Rajapaksa who reiterated appreciation for the assistance provided by Pakistan during Sri Lanka's fight against terrorism, also elaborated on the steps taken by the Government to return normalcy to the country, after a 30 year conflict. Both leaders condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and agreed to strengthen cooperation in counter-terrorism.
5. The President of Pakistan expressed appreciation for Sri Lanka's humanitarian assistance during unprecedented floods in Pakistan in July-August this year.
6. Both leaders agreed to promote a dialogue on security and defence issues relevant to their bilateral relationship, including through high-level contacts between Defence Forces and the training of Security Forces personnel.
7. Both leaders agreed to promote active cooperation in countering the menace of narcotics and illicit trafficking of narcotic substances and to establish mechanisms and modalities for such cooperation.
8. Both leaders directed that officials of the respective Finance / Economic Ministries should meet soon to discuss measures to promote trade between the two countries, including through the extension of innovative lines of credit and/or barter.
9. Both leaders expressed satisfaction that the Free Trade Agreement signed in 2002, has significantly enhanced bilateral trade. Pakistan is now Sri Lanka's second largest trading partner in South Asia. They observed in this regard that the Agreement on Co-operation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters signed during the visit, is bound to facilitate the trade in goods. The two leaders noted that the undoubted potential for greater investment and joint ventures between the two countries should be leveraged for expanded collaboration, including in the sugar production and cement manufacturing sectors. It was also resolved to encourage collaboration between the two countries in the gem and jewellery industry.
10. Both leaders agreed to promote cooperation between the two countries in the financial and banking sectors and to establish close links between the Chambers of Commerce of Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

11. The President of Sri Lanka and the President of Pakistan reiterated their mutual commitment to greater bilateral economic cooperation. In this context, both leaders agreed to hold the 10th Session of the Joint Economic Commission, which is co-Chaired at Ministerial level in the first quarter of 2011 in order to fashion a fuller agenda of bilateral cooperation in various fields. It was furthermore decided that Sri Lanka should receive at the earliest possible an official level delegation from Pakistan, which would in association with its Sri Lanka counterparts discuss and identify the technical arrangements for follow-up on the understandings reached between the two Presidents. The technical arrangements in turn would facilitate the Joint Commission to agree on and issue the necessary policy directives, for the further expansion of the bilateral economic relationship.

12. The two leaders welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Agriculture. They directed that the provisions of the MoU should be utilized to build a strong bilateral programme of collaboration in the Agriculture and Fisheries sectors, including in food processing and fish processing.

13. The President of Pakistan expressed appreciation for Sri Lanka's offer to assist the Health and Education Sectors in Pakistan, through extending training of trainers of nurses and teachers of Mathematics and Science.

14. Welcoming the growing connectivity between the two countries, the two leaders called for greater cooperation in tourism and the promotion of people-to-people contacts, as well as the increase of direct flights and the establishment of direct shipping services.

15. The leaders agreed to work together as appropriate to preserve and promote the respective national civilizational heritages and treasures, including the rich Gandhara heritage. The President of Pakistan offered to hold an exhibition on the Gandhara Civilization in Colombo in cooperation with the Sri Lanka Government to mark the 2600th Year of the Attainment of Enlightenment of Lord Buddha, (Sambuddhatva Jayanthi). The President of Sri Lanka welcomed this offer which would increase among the people of the two countries, a better awareness of the aspects of cultural heritage shared by both nations. The President of Sri Lanka also welcomed that in response to the invitation of the President of Pakistan, a delegation of Buddhist monks and scholars would visit Gandhara, under the facilitation of the Pakistan authorities.

16. Recognizing the immense potential that exists in the two countries to tap knowledge as a driver of economic and social advancement, the two leaders agreed that the two countries should enhance links in the educational sector. The initiative by Pakistan to set up a Chair on Urdu and Pakistan Studies in a University in Sri Lanka, was therefore welcomed.

17. The leaders reiterated the importance of continuing to work together in regional and international fora.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), November 30, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Nov/PR_295.htm

DOCUMENT 8

JOINT STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT HAMID KARZAI OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AND PRIME MINISTER SYED YUSUF RAZA GILANI OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

PR. NO.299/2010

At the invitation of President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan H.E. Hamid Karzai, the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E. Syed Yousf Raza Gillani visited Afghanistan on December 4-5, 2010.

The President and the Prime Minister held in-depth consultations to strengthen the partnership through enhanced bilateral cooperation in various fields.

During the visit, the Prime Minister of Pakistan met H.E. Marshal Mohammad Qasim Fahim, H.E. Mohammad Karim Khalili, Vice Presidents of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, H.E. Prof. Burhanuddin Rabbani, Chairman of Peace High Council, H.E. Mohammad Younos Qanooni, Speaker of Wolesi Jirga, Ustad Mohammad Mohaqiq, Chairman Commission on Religious, Cultural and Educational Affairs of Wolesi Jirga and discussed range of bilateral, regional, and international issues of mutual interests. He had a constructive meeting with the leadership of Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Industries to promote the trade relations between the two countries. He also met with the large cross-section of Afghan nationals graduated from Pakistani universities and professional colleges.\

The Prime Minister inaugurated the construction work of the Embassy of Pakistan complex in Karte- Parwan, Kabul.

The President and Prime Minister:

Reaffirming the existing historical, cultural and religious ties between the two brotherly and friendly countries and its peoples;

Stressing the importance of cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan to tackle their common challenges of Terrorism, Poverty, Narcotics Production and its Addiction, Trafficking of Precursors and Consumption, and Organized Crime;

Affirming their enduring commitment to a durable partnership for peace, shared development and prosperity;

Acknowledging that a strong partnership can be built only on the principles of mutual respect and equality;

Emphasizing that strong ties between Afghanistan and Pakistan are vital for the regional and international security and stability;

Welcoming the launch of the Kabul Process and supporting the outcomes of the Kabul International Conference on July 20, 2010 as a milestone in this process;

Underlining the importance of the Peace Jerga and establishment of the High Peace Council for the implementation of Reconciliation and Reintegration programs;

Expressing satisfaction at the progress being made in strengthening their economic partnership including the signing of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement on October 28, 2010 in Kabul;

Recalling the historic Joint Declaration on Directions of Bilateral Cooperation (January 2009), the Joint Declaration on Next Steps in Pakistan-Afghanistan Comprehensive Cooperation (March 2010) and the Joint Statement on Strengthening the Partnership (September 2010);

Agreed as following:

Peace and Stability

Terrorism and violent extremism and their international support networks are a major threat undermining peace and stability in the region and beyond, and reiterated their commitment to effectively cooperating, combating and defeating these threats and eliminating their sanctuaries wherever they are.

Pakistan supports the efforts of the President, Government and people of Afghanistan for peace and national reconciliation, which should naturally be Afghan-owned and Afghan-led efforts.

Pakistan welcomes the establishment of the High Peace Council and wishes the government and brotherly people of Afghanistan every success.

Strengthen interaction among the security and counter-terrorism institutions of the two countries for promoting effective cooperation.

Economic Cooperation and Connectivity

Accelerate the implementation of the RECCA IV deliverables in different areas of regional economic cooperation, particularly those important projects on energy cooperation such as the CASA- 1000 and TAPI (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan- Pakistan- India) Gas Pipeline.

Develop a joint approach to further strengthen economic, educational, transit-trade and investment cooperation between the two countries including through the existing bilateral, trilateral, quadrilateral and regional cooperation frameworks.

Focus on infrastructure development particularly rail and road connectivity between the two countries particularly the following projects:

- Peshawer- Jalalabad rail link;
- Quetta- Kandahar rail link;
- Build modern facilities at Landi- Kotal- Torkhem and Chaman-Spinboldak.

Trade and Development

Prioritize economic cooperation and integration through, among other means, full and seamless implementation of the Afghanistan- Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) as of January 2011.

Agree to work jointly to achieve the target of \$5 billion bilateral trade by 2015, by inter-alia pursuing closer customs and tariff harmonization and facilitating greater interaction among the private sectors of the two countries.

Note that their countries' rich mineral resources afford opportunities for shared development. In this regard, agree to identify projects and develop cooperation.

Regularly review bilateral development projects including building of schools, universities hospitals and roads with Pakistan's assistance.

Capacity Building

Explore the continuation of cooperation in promoting vocational training centers in Afghanistan in different fields.

Support establishment of agricultural research institutions in Afghanistan in bilateral manner or through third parties.

Agree to undertake establishment of economic zones through joint projects for economic development between the two countries.

Examine ways to enhance capacity building and human resource development of their peoples.

Enhance bilateral interaction for effective utilization of 2,000 scholarships for Afghan students announced by Pakistan over the next three (3) years.

Devise a joint approach for establishing vocational training centers in Afghanistan.

Decide to establish forthwith, following working groups to oversee progress in agreed areas:

- Infrastructure and Connectivity;
- Trade facilitation;
- Economic zones between two countries;
- Customs Cooperation; and

- Planning and Development.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), December 5, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Dec/PR_299.htm

DOCUMENT 9

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

PR. NO.310/2010

1. At the invitation of H.E. Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, paid an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on 17-19 December, 2010.
2. Premier Wen Jiabao held formal talks with Prime Minister Gilani, and met President Asif Ali Zardari, Chairman Senate Mr. Farooq Hamid Naek, Speaker National Assembly Ms. Fehmida Mirza, leaders of the main political parties, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the three Services Chiefs. Leaders of the two countries had an in-depth exchange of views on further strengthening and deepening the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation, on major international and regional issues of mutual interest in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, and reached broad consensus.
3. During the visit, Premier Wen Jiabao had extensive contacts with people of various sectors of Pakistan. He delivered a speech entitled Shaping the Future Together Through Thick and Thin in Islamabad. The two Prime Ministers were briefed by the National Disaster Management Authority. They also attended the Pakistan-China Business Cooperation Summit, the Inauguration Ceremony of the Pakistan-China Friendship Centre and the Launching Ceremony of the China-Pakistan Friendship Bringing-Light Tour, and met individuals who made great contributions to China-Pakistan friendship.
4. Leaders of the two countries reviewed with satisfaction the growth of China-Pakistan relations in 59 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations. The two sides shared the view that against the backdrop of a complex and ever-changing international and regional situation, it is of high significance to consolidate and deepen the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation. China-Pakistan relations have gone beyond bilateral dimensions and acquired broader regional and international ramifications. Friendship and cooperation between China and Pakistan serve the fundamental interests of the two countries and peoples, and contribute to peace, stability and development in the region and beyond. The two sides

agreed to enhance strategic coordination, advance pragmatic cooperation and work together to meet challenges in pursuit of common development.

5. The two sides announced that the year 2011 be designated the “Year of China-Pakistan Friendship”, and decided to hold a series of activities in the political, economic, trade, military, cultural, sporting and education fields, to warmly celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of China-Pakistan diplomatic relations.

6. The Chinese side reiterated that the Chinese government always places high on its diplomatic agenda, consolidating and developing relations with Pakistan and is firm on the policy of pursuing friendly ties with Pakistan. The Chinese side is ready to work with Pakistan to further deepen China-Pakistan friendship and pass it on from generation to generation. The Chinese side appreciates Pakistan’s longstanding firm support on issues that concern China’s core interests.

7. The Pakistani side stressed that pursuing friendship with China is the bedrock of Pakistan’s foreign policy and national consensus. Pakistan appreciates the strong support and selfless assistance from the Chinese government and people for its economic and social development. Pakistan will continue to pursue the policy of further strengthening friendly relations with China.

8. The Chinese side reiterated that it respects Pakistan’s sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, respects the development path chosen by the Pakistani people in the light of Pakistan’s own national conditions, and appreciates and supports Pakistan’s efforts in safeguarding its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and promoting peace and stability in South Asia. The Pakistani side reiterated that it remains committed to the one-China policy, opposes Taiwan independence, supports the peaceful development of cross-Straits relations and China’s reunification, and supports the efforts made by the Chinese government in safeguarding its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

9. The two sides shared the view that exchange of high-level visits and contacts between leaders of the two countries have played an irreplaceable role in promoting bilateral relations. The two sides decided to maintain regular mutual visits and contacts at the leadership level, establish the annual meeting mechanism between leaders, set up the Foreign Ministers’ dialogue mechanism and reinforce the Foreign Ministries’ dialogue mechanism to strengthen China-Pakistan strategic consultation and coordination.

10. The Pakistani side expressed high appreciation and thanks to the Chinese side for its timely assistance in Pakistan’s flood relief and rescue efforts as well as in post-disaster reconstruction. It thanked the Chinese side for delivering relief supplies to Gilgit-Baltistan area to help the local people, and stressed that it is a vivid reflection of Pakistan-China fraternal friendship. The Chinese side reiterated that it will take full part in the post-flood reconstruction and fulfill

its existing promises. The Chinese side will support, on a priority basis the national highway network post-flood rehabilitation project in flood-affected areas, the national project for improved rice-processing, the national project for controlled atmosphere and advanced ventilated cold storage and crop monitoring through remote imagery satellite. The Chinese side will allocate 10 million US Dollars for the Citizen Damage Compensation Plan of Pakistan, and provide 100 million US Dollars in preferential loans and 300 million US Dollars in preferential buyer's credit for projects of great importance to Pakistan. The Chinese side stands ready to share with Pakistan relevant information and experience on disaster reduction and relief, and provide related technical support and training. The two sides agreed to explore the feasibility of establishing joint programmes on environmental studies, in particular research and exchange of information on shared eco systems.

11. The two sides agreed to further intensify cooperation in infrastructure development, energy and agriculture on a priority basis. The Chinese side will provide assistance for the upgrading of the Karakorum Highway, resolve the problem of earthquake lakes, and encourage Chinese financial institutions to explore feasible financing schemes with the Pakistani side. The energy cooperation mechanism will be established to push forward bilateral cooperation in conventional energy, renewable energy and civil nuclear energy. The two sides agreed to start the construction of China-Pakistan Agriculture Demonstration Zones as soon as possible. The two sides agreed to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation in the financial sector. The two sides agreed to establish currency swap arrangements. The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China decided to establish branches in Islamabad and Karachi. The Chinese side is also ready to facilitate qualified Pakistani banks to open branches in China. The two sides decided to further implement the Framework Agreement between Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) and China National Space Administration (CNSA) on Deepening Cooperation in Space Science and Technology. In this context, they expressed satisfaction on their joint collaboration in fabrication and launching of satellites. The two sides agreed to further cooperation in human resources development. The Chinese side is ready to help Pakistan enhance its capacities in science, technology and management.

12. The two sides decided to renew the Five Year Development Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the 14th meeting of the China-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission and the Business Cooperation Summit, and instructed related departments to implement the decisions of the Joint Economic Commission to strengthen China-Pakistan economic and trade cooperation. The two sides encouraged the relevant departments to implement decisions taken by the second session of the Free Trade Commission. The two sides jointly declared that the second phase negotiations of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement will be

launched in the first quarter of Year 2011 to enhance trade liberalization and promote economic and trade growth of the two countries. The two sides pledged to work for continuous and all-round progress in the development of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Area, and decided to establish the China-Pakistan Entrepreneurs Forum to strengthen exchanges between their business communities. Pakistan decided to establish a Special Economic Zone for Chinese Businesses to attract more Chinese investment in Pakistan. The two sides support and encourage border trade to promote common development and prosperity in the border areas. The two sides will explore the possibility of establishing trans-border economic zones and take steps to enhance cooperation in border management.

13. The two sides reiterated that they will continue to enhance mutual trust and cooperation in the military and security field in line with the principles and spirit of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Good-neighborly Relations between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan signed in 2005. This is conducive to peace, security and stability of the two countries and the region. The two sides agreed to step up personnel training, joint exercises, training and cooperation for national defense, science and technology, and collaboration in defence production. The two sides also agreed to give further impetus to maritime security cooperation.

14. The two sides agreed to expand cultural, sporting and people-to-people interactions in a comprehensive manner, and engage in broad contacts between universities, think-tanks, academic institutions, mass media, and film and television industries. The two sides decided to establish cultural centers in each other's country, maintain and expand step by step the one hundred youth exchange programme and enhance cooperation in young officials training, exchanges between young entrepreneurs and young volunteer services. China will invite 100 senior middle school/high school students from Pakistan to China for the Summer Camp of Chinese Bridge and continue to provide Confucius Institute scholarships to Pakistani university students. China will provide 500 government scholarships to Pakistan in 3 years starting from 2011. The two sides will also intensify their cooperation in science and technology, applied sciences, learning of Chinese and Urdu languages. The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries will undertake the China-Pakistan Friendship Bringing-Light Tour to Pakistan and provide free surgical treatment for 1000 Pakistani cataract patients within two years. The two sides agreed to open new air routes and increase flights.

15. The two sides shared the view that terrorism, separatism and extremism pose serious threats to regional peace, stability and security. They reaffirmed their resolve to undertake substantive cooperation under bilateral and multilateral frameworks, and jointly fight the above-mentioned three forces. The Chinese side held the view that Pakistan has made great efforts and endured great sacrifices in fighting terrorism, and reiterated that it respects the

counter-terrorism strategy constituted and implemented by Pakistan in light of its own national conditions. The Pakistani side reaffirmed its resolve to fight terrorism.

16. The Chinese side held the view that Pakistan is an important member state of the region and plays a vital role in safeguarding peace, security and stability. The two sides decided to strengthen communication and coordination in regional affairs, on hotspot issues such as the issue of Afghanistan and regional cooperation. The two sides voiced support for the unity and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, the efforts of the Afghan government to advance peace, reconstruction and national reconciliation based on the fundamental interest of its country and people, and expressed hope to see a peaceful, stable and independent Afghanistan that enjoys development and good neighborliness. The two sides stressed their commitment to stronger solidarity and cooperation among developing countries to upholding their rights and interests in the process of globalization, and to making sustained efforts to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. The two sides reiterated that they will step up coordination and cooperation on major international issues such as climate change, food and energy security and UN reform.

17. The two sides signed 12 Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding on cooperation in the fields of culture, transportation, economic assistance, media, finance, and energy.

18. Premier Wen Jiabao expressed appreciation to Prime Minister Gilani and the government and people of Pakistan for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation. Premier Wen Jiabao invited Prime Minister Gilani to pay an official visit to China at a mutually convenient time. Prime Minister Gilani appreciated the invitation and accepted it with pleasure.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), December 19, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Dec/Pr_310.htm

DOCUMENT 10

THE 11TH SUMMIT DECLARATION ISTANBUL DECLARATION 2010 (ISTANBUL, 23 DECEMBER, 2010)

The Eleventh Summit Meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was held in Istanbul, the Republic of Turkey, on 23rd December, 2010. It was presided over by H.E. Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey, and attended by:

- **H.E. Mr. Hamid Karzai,**
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

- **H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev,**
President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- **H.E. Mr. Mahmood Ahmadi Nejad,**
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- **H.E. Mr. Karim Massimov,**
Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- **H.E. Ms. Roza Otunbayeva,**
President of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- **H.E. Mr. Asif Ali Zardari,**
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
- **H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon,**
President of the Republic of Tajikistan.
- **H.E. Mr. Tuvakmammot Japarov,**
Deputy Chairman of Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
- **H.E. Mr. Ulfat Kadirov,**
Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Turkey.

The Heads of State/Government during their meeting in Istanbul discussed important regional and global issues and reviewed the performance of the ECO and progress made on the programmes and projects since the previous Summit:

Re-emphasizing the importance of the ECO's goals and objectives as envisaged in the Izmir Treaty and previous Summit declarations;

Re-affirming their will and the need to enhance efforts towards improved economic cooperation, social welfare, quality of life, economic growth and sustainable development in the ECO region;

Expressing concern about the existing conflicts in the ECO region which impede peace, security, stability and sustainable development and reaffirming the importance of making increased efforts for resolving these conflicts based on the norms and principles of international law, in particular with respect to territorial integrity;

Recognizing that global economic crisis adversely affected economic growth and sustainable development in the region and reaffirming their determination to continue cooperation and develop common approach to further mitigate the effects of the crisis;

Reiterating the commitments made in the ECO Vision 2015 regarding the importance of achieving Free Trade Area in the ECO region to promote prosperity and sustainable development in the ECO region;

Emphasizing the importance of energy security for economic stability and sustainable development and the need for close cooperation to realize major energy projects in this regard;

Noting with concern the challenges for ensuring food security and agricultural development in the region as a result of water shortages, land degradation and drought;

Recognizing the serious challenges posed by climate change and the need to address this global threat at both international and regional levels and calling for financial support and technology transfer to the region to this end;

Underlining the significance of infrastructure development particularly in the areas of transport and communications in the region and early and effective implementation of road, railway and communication projects;

Reiterating the importance of full implementation of the key ECO Agreements in achieving ECO goals and objectives and calling on those member states that have not joined these agreements to expedite signing, ratification and accession procedures;

Appreciating actions taken to implement the ECO projects/ programmes in advancement of the initiatives which would further strengthen ECO as an effective organization for regional economic cooperation and encouraging further actions to this end;

- i. **Renewed** their commitments for effective implementation of ECO Vision 2015 as well as promotion of the ECO as an efficient regional organization.
- ii. **Reaffirmed** their determination to implement ECOTA with the ultimate aim of creating Free Trade Area in the region. They invited the remaining Member States to accede to the Agreement, and called for action on removing Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) to regional trade; harmonization of regulations and trade facilitation measures for expansion of trade and reiterated the need to facilitate the accession process of the Member States to WTO.
- iii. **Stressed** the importance of promoting trade among the Member States, and in this context to avoid technical barriers and financial actions and limitations which impede free flow of trade.
- iv. **Appreciated** the financial instruments introduced by the ECO Trade and Development Bank to support Member States and called upon the Bank to increase its role as a major financial institution in the region and renewed its call to remaining Member States to join the Bank.
- v. **Called** for further strengthening of the private sector cooperation in line with the Plan of Action of ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry and facilitate business relations in the region.

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- vi. **Re-affirmed** that in the framework of implementation of the Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA) among ECO Member States priority should be given to the enhancement of international trade and road transport facilitation instruments, aiming at harmonizing Customs procedures and facilitating border crossing, notably the 1975 TIR Convention.
- vii. **Noted** with satisfaction the launch of the regular operation of the Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Container Train in August 2010 and expressed hope that the regular operation of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Almaty Bandar Abbas Routes, also due realization of the project of Uzen (Kazakhstan)-Kyzylkiya-Bereket-Etrek (Turkmenistan)-Gorgan (Iran) railway would be launched in 2011.
- viii. **Noted** that construction of the railway connecting China and Europe through Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey will promote diversification of transport routes in the region. In this context also noted the construction of priority railway segments namely Kandahar-Chaman and Jalalabad-Torkham which connect Afghanistan to Pakistan.
- ix. **Underlined** the importance of promotion of the project on construction of the railway route China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan aimed at enhancing regional cooperation on the Great Silk Road route.
- x. **Recognized** that implementation of the construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway, Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) railway and Baku International Trade Sea Port will enhance the competitiveness of the International Transport Corridor Europe–the Caucasus–Asia (TRACECA), North–South Corridor and the transit potential of the ECO Member States.
- xi. **Acknowledged** the realization of the ECO/IRU Silk Road Truck Caravan in September-October 2010 as a major demonstration project in line with the provisions of the TTFA, and called upon the Member States and the Secretariat to implement the TTFA and start the regular run of the trucks in the ECO region under this Agreement by January 2011.
- xii. **Reiterated** the urgent need for regional cooperation in maritime and multimodal transportation.

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- xiii. **Called** for the creation of a suitable environment for investment in energy sector projects by improving energy security in the Member States and making better use of New and Renewable Energy Sources.
- xiv. **Appreciated** the progress achieved in the implementation of ECO Regional Programme for Food Security (RPFS) including the establishment of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) on the implementation of the RPFS, ECO Veterinary Commission (ECO-VECO), ECO Center for Efficient Utilization of Water in Agriculture, ECO Meteorological Calibration Center (ECO-MCC) and activation of the ECO Seed Association (ECOSA).
- xv. **Recognized** the importance of making full use of the hydro power potential of the region and in this context noted the urgency of realizing the CASA 1000 project, aiming at inter-connecting the energy systems of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- xvi. **Noted** the desire of the Republic of Kazakhstan to host the International Specialized Exhibition (EXPO 2017) in Astana.
- xvii. **Welcomed** the establishment of ECOSTAT and stressed the need to consolidate statistical data and economic research to promote economic cooperation among Member States.
- xviii. **Re-iterated** their commitment towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the ECO region, with special focus on education, gender equality, Women's and Children's Health, re-emphasized by Heads of State and Government during the last September World MDGs Summit in New York.
- xix. **Noted** ECO's role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, appreciated the contributions of Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey to the ECO Special Reconstruction Fund for Afghanistan and called for more contributions by member states to the Fund and cooperation between ECO and relevant national Agencies of the member states to speed up the reconstruction process.
- xx. **Welcomed** the launch of the Kabul Process and supported the outcomes of the historical Kabul Conference of July 20, 2010 as well as the fourth meeting of the Regional Economic cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (Istanbul, November 2-3, 2010) which would compliment the achievements of the Kabul Process in realizing greater

- regional cooperation in support of sustainable development and durable stability in Afghanistan and the region.
- xxi. **Welcomed** the initiative of the ECO Secretariat to become a Member of the newly established High-Level Core Group of Regional Bodies on Afghanistan to inter alia coordinate the activities of relevant Regional Organizations in Afghanistan.
- xxii. **Commended** the efforts made by the Secretariat to strengthen and expand ties with the United Nations system and other international and regional bodies and emphasized the need to continue its endeavors to further promote mutually beneficial partnerships.
- xxiii. **Welcomed** the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for enhancement of external relations of ECO.
- xxiv. **Acknowledged** the need for strengthening cooperation in disaster risk management in the ECO region, one of the world's most disaster prone areas, urged for regional programmes and projects and further collaboration among the ECO member states through existing mechanisms including the Regional Center for Risk Management (RCO-RCRM) in Mashhad-Iran.
- xxv. **Welcomed** the initiative by Turkey to establish an Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to study and review the work of the Organization including the ECO Vision 2015, in order to enhance the dynamism, efficiency and visibility of the Organization and provide recommendations to be submitted to the Council of Ministers.
- xxvi. **Expressed** their resolve to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and seized this opportunity to denounce and condemn all acts of terrorism as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace, security and economic development.
- xxvii. **Expressed** sympathy with economic suffering of the people of Gaza.
- xxviii. **Welcomed** the assumption of the Chairmanship of ECO by the Republic of Turkey, expressed confidence that the Turkish Chairmanship, in close cooperation with the Member States, will bring renewed dynamism to the ECO process.
- xxix. **The Heads** of State and Government expressed profound thanks to His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey for steering the deliberations of the 11th ECO Summit most ably to a successful conclusion,

and sincerely appreciated the warm hospitality shown by the people and Government of the Republic of Turkey and the immaculate arrangements made for the Summit.

xxx. **Welcomed** the offer of the Republic of Azerbaijan to host the 12th ECO Summit in 2012.■

Economic Cooperation Organization, December 23, 2010,
<http://www.ecosecretariat.org/>

DOCUMENT 11

PAKISTAN AND CHINA DECLARE 2011 “YEAR OF FRIENDSHIP”

PR. NO.315/2010

Pakistan and China have declared 2011 as the “Year of Friendship”. The year also marks the Sixtieth Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Both countries will celebrate the Friendship Year at the leadership, government, business and most important people to people level.

A meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force including provincial representatives constituted by the Prime Minister to chart a befitting programme for celebrating the “Year of Friendship” was held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today. The Foreign Secretary chaired the meeting.

The meeting endorsed a comprehensive plan of year round events and activities during 2011 to mark the occasion. It was decided that the celebrations will be nation-wide involving all segments of the society. The Federal and Provincial governments will organize a variety of events to mark the Friendship Year. These include exchange of leadership level and Parliamentary visits, youth and women delegations, art and cultural events, sporting contacts, business conferences etc.

The Provincial governments will organize special task groups to coordinate and implement the plan.

The President and Prime Minister of Pakistan have addressed messages to the Chinese leadership and people to mark the commencement of the “Year of Friendship”.

A reception is also being organized jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad at the Pakistan-China Friendship Centre on 01 January 2011 to launch the commemorations.■

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad (Online), December 31, 2010.
http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Press_Releases/2010/Dec/Pr_315.htm