

**PAKISTAN AND AFRICA
(1981-2006)**

**EDITOR
DR NOOR UL HAQ**

**ASSISTANT EDITOR
RAFEH A. MALIK**

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PREFACE

Africa, the second largest continent of the world, is spread over 30,357,362 sq km and has a population of 721,368,251. The continent has 53 countries, 47 mainland and 6 island. It is rich in natural and mineral resources and is called 'world's storehouse' of strategic raw materials. France, United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Germany and Italy had colonized most of the continent. After World War II (1939-45), African people gained independence and started developing political and economic relations with the rest of the world.

An institutional evolution of the continent was witnessed on 9 July 2002 with the establishment of the African Union (AU), which replaced the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), founded on 25 May 1963. The AU is aimed at accelerating the process of integration of the continent so that it could collectively address its social, economic and political problems. A significant programme of the AU is the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) with main objectives to eradicate poverty, to guide African countries towards sustainable growth and development, to enhance Africa's beneficial integration into global economy, and to accelerate the empowerment of women. The ambassadors and high commissioners of African states, located in Islamabad, organize Africa Day collectively every year on 25 May.

Pakistan has cordial relations with all African countries and is committed to developing stronger political, diplomatic and economic ties. It has resident missions in 15 countries while others are covered through concurrent accreditation. Pakistan is linked with Africa through Asian African Regional Organisation Conference (AASROC), Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation and with several Muslim countries through Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC). These fora provide institutional framework for cooperation between Pakistan and Africa. Beside assistance for education and training in various institutions, such as Foreign Service Academy, Defence Services Academies, etc., Pakistan is the highest contributor to the UN peacekeeping forces in Africa (See *IPRI Factfile: UN Peacekeeping Operations and Pakistan*, Vol. VIII, Number 1, January 2006)

However, Pak-Africa collaboration in economic, trade and commerce

is quite below the desired level. Pakistan's exports to Africa hardly stood at about US\$ 941 million in 2005, which was only 6.7 percent of Pakistan's total exports. Similarly, the level of imports from Africa is also quite marginal. For instance, Pakistan's imports from Africa stood around US\$ 596 million in 2005, which was merely 2.2 percent of Pakistan's total imports. Therefore, there is a need to generate more trade and commerce as well as to have a proactive policy for further cementing brotherly relations.

The *IPRI Factfile* gives glimpses of Pak-Africa relations during the last quarter of a century (1981-2006). It covers some of the bilateral visits of leaders of Pakistan and African states, their speeches, press statements, interviews, memoranda of understanding, agreements and joint communiqués.

31 December 2006

Noor ul Haq

INTRODUCTORY

Pakistan and African countries have had close ties before and during the colonial days. Pakistan which was among the first Muslim countries to gain independence spearheaded support to the struggle for self determination of African colonies. Pakistan was also one of the first countries to support Eritrea's independence from Italian colonialism and morally supported Morocco, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa in their liberation struggles. Many African leaders have travelled on Pakistani Diplomatic Passports. Moreover, a large number of students from African countries have studied in Pakistani Universities.

Pakistan has, on different occasions, contributed peace keeping contingents to the UN, which were deployed in Ghana, Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan, Congo and Namibia to assist them in transition to self rule or to provide relief assistance to famine affected areas. Presently too its troops are stationed in Sierra Leone to maintain peace between warring factions. Defence forces officers from African countries continue to be trained in Defence Academies in Pakistan including NDC [National Defence College] and the Staff College Quetta. Pakistan is also imparting training to officers of the foreign service of some African countries. Many airlines operating in Africa were established with the technical support and training facilities extended by Pakistan.

A number of eminent Pakistanis have served in Africa on different assignments. Justice M. B. Ahmed was Chief Justice of Nigeria. Air Martial Daud Pota was head of the Zimbabwean Air Force. Sahibzada Yaqoob Khan was special envoy of U.N. Secretary General for Western Sahara and Mr. Sheharyar Khan was Special Envoy of the UN for Rwanda and Burundi. However, with the passage of time these links have become weaker or non existent. Pakistani presence in African countries has become very thin to the extent that at the diplomatic level an Ambassador or High Commissioner from Pakistan is accredited to many countries simultaneously. Pakistan's foreign policy therefore has to be repositioned viz a viz African countries without disturbing the focus on the West. A proactive policy would require interaction between the Parliaments of Pakistan and African countries coupled with constituting friendship groups for African countries in the Parliament. High level visits by the President of Pakistan, Prime Minister and Ministers will go a long way in establishing or cementing close brotherly ties with Africa. Moreover, Pakistan should pursue an aggressive economic diplomacy so as to reap the abundant financial benefits as well as investment opportunities that exist in Africa. The setting up of ministerial commissions with different African countries would be one of the steps in the right direction. The Pakistan Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry

should penetrate the markets of Africa and exploit the business opportunities that exist in those countries. It can also benefit from the experiences of African countries in the field of tourism. Direct air links between Pakistan and African countries are also very important in every respect. Asian and African countries, which account for a 109 votes, need to speak with one voice at the United Nations or any other international forum while the 53 Muslim countries in Asia and Africa should support one another in the OIC. At the WTO, Asian and African countries should adopt a unified policy.

Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Foreign Relations Committee, *Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report 8*, December 2005, pp. 7-8.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PAK – AFRICA RELATIONS

I will start with a brief overview of our relations with Africa. Interestingly we know that with focus on Western countries like the United States, Europe and also on South Asia, a very important dimension, the African dimension of Pakistan's foreign policy is often missed out, and it is a very important dimension. I will try to trace it very briefly. In 1952-53 Pakistan joined the U.N. Security Council and at that time we were among the few Muslim countries who were independent and we spearheaded support for the struggle for self-determination of African colonies. And if you see the record of the fifties, you know that we were one of the first countries which supported Eritrea's independence from Italian colonialism. In Tunisia, the father of the nation, Habib Bourguiba used to travel on a Pakistani Passport. In Algeria, Farhat Abbas, Prime Minister of the provisional Government and Ahmad Bin Bella used to travel on Pakistani Diplomatic Passports. We also provided support to Morocco and other countries including Zimbabwe and the ZANU Patriotic Front of Robert Mugabe. We supported the liberation struggle in Namibia and South Africa, opposing all forms of apartheid. I think Ambassador Tayyab Siddiqui was the one who delivered 300 thousand dollars on behalf of Pakistan to Winnie Mandela, as Pakistan's support to their struggle, and this support has been consistent through different governments whether they were military governments or elected democratic governments. So there has been a consistent pattern in Pakistan's foreign policy, and we sent peace keeping forces for the election in Namibia and also helped in the conflict against Ethiopia in 1978. There has been an active pattern of Pakistani support for liberation movements in Africa, when it was very rare and difficult to give this kind of support. Then we also have been providing special training programmes for the military and of course, some officers later attained prominence as leaders of their countries. Presidents of Nigeria, Sudan, and Ghana come in this category. Pakistan also contributed to nation building of newly independent countries of Africa through the training of

officers at the National Defence College, Pakistan Administrative Staff College, Air Force War College, and provision of expertise. In Uganda, for example, Mian Riaz Uddin Ahmad was Cabinet Secretary of Uganda. Then we had Justice M.B. Ahmed in Nigeria, he was Chief Justice there. First Chief of the Air Force of Zimbabwe was a Pakistani, Air Marshal Daud Pota. Then Capacity Building Programmes which we have executed for different countries. Libya for airlines, Kenya, Nigeria and Sudan, in trade. We also helped in the peace process, for example, Sahibzada Yaqub Khan was Special Envoy of U.N. Secretary General for Western Sahara and Mr. Sheharyar Khan was a Special Envoy for Rwanda and Burundi and also for the decolonization process Pakistan has played a key role. Our peace keeping forces, Pakistan Army contingents and police contingents, have been there in Ghana, Somalia, Eritrea, Congo and Namibia to assist in the transition and also in Sierra Leone and in the Congo. So, relief assistance to famine affected areas in Sudan and Niger, and even during the Darfur crisis, you know, there was Pakistan who played the role of a mediator.

Because we were in the U.N. Security Council, we did not want things to spin out of control and a special envoy was sent from Pakistan to Sudan to defuse the situation. We also helped out in the U.N. Security Council. So on a host of issues whether they are training programmes, whether they are support to liberation movements, whether they are capacity building, we had a strong relationship and, finally, also in training of diplomats. I was told that we have a training programme for two kinds of African diplomats, one for the younger ones who just joined the service and the other for mid-career officers, twenty four slots in each case. So, it is a great pleasure to have all of you here and we are also keen in our Committee that Pakistan should have a very close interaction with African countries because the African Union has a large membership. I think it is the second biggest after the OIC in the UN. In the UN General Assembly, as we are discovering right now, in the struggle for the UN Security Council membership, it is one country, one vote. So each vote matters and we were very keen that this relationship should be reinforced, not just with European and Western countries and Arab countries but we reached out to African countries and I understand that certain important trips are in the offing. Recently we had the President of Eritrea visiting us and the Prime Minister of Mauritius is also visiting us and of course, Nelson Mandela came here on different occasions before he became President in 1994 and then as President in 1999. So, we have had this close interaction with Africa and the people of Africa and so I look forward to this continued close relationship.

Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Opening Remarks at the Meeting of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Kashmir Affairs and Northern Areas held on 22 June 2005, *Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report-8*, December 2005, pp. 14-15.

**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD ZIA-UL-HAQ AT THE
BANQUET HOSTED IN HONOUR OF THE
VISITING ZIMBABWE PRIME MINISTER
ROBERT GABRIAL MUGABE**

May 23, 1981

Your Excellency Prime Minister Robert Gabriel Mugabe,
Madame Mugabe,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome on behalf of the people and the Government of Pakistan and on my own and on my wife's behalf the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Madame Mugabe and the other distinguished members of his delegation. His visit to our country is a memorable and happy occasion because today we have the privilege of having amongst us the great Prime Minister of a great country which achieved its independence after a long and heroic struggle. The people of Pakistan know and respect Mr. Mugabe as a valiant freedom fighter and as a dynamic national leader. The fact is that Mr. Mugabe is held in high esteem not only in Pakistan but all over the world.

His Excellency Mr. Robert Mugabe is not a stranger amongst us. He has visited Pakistan earlier. Mr. Mugabe came to Pakistan in 1978 when his country was struggling to throw off the yoke of colonialism. We had then expressed our total sympathy with the campaign launched by him to win freedom for his people and had pledged him our full political and moral support. Today when he visits us as the leader of independent and sovereign Zimbabwe we would like to reassure him once again of our full support and cooperation.

I had the privilege of participating in April last year in the Independence celebrations of Zimbabwe and had personally witnessed the inspiring leadership of Mr. Mugabe and the love for freedom of the People of Zimbabwe. These impressions are still vivid in my mind and will always remain a cherished memory. We pray that the people of Zimbabwe under the guidance of their beloved leader should continue to make rapid strides towards the goal of progress and prosperity.

Distinguished Guest,

We are deeply conscious of the wise and sagacious efforts that you are making to rebuild your country. This is not an easy task after the depredations of a long period of colonialism. We realise this fully because we have passed through a similar phase and in fact are still, to some extent, trying to

overcome the legacy of colonial rule.

Excellency,

Not only do we share the common historic experience of the colonial period, our aspirations and objectives are also identical. Our countries desire to protect their independence and bring prosperity to the peoples. It remains our constant endeavour that the ominous clouds of war do not appear on the world horizon, and in particular in our respective regions so that we can channel our efforts and direct our resources for the welfare of our peoples.

Excellency,

We are also conscious of your efforts towards the promotion of regional cooperation in Southern Africa and we look with great admiration at the key role being played by Zimbabwe in this field. It is our earnest hope that this cooperation is promoted further so as to reduce the economic dependence of the neighbouring African countries on South Africa. I do not need to reiterate that Pakistan fully supports all measures which can bring prosperity and strength to newly independent countries.

Pakistan has over the years, identified itself fully with all those movements which are aimed at breaking the shackles of colonialism to achieve independence for their peoples. Pakistan has always strongly opposed and continues to oppose and condemn the South African system of apartheid because it is unjust and inhuman and an affront to the conscience and dignity of man. We do not recognize the racist minority regime of South Africa and have no links of any kind whatsoever with that country.

Excellency,

It is our firm conviction that the people of Namibia can no longer be denied independence. We recognise South West African Peoples Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia and we are confident that Namibia will soon achieve its legitimate place in the comity of independent nations. We shall not rest until the accession of Namibia to independence becomes a reality. We will also continue to extend full support to the noble objective of eliminating the last vestiges of colonialism from the continent of Africa.

Excellency,

Just as there are some urgent problems in Africa which await a just solution, there are some very serious problems facing this region. The foremost amongst them is the question of Afghanistan. The armed intervention by a super power in Afghanistan has led to a continuing civil war there as a result of which more than two million helpless Afghans have fled their land and sought refuge in Pakistan. Their number grows steadily and at the rate at

which the inflow is continuing there will be close to three million homeless and hapless Afghan nationals in our country. Pakistan has accepted them purely on humanitarian grounds and despite our limited resources we are providing them shelter and food. While this effort is placing an unbearable strain on our resources, our respect for these brave and proud people is such that we will be prepared to accept hardships but we will not shirk our duty to provide relief to them.

Side by side with this humanitarian task, we are making all efforts to find a political solution to the problem of Afghanistan which would result in the withdrawal of all foreign forces from there and which would enable the Afghan nationals to return to their homeland in safety and honour and to exercise their right to form a government of their own choice.

Distinguished Guest,

Peace and stability in our region has been threatened by the developments around Pakistan. The massive influx of foreign troops in Afghanistan has created a threat to Pakistan's security which is a matter of great concern to us. In the face of this threat we are trying to strengthen our defences as far as our circumstances permit. We consider it our sovereign right to take all necessary steps to acquire a credible defence capability to strengthen our independence and contribute to the stability of the region. For this we desire bilateral relationships with all countries on the basis of sovereign equality and respect for Pakistan's policy of non-alignment and its commitment to the positions taken by the Islamic Conference. Islam is a religion of peace and as followers of Islam we seek peace not only for ourselves but for the entire world.

Excellency,

In this objective of promoting world peace Pakistan and Zimbabwe hold identical views on most issues facing the world. Apart from this our bilateral relations are also being strengthened constantly. The ministerial delegation from Pakistan which visited Zimbabwe last August had identified various areas of mutual cooperation. Further possibilities were explored during the visit of a ministerial delegation from Zimbabwe earlier this year. Your visit to our country has provided us with yet another opportunity to further strengthen our mutual cooperation and bilateral relations and we are confident that your visit will prove to be a milestone in the consolidation of relations between Zimbabwe and Pakistan.

I once again thank you Mr. Prime Minister, Madame Mugabe and the distinguished members of your entourage for your visit to Pakistan and for providing us an opportunity to meet and exchange views with you.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in expressing our best wishes for:

- the health, prosperity and long life of His Excellency Mr. Robert Mugabe and Madame Mugabe;
- the happiness and prosperity of the other distinguished guests from the Republic of Zimbabwe;
- the prosperity and progress of the friendly people of Zimbabwe; and
- the growing friendship between Zimbabwe and Pakistan.

Long Live Pakistan—Zimbabwe friendship.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan Vol. VII, Issue 5-6, May-June 1981, pp. 1-4.

REPLY BY PRIME MINISTER ROBERT GABRIEL MUGABE

Mr. President,
Honourable Ministers,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am honoured and privileged to be here in Pakistan on an official visit for the first time as Prime Minister of an independent Zimbabwe.

I was delighted to be able to welcome you, Mr. President, General Zia-ul-Haq at our Independence Celebrations in April last year, and to be able to hold talks with you, and I assure you that the people of Zimbabwe as a whole were deeply impressed by the significance of Pakistan's representation at Head of State level on that historic occasion. We know that the ties of friendship and solidarity established between the people of Pakistan and the people of Zimbabwe during our long and bitter struggle for freedom from racism, colonialism and exploitation are still strong but, in the context of our independence, they need to be further developed and consolidated on a government-to-government basis as well as at a people-to-people level.

I would like to remind you that in our first year as an independent state, there have been a number of exchanges and visits reinforcing and expanding the friendship and understanding which has existed from the early days of our liberation struggle.

The oppressed masses of Zimbabwe had never accepted the yoke of colonialism and racism and throughout the 90 years of oppression never lost sight of their goal of equality and self-determination. They were always cognizant of the fact that their political, social and economic aspirations were shared by peoples elsewhere in the Third World.

It was the support and encouragement from their brothers and sisters

in other countries that spurred them to victory. Pakistan ranks high among Zimbabwe's devoted friends because of the role she played in providing material and political support for our liberation struggle. My visit thus enables me to express on behalf of the people of Zimbabwe the gratitude and indebtedness they owe to the Government and People Pakistan for the alliance that bound them until final victory was achieved over imperialism and colonialism.

Turning now to the future of the special relationship between our two countries, I should like to outline areas in which our political, economic and social cooperation can be expanded. It is clear that we in Zimbabwe perceive it as our moral duty and a duty in our own interest to play an active role in the Organisation for African Unity, the United Nations, and Non-aligned Movement and thus to support the position adopted by these and other organizations. As Pakistan plays such prominent role in international affairs, it is our wish to be in constant contact with your government in all matters of international concern. In particular, we know that on the burning issue of the day in Southern Africa, that is independence for Namibia, in addition to the support for SWAPO as the sole, legitimate and authentic representative of Namibian people, our two countries are completely united in support of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435, passed in 1978.

Africa has refused to be diverted from the clear course to Namibian Independence envisaged under the United Nations plan and solicits the support of all Third World countries and the Non-aligned Movement on the Namibian question so pressures can be mounted for the implementation of the plan. We must consolidate all progressive forces in order to set the independence process in motion and nullify South Africa's intransigence and reactionary tactics.

Your Excellency, I am sure, are fully aware that South Africa whilst remaining intransigent on Namibia, is resorting to more oppressive measures in implementing her iniquitous system of apartheid as she becomes more and more aggressive against her peace-loving neighbours.

In relation to Zimbabwe, South Africa has recruited and training 5000 nationals from our country for purposes of carrying out her unprovoked acts to mask aggression and sabotage aimed at destabilising our democratic systems. The progressive world must condemn this evil strategy of South Africa.

Pakistan as a member of the Non-aligned Movement naturally shares with us an international forum whose principles we hold dear. We hold as firmly as you do that it is wrong for any one country, big or small, to interfere in the internal affairs of another for political, economic or any other reasons. We equally feel that the competitive race for arms between the two world blocs does not augur well for the future peace of mankind.

In our international policy we are also glad that our posture on

Palestine is the same as yours. We have always lent our fullest support to the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO for its legitimate struggle for the liberation of Palestine.

Equally, we support the struggle of the people of the Saharawi Republic, as led by Polisario, for the establishment of their own independent state. We shall express our unreserved stand on this matter at the forthcoming Summit of the OAU to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in June.

With reference to our relations, I should like to say that though Zimbabwe has an agricultural infrastructure, it has a lot to learn from Pakistan in the field of mining and industry. We know that the Pakistani people have made gigantic strides in various fields of technology, ranging from medicine to heavy industry.

Your Excellency,

The agreements on trade and technical cooperation signed between Pakistan and Zimbabwe after our independence are very valuable instruments for the consolidation of our relations. It is our hope that our visit to your beautiful country offers our two governments an opportunity to improve on our existing relations.

It remains for me, both in a personal capacity, and as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, to express the deepest thanks of myself and my delegation for the magnificence of our reception here in Pakistan. Your Government and people have welcomed us with warmth and enthusiasm which truly justify your national reputation for hospitality, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

May I now invite you to drink:

- to the continued friendship and solidarity between our two peoples and countries,
- to the victory of the peoples of Pakistan and Zimbabwe,
- to the good health and leadership of President Zia-ul-Haq.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. VIII, Issue 5-6, May-June 1981, pp. 5-8.

STATEMENT BY FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN ON THE WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE COLONIAL PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND EQUAL RIGHTS

May 19-25, 1981

Pakistan joins the international community in observing the Solidarity with the Peoples of Southern Africa fighting for their freedom, independence and

equal rights and reiterates its complete support for their valiant struggle against the evils of apartheid, racism and colonialism. The Government and the people of Pakistan admire courage of conviction and salute the countless martyrs who have laid down their lives so that their children could live in freedom and dignity.

Deaf to the call of reason and the persistent appeals of the international community, the Pretoria regime continues to intensify its policies of discrimination, oppression and brutality against the vast majority of the South African people. The failure of the Geneva Conference on Namibia early this year and continued disregard of the resolutions of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly addressed to it are illustrative of the obduracy of the illegal racist regime in perpetuating its oppression and control over Namibia.

The preceding year has witnessed momentous changes in the continent of Africa, foremost among them being the splendid triumph of the people of Zimbabwe after a long and arduous struggle. This development has further isolated the apartheid regime in Pretoria and a new impetus to the struggle of the freedom fighters in Namibia and Azania (South Africa).

Belief in the equality of man is a corner stone of the faith of the people of Pakistan. Racial discrimination being an anathema to Islam, we always considered it our sacred duty to provide concrete and tangible support to all those who are subjected to this evil.

On this occasion, Pakistan once again pledges to continue to give all possible moral and material support to the people of Namibia and Azania (South Africa), who are waging a determined struggle to root out the evil of apartheid and to break the shackles of colonialism. It is our firm conviction that they will inevitably succeed in realizing their noble objectives.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. VIII, Issue 5-6, May-June 1981, pp. 99-100.

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF H.E. MR. ROBERT G. MUGABE, PRIME MINISTER OF ZIMBABWE TO PAKISTAN

May 26, 1981

At the invitation of H.E. General Mohammad Zia ul Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E. Mr Robert G. Mugabe, Prime Minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe accompanied by Madame paid an official visit to Pakistan from May 23 to 26, 1981.

2. During his stay in Pakistan, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe Islamabad, visited Islamabad Wah, Tarbela and Karachi.

3. The Prime Minister and his party were given a rousing welcome by the people of Pakistan wherever they went, reflecting the warm and friendly relationship that exists between the peoples of Pakistan and Zimbabwe.

4. In Islamabad, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe held official talk with the President of Pakistan on matters of bilateral interest and important international issues. The talks took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and were marked by a close identity of views between the two sides.

5. During the talks the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe was assisted by:

- (1) H.E. Mr. H. Hshewokunze, MCC, MP, Minister of Health.
- (2) H.E. Mr. S. Sekeramayi, MCC, MP, Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development.
- (3) F.I.E. Dr. W. Mangwende MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- (4) H.E. Mr. F. Shava, MP, Minister of Manpower Planning & Development.
- (5) Maj. Gen. Josiah Tungamirai.
- (6) H.E. Mr. M. Mvenge MP, Dy. Minister of Trade and Commerce.
- (7) Mr. Shirihuru, Foreign Secretary.
- (8) Mr. A. Chidoda, Under Secretary for Eastern Europe, Far East & Asia.
- (9) Mr. M. Manzou, Desk Officer, Eastern Europe, Far East & Asia.

6. The President of Pakistan was assisted by:

- (1) Mr. Agha Shahi, Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- (2) Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Minister for Finance, Commerce, Planning and Coordination.
- (3) Mir Ali Ahmed Talpur, Minister for Defence.
- (4) Lt. Gen. Saeed Qadir, Minister for Production.
- (5) Mr. Ikram Bukhsh Soomro, Minister for Industries.
- (6) Mr. S. Shah Nawaz, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (7) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) M. Rahim Khan, Secretary General Defence.
- (9) Mr. Riaz Piracha, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (10) Mr. Ejaz A. Naik, Secretary, Economic Affairs Division.
- (11) Mr. Izharul Haq, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
- (12) Mr. S.A..Moid, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (13) Mr. M. Anwar Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan in Zimbabwe.
- (14) Mr. Muhammad Yamin, Director General (Africa), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

7. The President of Pakistan expressed his gratification at the successful culmination of the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for independence under the heroic leadership of Mr. Mugabe, and reaffirmed solidarity of the Government and the people of Zimbabwe in their endeavours to achieve greater progress and prosperity.

8. The two sides reviewed the progress of their bilateral cooperation in the light of visits of delegations of both sides over the past year. The proposals for further expansion of their cooperation in the field of agriculture, trade, industry, railways, civil aviation, education, technical training and health were examined and the two sides agreed on further measures to be taken to intensify their mutual cooperation.

9. The President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe emphasised that a just and stable world order could only be based on the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The two reiterated their commitment to the settlement of disputes through peaceful means and within the framework of the United Nations Charter.

10. The two sides reaffirmed the support of their governments for strengthening the United Nations Organisation in order to make it a more efficient instrument for the promotion of peace, cooperation, progress and security in the world.

11. The President of Pakistan apprised the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe of the developments in Afghanistan. The two leaders termed the armed intervention in Afghanistan by a foreign power a serious violation of the norms of good neighbourliness and called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan and the restoration of its independent and non-aligned status. They expressed the hope that the efforts now being undertaken by the United Nations Secretary General will lead to a solution of the Afghan crisis.

12. The Prime Minister of Zimbabwe appreciated the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to look after over 2 million Afghan refugees and emphasised the need for an international assistance programme in order to alleviate the sufferings of the Afghan refugees. The President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe expressed the hope that suitable conditions would be created to enable the Afghan nationals now seeking shelter in Pakistan to return to their homes in safety and honour.

13. The President of Pakistan informed the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe of the efforts being undertaken under the aegis of the Organization of Islamic Conference to resolve the Iran-Iraq war. Both sides expressed the hope that the conflict would be resolved so that the Governments and the peoples of both Iran and Iraq would be able to devote their efforts to reconstruction and development, in their countries.

14. The two sides reiterated their conviction that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East could only be achieved after the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories, including Jerusalem. The two sides called for the restoration of full national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and enshrined in the various resolutions of the United Nations, the Non-aligned Movement, the Islamic Conference and the OAU. The President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe condemned the nefarious designs of Israel against the sovereignty and territorial integrity

of Lebanon and expressed full solidarity with the determination of the people of Lebanon to preserve and safeguard the independent status of that country.

15. The President of Pakistan informed the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe of the steps Pakistan had taken for the normalisation of relations with India in the light of the Simla Agreement which provided for the peaceful resolution of all outstanding Indo-Pakistan disputes including that of Jammu and Kashmir.

16. The two sides expressed their total support for SWAPO, the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, in its efforts to liberate Namibia from the illegal occupation of the racist South African regime. The two leaders also called upon the South African regime to respond positively to the United Nations efforts designed to lead Namibia to genuine independence.

17. The two leaders condemned the South African regime for its racist inhuman policies of brutal suppression of the people of that country. The two leaders called upon all nations to put maximum pressure on the illegal South African regime to force it to bring to an end abhorrent apartheid system.

18. The two sides discussed the problems of international peace and security and world disarmament. They called upon the super powers which possessed weapons of mass destruction, to take immediate steps to halt and reverse their proliferation of armaments.

19. The two sides agreed that African-Asian solidarity was essential to preserve the independence of the African and Asian peoples, to ensure the liquidation of colonialism and neo-colonialism in all their forms, to realise their aspirations for peace and progress.

20. The two leaders called upon the Third World countries to pool their resources in order to derive maximum benefit from each other, attain self-reliance for their peoples and thus reduce the prosperity gap between the industrialized and the developing nations.

21. The Prime Minister of Zimbabwe expressed his sincere thanks for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during their visit in Pakistan.

22. The Prime Minister of Zimbabwe invited the President of Pakistan to pay an official visit to Zimbabwe. The invitation was accepted by the President with great pleasure. Dates of the visit will be determined by mutual consultation through diplomatic channels.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. VIII, Issue 5-6, May-June 1981, pp. 103-107.

INTERVIEW OF PRESIDENT GENERAL MOHAMMAD Zia-Ul-Haq TO NIGERIAN JOURNALISTS

January 29, 1983

Interviewer: **Mr.** President, I want to apologize for the very short notice for this interview.

President: You are most welcome. With Nigeria, we have a special relationship. So, the Nigerian Television team has preference over all my other work.

Q: Thank you very much, and I would like to register our appreciation for the assistance, friendliness and cooperation given to us by our colleagues in the Pakistani media.

A: Thank you.

Q: “Good evening, I welcome you to the special programme on the network service of Nigerian Television Authority. Tonight, we have the honour and privilege of having with us as our guest in this programme, His Excellency, the President of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq”.

Sir, I think, it would be fair to take up by asking what is the totality of benefits we shall have in the context of Pakistani-Nigerian relations?

A: I would like to begin in the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful”. Pakistan and Nigeria have enjoyed, all along, very friendly relations. From my personal experience and from the experience of others, I know, however, that there is always room for improvement in relationship and understanding when contacts are established at all levels: more so, at the highest level. And I am very grateful to His Excellency; President Shagari that he was kind enough to honour us by accepting my invitation to visit Pakistan. Although it is a very brief visit in this short span, we have been able to discover and agree that there is plenty of room for improvement of relations. We have signed a trade agreement. We have accepted, in principle, to establish a Joint Commission, and we hope that with greater economic and cultural ties, our relationship, for which there already exists a very solid ground, would grow and flourish.

Q: Mr. President, were there talks between you and the Nigerian President on the issue of assistance to Nigeria to develop and enhance nuclear energy?

A: No, we did not discuss any aspect of nuclear energy.

Q: Mr. President, we have a situation where Nigeria, as a member of

non-aligned nations, has been speaking strongly against proliferation of nuclear arms, and Pakistan has maintained the same position. But Pakistan and Nigeria have a common front, which is the United States of America, against whom the concept of non-alignment appears to be attuned. Have you been able to reconcile the views with Nigeria?

A: I think that as a very able and experienced leader of the Third World, and Nigeria being a member of the Non-Aligned Movement, President Shagari has the right perception of the role of the non-aligned. If non-aligned countries are genuinely non-aligned, then they certainly should not align themselves either against or in favour of anybody. So, it is not right, in my opinion, to assume that the Non-Aligned Movement is against the United States of America.

Q: Mr. President, would you say that, with the massive military assistance being given to you by the United States of America, you are still non-aligned?

A: Very much non-aligned. Please don't misunderstand me, but let me give you the example of our neighbour — India. India is the founder-member of the Non-Aligned Movement. It has received, at extraordinarily concessional rates, military equipment worth six billion dollars from the Soviet Union, and yet nobody has said that India is aligned with the Soviet Union. Pakistan has purchased, not at concessional rates, but at the market rates, military equipment worth about 1.5 billion dollars from the United States of America. Now, by purchasing one's defence requirements one does not get aligned, or lose its non-aligned status.

Q: May I ask, Mr. President, whether, due to the military build-up by your neighbour — India — obviously assisted by the Soviet Union, does Pakistan feel threatened in any way?

A: No, we have never thought of India's acquisition of arms on such lines. On the contrary, we would like to have a good neighbourly relationship with India, and we are steadfastly pursuing this policy. Our point of view is that, it is for India to determine the quantum of military hardware for its defence requirements. We have, therefore, never once questioned what and why India is acquiring its weapons, and from where. We would, by the same token, expect India not to object to what arms we procure for our defence. It is on this basis that we are trying for mutual understanding and trust between Pakistan and India, and respect for each other's sovereignty.

Q: But does Pakistan feel threatened by events in Afghanistan and in Iran, which are also Pakistan's neighbours?

A: Not Iran. We have excellent relations with Iran. We also had good relations with Afghanistan: but a qualitative change has been brought about in that relationship by the intervention of nearly one hundred thousand foreign

troops in Afghanistan. As a result, the situation on our western borders has been transformed, and we have become a frontline state, with a Super Power at our doorstep. After Afghanistan, it could be our turn next. We have, therefore, to view this development with concern, although the Soviets have indicated to us that they have no intention of violating the principles of inter-State relationship with Pakistan. They say they have moved into Afghanistan at the request of a friend. We have accepted this Soviet gesture of reassurance at its face value. We believe that the answer lies not in confrontation with a Super Power, but in seeking understanding with it.

Q: Mr. President, your country made a formal complaint to the United Nations about the regular violation of its air space by the Soviets and the shelling of its border towns. Just now you said, you might be the next in turn. What measures are you taking to safeguard your territorial integrity beyond the level of formal complaint to the United Nations, if this persists?

A: We have lodged a complaint not against the Soviet Union, but against Afghanistan, because it is the Afghan Air Force, even if the aircraft are flown by Russian pilots, that has been violating our air space, and the Afghan artillery has been shelling our border posts. We have, on our own part, tried to strengthen our defences; but we have not allowed ourselves to be provoked into retaliation. We believe that the problem of Afghanistan is a political problem that ought to be resolved through political means, and not through military means. We have, therefore, entered into indirect talks with Afghanistan and the Soviet Union under the auspices of the United Nations.

Q: While the Afghan resistance fighters appreciate the efforts and assistance of Pakistan in their struggle, some allege that Islamisation of their struggle seems to be the primary concern of Pakistan and not the struggle for national liberation. What would you say to that?

A: Now, correcting your statement; Pakistan is not helping or assisting the freedom-fighters in any form. They are waging the struggle, on their own, inside Afghanistan. They are fighting virtually with their bare hands; they are fighting with out-moded weapons, through their own resources from outside and, from within Afghanistan whenever the regular Army personnel have deserted and joined the freedom-fighters. What Pakistan is doing is to look after the three million or so Afghan refugees who have come from across the border to take shelter in Pakistan. With the help of the United Nations, the international agencies, the Muslim countries and others, we are trying to provide the basic necessities of life to these three million refugees till such time that they can voluntarily, with honour and dignity, return to their home and hearth. For every dollar spent on the refugees, Pakistan is contributing 50 cents. This is an enormous burden, no doubt: but we are prepared to look after Afghan refugees as long as required on humanitarian grounds and

because they are our Muslim brothers. It is, therefore, very unfair to attribute any ulterior motive to our genuine concern for their welfare.

Q: Apparently, the developed countries are still wanting to exploit the Third World nations, by controlling world market and placing tariff barriers. They have adopted a rigid attitude during the North-South dialogues. How does Pakistan view the solution to this problem?

A: The dialogue between the North and the South reached, in my opinion, its climax at the Cancun Conference, where the Third World countries were very fortunate to have been represented by some very able persons, among whom was your President, His Excellency Shehu Shagari. I will be very frank with you. While I accept that the developing countries are being exploited, I feel at the same time that we need to put our own house in order. We ought to gird up our loins first, pool our collective resources, and assist each other in the development process before we turn to the advanced countries for concessions. During our discussion with President Shagari on this subject yesterday, he was kind enough to give us his sagacious views, and his philosophy is the same that there ought to be greater cooperation, closer coordination, more collaboration amongst the developing countries before we ask anybody else to help us.

Q: Sir, what has been the success of your administration since you came to power — just a reflection of this?

A: When we took over there was a virtual civil war in the country; the economy was in a shambles; the administration had more or less crumbled. The mass agitation, that led to the loss of over 300 lives, was ostensibly against the rigging of elections, but it assumed the form of a countrywide demand for the establishment of Islamic system. So, briefly, in reply to your question, I would say that we — my colleagues and I have brought stability to the country; the economy has picked up; the production has increased manifold; instead of importing food grains as in the past, we are not only self-sufficient but also have a modest surplus for export. Above all, we have put the country on its ideological rails, and are moving steadily towards the establishment of an Islamic order on solid foundations.

Q: Mr. President, what, in your opinion, will be the duration of Martial Law in the country?

A: I have no intention of overstaying, or of perpetuating my stay. Although there is Martial Law, yet ours is a constitutional Government. We have not abrogated the Constitution. 'When the legitimacy of our Government was challenged in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the court unanimously held that it was a constitutional Government under the 'Law of Necessity'.

Q: Had the verdict been otherwise, would you have stepped down?

A: Most certainly, yes. I am a man of law. I do not consider myself above the law.

Q: Mr. President, at one time, international press painted you as a harsh leader, especially taking into consideration what happened to late Bhutto. Are you some kind of an authoritarian leader?

A: I suppose I am authoritarian in the sense that I am not an elected person. But, as I said earlier, mine is a constitutional Government. You know, there are many democratic leaders who are extremely authoritarian: and there are many authoritarian leaders who are very democratic in their approach. You will be interested to know that it was my so-called authoritarian Government that re-introduced democracy at the grass-root level after a gap of eighteen years. The so-called democratic governments, in the past, kept putting off the local bodies elections, Today, we have in Pakistan over sixty thousand elected representatives running the country's affairs from the village to the district level. All cities, all towns, all villages, are being run by local councilors elected on the basis of adult franchise, and one-man, one-vote.

As regards Mr. Bhutto's case, it must be remembered that he was charged by a citizen of Pakistan for the murder of his father. Mr. Bhutto's case was tried in the High Court of Punjab by five Judges, who unanimously gave the verdict of guilty and sentenced him to death. He filed an appeal against the High Court's Judgment before the Supreme Court of Pakistan — the highest judicial body in the country. The Supreme Court confirmed the verdict of death. He asked for the review of his case. In the review the decision of the Supreme Court was upheld, and Mr. Bhutto was sentenced for murder. Throughout this entire judicial process, we — that is my colleagues and I — never came in the picture nor did any of us ever attempt to influence the judiciary which is completely independent. I received messages from all over the world that I should use my power.

Q: To give him clemency?

A: Yes, to grant him clemency. Now, it is my firm belief— and it is enjoined by Islam — that nobody should be above the law. If a layman in the street is found guilty of murder, he is hanged: if the Head of State, the Chief Executive, or a high-up is guilty of murder, why should he be treated differently? All these years, I have never used my prerogative of granting clemency. I consider it ethically inadmissible to do so once the highest courts in the country have deliberated and passed the sentence. So, those who do not know the facts of the case, or turn a blind eye to them, claim that here was a military leader who took power from Mr. Bhutto and wanted to eliminate him, therefore, he involved him in a murder case and got him

hanged. This is a complete travesty of truth.

Q: What is Pakistan's position with regard to Iran-Iraq conflict?

A: We are for peace between Iran and Iraq. Pakistan is a member of the Islamic Peace Committee that has been trying to persuade the two to resolve the problem peacefully through dialogue and negotiations: but unfortunately, we have made no headway. Nevertheless, our efforts are continuing.

Q: Sir, I thank you very much: but, briefly, if you have any message for the Nigerian people?"

A: Yes, sir. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that is being provided to me — courtesy Nigerian Television and my friends who are sitting here. All I want to say is that the relationship that exists today between Pakistan and Nigeria is one of very close friendship. There is love for the people of Nigeria in the hearts of the people of Pakistan and, I am sure, the same is true of Nigeria. I personally would go to the extent of saying that the people of Nigeria are very fortunate in having at the helm of affairs a man who is pious, who is able, and who is experienced. I wish President Shehu Shagari, his government and the people of Nigeria all the success: our prayers' will be for the continued prosperity and progress of our brothers in Nigeria.

Interviewer: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. X, Issue 1-2, January-February 1983, pp. 22-32.

**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT
GENERAL MOHAMMAD ZIA-UL-HAQ AT THE STATE
BANQUET IN HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY ALHAJI SIR
DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF GAMBIA**

Islamabad, September 19, 1984

Bismillah Irrahman Ir -Rahim

Your Excellency President Al-Haji Sir Dawda Kairabad Jawara,
Modam Chelel Jawara,
Distinguished Members of the Gambian Delegation,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalam-o-Alaikum,

It is a great privilege for me to extend on behalf of the Government and

people of Pakistan, and on behalf of my wife and myself, a very warm and cordial welcome to you, Madame Chelel Jawara and to the distinguished members of your delegation. We are indeed honoured to receive in Pakistan a personality of your eminence and distinction. I am confident that, during your stay, Your Excellency will witness the affection and esteem which the people of Pakistan have for their brethren in Gambia to whom they are bound by the abiding ties of our common faith, Islamic values and shared aspirations.

Excellency,

We, in Pakistan, view with great admiration the remarkable achievements of the brotherly people of Gambia under your able and benign leadership. For nearly two decades, now, you have steered the destiny of Gambia through selfless service and sacrifice. Your vision and foresight have attained for your country a status in the comity of nations, which is worthy of respect and pride. At the same time through your devotion and dedication, you have made a signal contribution to the African struggle against the forces of oppression and colonialism. It is a tribute to your manifold qualities as well as your profound commitment to the welfare of the Muslim Ummah that you have been entrusted with the high responsibility of the chairmanship of the Islamic Peace Committee. It is our good fortune to have a person of your outstanding stature and acumen to guide the proceeding of this Committee.

Mr. President,

Pakistan and Gambia are both developing countries. We are bound together by a common spiritual and cultural heritage and have waged similar struggles against colonial domination. We both adhere to policies of non-alignment and believe in Third World solidarity. It is, therefore, natural that there should be close co-ordination and an ever-growing friendship between Pakistan and Gambia. I am sanguine in the belief that your present visit to Pakistan will open a new chapter in the further development of relations between our two countries. In our talks today we have already reached a wide measure of understanding on the ways and means of imparting yet greater substance and depth to our bilateral ties for the mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Excellency,

The continuing fratricidal conflict between Iran and Iraq which has drained the precious human and material resources of our two brotherly states remains a matter of deep anguish and concern not only to the people of Pakistan but to the entire Muslim Ummah. We have spared no efforts to facilitate the cessation of hostilities and have participated in and extended full support to all initiatives, including those of the Islamic Conference, the Non-aligned Movement and the United Nations, to bring this tragic war to a speedy end. It is our earnest hope that it would be possible for the Islamic

Peace Committee, with your able guidance, to achieve this noble objective. I pray to Allah Almighty to bless our endeavours with success.

Excellency,

We admire your untiring efforts for the total liberation of Africa from all vestiges of colonialism, racism and the abominable system of apartheid. We greatly admire your contribution in strengthening unity among African nations.

From its inception, Pakistan has had a deep and abiding interest in the continent of Africa. We have always rendered our unreserved support to the African people in their liberation struggle. We have rejoiced in their successes against colonial domination. We wish and pray that those who are striving now for their independence and freedom will emerge victorious. And in this context, I would like to reiterate our commitment of moral and political support for the people of Namibia and South Africa.

Africa has been endowed with rich natural resources which must be harnessed for the benefit and prosperity of its own peoples. Africa's strength contributes directly to that of the Third World and turmoil or rivalry in that continent causes deep concern to the rest of the developing world. We fully share the OAU's cardinal principle of the inviolability of national frontiers and the right of all peoples to self-determination.

Excellency,

In our own region, Afghanistan continues to be a victim of foreign military occupation for nearly five years. As a neighbouring country with a long common border, we have had to bear some of the consequences of the conflagration next door. A quarter of the population of Afghanistan has been forced to leave their homes and nearly three million of them have sought refuge on our soil, making Pakistan the host to the single largest concentration of refugees anywhere in the world. To provide humanitarian assistance to this large number of homeless persons is a daunting task which we have been carrying out with the co-operation of the international community. But the care and maintenance of the refugees alone does not constitute a solution of the problem. It remains our endeavour to seek a settlement which will ensure the withdrawal of foreign troops, the return of the Afghan refugees, and the respect of the right of the Afghan people to choose their own way of life and their own form of Government. Towards this end, we will continue to lend our full support to the efforts of the UN Secretary General and his personal Representative.

Mr. President,

The situation in the Middle East continues to be cause of deep concern. Both Gambia and Pakistan fully support the cause of the Palestinian people. We

believe that a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East can only be achieved through the total vacation of Israeli occupation of all Arab and Palestinian territories including the Holy City of Jerusalem, the dismantling of all Israeli settlements, the exercise by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination and a state of their own.

Excellency,

For the past few years the international economic system has been incessantly jarred by the crises of recession, inflation and mounting protectionism with deleterious consequences for the developing countries. It is a cause of profound concern that the international community has not been able to arrive at a solution to the problems afflicting all nations, rich or poor, and there is continued resistance to all endeavours for seeking structural adjustments in the system or for the adoption of urgent remedial measures required to ameliorate the economic conditions prevailing in the developing countries. The near breakdown in the international financing system is either driving the developing countries towards bankruptcy and default or is forcing them into excruciating debt liabilities from which they cannot recover. It is our earnest hope that all states, given the inter-dependence of the present day world, would sincerely and seriously take speedy and decisive action to remove the existing inequalities, and jointly work for creating a just international economic order.

Excellency,

Allow me once again to say that we are extremely happy to have you with us. I feel confident that your visit is going to contribute greatly to our friendship and co-operation. We welcome this opportunity to have a most fruitful exchange of views on our bilateral relations and on international issues of interest to Gambia and Pakistan.

With these words, I once again sincerely welcome our distinguished guests, and request you, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, to join me into a toast:

- . To the health and personal well-being of our brother President Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara;
- . To the health and happiness of Lady Chilel Jawara;
- . To the health and happiness of the members of the distinguished Gambian delegation, and all those present here tonight;
- . To the prosperity and progress of the people of Gambia; and
- . To the ever-growing friendship between Gambia and Pakistan.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XI, Issue 9-10, September-October, 1984, pp. 9-13.

**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT GENERAL MOHAMMAD ZIA-UL HAQ
AT THE BANQUET IN HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY ALHAJI
SIR DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA,
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF GAMIBA**

March 21, 1988

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds. Blessings and peace, be upon the Seal (i.e. the last) of the Prophets.

Your Excellency, Al.Haji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara,
Respected Lady Jawara,

Your Excellency Mr. Mohammad Khan Junejo,
Prime Minister of Pakistan,
Distinguished Members of the Gambian Delegation, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Assalam-o-Alaikum!

It is a great privilege for me to welcome the President of Gambia, Lady Jawara and distinguished members of their delegation to Pakistan. We have been looking forward to this occasion for the last four years. I vividly recall the pleasant and happy memories of your 1984 visit to Pakistan. We consider this second visit a special honour which provides us with a unique opportunity to review our bilateral relations and also to benefit from your wisdom, experience and deep knowledge of regional and international issues. I am confident that as in the earlier case this visit too would prove to be fruitful and of lasting value.

Excellency,

You have come to Pakistan at a very auspicious time. The month of March ushers spring in our country. It is also during this month that an important event, the National Day of Pakistan, is celebrated in our country with great enthusiasm and fervour. The highlight of this day is the joint parade of our armed forces in which we will have the honour of your participation this year. This is a manifestation of your abiding love and friendship for which we are grateful to you.

Dear Brother,

The bonds that tie our two brotherly people are manifold. Our allegiance to the common faith of Islam shapes the very fabric of our life. Our common struggle against the forces of colonialism, our commitment to an equitable

world free of any form of exploitation, and our resolve to meet the challenges of the contemporary world serve as a sound foundation on which to build the edifice of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. It is a matter of great satisfaction for me that our bilateral relations have been greatly strengthened in the last few years and your present visit would prove to be another mile-stone in this direction, Insha Allah.

We are fully aware of the economic, social, scientific and technical progress made by Gambia, which has been fortunate to have a wise, far-sighted and highly astute leader in the person of Your Excellency for the last quarter of a century. I would like to felicitate the people and Government of Gambia for the notable progress that they have achieved under your inspiring leadership.

Excellency,

It would be no exaggeration for me to say that it is not Gambia alone which has benefited from your sagacity and wisdom. The deep interest taken by you in the struggle of the African people for freedom from racial discrimination is a shining example in the annals of African history. We fully share your abhorrence and deep indignation at the continuing state of racial discrimination and apartheid in South Africa. We are also in complete accord with your worthy endeavours for the independence of Namibia. We will continue to play our role in international efforts to dismantle the cruel and unjust system which the Pretoria regime has forcibly imposed on its people. The valiant struggle of the African people is not only of vital importance to Gambia but also a matter of the greatest concern to us. We would march shoulder to shoulder with you in this just struggle till final victory is achieved.

Excellency,

Besides your contribution to the cause of freedom in Africa, you have also played a very distinguished and positive role for the cause of Islamic unity for which you must be congratulated. It is precisely for this reason that the Islamic Ummah when confronted with the need for the services of a mature, far-sighted and respected leader, in its endeavours to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war, turned to Your Excellency. The efforts being made by you to fulfil this highly sensitive and onerous task are well recognised and appreciated by the entire Muslim world.

Excellency

It is a matter of great concern that despite your personal initiatives and the combined efforts of the Ummah Peace Committee the war between Iran and Iraq continues unabated. In fact it has recently intensified to an alarming extent. However, the situation is not entirely hopeless. In my view the Muslim Ummah should accept this new challenge, as intensification of the war has highlighted more than ever before the urgency for peace. I hope that under

your leadership renewed efforts would be undertaken at an early date to bring an end to this fratricidal conflict.

Dear Brother,

Afghanistan is another issue of great concern to the Islamic world. You are fully aware of the background to this problem and the present situation which prevails in that country. Efforts which have been going on for the last six years to find a political solution to this issue are now nearing fruition. We are hopeful that the Geneva negotiations would lead to a comprehensive solution of this issue and end the bloodshed through the withdrawal of foreign troops and by creating conditions which will allow 3 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan to return to their homes in safety and honour.

Like Afghanistan the situation in the Middle East is also a cause of great anguish not only to us but also to you and indeed to the entire Islamic world.

The recent uprising in the occupied territory has demonstrated beyond any doubt that a patriotic and courageous people cannot be suppressed by brute force. We believe that lasting peace in the Middle East can only be achieved if the PLO which is the sole representative of the Palestinian people is allowed to play its rightful role in the establishment of an independent state, the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are accepted and a policy of occupation through force is abandoned.

Excellency,

Keeping in view the time at our disposal I have only touched upon a few important issues but would take this opportunity to once again welcome you to Pakistan in the firm belief that your visit would bring the people of Gambia and Pakistan closer to each other by increasing collaboration in the political, economic cultural and technical fields between our two countries.

With these words, ladies and gentlemen, I would request you to join me in our heartfelt prayers for:

- the long life, health and happiness of our brother, President Jawara and of Lady Chilel Juwara.
- the continued progress and prosperity of the Gambian people; and
- the everlasting friendship between the brotherly people of Gambia and Pakistan.

Long live Pakistan—Gambia Friendship.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XV, Issue 3-4, March-April, 1988, pp. 12-18.

**EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH BY PRESIDENT DAWADA
JAWARA OF GAMBIA AT THE BANQUET HOSTED BY
PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD ZIA-UL-HAQ**

Islamabad, March 21, 1988

The President of the Republic of Gambia, M-Haji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, expressed the hope that the Current Geneva talks would lead to a successful conclusion paving the way for withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan to relieve Pakistan of the burden and worries that it was facing due to this war.

President Jawara said that Pakistan was directly affected by the Afghan war which was the outcome of Soviet intervention in that country.

He said Pakistan had faced many difficulties and was under great burden due to the presence of a large number of refugees on its soil who were forced to seek shelter here. He lauded Pakistan's consistent stand on the issue. He said the efforts to end the war to enable the refugees to return to their home were continuing which he hoped would prove successful.

The visiting Head of the State was confident that the Soviet troops would leave Afghanistan in a manner which would not cause any more difficulties for Pakistan. He said the withdrawal would end the bloodshed in Afghanistan and the country would be left in a good shape.

(*Pakistan Times* (Islamabad), 22 March 1988), *Foreign Affairs Pakistan*, Vol. XV, Issue 3-4, March-April, 1988, p. 19.

**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT GHULAM ISHAQ KHAN AT THE
BANQUET IN HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY
GENERAL OMER HASSAN AHMED EL-BESHIR, PRESIDENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN**

November 16, 1990

Your Excellency General Omer Hassan Ahmed El-Beshir,
President of the Republic of Sudan,
Distinguished members of the Sudanese Delegation,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen
Assalam-o-Alaikum

It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Government and the people of Pakistan and on my own behalf, to welcome most warmly in our midst H. E.

General Omer Hassan Ahmed El-Beshir, the President of the Republic of Sudan and the distinguished members of his delegation.

Mr. President,

It is a unique privilege for me to greet you today because this is the first-ever official bilateral visit to Pakistan by any Head of State or Head of Government of Sudan. Your visit has provided us with the long awaited opportunity to demonstrate the affection and high regard which the people of Pakistan have for you and for the brotherly people of Sudan. Our only regret, and it is a profound one at that, is that your stay with us is going to be so brief.

Mr. President

You are no stranger to Pakistan. You came here in 1974 as a young Army Officer to attend the Infantry Commander's Course in Quetta. Surely you are well acquainted with Pakistan's history, the nature and character of our people, their hopes and aspirations for the unity and solidarity of the Islamic Ummah and their warm sentiments for the brotherly people of Sudan. In a world full of changes, none of this has changed.

Mr. President,

The ties between Pakistan and Sudan are very close and of a fraternal nature. These are rooted in a common Islamic heritage and hence a shared ideology, history and culture. These ties have been nourished and strengthened by the sympathy and support extended by our two peoples and countries to each other in defence of their vital national interests.

Mr. President,

Pakistan is grateful to Sudan for the consistent and strong support extended by it to the cause of the Afghan people and for the restoration of the independent and Islamic character of their country. We are equally grateful to Sudan for the principled and forthright stand adopted by it in favour of a solution of the Kashmir problem in accordance with UN Resolutions. Such a clear pronouncement by Sudan is undoubtedly cherished by the people of Kashmir in their present hour of trial in the most adverse circumstances.

For its part, Pakistan has always had a deep interest in the preservation and consolidation of Sudan's independence and territorial integrity. We commend the sincere and noble endeavours of President El-Beshir and his Government to promote national reconciliation, unity and cohesion. Pakistan condemns all external interference aimed at subverting Sudan's unity because ultimately it is directed at weakening the entire Islamic Ummah.

Mr. President,

The peoples of Pakistan and Sudan share common interests and objectives in aspiring for rapid economic and social development and a peaceful external environment. Such a convergence provides the basis for our close understanding and co-operation both on the bilateral as well as the international plane.

Mt. President,

We are confident that your visit will give a new depth to the existing close brotherly relations between Pakistan and Sudan. This would indeed be the fulfillment of the natural desire of our two countries and peoples.

May I now request you, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen to join me in offering a toast to the long life, health and happiness of His Excellency General Omer Hassan Ahmed El-Beshir, President of the Republic of Sudan;

- the health and happiness of all the distinguished members of the Sudanese delegation;
- the progress and prosperity of the Republic of Sudan and the well-being of its people; the strengthening and consolidation of the fraternal bonds between the peoples of Pakistan and Sudan.

Pakistan-Sudan Friendship Zindabad.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XVII, Issue 11-12, November-December 1990, pp. 1-3.

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON THE CONCLUSION OF OFFICIAL VISIT TO PAKISTAN BY THE PRESIDENT OF SUDAN

November 17, 1990

At the invitation of the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan His Excellency Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the President of the Republic of Sudan, His Excellency General Omer Hassan Ahmed El-Bashir paid an official visit to Pakistan on November 16-17, 1990. The President of the Republic of Sudan was accorded a most warm and cordial welcome, befitting the leader of a brotherly Muslim country bound to Pakistan by close ties of faith, culture and history.

The President of the Republic of Sudan was accompanied by a high level delegation which included H. E. Mr. Ali Ahmed Shaloul, Minister for Foreign Affairs, H. E. Mr. Abdel Rahim Mahmoud Hamdi, Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, H. E. Dr. Awad Ahmed Al Jaz, Minister of Commerce, Cooperation and Supply, H. E. Major General (PSC) Osman Mohamed Al Hassan, Minister of State for Defence, H. E. Mr. Ahmed Abdul Hali, Adviser for Social Affairs, H. E. Mr. Yousif Saeed, Political Adviser to

the President. H. E. Mr. Al Sadeq Bakheit, Press Adviser to the President, H. E. Mr. Hassan Osman Rizig, Under Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Mr. Salih Mashamoun, Acting Director Asia Department. Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During his stay in Islamabad, President Omer El-Beshir had a meeting with President Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan who hosted a dinner in his honour. He also held talks with Prime Minister of Pakistan, His Excellency Mr. Nawaz Sharif whom he congratulated on the assumption of the Office of the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic Pakistan following a fair, free and impartial election. In these talks the Prime Minister was assisted, among others, by H. E. Malik Mohammad Naeem Khan, Minister for Commerce, H. E. Lt. Gen. (Retd) Abdul Majid Malik, Minister for Food and Agriculture and H. E. Sayed Ijlal Haider Zaidi, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Defence, Senator, Qazi Hussain Ahmed and Senator Khurshid Ahmed.

The talks between the leaders of the two countries were held in atmosphere of cordiality and complete understanding. They reviewed bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

On bilateral relations, the two leaders reiterated their determination to promote and strengthen them further in different fields. It was to establish a Joint Ministerial Commission in order to impart more depth and substance to mutual co-operation in political, economic trade and cultural fields. Existing bilateral Agreements in this regard will be reactivated.

President Omer El-Beshir apprised the Pakistani leaders of the determined and sincere efforts of his Government to promote national unity and cohesion in Sudan through dialogue and peaceful means. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif praised these sagacious and constructive policies and reiterated Pakistan's condemnation of all foreign interference in Sudan's internal affairs.

The Pakistani leaders apprised the President of Sudan of the explosive situation in occupied Kashmir as a result of unabated Indian repression against the people of Kashmir who are engaged in a heroic struggle to secure their right of self-determination. The two sides emphasised the urgent need to ensure respect for the basic human right of the Kashmiri people. They further reiterated their Government position that the problem of Kashmir should be solved peacefully on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions.

Reviewing the situation in Afghanistan, the two leaders affirmed their belief that only the establishment of a truly representative broad-based government, without any foreign interference could ensure the restoration of peace and tranquility in that country and enable the millions of Afghan refugees to return to their homeland. They expressed their support for the efforts of the Afghan people to that end.

The two leaders expressed their profound concern at the continuing grave crisis in the Gulf. They stressed the need for an early peaceful solution of the crisis in the best interest of the Islamic Ummah.

The two leaders also expressed their deep concern at the recent intensification of repression in occupied Palestine by Israel. They urged heightened vigilance and concrete measures by the international community to prevent Israel from exploiting the Gulf crisis for indulging in further violence and aggression against the Palestinian people. They reiterated their demand for a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem on the basis of Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories and restoration of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine including their right to statehood.

Taking cognizance of the recent changes on the global scene and their implications for Pakistan and Sudan, the two leaders expressed their resolve to impart more strength and vitality to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to safeguard and promote the vital interests of the Islamic Ummah.

President Omer El-Beshir expressed his profound thanks for the cordial and brotherly welcome accorded to him by the Government and the people of Pakistan. He extended invitations to Their Excellencies President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to visit Sudan at mutually convenient dates. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

This Press Statement had been issued simultaneously in Islamabad and Khartoum on 17th November, 1990.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XVII, Issue 11-12, November-December 1990, pp. 176-179.

REPORT ON A CALL ON CHAIRMAN PAKISTAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL BY THE VISITING FOREIGN MINISTER OF NIGER

Islamabad: August 16, 1996.

On August 16, Foreign Minister of Niger Andre Salifou called on Chairman, PARC at PARC headquarters and showed his keen interest in agricultural research, modern farming and irrigation system.

He highlighted the problem of desertification in Niger and pointed out cultural inhibition in developing of underground water resources in his country. He wished to incorporate cooperation in agricultural research training and sharing of Pakistani expertise in the proposed Joint Ministerial Committee likely to be constituted in near future.

Earlier Dr C M Anwar Khan Chairman PARC welcomed the distinguished Foreign Minister of Niger and briefed about the institutional networking, national & international cooperation the richness of scientific

talents in all sub sectors of agriculture, *inter alia*, Crops, Natural Resources, Livestock Social Sciences and Agricultural Communication.

He shared the latest experience of technology transfer to small farmers through PARC's innovative model, popularly called PARL (Pilot Area Real Life), whereby rural communities are being organised and professional scientists interface along with facilitating the availability of new technologies and inputs. The Chairman introduced a strong programme envisaged in the Pakistan Agriculture Services Academy and its Training Institute, whereby, friendly countries of OIC can take full advantage of upgrading the skills and imparting specific training through well structured courses at relatively low cost compared the western institutes.

Andre Salifou was pleased to learn that quite many scientists of PARC have had higher education in French and visiting scientists/managers from Niger shall have no difficulty in sharing Pakistani knowledge and technologies.

In line with the policy of the Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto, already elaborated in the OIC Contact Group conference, the Chairman, PARC assured all possible scientific and technical support to institutionalize and strengthen the agricultural research and modern farming in Niger. Mr. Salifou admired the integrated and networking approach of the PARC and evinced keen interest in developing close collaboration between Niger and PARC. He indicated that he would ensure that these areas are incorporated while identifying the areas of cooperation for Joint Ministerial Commission of Pakistan and Niger.

(Source: A press release of PARC).

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIII, Issue 8, August 1996, pp. 215-216.

STATE VISIT BY PRESIDENT FAROOQ AHMED KHAN LEGHARI TO UGANDA (10-13 SEPTEMBER 1996)

President Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari paid a State visit to Uganda from September 10-13. He was accompanied by several senior officials and leading businessmen of the country. The President's welcome in Uganda was exceptionally warm and spontaneous.

I. Bilateral Talks

On September 11, President Farooq Ahmed Leghari and President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda held formal talks focusing on important regional and international issues including the grave situation in Indian-held Kashmir which threatens peace and security in South Asia.

The main thrust of the high-level talks during the first visit to Pakistan's Head of State to Uganda was on economic cooperation for which

prospects have improved greatly in the wake of political stability and far-reaching economic reforms in both countries and the revival of East Africa Economic Unity.

President Leghari briefed the Ugandan President on the latest developments in Occupied Kashmir as well as other issues of regional and international importance.

The Government of Pakistan promised to assist and facilitate private sector initiative through credit facilities for industrial projects, especially in the building of cement and sugar plants, support of light engineering equipment and in the setting up of textile industries.

On regional issues, the two Presidents stressed that peace and stability were corner stone for economic development and called upon all actors in the African region to support efforts designed to promote peace and stability. The two Presidents expressed their satisfaction over recent moves towards regional integration among East African states and appreciated progress made by COMESA in promoting inter African trade.

The two leaders discussed questions relating to peace and security in South Asia Region. In this context, the President of Pakistan briefed the President of Uganda on situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The President of Uganda expressed his ardent hope that a peaceful political solution could be found to the conflict.

The two Presidents in a warm and cordial atmosphere exchanged views on a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern and interested.

President Leghari commended the NRM Government for its achievements in the economic development of Uganda and for restoring peace and democracy in the country. On his part President Museveni applauded the incumbent government of Pakistan for its achievements in bringing about rapid industrialisation and promoting peace and unity in the country.

He spoke of the friendly ties and cooperation that exist between the two countries.

He referred to the visit of Uganda Vice-President to Pakistan in March this year and said she had talks with Pakistani leaders on ways and means of further expanding trade and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

President Leghari said his visit underlines the desire of Pakistan to invigorate the traditionally friendly ties with Uganda both of whom are members of the Commonwealth and Islamic Conference.

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda said that Pakistan and Uganda were “very close friends enjoying strong bilateral relations”.

II. Press Talk

After formal talks with President of Uganda Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President Leghari told newsmen that he had told Indian leaders during his visit to New Delhi last year for SAARC Summit to resolve the Kashmir issue peacefully. "We cannot afford an arms race in our region in missiles as both Pakistan and India have capability to do that," he stressed.

Meanwhile, Pakistan offered to train armed forces personnel of Uganda and also to sell its defence equipment including the 'Mashak', light trainer aircraft.

President Farooq Leghari said this while talking to newsmen after talks with President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni at Uganda International Conference Centre here. President Museveni was also present on the occasion. Pakistan had earlier trained some personnel of Uganda armed forces.

He invited President Museveni to visit to Pakistan during the Islamic Summit to be held in Islamabad on March 23 1997 on the occasion of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Pakistan's Independence or at a time convenient to him.

President Farooq Leghari while expressing satisfaction on the talks said that there are many areas in which experts of both sides can sit and identify cooperation in human resources development, infrastructure development and agricultural research. Pakistan can assist Uganda in cultivation of mangoes and citrus fruits.

He said both countries have common history and have struggled against colonialism. Both countries since achieving independence strive for progress of their people, he added and said Pakistan believes that the Third World countries were being discriminated and calls for economic freedom and level playing field as it was necessary for an effective cooperation.

The President said; "We wish quantum jump in our economic ties and meaningful research." During the visit of Uganda Vice-President and later the Agriculture Minister to Pakistan, the two sides identified some areas for cooperation which are being followed up.

He said there was scope for cooperation between the two countries in farming which is in private sector in Pakistan. He said there has been massive private sector investment in Pakistan in last two and a half years. He felt there was good scope for cooperation between the private sector of both countries. Pakistani private sector's representatives who were accompanying the President held separate talks with their counterparts in this connection. Later, the two Presidents left by road on one-day visit to Mweya Safari lodge.

Signing of Agreements

After extensive talks between the two Presidents and among officials and the

private sector, following agreements were signed on September 13:

- i) A Treaty on Bilateral Economic and Technical Cooperation.
- ii) Memorandum of Understanding to establish a Business Forum.
- iii) Agreement on Cooperation between the respective Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- iv) Exchange of Instruments of Ratification for an Agreement of Cultural Cooperation.

A comprehensive document of Agreed Minutes spelled out details of future cooperation which focuses on the following:

- a) Exchange of expertise in agricultural research, fruit farming and food processing.
- b) Provision of technical assistance and manpower by Pakistan in the fields of education, especially vocational training, health and human resource development.
- c) The two sides agreed to explore possibilities of joint ventures in the pharmaceutical industry, assembly of tractors and motor vehicles, auto spare parts and light engineering industries.
- d) Extensive steps were announced to promote trade focusing on exhibitions and establishment of ware-houses by Pakistan in Uganda.
- e) Pakistan agreed to transfer appropriate technology to Uganda in small scale industries, agro-processing, leather and metal products.
- f) Pakistan promised to consider favourably requests for placements and scholarship for Ugandan students.

Answering question from the local newsmen after signing of agreements at the Uganda International Conference Centre, the President said that India had already exploded nuclear device and posed serious threat to Pakistan's security.

He said that Pakistan had bitter experience of Indian armed might because India had dismembered Pakistan into two creating Bangladesh through the brute force of its army which is seven times bigger than that of Pakistan.

He said although Pakistan was capable to produce nuclear devices it has not done so nor intended to do so. "We have a peaceful nuclear programme and did not believe in production of weapons of mass destruction."

To a question President Farooq Leghari said Pakistan would not sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) unless India does. Pakistan played important role in Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the CTBT but it wanted that all the countries of the world should sign it and there should be no exceptions.

He categorically denied that there were training camps operating in Pakistan to impart training to freedom fighters and stated that it did not believe in interfering in the internal affairs of other countries.

“We want a peaceful solution of Kashmir and in this regard we are pursuing all peaceful means and forums for the early and peaceful resolution of one of the oldest issues on UN agenda,” he said.

President Farooq Leghari told a questioner that Pakistan wished peace should return to Afghanistan, a brotherly neighbouring country where existed no central Government, but several groups and warlords were ruling that country. He said that every group in the beleaguered country wants Pakistan to help it but we have clearly told them that Pakistan would not be a party in their internal fighting.

He said that Pakistan resolutely supported the people of Afghanistan when Soviet Union invaded in 1979 and the people resisted this foreign aggression tooth and nail and finally forced the super power for an ignominious retreat which finally resulted in the disintegration of Soviet Union.

He said that Pakistan has played host to more than three million Afghan refugees of which 1.6 million are still enjoying Pakistan’s hospitality. We want them to go back home honourably relieving Pakistan of the great economic burden it is going through for feeding the brotherly people.

He said Pakistan supports UN efforts for bringing peace in Afghanistan and is ready to work with other countries of the world.

During his stay in Uganda, President Leghari visited Sembule Steel Mills, Mukwano Soap Factory and Ntinda Fish Factory. He also took an upcountry trip to Mweya Safari Lodge. President Farooq Leghari thanked President Museveni, the Government and the people of Uganda for the welcome and warm hospitality accorded to him and to members of his delegation during their stay in the country.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIII, Issue 9, September 1996, pp. 3-8.

TEXT OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT END OF PRESIDENT FAROOQ AHMAD LEGHARI’S STATE VISIT TO UGANDA (10-13 SEPTEMBER, 1996)

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Farooq Ahmad Leghari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, paid a state visit to Uganda from 10 to 13 September, 1996. President Leghari was accompanied by his wife and by several Ministers and high ranking government officials.

2. During his stay in Uganda, President Leghari visited Sembule Steel

Mills, Mukwano Soap Factory and Ntinda Fish Factory. He also took an upcountry trip to Mweya Safari Lodge.

3. In a warm and cordial atmosphere, the two Presidents exchanged views on a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern and interest.

4. President Leghari commended the NRM government for its achievements in the economic development of Uganda and for restoring peace and democracy in the country. On his part, President Museveni applauded the current government of Pakistan for its achievement in brining about rapid industrialization and promoting peace and unity in the country.

5. The two Presidents expressed satisfaction with the existing relations between the two countries and affirmed their determination to further strengthen this relationship by expanding cooperation in all possible fields for mutual advantage. President Museveni welcomed the recent opening of a resident Diplomatic Mission in Uganda by Pakistan as well as a proposal to hold an exhibition of Pakistan goods in Kampala before the end of this year.

6. In furtherance of these objectives, the two Presidents agreed to support cooperation in agricultural research, fruit farming and food processing.

7. The two Presidents witnessed the signing of an agreement of economic and technical cooperation as well as the exchange of instruments of ratification for an agreement of cultural cooperation between countries.

8. The Government of Pakistan promised to assist and facilitate private sector initiatives through credit facilities for industrial projects, especially in the building of cement and sugar plants, the supply of light engineering equipment and in the setting up of textile industries.

9. On regional issues, the two President stressed that peace and stability were the corner stone for economic development and called actors in the African region to support efforts designed to promote peace stability.

10. The two Presidents expressed their satisfaction over recent moves towards regional integration among East African states and appreciated progress made by COMESA in promoting inter-African trade.

11. The two leaders discussed questions relating to peace and security in the South Asian region. In this context, the President of Pakistan briefed the President of Uganda on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. President of Uganda expressed his ardent hope that a peaceful solution could be found to the conflict.

12. His Excellency President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari thanked President Museveni, the government and the people of Uganda for the welcome and warm hospitality accorded to him and to members of his delegation during their stay in the country.

13. President Leghari extended an invitation to President Museveni to pay a return visit to Pakistan. President Museveni gladly accepted. The dates

will be determined through diplomatic channels.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIII, Issue 9, September 1996, pp. 280-281.

VISIT OF SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO PAKISTAN ON 11-14 JUNE, 1997

Mr. Alfred B. Nzo, Foreign Minister of South Africa paid a four-day official visit to Pakistan from 11 - 14 June, 1997. It was the first bilateral visit at the Foreign Minister's level from South Africa since Nelson Mandela came into power in May, 1994.

There is a great potential for development of bilateral relations in the fields of Economy, Commerce, Defence Equipment and Development of Mineral Resources. Mr. Nzo signed a Declaration of Intent on Inter State Relations and a Letter of Intent on Cooperation in the Fields of Arts & Culture during his stay. He also held bilateral talks with the Foreign Minister and paid courtesy calls on the President, the Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce. He also addressed a select gathering of opinion makers at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad on 13 June, 1997.

I. Call on President

Talking to South African Foreign Minister Alfred B Nzo, who called on him at the Aiwan-e-Sadar, President Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari said: "We want tension free and good neighborly relations with India. But this could only be possible if the core issue of Kashmir, which bedeviled relations between the two countries, is resolved in a peaceful manner and in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

The President expressed concern over the deployment of Prithvi missiles by India and said: "The Indian action would trigger an arms race in the region." He also talked about massive human rights violations being committed by the Indian security forces in occupied Kashmir.

Commenting on Afghanistan, President Leghari emphasised Pakistan's strong commitment to peace and stability in that country. He said Pakistan supports peace efforts under the UN umbrella and the OIC based on participation of all the parties concerned.

The President stressed the need for expansion of trade and economic relations between the Pakistan and South Africa.

He said Pakistan was a major window of opportunity to the resource rich Central Asian countries and invited entrepreneurs from South Africa to take advantage of the enormous potential, which the region offered, through joint ventures with Pakistan.

Mr. Alfred B Nzo expressed the hope that exchange of visits would

strengthen relations between the two countries.

He said South Africa wanted Pakistan and India to resolve their issues through peaceful manners.

II. Call on Prime Minister

On June 12, the visiting foreign minister called on Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif at the Prime Minister's House.

During the meeting they exchanged views on matters of mutual interests, with special reference to expansion of economic relations, between the two countries.

The Prime Minister underlined the need for enhancing bilateral cooperation in economic and commercial fields and called for more frequent exchange of visits of the businessmen and entrepreneur of Pakistan and South Africa.

The Prime Minister described the South African President Nelson Mandela as a great champion of freedom and democracy.

He also lauded his role during the freedom struggle. The Prime Minister said that he was eagerly looking forward to President Mandela's visit to Pakistan.

The Prime Minister also briefed the foreign minister of South Africa on the policies and priorities adopted by his government, for the welfare of the people and the country.

South African Foreign Minister conveyed the greetings of President Mandela to the Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif.

III. Call on Minister for Commerce

Later the visiting delegation from South Africa, headed by its foreign minister, Alfred B Nzo, called on minister for commerce and industries, Muhammad Ishaq Dar, and discussed matters relating to the expansion of trade and investment relations between the two countries.

Mr. Dar apprised the South African foreign minister of the tremendous scope for the promotion of business relations between the two countries, particularly in the private sector. "I have no doubt that the quantum of bilateral trade will increase substantially provided we encourage frequent exchange of trade delegations," he said.

The visiting foreign minister assured to extend maximum facilities to the Pakistani business community to bring the private sectors of both the countries together for the promotion of trade.

The High Commissioner of South Africa to Pakistan, the secretary for commerce, and senior officials of the ministry of foreign affairs were also present on the occasion.

IV. Signing of Agreements

Two agreements to develop relations between the foreign ministries of Pakistan and South Africa and enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of arts and culture were also signed during the visit. Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan and his South African counterpart signed the agreements for and on behalf of their countries.

V. Press Conference

Addressing a press conference at the Foreign Office on June 12, on conclusion of his visit South African Foreign Minister Alfred B. Nzo said his country supports resolution of Kashmir issue in line with the United Nations resolutions.

He said, "we support these resolutions aimed at resolving the Kashmir issue." However, he stressed the need for dialogue between Pakistan and India to resolve all problems, including Kashmir.

He said during the talks, they covered a wide range of areas to increase trade and other relations and said there was vast potential to increase trade. He emphasised the need for encouraging the private sector of the two countries.

The South African Foreign Minister said President Nelson Mandela will be visiting Pakistan for which dates would be worked out. He extended his country's support to Pakistan to become a member of Indian Ocean Rim.

"We can say safely that the relations between Pakistan and South Africa are growing and there is still much potential for them to grow."

He said the bilateral trade between the two countries stood at 130 million US dollars last year which was very low in 1992.

He said he had also discussed working of Non-Aligned Movement and possibility of increase in the permanent members of UN Security Council.

About cooperation between Pretoria and Islamabad in defence field, he said: "I am taking certain requests to South Africa in this regard." He said Pretoria has set up a cabinet committee which look into such cases.

He said Pretoria has linked arms sale with the situation of human rights in that country.

Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub, also present at the press conference, said during the talks Pakistan identified tremendous potential of South African investment in Pakistan through participation in privatization of various projects as well as new investments. They also exchanged views on cooperation in defence industries and Pakistan requested for PIA flights to Johannesburg.

He said he briefed his counterpart about the ongoing talks with India to resolve the core issue of Kashmir. He expressed the hope that Pretoria

would support Islamabad's inclusion into Association of Indian Ocean Rim.

He said South African President Nelson Mandela's visit would further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries. "We were amongst the first countries which recognized South Africa.", the Foreign Minister remarked.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIV, Issue 6, June 1997, pp. 145-149.

EXCERPTS FROM AN INTERVIEW OF H. E. MR. B.K. KISILU, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF KENYA TO *THE NATION*, AS APPEARED IN THE DAILY ON 28 JUNE 1997

His Excellency Mr. B.K. Kisilu, the High Commissioner of Kenya gave a detailed interview to *The Nation*. Mr. Kisililu has been in Pakistan for the last two and half years. He finds Pakistan a country with rich heritage and hence a lot of business opportunities. Here are some extracts from his interview:

Q: Please elaborate Pakistan and Kenya's bilateral relations?

A: Let's go back to time before Kenya became an independent state, both Kenya and Pakistan are former British colonies and in this sense, share a common history. There are a number of areas where Pakistan and Kenya are assisting each other. A number of the officers, belonging to our Navy, Air Force and the Army have been trained in Pakistani institutions. There are several Kenyan students who are studying in Pakistani colleges and universities. Some of them are studying medicine program. Under the aegis of this program, Pakistan offers every year three scholarships to the Kenyan students - one for medicine, the other for engineering *and* the third one for pharmacy. The beneficiaries are interviewed in Nairobi by the Ministry of Education. After the interviews those qualified are awarded these scholarships for their fields identified earlier.

Q: What are the trade prospects between the two countries?

A: Kenya and Pakistan have cordial trade relations. We are an agricultural country. We do not have a lot of mineral resources. But even then we do have some significant areas of exports and imports.

In 1993-94 Pakistan exported to Kenya goods and services worth US\$1 9.8 million while in 1994-95 the value of the goods and services went up to US\$27.11 million. Likewise, Kenya exported to Pakistan, goods and services worth US\$74 million and 90.96 million respectively. Although the balance of trade was in favour of Kenya there was however a substantial increase in Pakistan's exports to Kenya.

This happened because I paid frequent visits to Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and convinced them to visit Kenya and market their

products. This trade is likely to increase because Pakistan had held a solo country exhibition in Nairobi in July 1996 and on the spot, sales of US\$1 million were realized. Orders of worth US\$ 5.5 million were placed and I am sure they have been executed. More exhibitions of this nature are need of the hour. Certainly the trade relations will get a boom once this practice becomes a routine. This should be augmented by frequent and continued trade delegations from both sides.

The main exports of Kenya are coffee, tea, pyrethrum, horticultural products (fruits, vegetables and cut flowers) sisal, meat, maize, hides and skins, gum and wattle bark extract. In the mineral area, Kenya exports soda ash, limestone, cement, lead, silver, fluospar ore and various other precious and semi-precious metals.

Kenya's main imports are crude oil, food and beverages, tobacco, lubricants, chemicals, vegetable oils and fats, rice, textiles, leather products, iron and steel, paper, products vehicles etc. The country needs heavy machinery like fertilizer and cement plants, sugar mills, heavy machinery for infrastructural development, agricultural tractors and pharmaceuticals, marble, hospital equipment. It also needs sanitary fittings, surgical instruments as well as sporting goods.

I think there should be an exchange of trade delegations, because the Pakistani entrepreneurs should visit their counterparts in Kenya and embark on joint business ventures by opening branches of their companies. Entrepreneurs are also allowed to establish a 100 per cent foreign funded companies or businesses.

Q: What is Kenya's stance on Kashmir and Afghanistan?

A: No doubt Kashmir and Afghanistan continue to be the hot spots of a world. Kenya has very crucial role to play in the United Nations, specially after becoming the member of the UN Security Council last year. Kenya has been contributing its troops to various UN peace keeping missions. We participated in Namibia, Mozambique, Yugoslavia etc.

It is a good sign that Pakistan and India have decided to hold foreign secretary level talks. We hope these talks would be followed by talks at the Foreign Minister's level. It is hoped that ultimately the Prime Ministers of the both the countries would sit on the negotiating table and work out the solution of the Kashmir conflict, which continues to pose threat to regional stability. Kenya appreciates the UN resolutions on Kashmir.

In Afghanistan a lot of blood has been let out unnecessarily. Warring sections should stop war for political settlement of the problem. The UN efforts should be given a chance for a broad-based government in the country. Then one can hope that thereafter, the goodwill of the international community will prevail to bring about meaningful rehabilitation and construction in the country.

We in Kenya do understand how war plays havoc with the nations. We have been witnessing strife in our neighbourhood for quite a long time. There is turmoil in Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and in Uganda. The only exception was Tanzania. Owing to instability in these countries there was huge influx of refugees in Kenya and we can say we were in the same position as Pakistan as regards the refugees' problem is concerned.

Q: Is there any scope for foreign Investment In Kenya?

A: Kenya has enjoyed political stability since its independence which is a *sine qua non* for healthy investment activities. Kenya is primarily an agricultural country. Agriculture contributes 30 per cent of GDP and almost 80 per cent of employment in the rural areas. It further contributes 52 per cent to the manufacturing sector and 60 per cent of the country's exports.

The government encourages investment by creating a climate of free enterprise. Recently, the government introduced significant economic reforms to accelerate economic growth and increase external trade. It has removed regulatory constraints in trade, pricing and exchange controls. It has created various incentives for both local and foreign investments e.g. foreign participation in telecommunication, distribution, transport and mining.

- Exemption of taxes in all export processing zones and for those manufacturing under bond.
- Allowing of 100 per cent foreign investment of joint ventures or branches of existing companies elsewhere.

Kenya is the gateway to Africa. There is also a variety of commercial banks, local, USA, European, Asian with countrywide network of branches. There are also numerous financial institutions, building societies and insurance companies. The country has a pool of skilled labour force and a relatively large and growing consumer market for investment purposes. The labour force of all types is approximately 10 million of which about 1.2 million is to be found in the informal sector. Kenya since 1990 embarked on reforms. In this program, the country was to privatize all its 270 state corporations except 33 corporations which fall under the category of 'strategic corporations'.

Q: What is the contribution of tourism industry to your economy?

A: This is the largest source of foreign exchange for Kenya. In 1994 tourism earned Kenya US\$ 450 million and plans put in place were to make the country earn US\$ 470 in 1996. Tourism attraction in Kenya includes: 15 national parks spread throughout the country, 23 game reserves, beautiful white sand beaches and attractive sceneries as one climbs from Mombasa at 57 feet above sea level through Nairobi at 5,500 feet above sea level and to top of Mt Kenya at over 17,000 feet and across the great African Rift Valley

to Kisumu at the shores of lake Victoria.

There is still room for improvement and there are definite plans to improve energy, water, security and communications for enhanced tourism. Hunting still stands banned since 1977.

Q: What is Kenya's education system?

A: The system we have us called the 8-4-4 system
 Primary 8 years
 Secondary 4 years
 High School 2 Years
 University 2 years (minimum for basic degree)
 Total 16 years

Professional courses take longer periods. There are technical institutes for craft certificates and institutes of technology for technician certificates. Then the Polytechnics for national and higher diplomas and then universities for technology degrees.

There are numerous tertiary institutions for training secondary school levels as diploma teachers clinical/nursing officers agricultural range and veterinary assistants, water and horticultural production managers etc.

The literacy rate in Kenya is now over 70 percent and it is hoped that will be 80 per cent after few years. We spend 33 per cent of our total budget recurrent on education.

Q: What is your political system?

A: Kenya has remained a democratic country since its independence on 12th December 1963. It has held general election as due since that time. The country runs a presidential system of parliamentary elections. The President is elected on a countryside franchise. The members of parliament are elected by their constituents while the members of the local authorities (councilors) are elected by people. From 1963 till today Kenya has had only two presidents. The first president ruled the country for 15 years and the incumbent president is in the office since 1978.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIV, Issue 7, July 1997, pp. 101-105.

EXCERPTS FROM AN INTERVIEW OF H.E.MR. EL RASHEED KHIDAR, AMBASSADOR OF SUDAN WITH *THE NATION*, AS APPEARED IN THE DAILY ON 4 NOVEMBER 1997

Peace Process in Sudan

Peace process in Sudan is on. But when we talk about peace process, we

actually mean the Southern part of Sudan which had been in grip of turmoil. The Southern part of Sudan has a number of un-tapped resources. Now it is a serious concern of the Sudan government to develop them.

We are very well aware of the fact that peace is a *sine qua non* for progress. The Sudan government, for last 8 years, has done a lot to bring peace through talks. It is hoped that these talks would pay dividends.

Another round of peace talks is in progress and this time every one is very optimistic, the atmosphere is serious and therefore one may presume that something will come out of these parleys. The European Union has also stepped in, and has determined to help resolve the Sudan crisis. This is certainly an encouraging development and it has kindled the hope of return of peace to Sudan.

In a nutshell, we may forecast an early and durable peace to Sudan.

Islamic Orientation in Sudan

Islamic orientation in Sudan has taken great strides. For us Islam is a way of life. We are trying to mould our lives in accordance with the Islamic injunctions. We had already implemented the Shariah. We are not applying Shariah in those areas where Muslims are not in majority. We have been democratic in this sense that we do give the chance to the majority to adopt whatever rule they would like.

In the Southern part of Sudan, the Islamic laws have not been applied. We are endeavoring to make our people adhere to the Islamic laws. The problem which has been a main hurdle to this effect, is the illiterate sector. Though they are good Muslims but they need to be taught about their own religion.

Along with Islamic orientation process in Sudan the process of strengthening of economic system is also on the cards. We have streamlined our banking sector and by this time, I am sure that our banks are transacting fully in consonance with the Islamic principles. We are making desperate efforts to make our banking system even better. Eliminating 'Riba' is our foremost priority.

Bilateral Relations

No doubt, Pak-Sudan bilateral relations are from cordial to excellent at all levels. Both the countries had been making strenuous efforts to further cement these relations.

Obviously, there are certain fields in which enhanced cooperation is needed. Our economic and trade relations are not up to the mark. Some concerted efforts are a pre-requisite to improve the same. I think, both sides should evince interest in each other's projects and try to cash in on the opportunities

There should be exchange of trade delegations between the two countries.

The existing trade volume between Pakistan and Sudan is unsatisfactory. We are aspiring to increase the same. The tours of the entrepreneurs must be encouraged on regular basis. Sudan's investment climate is very conducive to the businessmen. Therefore Pakistani investors should go to Sudan and explore business avenues.

Both Pakistan and Sudan are adopting policy of privatization. It has provided the private sector an ample chance, to come forward and show their muscles. The role of the private sector now is becoming more significant. If a working relationship is created between the Pakistan and Sudanese businessmen the trade volume can be uplifted.

The business prospects for the Pakistani investors are very bright in Sudan. As a matter of fact, there are Pakistanis, doing business in Sudan, but to a fairly limited extent.

Sudan has an economy mainly based on agriculture. There can be an enormous investment in this field. The government of Sudan has a very vast area. Therefore, farming might be another lucrative thing to do. We have an agricultural investment law and as well as an industrial investment law, which ensure precise facilities to the businessmen.

Pakistan is producer of quality agricultural equipment. So the Pakistani businessmen can cater their equipment to Sudan.

The mining is also getting momentum in Sudan. Sudan is a country, gifted with plethora of mineral resources including gold. The mining is a new field and productivity of gold in Sudan has increased to great proportions.

Sudan's oil sector is also very important. And in the near future Sudan will start exporting oil to other countries. Thus, the development of this sector is also government's top priority. The foreign investors can be a partner of their Sudanese counterparts in this enterprise.

Tourism/Education

Sudan is a large country and has many features of tourism. But unfortunately the tourism is not a developed sector, because the infrastructure for tourism had not been taken care of. Therefore, the contribution of tourism to our economy is not substantial.

The Southern part of Sudan is replete with tourist resorts. But unfortunately the war did not allow us to develop this part.

We have a very deep port of the red Sea. It has very clean water and some enchanting scenes, which are a center of attraction for the tourists.

Sudan is a country, blessed with an old education system. The number of educational institutions has been increased. We have revolutionized our higher education. Our primary education used to be only

six years. Now we have increased it to 8 years and we call it basic education.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIV, Issue 12, December 1997, pp. 116-119.

**EXCERPTS FROM AN INTERVIEW OF THE ALGERIAN
AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN H.E. AISSA SEPERDJALI WITH
DAILY PAKISTAN OBSERVER, ON 8 NOVEMBER 1997**

Talking to daily *Pakistan Observer*, here in an exclusive interview, the Ambassador said as per the directive of President Liamine Zeroual complete freedom, transparency and equity was ensured in the elections to provide opportunity to the people to freely choose a new generation of political leaders, truly representing their aspirations.

The ruling National Democratic Rally (NDR) headed by President Zeroual secured three times as many seats of its nearest rival, the former ruling party, the National Liberation Front in the recent local elections considered as a concrete step in the building of the Algerian democratic institutions.

Asked about the spate of killings of innocent men, women and children in Algeria, he said it was the terrorist guerrilla group which calls itself as Armed Islamic Group (GIA) which was behind these dastardly acts of terrorism. The real aim of such terrorist groups, he said, was to destabilize the political system in the country by disrupting normal life. He said the Islamic Salvation Front, which was banned by Algerian Supreme Court, has disowned any responsibility for the merciless killings of innocent people. He said these acts of violence have been condemned by Muslim religious divines including Sh Baz, President Fatwa Commission, Dr Tantavi, Chancellor of Al-Azhar of Egypt and Muti Kalkarou of Syria.

Ambassador Seperdjali said false Islamic organizations were created by the western countries, who did not want any Muslim country to emerge as a strong and prosperous power. Hence they were giving asylum to terrorist elements and using them to create instability in Algeria.

He said the western countries wanted to impose a regime of what they call moderate Islamic leaders who could be easily manipulated to suit their own interests.

He said his country's crisis with the west began when Algeria used to take part in the coalition forces against Iraq in view of spontaneous people's reaction in support of Iraq.

He also accused certain western news agencies of spreading venom against Algerian by giving false picture of the country's political situation.

He also dispelled the impression created by the western biased media about the Islamic Salvation Front which contrary to their reports bagged only a sizable number of seats in elections but did not emerge as single largest

party.

He said the surrender of Algerian people before terrorist groups and their hidden partners was refused in a clear and unquestionable manner by Algerian people through its massive participation (75.9 per cent) in presidential election and by expressing its over-whelming choice in first round (61.34 per cent) for the candidate Liamine Zeroual, the country's president and now their massive verdict in the latest local elections held recently.

Talking about economy, he said Algeria has started a process of reforms of the country's economy in order to enable it to adopt to the mechanism of world economy. He said in his recent statement that the President of Algeria has underlined the necessity for national solidarity and social justice for sharing equally the burden by all walks of life.

Talking of Algeria-Pakistan relations the Algerian ambassador described them as excellent. He said Algeria could never forget the help given by Pakistan during its independence struggle. He recalled that Pakistan was among the first countries to recognize Algeria's provisional government during the independence war.

He said Algerian President Chadli Benjadid had played a historic role in rapprochement between Pakistan and Bangladesh, during the OIC summit held in Lahore in 1974. He had sent his special plane to Dhaka to bring late Sheikh Mujibur Rehman to Lahore, which marked the normalization of relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

To a question on Kashmir, he said Algeria supports the OIC efforts to bring about an end to this long standing problem.

About Afghanistan, he commended the role being played by Pakistan to solve the problem. Pakistan, he said, has paid a high price by providing succour to millions of Afghan refugees.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIV, Issue 12, December 1997, pp. 120-122.

REPORT ON CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER BY H.E. PROFESSOR ALZUBAIR BASHIR TAHA, SUDANESE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ISLAMABAD, 21 FEBRUARY 2002

H.E. Professor Alzubair Bashir Taha, Sudanese Minister of Science and Technology was received by the President General Pervez Musharraf this afternoon. He delivered a letter from H.E. Mr. Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan addressed to President General Pervez Musharraf. The letter lays emphasis on strengthening bilateral relations. The President of Sudan has extended a cordial invitation to President General Pervez Musharraf to visit Sudan at a mutually convenient dates. The President while accepting invitation conveyed his best wishes to

the President of Sudan.

Later, Professor Alzubair Bashir Taha called on the Foreign Minister. The Foreign Minister and the visiting dignitary exchanged views on the scope of bilateral relations and agreed on the need to hold an early session of the Pak-Sudan JMC which will give new impetus to the relations between the two countries.

The Foreign Minister gave details of the achievements and the reforms carried out by the present government in the last two years. He also explained Pakistan's restructured road map to democracy and the need to stabilize the political situation which is vital of the economic development.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXIX, Issue 2-4, Feb-Apr 2002, p. 245.

REPORT ON SIGNING OF MOU BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND SUDAN FOR COOPERATION IN SUGAR RESEARCH, ISLAMABAD, 23 APRIL 2003

Pakistan and Sudan agreed to cooperate in carrying out research for enhancing production of sugar. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed here at PARC headquarters between the two countries. Mr. Mohamed El-Mahi, Managing Director, Kenana Sugar Company Limited Sudan and Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Dr. Badaruddin Soomro were also present on the occasion.

Both the parties also discussed various aspects of sugarcane which includes, breeding, sugarcane physiology, crop management and precision sugarcane farming, bio fertilizer technology integrated pest management (IPM) of increase pest and rodent control of sugarcane and sugar beat crop, tissue culture technology and human resources development.

The Sudanese delegation was on a special visit of Pakistan to attend the conference on investment and to see research and development of sugarcane crop in Pakistan. Dr. Badaruddin Soomro, briefed the delegation about sugarcane research and production in the country.

The delegation was impressed to know latest information about Pakistan and showed interest for cooperation in the field of sugarcane research and production. It was agreed that both the parties would facilitate visits of experts/delegates for information exchange and professional interaction.

The MoU shall take effect from the date of signing and remain operative for 5 years unless terminated by any one of the parties by giving advance notice of 6 months. It was agreed that from Pakistan, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chief Scientific Officer Incharge (Crop Science Division) and from Sudan, Dr. Ibrahim Saied, Director Sugarcane Research, Kanana Sugar Company Limited, respectively will ordinate for the implementation of

this MoU.

Dr. Soomro, said that NARC have a strong program on sugarcane search and production. He said exchange of germplasm and varieties will play a significant role for development of sugarcane sector. He said Pakistan is surplus in sugar.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 3, Apr-15 May 2003, pp. 154-155.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE BUSINESSMEN IN ALGIERS ON 17 JULY 2003

Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is a privilege indeed for me to be here in Algiers and to be addressing a dynamic gathering of businessmen, investors and government officials dealing with trade and investment. This is the era of globalization and of rapid changes in the world economic scene. I hope that this interaction of ours will enable us to share our ideas on the prospects for our two countries and to arrive at a vision that will boost our bilateral economic relations.

As you know, Pakistan has moved towards a full fledged democratic system of government. Pakistan is committed to democracy and our goal is to build the system up from the grass root level. We do this with the realization that stability and security are a must for economic progress and development.

Pakistan's economy has demonstrated considerable resilience during the past three years despite the influence of external shocks. Our economic performance since the events of September 11 has shown that over the period of the past fifty years or so, our economy has developed strengths that enable it to withstand difficult and often unforeseen circumstances.

Our foreign exchange reserves have crossed the ten billion dollar mark. The stock market has shown positive indications with respect to profitability, inflow of foreign funds, and market capitalization which stands close to US\$ 9.3 billion in year 2003. The Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE) was regarded as one of the best performing markets in the world. Our exports are expected to go beyond US\$ 10 billion this year with external debt reduced by \$ 1 billion.

Pakistan was one of the first post-colonial states to pursue economic growth along the lines of the major capitalist economies of the world. There have been digressions along the way but if we look at the past ten years or so, we can see that Pakistan has moved consistently towards giving the maximum role to the private sector as the prime engine of growth. As such we are committed to the market-led economic model and to the most open trade and investment policies.

In the context of stabilization policies we have substantially reduced

the fiscal deficit and allowed the exchange rate to be determined by the free market mechanism. As structural reforms, we have introduced tax reforms, trade & tariff reforms, financial sector & capital market reforms, all of them aimed at promoting deregulation, transparency in financial operations, good governance, and poverty reduction at the grass root level.

Currently, Pakistan is following a focused and highly strategized policy of privatization. Those following developments in our economy are aware that while many important achievements have been made so far, the government has taken care to ensure transparency throughout the process, reorganizing the concerned establishments before putting them up for sale to the investors. Pakistan's fifth largest bank has been privatized whereas expressions of interest have been invited for Habib Bank, the country's oldest, after reorganization for maximum profitability. Pakistan State Oil is also being considered for privatization whereas several foreign investors have expressed interest in Pakistan Telecommunication Corporation including those from Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The emphasis of the present government's economic policies has been on deregulating the economy and on encouraging foreign direct investment. As of today, all economic sectors are open to FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) where investors from abroad can hold even 100% equity. While no government sanctions are required for investment, a number of incentives and facilitatory measures are in place for promoting investment activity in Pakistan. These include the network of industrial estates & export processing zones, the payment of substantially reduced customs duty on import of Plant & Machinery (not manufactured locally), the reduced fixed liability of 0.5% income tax on annual turnover in the case of exporting units, and the free remittances of royalty, technical & franchise fee, etc. Added to this is the one desk facilitation service with which the Board of Investment is always ready, eager, and waiting for the existing and would be investors.

With the above-mentioned incentives and facilitatory role the Government of Pakistan can rightly claim to have the second most open economy in South Asia as most of the other countries in the region either do not allow 100% ownership or require the investors to obtain prior permission of the government for investing in their countries.

There is great room for improvement in our bilateral economic relations. There have been some barriers that may have impeded us in the past, be they geography, restrictive trade regimes or insufficient interaction between our entrepreneurs. But these must be overcome so that our economic ties can achieve their real potential in an age of liberalization and decreasing trade restrictions. Some past initiatives need to be revived and reinvigorated. There are possibilities of Joint Venture collaboration between the two countries in fertilizer industry, textiles, oil and gas, electricity and water management, mining and telecommunications.

There is a need for exchange of public and private sector delegations from both sides to discuss trade and joint venture possibilities.

Both Algeria and Pakistan are developing countries which over the past decade or so have developed impressive expertise in the fields of banking, and industry in particular in the setting up of textiles and cement units. Algeria being a member of OPEC is one of the leading exporters of hydrocarbons. Pakistan has recently signed an agreement with TOTAL, a French Oil Company, which provides for mutual cooperation in the exploration of oil in the South Indus Delta. Algeria possesses the fifth largest gas reserves in the world. There must be greater interaction between our businessmen and entrepreneurs in future so that greater cooperation may be forged in the energy field.

Pakistan has every opportunity for economic development given its unique geostrategic situation. Bordering China in the north, India in the east and Iran and Afghanistan in the west, Pakistan has historically served as a route from Central Asia to South Asia. Its diverse terrain is endowed with a rich network of rivers and canals, the waters of which flow via the Indus river into the Arabian Sea (in the south). With the assistance of Chinese technical expertise, we aim to develop Gwadar into one of the most important seaports in the world. Pakistan is also exploring oil and gas pipeline projects with Central Asian states besides the possibility of rail and road links.

Algeria, part of North Africa but near to Europe and the Middle East is also rich in strategic opportunities for development. As brotherly Muslim nations committed to a progressive future, let us join hands to bring our two regions close together so that avenues may be opened for greater trade and economic cooperation.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 3-6.

PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF TO ALGERIA, TUNIS AND MOROCCO

14-17 July 2003

Algiers - Banquet Speech

President General Pervez Musharraf said the long-running Kashmir dispute remained at the heart of Pakistan-India relations as Algeria called on the international community to make a clear-cut distinction between terrorism and liberation movements.

Speaking at a banquet, Algerian President Abdulaziz Bouteflika hosted in honour of his Pakistani counterpart, the two Presidents pledged their continued support to the fight against terrorism.

“Pakistan has been emphasizing the need for early resumption of a

comprehensive dialogue to address the Kashmir issue as it is the main impediment to the development of normal relations between the two countries,” President Musharraf said.

He recounted the number of confidence building measures announced by Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali to prepare ground for a sustained and substantive dialogue to resolve all outstanding issues including the core Kashmir dispute.

President Musharraf asked the international community to convey its concerns over the massive deployment of forces, involved in a systematic denial of the very fundamental human rights of Kashmiri people in the Indian held valley.

President Boutetlika noted that the struggle against colonial domination and foreign occupation is subject today to the same misconception that aims at questioning a cardinal principle enshrined in the UN charter — people’s legitimate right to self-determination. “It is indeed important to make a clear-cut distinction between terrorist act that we must firmly condemn, and the liberation struggle which represents for peoples the last resort to recover their legitimate rights.”

The two leaders also affirmed their support to the international community to end scourge of terrorism, President Musharraf said:

“Pakistan is strongly opposed to all forms and manifestations of terrorism, as we ourselves are a victim of terrorism.”

He said Pakistan’s decision to support the international campaign against this menace was based on principles and its national interests - to safeguard Pakistan’s internal and external security and to ensure conditions which are conducive to peace and prosperity of our nation.

The President reiterated that Pakistan would remain committed to cooperate with the international community including Algeria to fight the threat of terrorism.

The Algerian President said that while the worldwide fight against terrorism was expanding, it was necessary to avoid any kind of confusion, selectivity and discrimination when identifying acts to be condemned and fought.

He stressed the resolute fight against terrorism be “transparent and impartial within the framework of international legality”. “It is particularly significant to resist any temptation to associate such a phenomenon with a region, a religion or given ethnic group,” he added. On the Middle East, the two presidents urged the international community to intensify efforts to force Israel withdraw from all occupied Arab territories.

They agreed that the quartet’s “road-map” might be a good starting point. “If the peace plan in the road map becomes a reality --- that would open new opportunities for political relationships,” president Musharraf said but stressed its success largely depended on Israel’s withdrawal from occupied

lands and acceptance of Palestine as a sovereign and viable state.

President Musharraf also reaffirmed Pakistan's keenness to develop friendly and cooperative relations with Afghanistan on the principles of mutual respect, sovereignty and non-interference and stated that Islamabad has extended assistance and support to the administration of President Hamid Karzai to help achieve the goals of peace and prosperity for Afghanistan.

The two leaders also noted with great concern the challenges facing the Muslim Ummah in the backdrop of dramatic events unfolding in the international arena and agreed on the need to revitalize the OIC to enable it effectively meet the challenges of contemporary times.

President Musharraf and his Algerian counterpart also pledged to build on the existing excellent ties between the two countries marked by mutual understanding and affection.

They said the ties between Pakistan and Algeria have been strengthened by the support and sympathy extended to each other on every forum including the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Islamic Conference. They also agreed to enhance the economic ties between their countries for the mutual benefit of their two people.

Meeting with Algerian Prime Minister

Meanwhile, during meetings with Algerian Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia, Chairman Senate Bersele and Speaker National Assembly Karim Younas who separately called on him, the President Gen. Pervez Musharraf urged the Muslim Ummah to enhance mutual cooperation in various fields. They discussed bilateral relations, economic cooperation and other subjects of mutual interest.

The President stressed the need to forge unity and to enlarge the base of mutual cooperation in different fields among the OIC member states.

President Musharraf told the Algerian leadership that only advancement in the scientific field and optimum exploitation of natural resources can guarantee eradication of backwardness in Islamic countries to regain past glory.

Address to Algerian Businessmen

Meanwhile, addressing the Algerian businessmen and potential investors, President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said Pakistan offered the most business-friendly environment with "win-win" situation for investors and invited the Algerian entrepreneurs to invest in the field of their choice.

"All economic indicators today are positive and the country is at a take-off point," he said. He said a series of positive economic indicators and its strategic location at the crossroads of Gulf, south and the central Asia has made Pakistan a commercial hub of the region with an ideal business

destination for the foreign investors.

The President attributed this turnaround in economy, which was in the dire straits just about three and half years ago, to the sound and continuity of its policies. "Pakistan today offers foreign investors the most profitable outlet for their capital," he added.

President Musharraf said revival of economy and building investors' confidence had remained the major priorities of the government. "We are aware that Algeria is also in the process of instituting reforms and is actively looking for new economic partnership," he added.

He said during the last three and half years the government has focused on reviving the sagging economy and rebuilding of governance.

The President said the country faced an investment dilemma in the past as while it was wooing foreign investors, the state of the economy remained fragile with extremely low foreign exchange reserves. "The government tried to correct this dilemma and now the country's economy was on road to progress and stability," he added.

He said the foreign debt was increasing by one to two billion dollars but the trend has now been reversed and three billion dollars of debt was reduced in three years. "This has reduced our liability of debt servicing from sixty-four percent to thirty six percent and we will bring it down to twenty-five percent in two years.

He said fiscal deficit was well under control and has come down to 4.6% from the previous 7% and would be further brought down to 3.3%. After the decade of volatility the Pakistani exchange rate was stable and its stocks performed strongly in recent years, leading to the increase in the country's financial standing in the international market to B-plus from the rock-bottom.

He said the KSE-100 index has broken all past records and was the best performer in the world in spite of the world wide economic and business uncertainties.

Referring to massive increase in the country's foreign exchange, he said it has now crossed an unprecedented level of over 10.5 billion, multiplying from just few hundred million dollars just about three years ago.

The GDP grew by 5.1% last year despite shocks, inflation remained below 3% and foreign debt had been considerably reduced.

"The increasing GDP, improved fiscal discipline and infrastructure development has firmly placed the country's economy on road to progress. On investment, the President said that the government has modified rules and regulations to provide a level-playing field to the investor. Similarly, he said, the interest rates which remained as high as 15% have now been brought down to 8% and in fact certain business houses had loans from banks at the rate as low as 3%. This has tremendously reduced the cost of doing business in Pakistan, he added. He said that during the last year a private company

Nestle reported a profit of 55% which was a rare feature.

The President said there was great scope for improvement in bilateral ties and the two countries could benefit from each other's experiences to face the challenges posed by the globalization of economy. However, he said, the government could only play a facilitating role, and it was up to the private sectors of the two countries to exploit initiatives as it was the real engine of the growth.

Listing matchless incentives to investors, he said, they can have 100 percent equity and there was no bar on the repatriation of capital and profit. He said with the skilled manpower, low borrowing charges, secured law and order and other tax incentives, Pakistan's investment climate was most favourable in the regions.

The President also stressed the need of south-south relations as there were tremendous opportunities for cooperation within the developing countries. He also noted the low level of trade within the Ummah and called for increasing cooperation within it to reduce poverty and make strides in scientific and technological field.

The President asked the businessmen of the two countries to join hands to open up new economic opportunities for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

Later, the President also entertained questions and told the Algerian businessmen how efforts were made in Pakistan to document the economy and raise tax revenue collection which has gone up to Rs. 460 billion from just over Rs. 300 billion three years ago.

Meeting with the Press in Algiers

President Gen. Pervez Musharraf Wednesday described his visit to Tunisia as "exceptionally successful" and said the two sides shared commonality of views on boosting trade ties and the need to contribute efforts for the progress of the Muslim Ummah.

"We have complete unanimity of views on the issues of generating more trade and commercial activities between our two countries," he said while talking to reporters soon after his arrival in the Algerian capital.

He said Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali showed keen interest in further promoting economic ties and even suggested to constitute a special task force, over and above the Joint Ministerial Commission, to achieve the desired results.

President Musharraf said there was complete "consonance of views" between the two countries over the plight of the Muslim Ummah and the need for efforts for its emancipation. "We agreed to form a strategy and then move in a consolidated way before the forthcoming OIC meeting to get results," he added.

The President said he also exchanged with his Tunisian counterpart views on the situation in Iraq and the ongoing peace efforts in the Middle East. President Musharraf said his talks with the Algerian leadership would focus on enhancing trade and economic ties between the two countries. He underlined the need for diversifying the country's trade and commercial links for having broader economic relations.

The President said the area of Maghreb has its own concerns about what was happening in the Muslim Ummah and Iraq. "I would like to get their views on the Israel-Palestine issue and how they see the situation in Iraq," he added.

To a question about having a Islamic Chamber of Commerce, the President said currently there was no concrete proposal in this respect but added, there has to be step-by-step approach for forging and expanding trade ties within the Muslim world.

"There is a growing realization that we have to do something and have to do it together," he said and added, there was a need to analyze why the Muslim Ummah have only 2% of their total trade within itself. Pakistan was for trade rather than aid, said the President and added that economic activities contribute to creating employment opportunities and alleviating poverty.

The President also thanked the Algerian President and the people for according a very warm welcome to him.

Talks in Rabat

President General Pervez Musharraf Friday held wide-ranging talks with Moroccan King Mohammed VI that covered matters of bilateral cooperation and important regional and international issues.

Both the leaders also witnessed the signing of accords ceremony to promote cooperation in the fields of science and technology, environment and on increased interaction between their religious affairs ministries.

During the one-hour meeting, the president and the king discussed in detail Afghanistan, Iraq, Middle East peace process, situation in South Asia and the Pakistan-India relations.

Matters of bilateral cooperation also came up for discussion as the two sides agreed to increase economic and trade ties for the mutual benefit of their peoples. The delegates of their respective countries later joined them.

President Musharraf and King Mohammad VI reaffirmed their desire to enhance the existing brotherly relations between the two countries, which were characterized by common faith, brotherhood and commonality of views on major issues.

They also underlined the need for increasing two-way trade between the two countries, which they agreed, was well below the desired level.

The two leaders exchanged views on the challenges being faced by the Muslim Ummah and agreed that the development in science and technology and the human resource development were the only way for emancipation of the Ummah.

They also stressed upon strengthening the OIC to enable it play its due role in addressing these issues and furthering cooperation within the Islamic world.

The president informed the king about Pakistan's desire to have peace in the South Asian region and its efforts to resolve all outstanding issues with India, including the core issue of Kashmir, through a meaningful dialogue.

Later, President Musharraf and King Mohammad VI witnessed the signing of three accords that were to promote cooperation in the areas of science and technology and environment and increased interaction between the religious affairs ministries of both the countries.

Signing of Agreements

Foreign Minister Khurshid M. Kasuri and his Moroccan counterpart Mohammed Benaissa signed the agreements on behalf of their respective governments.

Earlier, on arrival at the Royal Palace, King Mohammed VI received the president. He was conferred upon the highest civil award of Morocco "Wisam Al Mohammedi." The king of Morocco decorated the president with the award at a special ceremony.

The award had been conferred upon President Musharraf in acknowledgement of his efforts to solidify the friendship between the two countries and further strengthening the bilateral relationship.

President Musharraf earlier visited the mausoleum of two former monarchs of Morocco. The president was received at the mausoleum by Abdulwahab ben Mansour, Conservator and Governor of Rabat. The president reviewed the guard and offered prayers for the two kings.

President Musharraf in the "Honour Book" placed at the mausoleum wrote: "We honour and respect the dynamic and sagacious leadership of the King Mohammed V and King Hassan II." The entourage of the president was taken round the city to see the historic buildings. Begum Sehba Musharraf and Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmud Kasuri accompanied the President.

The President also met the Chairman of Senate and Speaker of the National Assembly and later addressed a press conference.

In Tunis - Arrival Statement

President General Pervez Musharraf Monday hoped his visit to Tunisia would

help translate friendship between the two countries into a multi-faceted cooperation in different areas with special focus on economy.

“I am very pleased to come to Tunisia as our two countries have enjoyed close fraternal relations for nearly half a century,” he said upon his arrival on a three-day official visit to this north African country.

President Musharraf expressed his desire to translate this friendship and goodwill into multi-faceted relations and cooperation in a host of areas with special focus on economy and technical exchanges.

“In Pakistan, we appreciate that, under the sagacious leadership of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, Tunisia has made an important contribution for promoting peace and cooperation not only among the western countries but also in the Arab world and the OIC,” said the President. With her fine human resources he said Tunisia has emerged as a dynamic and progressive country, as a commercial hub and a cultural pole in the Mediterranean region.

President Musharraf said he was looking forward to an in-depth exchange of views with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, on a number of subjects which were important in the bilateral as well as international context.

“I am convinced that my visit to your beautiful country would be most rewarding and greatly strengthen Pakistan-Tunisia relations,” he added.

Earlier, the President was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived here on the first leg of his weeklong visit to the three North African states.

He was received at the Carthage International airport by State Minister and Adviser to the President, Abdelaziz Ben Dhia, Minister for Women Affairs Madame Neziha Ben Yedder, Governor of Tunis Mahmoud Mabri and Abbas Mohsen, Mayor of the Tunis.

First Lady, Begum Sehba Musharraf, Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, and Chairman Export Promotion Bureau, Tariq Ikram accompanied the President on the visit which also took him to Algeria and Morocco.

Two children clad in traditional dresses, presented bouquet to the President and Begum Sehba Musharraf. President Musharraf was to attend a banquet hosted in his honor by the Tunisian President.

Meeting with the Press

Meanwhile, talking to newsmen embarking on his visit to three African countries the President General Pervez Musharraf expressed the hope that his visit to Tunis, Algeria and Morocco would help enhance Pakistan’s economic and political relationship with these countries.

“We should develop economic relations with these important countries so that our political relations are strengthened,” he told newsmen. During the six-day visit, the President will hold talks with the leadership of

these countries on a host of international issues of common interest and identify areas of cooperation to further expand bilateral relationship through increased commercial and trade ties. The president, during the visit, will also discuss the role of the Organization of Islamic Conference in determining a way forward for the Muslim world in the face of current challenges.

We shall discuss the phase the Muslim countries are passing through and what should our countries do for the betterment of the Muslim world,” he said.

The OIC, the President said in reply to a question, must have an important role in addressing the issues facing the Muslim world, as it is an organization that represents the entire Muslim world.

“The role of the OIC is very important if the Muslim world has to set a forward direction for future, these three countries are important members of the OIC, therefore, it is very important that we talk of the OIC role.” Pakistan’s exports to Tunis, Algeria and Morocco hover around \$35 million annually. The balance of trade is currently in Pakistan’s favour.

Meeting with Tunisian Chamber of Deputies

President General Pervez Musharraf Tuesday called for taking pragmatic steps for the promotion of science and technology in the Muslim world.

The President was talking to the Tunisian Chamber of Deputies (Speaker) Fawaad Elmbza. He said the Islamic world needed to take practical steps rather than mere lip service to bring it out of the crisis it was facing today.

The president informed the speaker that Pakistan had already taken an initiative in this direction and referred to S&T Fund. He said he had proposed the fund be set up with contributions from Islamic countries to promote high education in this field.

The president met Speaker Fawaad Elmbza during his visit to the Tunisian Parliament House. He stayed with the speaker for some time and exchanged view on bilateral matters. Fawaad Elmbza praised the role of Pakistan in promoting welfare of the Muslim Ummah and specially mentioned the respect and reverence, which Pakistan enjoyed as an important Islamic state.

He said Pakistan’s achievements in S&T were a source of pride for the entire Islamic world and stressed that it must play a leading role in development of this vital field in Muslim countries.

The two sides also underlined the need of an increased interaction between their parliaments to enhance the existing relations between the two countries.

President Musharraf told the Tunisian speaker about the efforts to promote sustainable democracy in the country. He stated that an elected

government and Parliament were in place and were fully functioning for the welfare of the common man.

Visit to Martyrs Memorial

Later, President Musharraf visited Martyrs Memorial at Sedjoumi, about 25 km south of the capital. Three guns boomed as the president laid flower wreath.

The president stood in silence for one minute in respect of those who gave their lives to free their country from the colonial rule in 1956.

The Cultural Minister, Abdelbaki Hermassi, received President Musharraf at the monument. A small girl attired in Tunisian traditional dress presented him a bouquet. National anthems of both the countries were played.

The president then took a salute from a smartly turned-out contingent of the three services. The Tunisians briefly informed him about the significance of the memorial and the history of freedom struggle.

Daily “La Presse” Comments

Meanwhile, “La Presse” a Tunisian daily, in its publication on the eve of president Musharraf’s three-day official visit to the country noted that it would lead to further development of relations, enhance cooperation in bilateral fields- as well as regional groupings.

The daily said, “President Ben Ali has always worked to promote dialogue and deepen cooperation to improve relations between the nations, the peoples and to promote peace and stability in the world, especially within international framework, which is marked by conflicts and uncertainties.”

“The developments during the last couple of years on the international scene require the two countries work together so that globalization doesn’t impair solidarity between nations and doesn’t prevent the emergence of a just world order.”

Meeting with Tunisian dignitaries

Reiterating Pakistan’s commitment to the fight against the scourge of terrorism, President Gen. Pervez Musharraf Tuesday warned against efforts to equate it with the genuine freedom movement in order to prolong unjust policies.

“Pakistan is against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,” said the President while speaking to the Tunisian dignitaries and opinion markers over a luncheon meeting here.

The President, however, stressed that to uproot the terrorism in its entirety, the international community must address the root causes of terrorism. At the same time, the President said, “we have been urging the

international community not to lose sight of some glaring cases of occupation and denial of fundamental rights.”

The President drew the attention of the august gathering to the plight of the Kashmiri people, struggling for their right to self-determination for over fifty years, pledged to them by the UN Security Council. “The Jammu and Kashmir dispute has remained at the heart of Pakistan-India tensions,” said the President.

He told them about the Pakistan’s willingness for a dialogue with India to resolve all outstanding disputes peacefully.

Pakistan, he said, had steadfastly pursued the path of dialogue and negotiations for a peaceful resolution of this dispute which seriously threatened the security and stability of the region. However, he made it clear that in such a dialogue Pakistan would guard its honour and dignity very jealously and never compromise on principles.

On the issue of Palestine, the President said that Pakistan has always been in the forefront demanding complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Palestinian territories and settlement of the Palestinian issue in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions.

The President said he was aware of Tunisia’s consistent and unreserved support for the Palestinian cause and “we share this position,” he said. Pakistan has supported all initiatives, including Crown Prince Abdullah’s Arab Peace Initiatives, UNSC Resolution 1379 and the Quartet’s roadmap.

The roadmap for Palestinian statehood by 2005, presents a window of opportunity for establishing lasting peace in the Middle East, he remarked. However, he said, its success will largely depend on Israel’s withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and justice being done to the Palestinians.

On Iraq, the President said Pakistan has highlighted the importance of national sovereignty, non-interference, territorial integrity, and political independence of Iraq and its neighbors as pre-requisites for peace and stability in the region. He said, the coalition in control of Iraq should help the Iraqis themselves by handing over power to a national authority.

Meanwhile, the President urged the Muslim Ummah to adopt a path of “enlightened moderation” to achieve progress and called, for revitalizing the OIC to enable it to effectively address the issues facing the Islamic world. “We have to realistically assess our current state and chart a future course for our well being and progress towards regaining past glory,” he said.

Recalling that illustrious past was based on human values, human quality, human excellence and a collective glory of the Ummah, the President said, it seemed that “we have lost all that and find ourselves in depth of despair and despondency”.

The President posed a question; “What is the way forward? Is the path of confrontation, extremism and intolerance the road to our glory?” The President said the way out is the self-emancipation through human resource

development with emphasis on education, health and poverty alleviation.

He proposed a strategy of “enlightened moderation” helping each other within the framework of the OIC, crystallizing the true values of Islam within and projecting the same externally. “We need to reinforce our political will to move for solutions to our political problems the world over in a peaceful manner,” he added.

The President called for stepping up efforts to revitalize the OIC to enable it to effectively meet the challenges of contemporary times. He said Tunisia and Pakistan could jointly play a significant role towards the realization of this objective. “For the sake of our future generations we must move on this track with sincerity and resolve”, he said while adding, that Pakistan would not be found wanting in this regard.

The President said there was a misperception within the Muslim world that the Islam as a religion was being targeted by the West and at the same time, he added, the West thought of Islam as a religion of extremism and intolerance. “Both are wrong,” the President emphasized.

The President said both the Muslims and the West needed to act to rectify these misperception. He said that there was a need to reinforce political will to resolve all disputes in a peaceful manner and revitalize the OIC to effectively address the issues facing the Islamic world.

At the same time, he said the West, specially the United States, must help to resolve all the political disputes around the world in a manner that the justice is seen to be done to the Muslim world.

He said the West should also assist the Muslims in the social sector in order to improve education and human resource development to help overcome the poverty and backwardness.

Press Talk on Return Home

President General Pervez Musharraf after the conclusion of a successful weeklong visit to the three Maghreb states told the newsman at the Lahore airport that his agenda of visit to Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco was to enhance economic, trade and commercial ties with these countries.

The president said apart from strengthening Pakistan’s trade ties, he discussed with the leaders international issues and the challenges being faced by the Muslim Ummah.

The talks, the president said, generally agreed on the need to enhance relations in economy, while at the same time tried to identify areas where there can be further cooperation. He said there was a general consensus on the need to have increased cooperation in the fields of science and technology and human resource development.

Responding to a question he said the most important achievement of the visit was the awareness among these states for the need of an agreement

for free trade. He said there was also a need to further expand these economic relations with the greater involvement of the private sector. He said at a later stage all these countries would identify new areas of cooperation.

About the warm welcome he received in all the three countries, the president said, "It was unprecedented." The warm welcome reflects the very strong cordial relations Pakistan has with Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

He said these political and diplomatic relations could be further cemented through strong economic ties.

About the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), he said, Pakistan is a big Islamic country and the leaders whom he met asked Pakistan to play an important role in it.

President Musharraf said, "We all should jointly work to seek a solution of the issues confronting the Ummah today." Referring to the importance of his three states visit, he said, apart from seeking further improvement in the bilateral relations the visit also held a trilateral dimension. Morocco is a commercial hub and lies at the junction of Africa and Europe. It can provide Pakistan entrepreneurs access to all these markets. Similarly Pakistan is at a strategic location in South Asia, which could be used by the Maghreb states to their benefit.

In an overview of his visit, the president said all the sides could benefit by enhancing their trade relations and expanding their markets by closely interacting with each other. In this regard he also referred to the need of reinvigorating the Joint Ministerial Commissions.

Earlier in Casablanca, President Musharraf visited the King Hassan II mosque. The minister of religious affairs received him at the mosque.

Recording his impressions in the book, the president said he was very impressed to visit the unique mosque, which reflected excellent calligraphy and architecture of Moroccan craftsmanship.

The president visited various portions of the two-story mosque.

The mosque is the third biggest in the world after Masjidul Harem and Masjid-e-Nabvi.

It has the capacity for 55,000 Namazis inside and 80,000 outside. It was completed in seven years in 1993, which involved 35,000 workmen and craftsmen.

An Appraisal

President Musharraf's visit to three Maghreb countries just after his state visit to Unites States, United Kingdom, France and Germany has got special significance. Especially when Palestine and Israel are negotiating peace in the area and the latter has started vacating occupied overtures and Hamas has declared unilateral cease-fire. Such peace overtimes by Israel would lead to stability in Palestine.

It is high time now that Muslim states especially the Arabs need to

get united and work collectively for mutual development. At the same time it is pertinent that Islamic countries all over the world should project themselves as peace loving nations.

After 9/11 incident the world has changed altogether. With the passage of time a realization has emerged that Muslims as a whole are being targeted. And also a perception has developed that Islam as such has been the target. It becomes therefore important that Muslim countries should evolve a joint strategy to respond through media, through OIC etc. to dispel such impression and cooperate with each other, benefit from each other's resources and to jointly play their role for peace in the world.

It is an era of geo-economics and not of geo-politics. By cooperating in the field of science and technology, trade, human resource development, industry the Islamic countries can become a power in the world to reckon with. During President Musharraf's visit to three Maghreb countries, there was consensus for free trade. In Tunisia, both the presidents agreed to increase the level of trade between the two countries. Both the leaders agreed to play their role for world peace. General Musharraf praised President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali for his contribution for promoting peace and cooperation not only among the Maghreb states but also in the Arab world and the OIC.

In Algeria, both the leaders resolved to expand the trade between their countries.

The situation around the world demands that Muslim countries should get closer and closer, cooperate in trade and business that would add to their individual and collective strength. Their geo-political issue could be resolved through collective efforts. They can play their role in World peace in an effective manner provided they have a joint Strategy.

President Musharraf's visit to three Maghreb countries is apparently positive step in this direction. His parleys with leaders of Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco clearly indicate that while discussing mutual cooperation in trade and economic fields, he has stressed the need for evolving a joint strategy for resolving political disputes which generally involved Muslims and also to play a role at OIC level, in world peace.

President Musharraf has said the Maghreb countries Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco concurred on the need for a common strategy to address issues facing the Muslim Ummah. "The leadership of these countries is on board and have assured us of their full support to evolve a strategy for Muslim Ummah to move forward. Pakistan and the three Maghreb countries have agreed to coordinate their thoughts and views before the upcoming OIC summit to achieve results."

Addressing a press conference in Rabat, General Musharraf called for resolving political disputes, generally involving Muslims in a just manner. He voiced his opposition to opening up of new fronts that would further destabilize the situation around the world. He said, "the world is in turmoil,

there is destabilization in the world, we, therefore, must immediately address the situation so that we can move forward to bring peace in the world.”

He stressed the need for resolving political disputes which generally involved Muslims because “the Muslim world has started perceiving that the religion, Islam, was being targeted. President Musharraf said, “it was more important to resolve disputes especially the Palestinian-Israeli deadlock, with justice. He said Pakistan was against opening of new fronts and further destabilizing the situation around the world.

The visit is important for Pakistan in particular and the Muslim world in general. For Pakistan it would open up opportunities for free trade among these countries and support in its efforts for peace in the region. It is also an effort for evolving a joint strategy at OIC level to work for world peace and peace in the Arab world. It would also help setting up a future course of direction for OIC.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 63-84.

**AGREEMENT ON CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
PAKISTAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA, DONE AT
ALGIERS ON 16 JULY 2003.**

(Hereinafter referred to individually as a “Contracting Party” and collectively as the “Contracting Parties)

Desiring to further strengthen friendly relations existing between the two countries.

Article-I

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to develop and reinforce their cultural cooperation on the basis of respect for the sovereignty of each other’s country

Article-2

The Contracting Parties shall exchange their experiences and achievements in the field of culture and cultural patrimony through the sending of delegations and cultural representatives and other artistic material.

Article-3

The Contracting Party shall exchange information and experiences in the fields of cinema, theatre, dramatic arts museums and libraries.

Article-4

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to safeguard and protect the authors rights of the citizens of the other Party according to the laws in force in both the countries.

Article-5

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to provide scholarships in the field of arts to the nominees of the other Party. The number of scholarships and their grant methods shall be mutually determined by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

Article-6

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in the field of radio broadcasting and television and the exchange of national films on the basis of arrangements concluded for this purpose between the interested bodies of both the countries.

Article-7

The Contracting Parties shall examine possibilities of equivalences of degrees diploma and study certificates awarded by the arts teaching establishment of both the countries.

Article-8

For the purposes of the implementation of this agreement, the competent authorities of the contracting Parties shall work out every two years a program for execution. The competent authorities are:

In case of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan: the Ministry of Minorities, Culture Sports, Tourism and Youth Affairs.

In case of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria: the Ministry of Communication and Culture.

Article-9

All disputes concerning the interpretation and application of this agreement

shall be resolved amicably through the negotiations, which may be held through diplomatic channel also.

Article-10

This agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification. It shall remain in force for a period of five (05) years and shall automatically be renewed for similar periods.

Either Contracting Party may terminate this agreement at any time after the expiry of first period of five years by giving a six months notice to the other party. The programs already initiated shall continue to be governed by the provisions of this agreement.

It may be amended by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties. The amendment shall enter into force in the same manner as required for the entry into force of this agreement.

Done in Algiers on July 16, 2003 in two originals, in the English and the Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
Of the Islamic Republic
of Pakistan
Sd
(Khurshid M. Kasuri)
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Foreign Affairs

For the Government
of the People's Democratic
Republic of Algeria
Sd
(Abdelaziz Belkhadem)
Senior Minister

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 237-239.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA, DONE AT ALGIERS ON 16 JULY 2003

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. (Hereinafter referred to as the "two parties"),

Conscious of the traditional friendly relations between their people and their countries;

Desirous to develop and reinforce the relations of friendship,

cooperation, and mutual concord;

Conscious also of the importance of the consultations and continuous exchanges at the different levels between the two countries about the bilateral relations and world issues of common interest;

Reaffirming their commitments to the principles and aims of the United Nation's Charter;

Have agreed the following.

Article-1

The two parties shall hold regular consultations to examine all aspects of their bilateral relations and exchange points of view about the world issues of common interest and their impact on the international scene.

Article-2

The consultations about the bilateral relations shall include political, economic, commercial, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

Article-3

The planned consultations within the framework of the memorandum of understanding, shall be organized once a year whenever necessary, alternately in Islamabad and in Algiers at the level of high' officers.

Article-4

The date, venue and agenda of the consultations shall be set up through diplomatic channel.

Article-5

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be without prejudice to any other treaty or agreement which are binding on both parties.

Article-6

The diplomatic missions of both parties in other countries, along with their representatives in the United Nations and other international organizations, shall increase their consultations and communications according to their needs in order to exchange information in the field: mentioned in Art. 1 of this Memorandum.

Article-7

This Memorandum shall enter into force from the date of its signature and shall remain in force for five (05) years and may tacitly be renewed for further similar periods, unless one party notifies to the other party to terminate it by giving a prior writing notice through diplomatic channel six (06) months in advance of the date of expiry.

Done at Algiers on July 16, 2003 in two originals, in English and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic
Algeria
Republic of Pakistan

For
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the People's Democratic of

Sd/ (Khurshid M. Kasuri)
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sd/ (Abdelaziz Belkhadem)
Foreign Affairs Senior Minister of

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 240-242.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RELATING TO THE PROMOTION OF FOREIGN TRADE BETWEEN EXPORT PROMOTION BUREAU OF PAKISTAN AND ALGERIAN OFFICE FOR FOREIGN TRADE PROMOTION, DONE AT ALGIERS ON 17 JULY 2003

The Export Promotion Bureau of Pakistan (EPB)

The Algerian Office and For Foreign Trade Promotion (PROMEX)

Hereinafter referred to by the "bodies"

Article-1

Scope of activities

Both bodies will take the necessary measures for the promotion and development of trade relations between companies from Pakistan and from Algeria through:

- i) Exchange of information,

- ii) Implementation of trade promotion activities
- iii) Organizing training programs and exchanges of experts.

Article-2

Exchange of information

Both bodies agree to establish a regular reciprocal exchange of:

- economic and commercial information,
- market research, directories and any other publications which might enable an easier analysis of the correspondent markets,
- data regarding foreign trade,
- facilities and procedures for the respective investors.

Article-3

Implementation of trade promotion activities

Both bodies agree to support each other regarding the organization of promotion activities, such as international fairs and exhibitions, economical missions, seminars, conferences, forums, etc.

In this respect, each institution will take necessary measures to propagate the information regarding the above-mentioned actions as well as to organize business relations in their respective countries.

Article-4

The procedure of sending the documentary

Materials and information

Depending on their specific nature, the following methods of conveyance are agreed:

- business opportunities, products and services inquiries, international tenders through e-mail and or fax;
- investment and technical and economical cooperation opportunities through e- mail and/or fax information regarding the organization of international fairs and exhibitions through e-mail and/or fax;
- the fairs catalogues and other documentary materials for fairs and exhibitions through e-mail and/or fax;
- legislation amendments in the field of trade practices, through regular mail;

- surveys, publications, through regular mail.

Article-5

Organizing training programs and exchange of experts

Both bodies agree to cooperate in organizing training programs for the staff of both institutions to benefit from their experience as regards to the trade promotion activities and techniques, as well as to exchange experts for general market studies and trade opportunities in each country.

Each party will bear its own expenses unless otherwise specified in a mutual and particular agreement.

Article-6

Implementation

Both bodies agree to organize regular working meeting to be held alternately in Algeria and Pakistan, with the purpose of evaluating the implementation of the provisions of the current agreement, and determine the most appropriate measures for its development.

Article-7

Duration of the memorandum

The current memorandum will enter into force on the date of its signature for period of three years automatically renewed, unless one of the bodies decide to end it. In such case six months prior notice in writing will be addressed to the other.

Done at Algiers on 17 July 2003 in two originals in English and Arabic, both texts being equally authentic.

For Export Promotion Bureau
of Pakistan
Sd (Tariq Ikram) Minister of
State Chairman

For Algerian office for Foreign
Trade Promotion
Sd (Mohamed Bennini)
General Director

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 243-246.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE FEDERATION OF PAKISTAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND THE ALGERIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DONE AT ALGIERS ON 17 JULY 2003

The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the

Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hereinafter referred to as the “parties”, having taken into account the aspiration of their respective business community to promote economic and trade in particular, have agreed on the following.

1. Both parties shall endeavour to promote the economic and commercial relations between Pakistan and Algeria.
2. Both parties shall contribute towards obtaining a better analysis and appreciation of their own markets as well as of those presenting interest for their exports through a mutual exchange of commercial information.
3. Both parties shall exchange their periodical publications and shall examine favorably all requests put forward by the other party for the free publication of commercial information in these publications.
4. Both parties shall encourage their members to participate in trade fairs and exhibitions organized in their respective countries.
5. The parties shall encourage exchange of visits, between themselves in the form of trade mission.
6. Each party shall be responsible for organizing the above mentioned events in its own country.

The present memorandum of understanding shall come into effect upon signature and shall remain valid for a period of two (2) years thereafter, it shall be automatically renewed for a further period of two year unless one party gives prior notice to the other party in writing six months in advance to the date of expiration of its intention to terminate the memorandum of understanding at any time.

Done in Algiers on 17 July 2003 in two original copies in English and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Federation of Pakistan
Chambers of commerce and Industry
Sd Osman Khalid Waheed)

For the Algerian Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
Sd (Brahim Bouard) Vice President

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 247-248.

AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, DONE AT RABAT ON 18 JULY 2003

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, hereinafter referred to as “Parties”.

CONSIDERING that the development of scientific and technical

relations shall be of mutual benefit to both countries;

DESIROUS of strengthening cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of science and technology;

CONSIDERING further that such cooperation will promote the development of existing friendly relations between the two countries.

Article-1

The Parties shall promote the development of cooperation in the fields of science and technology between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, subject to the applicable laws and regulations in force respectively in the two countries.

Cooperation between the Parties in the fields of science and technology may be affected by means of:

- a. Exchange of scientists, research workers, specialist and scholars;
- b. Exchange of scientific and technical information and documentations;
- b) Organization of joint scientific and technical seminars and courses in areas of mutual interest;
- c) Joint identification of scientific and technical problems, formulation and implementation of joint research programs, application of the results of such research in industry, agriculture and other fields, and exchange of experience and know-how resulting there from; and
- d) Other ways and means of cooperation as mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Article-2

The Parties shall promote cooperation between their respective organizations, enterprises and institutions concerned with science and technology with a view to concluding, if necessary, appropriate contracts within the framework of this Agreement.

Contracts which shall be the basis for developing cooperation between the organizations, enterprises and institutions referred to in sub-article (1), shall be signed in accordance with the domestic law in force in the respective countries. The Parties shall encourage the organizations, enterprises and institutions to include in such contracts, where applicable, provisions for:

- a) recompense for licensing know-how or utilization of patents;
- b) exchange of patents information, joint application for patents based on joint projects of research and development, and

- conditions for their commercialization by either Party or jointly by them in the two countries or in a third country;
- c) conditions of introduction into production and realization of output;
 - d) financial terms and conditions; and
 - e) the terms and conditions applying to the information obtained by the said organizations, enterprises and institutions or implementation of the said contracts.

Article-3

In order to ensure optimum conditions for the implementation of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall establish a Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation which shall consist of representatives designated by the Parties.

The tasks of the Joint Committee shall be to review the progress of cooperative activities under this Agreement;

- a) to determine new areas of cooperation under this Agreement; and
- b) to discuss other matters related to this Agreement.

The Joint Committee shall meet, if necessary, alternately in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and in the Kingdom of Morocco on mutually agreed dates.

Article-4

The delivery of the equipment required for joint research and for pilot plant studies instituted in furtherance of this Agreement shall be agreed upon in writing either between the Parties or between the cooperating organizations, enterprises and institutions, as may be applicable in each individual case.

The delivery of equipment and apparatus from one country to another produced in the course of implementation of this Agreement shall be effected in accordance with the terms of the then existing trade Agreement between the Parties, or as may be agreed between them.

Article-5

The Parties shall promote cooperation among scientific libraries, centers of scientific and technical information, and scientific institutions for exchange of books, periodicals and bibliographies.

Article-6

Subject to the requirements of domestic law, no Party shall divulge information obtained by it or its personnel under this Agreement to any third Party without the specific written consent of the other Party.

Article-7

The Parties shall bear the expenses incurred in connection with the cooperative activities under this Agreement on the basis of the principle of equality and reciprocity and in accordance with the availability of assets.

Article-8

Each Party shall, subject to its domestic law, provide to the citizens of the other Party, who stay in its territory, all assistance and facilities in the fulfillment of the tasks they are entrusted with, according to the provisions of this Agreement. Such personnel shall be subject to national provisions in force in the receiving country and may not engage in any activity extraneous to their functions, or receive any compensation other than that agreed upon, without the prior authorization of both Parties.

Article-9

This Agreement shall be subject to the compliance with the constitutional requirements of the Parties and shall come into force on the date on which each Party has notified the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its compliance with the constitutional requirements necessary for the implementation of the Agreement. The date of entry into force shall be the date of the last notifications.

The Parties shall endeavour to resolve amicably any disputes concerning interpretation or performance of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be automatically extended for further periods of five years, unless either Party gives twelve months prior notice in writing to the other Party through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate this Agreement.

Article-10

This Agreement may be revised or amended with the written approval of both Parties, and through the same legal procedures referred to in Article-9. any revision or termination of this Agreement . shall be effective without prejudice to any right or obligation accruing or incurred under this Agreement prior to the date of the revision/termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, respective Parties, have signed and sealed this Agreement in duplicate in the English and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Done at Rabat on this 18th day of July 2003.

Sd/-

For and on behalf of
the Government of the Islamic Republic
of Pakistan

Sd/-

For and the behalf of the
Government of the Kingdom of
Morocco

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 249-254.

**AGREEMENT OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS, ZAKAT AND USHR IN
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN AND THE
MINISTRY OF AWQAAF AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS IN THE
KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, DONE AT RABAT ON 18 JULY 2003**

The Ministry of Religious Affairs, Zakat and Ushr in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Ministry of Awqaaf and Islamic Affairs in the Kingdom of Morocco;

Desiring to promote the fraternal and national bonds and strengthen the ties of Islamic cooperation between the two countries. And to reaffirm their commitment to the teachings of the religion of Islam and its noble moral values;

Believing in the significance of cooperation and the necessity of integration in various aspects of Islamic work and its various fields;

In implementation of the cultural Accord signed between the governments of both countries on July 8th, 1967.

Do hereby agree on the following:

Article-I

To exchange information on the revitalization of Islamic heritage, research, books, publications, scripts about Islamic Shariah and Islamic jurisprudence.

Article-II

To exchange visits of scholars and experts in the field of religious preaching and Islamic guidance and education, and to exchange information on academic means for preserving Islamic books, scripts and documents to

facilitate the process of research on them and to publish them in order to make them accessible for research

Article-III

To exchange publications, books, experiences, studies and documents about protection and maintenance of religious institutions (Mosques, universities, old schools, brotherhoods, Awqaaf and Quranic madrasas) and also production of audio visual on Islamic themes and culture.

Article-IV

To cooperate in respect of creation of websites to disseminate knowledge, through Internet services, on all the Islamic themes, research books, scholars, institutions in both the countries.

Article-V

To exchange visits of scholars, teachers and academicians for conducting research works about Islamic Affairs and to give lessons and deliver lectures on various subjects of Islamic culture and to organize seminars and to deliver sermons for guiding Muslims in both countries towards the correct religious direction and for the Dawah purposes.

Article-VI

To exchange visits of officials concerned with Awqaaf and Islamic affairs in both the countries to find ways and. means beneficial for conducting the affairs of Awqaaf and their administration and to study the best ways and means to develop cooperation in this regard.

To cooperate in the containment and exposition of anti-Islamic activities in both the countries.

Article-VIII

To cooperate in respect of construction of mosques, and Islamic centers and institutes, and to get assistance in this regard from the vast experience available in Morocco in original Islamic decoration and engravings.

Article-IX

Both parties agree on the formation of a Joint Commission headed by the Minister of Religious Affairs, Zakat and Ushr in the Islamic Republic of

Pakistan and the Minister of Awqaaf and Islamic Affairs in the Kingdom of Morocco. The two Ministers will agree to nominate its members.

Article-X

The said Joint Commission will endeavour for following up the implementation of various aspects of religious cooperation between the two sides. It will hold its meetings at least once a year in Rabat and in Islamabad alternatively.

Article-XI

This Agreement will be valid for three years from the date of its signing. It will be renewable automatically for similar successive periods unless any of the parties announces its desire to terminate it six months before its date of termination.

Done at Rabat day 1424 H corresponding the 18th day of July 2003 in two original copies in English and Arabic.

For
The Islamic Republic of
Pakistan

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 255-258.

AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, DONE AT RABAT ON 18 JULY 2003

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco (hereinafter refer individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”);

Aware of the significance of the environmental protection for the will being of the present and the future generations;

Realizing the possibility of the transfer of environmental polluting across borders, and that the protection from it can only be effect within the framework of an international coordinated cooperation;

Convinced of the importance of making sustainable development policies;

Considering the principles, recommendations and texts added by UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Riode Janeiro in June 1992;

Considering that development and improvement of institution legislative and technical cooperation in the field of environment contribute in strengthening the relations between the two countries.

Have agreed on the following:

Article-I

The Parties will develop their bilateral cooperation in the field environment in the basis of justice, equality and mutual benefit rights and privileges within the framework of specializations and laws of their countries. This cooperation centering on the scientific and. technological aspects will specially encourage promotion of economic and commercial exchanges.

Article-II

The Parties will facilitate, according to the objectives of this Agreement, the establishment and development of relations of cooperation between their public and private institutions in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development. And for the same objectives, the Parties will encourage industrial cooperation and will facilitate the closeness between their enterprises for sustainable development.

Article-III

The Parties designate the Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development in Pakistan and the Secretariat of State in charge of Environment in Morocco for the execution of this Agreement.

As far as those aspects, which fall out of their jurisdiction, are concerned, the Secretary of State in charge of the Environment in Morocco and the Minister of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development in Pakistan will endeavour to facilitate contacts between the concerned ministries and organizations.

The Minister of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development in Pakistan and the Secretary of State in charge of Environment in Morocco, as per Articles four and five of this Agreement, shall identify the fields which can be subjects of special cooperation between the two Ministries and similar forms of such cooperation.

In terms of the provisions of this Agreement, cooperation is assigned to a follow up committee) the committee consisting of officials deputed by the Parties. The task to explore the means of promotes environmental cooperation between the Parties of the agreed projects of bilateral cooperation.

A meeting of the Committee will be convened three months after the

signing of this Agreement. The Committee will hold its meeting once a year alternately in Pakistan and Morocco and extra-ordinarily sessions of the Committee may be held as agreed by the Parties.

The functions of chairmanship of the normal sessions of the Committee will be performed alternately in case of convening of an extraordinary session, it will be chaired by the hosting party.

Article-IV

The environmental aspects which can cooperation between the Parties are the

- institutional, legislative and organization of environment;
- collection and analysis of information about the state of environment and elements affecting it;
- getting various concerned groups of the society informed about environmental problems, socio-economic activists.
- management and protection of the ecologically sensitive areas: humid areas, the naturally mountainous ecological system, the coastal areas and seas;
- exchange of information and experience concerning activities and technologies which are not harmful for the environment and to promote their implementation;
- merging environmental policies into sustainable development Policies specially in industry, agriculture, forestry, tourism, hunting, transport, territory planning, urban planning and rural development;
- management of municipal and similar wastes, recycle, disposal and
- reduction of industrial wastes, particularly the dangerous ones;
- new renewable and un-centralized energies;
- development of applied research concerning environment particularly
- in the field of industry, geology and chemical industry;
- evaluation of air pollution in big urban areas;
- any other areas related to the protection and the improvement of environment that are determined with mutual consent of the Parties.

Article-V

The cooperation between the Parties may be conducted through the following means:

- exchange of information about environment programs of both
- countries and also the exchange of scientific and technical publications and magazines;
- exchange of opinions and proposals about the adoption of legislative requirements for preparing programs or executing projects by any of the Parties;
- participation of employees and experts to manifestations and
- programs organized by the Parties, and holding of Morocco-Pakistan meetings during the organized demonstration outside their countries;
- visit of experts and trained people with the aim of exchange of
- information and experiences and ensuring the transfer of technology know-how;
- joint organization of programs to train specialists in the specific fields
- under the framework of this cooperation;
- grant of technical assistance to the desiring Party through joint
- programs;
- any other form of cooperation agreed upon by the Parties;

The Parties will agree on plans of action that will determine the activities to be executed, and on sources and means to finance those activities.

Article-VI

This Agreement does not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties resulting from other international agreements.

Article-VII

Departments in-charge of environment and scientists of the Parties may have access, as the case may be, to information obtained under this Agreement, and which do not fall under the rules of protecting the intellectual property rights, unless the Parties agree on the contrary; this excludes information which can not be published for reasons of national security, trade secret or industrial secret.

Article-VIII

Any disagreement concerning interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved through negotiations between the Parties.

Article-XI

Any modification or amendment in this Agreement, shall be made through written mutual consent of the Parties.

Article-X

This Agreement shall enter into force on the day of its signing. It shall remain valid for five years and shall be renewed automatically for similar successive periods. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time, after the expiry of the first period of five years, by giving a written notice of six months in advance.

The termination of this Agreement shall not affect projects and programs which are under implementation under this Agreement, unless the Parties agree to the contrary.

Done in Rabat on 18 July 2003 in two originals in English and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Sd/-

On behalf of

the Government of the Islamic Republic
of

of Pakistan

Sd/-

On behalf of

the Government of the Kingdom

Morocco

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 259-264.

REPORT ON A PAKISTAN-SUDAN AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A JOINT REVOLVING FUND TO PROMOTE MUTUAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ISLAMABAD, 23 JULY 2003

Pakistan and Sudan agreed to establish a joint revolving fund equivalent to \$1 million to promote mutual cooperation in the field of science and technology (S&T).

Under the fund, each side would annually contribute an amount of \$0.5 million from its own resources. The fund will be utilized for meeting expenditures on the work undertaken in the respective country for implementation of agreed joint research projects in S&T.

The agreement to this effect was reached under an executive protocol on scientific and technological cooperation signed between Pakistan and Sudan at Khartoum. Minister In-charge for Science and Technology Professor Atta-ur-Rehman and his Sudanese counterpart Professor Dr. El

Zubair Bashir Taha signed the agreement on behalf of their countries.

Under the agreement, Pakistan will provide technical assistance to Sudan in building the Sudan Electronic City. Pakistan will also participate in setting up of technology incubators in the Sudan Electronic City. Pakistan and Sudan will also take up collaborative activities in the fields of electronics and computer software, information technology, postgraduate training, veterinary medicines, sustainable energy, cotton and rice breeding, medicinal and aromatic plants and human resource development areas.

It has been decided that Pakistan and Sudan will devise programmes leading to enhancement of capabilities in the software and hardware computer technologies. Pakistan will provide training facilities to Sudanese scholars in different fields of S&T leading to M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees as well as short-term training programmes.

In the veterinary medicines area, the Veterinary Research Institute at the National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad, Poultry Vaccine Institute, Karachi, and Nuclear Institute of Agricultural Biology (NIAB), Faisalabad will collaborate with Animal Research and Technology Cooperation, Sudan.

In the sustainable energy area, the Pakistan Council of Renewable Energy and Technologies and Optics Laboratories, Islamabad, will interact with Energy Technology and Earth Sciences Corporation of Sudan to promote and undertake joint research and development projects in the field of laser technology.

In the fields of cotton, and rice breeding, the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council's Cotton Research Institute, Multan; NIAB, Faisalabad; National Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Faisalabad; Leather Research Centre at the Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Karachi; and Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC) of Sudan will implement research activities in their fields of specialization. These institutions will collaborate with the Agricultural Research Corporation of Sudan for initiation of joint projects.

In the human resource development area, the Ministry of Science and Technology of Sudan will collaborate with the HEJ Research Institute of Chemistry, Karachi, to avail training facilities for the Sudanese students in the fields of organic chemistry.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXX, Issue 7, 16-31 July 2003, pp. 147-148.

**EXCERPTS FROM A JOINT PRESS BRIEFING ADDRESSED
BY HEADS OF AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN
ISLAMABAD ON THE OCCASION OF AFRICA DAY,
ISLAMABAD, 25 MAY 2004**

Pakistan has made significant contributions towards the ideals of African Union by remaining committed to sending peacekeeping troops to the flashpoints in Africa in pursuance of peace and stability. Africa and Pakistan are also poised to contribute through a meaningful partnership for the economic uplift of their respective peoples by further enhancing economic relations and expanding trade and investment opportunities.

This declaration came from the heads of African diplomatic missions based in Islamabad while addressing a joint press briefing here on Monday. The envoys of Africa Group also expressed their complete support to Pakistan's efforts in eliminating terrorism in all forms and manifestations. They said that the scourge of terrorism could not be stamped out by one country, but with a combined effort of all countries of the world.

South African High Commissioner Moosa Moola chaired the briefing. He was flanked by his counterparts from Africa Groups heads of mission, ambassadors and charge de affairs of Egypt, Mauritius, Sudan, Algeria, Nigeria, Kenya, Somalia, Libya, Tunisia and Eritrea.

The Africa Group over the last few years maintained a tradition of hosting an event to commemorate the formation of the African Union (AU), formally coming into being on July 9, 2002, in Durban, South Africa. It replaces the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which was founded on May 25, 1963. The AU has been designed to meet the challenges of a constantly changing world. It builds on and is an extension of the OAU and has a mandate, which includes the establishment of a mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution and calls for greater efficiency and effectiveness within the organization as a whole, and has a special focus on political, economic and developmental objectives.

The Africa Group stressed that promotion of peace, security and stability is an integral element and a core objective of the African Union, as it relates to sustainable development. Heads of African diplomatic missions also expressed keen desire to promote trade relations with Pakistan.

Ambassador of Sudan Awad Mohammad Hasan said it is unfortunate that until now only four per cent of Pakistan's foreign trade is directed towards Africa, which is much below African ambition. He said it is a great challenge for both Africa and Pakistan, as a lot more needs to be done to enhance trade relations between the two sides.

Ambassador of Algeria N. Larbaoui stressed that Pakistan needs to adopt a new outlook for Africa, the new emerging power of the world, and

take steps to further promote the trade and economic relationships.

Ambassador of Egypt Hisham El-Zimaity said there is a lot of scope in expanding relationships in the field of food security, textile and clothing, and IT sector.

South African High Commissioner Moosa Moola said that Africa is a vast continent with over 600 million people and 53 member countries, the second largest continent in the world. Therefore, it is important for Pakistan to expand the economic and cultural relations with Africa a larger scale.

Mauritius High Commissioner Rabindranath Dawarka said that Africa Group wants to share the vision of Africa with Pakistan, hoping for a better understanding and closer relationship in economic, trade and cultural fields; he stressed the need for increasing official exchanges between Africa and Pakistan.

The Africa Group hoped that the increase in trade would help strengthen the existing relations between Pakistan and African countries.

South African High, Commissioner Moosa Moolla in his opening speech said that the relationship between Pakistan and Africa could further benefit from the positive relations through the medium of the Asia-Africa Sub-Regional Organization Conference (AASROC) with exchanges of cultural, economic, media, and academic arenas. He said that it is heartening for the Africa Group to see similar efforts like Africa towards peace and stability in the South Asian region being manifested through Saarc, demonstrating a collective will to rid the region of social and economic malaise. He also lauded the establishment of a composite dialogue between India and Pakistan.

On behalf of the Africa Group, he hoped that the momentum established between the two nations in the course of normalization of bilateral relationship would be further enhanced, paving way for the peace and prosperity of the entire region. He said that AU would continue to build on the political successes achieved and open up a new chapter of economic liberation and development of the continent.

Moosa Moola said that while political and economic uncertainty, conflict and terrorism continue to undermine and militate against the general well-being of ordinary people around the world, especially in the developing South, African leaders have chosen to pursue an architectural framework of cooperation amongst themselves that would eventually uplift their peoples from the scourge of poverty and underdevelopment. They have chosen, as essential elements of the AU, some institutional organs that would enable them to put into gear the gigantic task of rebuilding the continent.

Giving details about the African Union, Moosa Moola said that Africa has embarked upon an ambitious undertaking to rid the continent of the plight of poverty, hunger, disease, unemployment, illiteracy and economic backwardness and transform itself into a region of peace and prosperity.

The African countries are very much interested in the socio-cultural life of Pakistan and financing various socio-cultural projects. Member states of the AU accredited to Pakistan have established a tradition by commemorating the establishment of Africa's premier organization AU on May 25 annually.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue V, 1-25 May 2004, pp. 292-295.

OFFICIAL VISIT OF AN EGYPTIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, DR. MAHMOUD KAREM (11-13 JULY 2004)

The Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister, Dr. Mahmoud Kareem, paid an official visit to Islamabad from 11-13 July 2004 for bilateral consultations between the Foreign Ministries of Egypt and Pakistan. The Egyptian delegation held meetings with the senior officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on bilateral, regional, and international issues of importance to both their countries. In his meeting on 12 July 04, Dr. Mahmoud Kareem held consultations on international peace, security and the role of OIC in furthering the interest of the Muslims around the world. These consultations also included peace in South Asia, Kashmir and Afghanistan.

Political Consultations

The Egyptian delegation held formal political consultations with Additional Secretary (ME&A), Mr. Javed Hafiz, in the Ministry on 13 July 2004. The two sides discussed ways and means to enhance mutual cooperation in political and economic fields. In addition the two legations exchanged views on some of the important issues facing the Islamic Ummah like the situation in Iraq and Palestine and their perception of G-8 sponsored, "Partnership for Progress and Common Future with the Region of the Broader Middle East and North Africa".

The two sides agreed on regular consultations between the senior officials of their Foreign Ministries, on regional and global issues. They found the consultations useful in coordinating their stance and adoption of a unified position on these important issues.

The consultations between the senior officials of the two countries were held under an MoU signed during the land mark visit of General Pervez Musharraf to Egypt in April 2000, with the aim of coordinating their positions on regional and international issues in safeguarding their interest. This first round of consultations showed marked closeness of views between the two countries on all the subjects discussed.

Call on Foreign Minister

The Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Mahmoud Kareem called on

Foreign Minister Khurshid M. Kasuri this afternoon at the conclusion of two days of talks with the senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Egyptian delegation expressed satisfaction at the useful and intensive discussions held at the Foreign Office under the MoU for closer diplomatic consultations between our two countries.

The Foreign Minister emphasized upon the brotherly relations existing between two important Islamic countries, Egypt and Pakistan, and reiterated the need for closer interaction and cooperation at the international fora. While speaking of strengthening the OIC, the Foreign Minister (emphasized the need for early nomination of Egyptian Representative for the 'OIC Eminent Persons Group'. The Foreign Minister also emphasized the importance of territorial integrity and sovereignty of Iraq, allowing the UN a major role in reconstruction and returning Iraq to normalcy as soon as possible.

The Egyptian Minister conveyed the appreciation of his government to Pakistan's efforts, especially policies being followed by President Pervez Musharraf, in modernizing and reforming the image of Islam. The Foreign Minister remarked that Egypt and Pakistan, being key players in the Islamic world, should cooperate more with each other. The Egyptian delegation thanked the Foreign Minister for receiving them and expressed the hope that the Foreign Minister would be able to visit Egypt soon.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue VII, July 2004, pp. 115-116.

OFFICIAL RELEASE ON PRESIDENT GENERAL PERVEZ MUSHARRAF'S STRENUOUS EFFORTS TO HELP ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN DARFUR, ISLAMABAD, 27 JULY 2004

Over the past week, President General Pervez Musharraf has made strenuous efforts to help address the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. In his contacts with world leaders, the President emphasised that the situation should not be allowed to spin out of control in order to save Sudan and the international community from a grave tragedy. The President stressed the need for the international community to use all political means to resolve the pressing problems in order to ward off a bigger crisis.

As part of his efforts, yesterday (July 26), the President spoke with President Omar Hasan Ahmad Al Bashir of Sudan to underline that the implementation of the commitments between the UN and the Sudanese Government provides the framework for a viable solution of the serious problems in Darfur. President Bashir appreciated President Musharraf's keen interest and briefed him about the efforts the Sudanese Government was making to resolve the crisis.

President Musharraf has said that comprehensive forward movement on the three aspects of the crisis — humanitarian access, political dialogue, and security - would help improve the situation considerably. The President also conveyed to President Bashir the concern of the Islamic world, including Pakistan, about the internecine strife in Sudan and its consequences for the brotherly people of Sudan.

Later, the President spoke with Mr. Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, and Mr. Colin Powell, US Secretary of State, to underscore the need for creating more diplomatic space for solutions that avert the need or rationale of sanctions or the threat of sanctions.

Pakistan, as a member of the UN Security Council, has been actively engaged in discussing the draft text of a resolution on the situation in Darfur.

During the past few weeks, leaders of several countries, including Sweden, Finland, Germany and the US, have requested President Musharraf to play a greater role in defusing the situation in Darfur.

The President will continue his efforts on the Darfur situation.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue VII, July 2004, pp. 282-283.

VISIT OF FOREIGN SECRETARY RIAZ KHOKHAR TO KHARTOUM, AS SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN ON 4 AUGUST 2004

Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar visited Khartoum, as Special Envoy of the President of Pakistan on 4 August 2004. He met the President of Sudan H.E. Mr. Omer Hassan Ahmed El Bashir and the Foreign Minister of Sudan Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail in Khartoum. He conveyed a special message of the President of Pakistan to the President of Sudan regarding the situation in Darfur.

The President and the Foreign Minister of Sudan presented Sudan's point of view on the situation as well as their views on the United Nations Security Council resolution. They assured the Special Envoy of Sudan's desire to implement the United Nations Security Council and African Union's resolutions on the matter. They underlined, however, the unreasonable timeframe of 30 days in the UN Security Council to undertake this enormous task.

Mr. Riaz Khokhar, the Special Envoy, conveyed the brotherly concern of Pakistan and expressed the hope that an early solution to the humanitarian situation in Darfur will be found. He also underscored that a peaceful political solution based on the sovereignty, territorial integrity, honour and dignity of Sudan, was essential. Such a solution was necessary to avoid sanctions that could flow from the UN Security Council resolution on Darfur after the lapse of 30 days period.

In the recent past, the President of Pakistan has been making strenuous efforts for the resolution of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. Before the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1556 on the situation in Darfur, the President had spoken with the Sudanese President, United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, and US Secretary of State Colin Powell to create space for the implementation of the July 3 Joint Communiqué signed by the Sudanese Government and the United Nations. The President had called for implementation of the joint commitments to ensure humanitarian access, political dialogue and security.

The Security Council Resolution (1556) was adopted on July 30, 2004. In the context of this resolution as well as in view of the evolving situation, Mr. Riaz Khokhar will convey a special message from President Musharraf for the Sudanese President.

Pakistan and Sudan enjoy close brotherly relations.

The Foreign Secretary's delegation included Mr. Tariq Osman Hyder, Additional Secretary (UN and EC), and Ms. Tehmina Janjua, Director, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue VIII, August 2004, pp. 59-60.

**VISIT OF PAKISTAN DELEGATION LED BY FOREIGN
SECRETARY RIAZ KHOKHAR TO THE XIV NAM
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AND THE SECOND AASROC
MINISTERIAL MEETING IN DURBAN
ON 19-20 AUGUST**

Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar headed the Pakistan delegation to the XIV NAM Ministerial Conference and the Second AASROC Ministerial meeting in Durban on 19-20 August.

On the sidelines of the NAM conference, the Foreign Secretary held a detailed, substantive and productive meeting with his counterpart, the Director General of the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Ayanda Ntsaluba. During this meeting, both sides affirmed their keen desire to further strengthen bilateral relations to mutual benefit and to explore new avenues of cooperation. It was decided to convene the Pakistan-South Africa Joint Commission at an early mutually convenient date. The Foreign Secretary extended an invitation to Dr. Ntsaluba to visit Pakistan for the Joint Commission Meeting. An invitation on behalf of the Foreign Minister was also extended to the South African Foreign Minister, Dr Nkosazana Zuma.

The meeting between Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar and Dr. Ntsaluba reviewed the entire range of bilateral relations between the two countries as well as matters of regional and global importance. The Foreign

Secretary briefed Dr. Ntsaluba on important issues such as Pak-India relations, Afghanistan, Iraq, and our role in Darfur crisis. The two sides found a close identity of views on issues of global importance.

The Foreign Secretary also met leaders of various delegations to the NAM conference including the South African Foreign Minister Dr. Zuma and the Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Aziz Pahad. He was also interviewed by the leading newspapers and television/radio channels.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue VIII, August 2004, pp. 71-72.

**REMARKS BY MR. RIAZ KHOKHAR, FOREIGN
SECRETARY AND LEADER OF PAKISTAN DELEGATION,
AT THE SECOND AFRICA-ASIA SUB-REGIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE (AASROC-II) IN DURBAN,
SOUTH AFRICA ON 20 AUGUST 2004**

Honourable AASROC Co-Chairs, Dr. Nkosazana Zuma, Foreign Minister of South Africa and Dr. Hassan Wirajuda, Foreign Minister of Indonesia,

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great privilege and honour for me to represent Pakistan at the Second Africa Asia Sub-Regional Organizations Conference in the beautiful city of Durban.

I am overwhelmed by a deep sense of gratitude to the people and Government of South Africa for the warm hospitality extended to the Pakistan delegation and for the excellent facilities and arrangements made for the Second AASROC Conference.

I would also like to convey our deep appreciation to both the governments of South Africa and Indonesia for their outstanding leadership as AASROC Co-Chairs in delineating a new and reinvigorated Asia-Africa partnership road map.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
The AASROC initiative draws its spirit and inspiration from the Bandung principles. It is based on the realization that the ideals and objectives that our leaders sought to achieve at Bandung fifty years ago, are as relevant and important today as they were then.

Our struggle against poverty, under development and disease is far from over and yet there are new challenges and threats looming on the

horizon including, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, erosion of multilateralism. The process of Globalization that should have been a source of hope and inspiration for the poor has unfortunately also become a part of the problem through its selective, discriminatory and pro-rich orientation.

In fact the threats and challenges that we face today in the 21st century are perhaps more complex and daunting than before, thus necessitating the need and urgency to renew and reinvigorate our commitment to the Bandung concord. The initiative to convene Asia-Africa Sub-Regional Organizations Conference could not, therefore, have come at a more opportune time.

It is indeed very heartening to note that in a rather short span of time we have already been able to broadly define the principles and parameters of our new strategic partnership and the areas and structure of the proposed cooperation. We will now need to sharpen the focus by further narrowing down the priority areas and to translate the political will, demonstrated thus far, into concrete actions.

Pakistan fully supports the idea of fostering a new strategic partnership between Asia and Africa. The problems that our two continents face are complex and daunting. The driving motivation to see this inter-continental cooperative endeavor to succeed flows from our common need and desire to effectively address the challenge of development and fighting poverty, exacerbated by reduced market access, rising debt burdens, declining development assistance and investment and financial flows.

The recommendations made by the AASROC Ministerial Working group meeting in Durban earlier this year provide the necessary institutional framework to build a mechanism for cooperation between Asia and Africa.

We are glad that the Working Group, while identifying the need for cooperation in political, economic, social and cultural spheres agreed to primarily focus the new strategic partnership on intensifying cooperation in the area of trade, investment and human resource development.

The Working Group also recognized the pivotal role that the private sector can play. We particularly welcome the establishment of the Asia-Africa Business Forum in Kuala Lumpur, in pursuance of the recommendation of the AASROC Ministerial Working Group at its meeting in Durban in March 2004.

Pakistan is of the firm view that enhanced trade and economic activity between our two continents and closer contacts between our two business communities would prove to be a critical asset in facilitating wider cooperation in all other areas. We are confident that the proposed Asia-Africa Business Summit would unite businessmen representing the chambers of commerce and industry of sub-regional organizations in a loose confederation.

Pakistan, on its part, would be happy to host a meeting of the Asia-

Africa Businessmen, in due course, in consultation with the member States.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

The true potential of Asia-Africa Sub-Regional Cooperation, particularly in the field of trade is far from fully realized. The limited number of bilateral and regional trading arrangements between the two continents, unfortunately also reflected by the low level of trade and investment flows,' only confirm the absence of a robust economic dimension to our relationship. The situation needs to be rectified.

AASROC initiative offers an important and unique window of opportunity here. We may, therefore, through the AASROC Working Group, seriously examine the various possibilities that may exist to stimulate trade and commercial cooperation between Asia and Africa by creating such arrangements.

Pakistan would support the setting up of a Sub-Working Group, which could undertake an in-depth review of the existing status and future scope of trade and economic cooperation between Asia and Africa.

The Sub-group can submit its report and recommendations to the next Ministerial Working Group. In this regard, we feel that the study paper to be presented by South Africa, Indonesia, Morocco and other volunteer countries, as agreed during the Ministerial Working Group in March, could provide a good basis to further work on this idea.

Another area where our two continents perhaps lag behind is the absence of people to people contacts. Non-availability of information about each other, high cost of travel and other linguistic and cultural barriers have been some of the key impediments in the way of building people to people contacts.

We strongly feel that this is the other important area where AASROC should be working to devise mechanisms that would facilitate closer people to people interaction at all levels.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Pakistan has always been pro-active in supporting initiatives that seek to address the problems and crises faced by the countries of Africa.

We have also been a strong supporter of the effective and early implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Similarly, Pakistan has consistently supported the political and economic aspirations of Africa: We are proud of our participation in several UN peacekeeping operations in Africa. Our military and civilian personnel have been part of UN peacekeeping operations in Somalia, Namibia, Liberia, Western Sahara, and, lately, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire and Burundi. Pakistan will continue to lend its moral and material support to the African countries.

At the national level, the Government of Pakistan has been successfully operating a special technical assistance programme for Africa since 1986. Hundreds of young African professionals in various fields have benefited from this ongoing programme.

We are ready to share our experiences with other willing partners from Asia and would also welcome ideas on making the programme more effective for our African friends who have participated in the programme.

We strongly believe that AASROC would provide the platform and the tools to further enrich and deepen our bilateral engagements with Africa. We are of the view that technological advancement and human resource development levels achieved by some of the countries in Asia and Africa can be shared and replicated elsewhere in Asia and Africa. It is, therefore, time to further enhance and reinforce South South Cooperation for the common good of the people of our two continents.

The absence of a proper institutional arrangement for a regular Asia-Africa dialogue in a way contributed to the lack of action in this arena. I am confident that the Second Round of our deliberations here at Durban would enable us to further refine our recommendations on the modalities and parameters for Afro-Asian Cooperation, discussed since our last meeting, for the approval of our leaders during the Bandung Summit in 2005.

Pakistan, for its part, would continue with its endeavors to make a positive contribution to the process.

I thank you.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue VIII, August 2004, pp. 82-87.

EXCERPTS FROM AMBASSADOR MUNIR AKRAM'S STATEMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE NEED TO CURB ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN SUDAN, NEW YORK, 19 SEPTEMBER 2004

On 19 September, the Security Council put Sudan on notice to curb ethnic violence in the country's Darfur region or face oil-related sanctions. The vote was 11 to 0, with Pakistan, Algeria, China, and Russia abstaining.

Speaking after the vote, Pakistan's UN ambassador Munir Akram and the envoys of the three other abstaining countries said they had withheld support from the resolution because of fears that imposing sanctions could provoke the Sudanese government to withdraw the operation it had offered thus far.

Erwa, the Sudanese ambassador, dismissed the resolution as "the worst form of injustice and indignity," and he said its sponsor, the United States, was the country that should answer for killing Afghan, Iraqi and

Palestinian women and children.

The Pakistan ambassador called the resolution “unfair” and one that could prove “counterproductive.”

Ambassador Akram noted that within a week of the Council’s adoption on 30 July of resolution 1556, the Government of Sudan had announced that it had agreed to a plan of action with the Secretary General’s Special Representative. On 15 September, the Special Representative had reported on the areas in which Sudan had fulfilled its commitment, and also identified areas where further action was required. The Sudanese Government was fully engaged with the African Union and that trend needed to be encouraged. The original text submitted by the sponsors of the resolution failed to recognise the progress that had been achieved, the Pakistan ambassador noted. Pakistan was glad that some of the proposals it had made had been included in the final text.

These included: an acknowledgement of the steps taken by the Government of Sudan to improve humanitarian access, greater emphasis on the obligations of the rebel groups, and reaffirmation of the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Sudan, which we believe must be unconditional in accordance with the Charter.

He said that Pakistan had, however, stated from the outset that it could not endorse the use or threat of use of sanctions, which it believed would be unhelpful in the situation. Considering the progress that had been achieved, he did not feel that it was appropriate to threaten sanction only against the Government of Sudan. Such an approach might be counterproductive.

The resolution adopted calls upon Secretary General Kofi Annan to create an international commission to determine if the campaign by marauding Arab militia against the villagers of Darfur, in western Sudan, has reached the level of genocide.

The militias, known as Jan-jaweed and allegedly equipped by the government, are accused of killing up to 50,000 residents of Darfur, raping women and girls, destroying crops and polluting water supplies and forcing 1.2 million people off their lands.

The United States last week officially labeled the violence in Darfur genocide, and the resolution passed Saturday represents the first time the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide has been formally invoked.

The resolution also reinforces the role of the 53-member African Union in taking the lead in calming the situation in Darfur and calls on other nations and the government of Sudan to help it expand its presence there. Jan Pronk, the United Nations representative in Sudan, said he believes a force of monitors and troops totalling 5,000 is necessary.

In four revisions over the last 10 days, the American drafters

addressed objections from individual countries by making the threatened imposition of sanctions more conditional and less automatic and by adding language acknowledging steps the Sudanese government had taken to ease restrictions on relief workers ;and broaden cooperation with United Nations aid workers.

As passed, the resolution says the Security Council “shall consider” action rather than immediately take action on sanctions, and it “welcomes” steps by Sudan to remove earlier administrative obstructions preventing aid workers and equipment from reaching Darfur.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXI, Issue IX, September 2004, pp. 95-97.

OFFICIAL RELEASE ON THE VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TO MOROCCO AND TUNISIA (25 JUNE TO 03 JULY 2005)

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar visited Morocco and Tunisia from 25 June to 03 July 2005 as Special Envoy of the President to Pakistan to lobby Pakistan’s position on UNSC Reforms.

The Minister of State delivered a letter of President to His Majesty King Mohammad VI. The Minister of State also met the Foreign Minister of Morocco with whom matters pertaining to bilateral cooperation, as well as developments of regional and international significance were discussed.

In Tunisia, the Minister of State, as Special Envoy called on Tunisian leadership.

Foreign Affairs Pakistan, Vol. XXXII, Issue VI, June 2005, p. 387.

REVAMPING PAK-AFRICA RELATIONS PAKISTAN OBSERVER, 17 DECEMBER 2004

Pakistan has tended to ignore critical regions of the world in its pursuit of a US-centric foreign policy with intermittent focus on the Islamic World. That President Musharraf was the first Pakistani President to visit Latin America reflects the historic neglect of important countries which has cost Pakistan dearly in terms of international understanding and support on crucial issues. The trilateral strategic understanding reached between India, Brazil and South Africa reflects the diplomatic space lost to Pakistan.

A recent visit by a two-member Eritrean delegation to Islamabad once again highlighted the opportunities that are present for Pakistan in Africa. The growing importance of Africa, especially in an energy-focused international system can not be overstated. Interestingly enough, most of the

energy potential in Africa centres on Muslim states like Sudan and possibly Eritrea, as well as the oil-rich State of Nigeria. Nor is it just oil potential that is now compelling even the US to increase its involvement in. Africa, the continent is rich in strategic minerals like gold, zinc, copper and uranium. But colonial legacies have ensured that Africa will remain beset by conflicts defined by split ethnic groups and disputed borders.

Pakistan, even as it may have ignored Africa overall, has been in the forefront of providing substantive support to the African Muslim struggles against colonial rule. Primarily, this help was focused on the Maghreb States for instance Tunisia. But we have also helped and supported other African Muslim States in their struggles for liberation. Here, Eritrea is an interesting example because in 1947, while the Muslim League had succeeded under Jinnah, in the creation of Pakistan, a Muslim League was set up in Eritrea that year to seek Eritrea's liberation from colonial rule. In fact, the Eritrean Muslim League looked to Jinnah's Muslim League as a model. Unfortunately, the Eritrean Muslim League was not as successful in the face of British and then the Ethiopian machinations, which culminated in Ethiopia annexing Eritrea in 1962. But by then, the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) had already turned to armed struggle (in 1961) and by 1966, it was challenging the imperial forces of the Ethiopian State.

It took a thirty-year struggle for the Eritreans to liberate themselves, and in the process, they struggled against the Ethiopian regime of Emperor Haile Selassie and the communist government of Mengistu Mariam in Ethiopia that took control in 1974. As a result, they saw both the superpowers of the time the US and the Soviet Union provide support for the Ethiopian State. Despite an adverse balance of military forces, the Eritreans succeeded in their military struggle with the final rout of Ethiopian forces from Asmara now the Eritrean capital. On 21st May, the Ethiopian dictator, Mengistu Mariam fled and on 23rd May 1991, the last stronghold of the Ethiopian army on the northern front collapsed and 200,000 Ethiopian troops surrendered. This success came in the wake of efforts by the US to broker a conference in London, immediately after Mengistu had fled, in an effort to work out a compromise between Ethiopia and Eritrea that would fall short of full independence for the latter. However, the situation on the ground forced the cancellation of the conference and the Eritreans pushed for the final military victory which permanently altered the situation in the Horn of Africa. Despite having succeeded militarily and having set up a provisional government of Eritrea, the Eritreans, underwent a UN-sponsored referendum in April 1993 to assess the wishes of the people of the country. It is only when 99.8 % of the people voted for independence that full nationhood was declared in May 1993. The struggle of the Eritrean people shows that if the commitment is there, then struggles for self-determination and liberation from occupation can succeed even against mighty military odds. Equally important is the

manner in which the Eritreans sought to reaffirm their commitment to nationhood.

With the independence of Eritrea, an interesting situation now exists along the eastern seaboard of Africa with Eritrea occupying the strategic coastline along the Red Sea facing the Middle East, and Ethiopia becoming a land-locked country. That is why border disputes between the two continue despite a Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed between the two in Algiers in December 2000, an agreement that was guaranteed by President Bouteflika of Algeria, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, the OAU Secretary General, the then US Secretary of State, Albright, and the EU's Special Envoy, Seri and a final and binding decision, by a Boundary Commission regarding the border between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Pakistan was consistent in its support for the Eritrean struggle for self-determination and liberation, especially at international fora like the UN. Also, in 1979, when the military struggle had entered a decisive phase, Pakistan refused to hand over two Eritrean hijackers to Ethiopia, after the former had hijacked an Ethiopian Airlines plane and brought it to Karachi. While the passengers and crew were freed and the plane returned, Ethiopian requests for handing over the hijackers were denied. One of these men became Eritrea's foreign minister and he retained a sense of appreciation for Pakistan's actions!

Pakistan's problem is that while we have supported Muslim causes and struggles for liberation, we have not managed to continue a proactive interaction when these succeed. Today, the Eastern coast of Africa, from the north to the south right up to South Africa comprises primarily of Muslim states. Yet, our interaction at the level of state and civil society with all these states has traditionally been fairly limited or almost non-existent. We hardly have any specialist scholars on Africa, within the country. Even, with Egypt, till the growing Indo-Israeli relationship, there was a certain hostility towards Pakistan as a result of our policy on the Suez crisis. But moving beyond Egypt, there are Sudan, Eritrea, Mozambique, Tanzania, and the island of Madagascar all members of the OIC and all offering potential for greater proactivism on the part of Pakistan. In the international framework, we need to cultivate as many states as we can, especially in order to build-up support in international fora. Today, India's policy of courting states across the globe is paying strategic dividends in the form of substantial support for its quest for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. We have abdicated diplomatic space to the Indians nilly.

Now that President Musharraf has finally expanded our interaction to Latin America, we need to also look at the vast African continent and a beginning needs to be made with the Muslim states along the strategic east coast of Africa. There is a positive milieu in these countries for Pakistan, which we should harness especially given the growing importance of the

Indian Ocean region and the economic strategic potential of the littoral states. Already we are improving our relations with South Africa, which is emerging as one of the most important regional African powers. But more needs to be done with the countries lying between Egypt and South Africa. Too much time has already been wasted. Especially if we are to make the OIC effective, let us bring the whole membership, especially the African membership center stage of this Organisation. That is where a wealth of human and material potential of the Muslim world lies.

Shireen M. Mazari, *Foreign Affairs Pakistan*, Vol. XXXI, Issue XII, December 2004, pp. 264-271.

AFRICA - PAKISTAN RELATIONS

In the context of Africa Day, this year, the Heads of African Diplomatic Missions in Islamabad had organized various activities and interactive sessions with Pakistani stakeholders to exchange views on how to further and consolidate the overall relations between Africa and Pakistan.

We do bask into the comfort that our countries have deep-rooted relationship and Pakistan has been a very active proponent of Africa decolonization.

However, today we want to chart a path for solidarity and interdependence between African Countries and Pakistan. This solidarity interdependence is all the more necessary and important in the present age of globalization. Some people believe that globalization will bring prosperity and wealth to the countries of the Third World but so far such kind of rosy predictions have proven short of expectations. On the contrary, the risk and threats to the independence, sovereignty and well being of the Third World countries have grown alarmingly. Consequently, solidarity in all fields among the Third World countries, to which Pakistan and African countries belong, is the only sure answer and effective weapon to face these risks and threats.

We should work together so that globalization would not become a new colonialism in disguise. In this historic endeavor we must develop a common mechanism of self-help and mutual dependence, be they economic or political.

Indeed, we are justified in protecting our independence, our culture and civilization for we are all proud of our respective historic heritages. Nonetheless, we must not lose sight of the fact that we have to fight another battle no less important; namely, the battle of modernization. This necessitates a common vision as to the road to be taken and the destination to be reached.

This vision has been elaborated in the Declaration on the New Asian African Strategic Partnership signed in Bandung on April 24, 2005. In this

document, that rededicates our adherence and commitment once more to the Bandung spirit of 1955, emphasis is put on continent-wide inter-regional cooperation between Asia and Africa. Furthermore, it is stated that cooperation between sub-regional organizations, through sharing experiences could propel growth and sustainable development. In the same token, the document has acknowledged the importance of complementing and building upon existing initiatives that link the two countries, inter alia, Tokyo International Conference on African Development, China-Africa Cooperation Forum, India-Africa Cooperation, Indonesia-Brunei Darussalam sponsored by Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation, Vietnam-Africa Forum etc. The above forums provide an effective and strong institutional framework for future cooperation between Africa and Pakistan. In this respect, it is recalled that Pakistan has initiated a special Technical Assistance Program for Africa back in 1986. More than 1500 participants from 47 African countries have benefited from this program in various fields such as, to name only few, Civil Aviation, rural development, public administration and Foreign Service. For example, the Pakistan Foreign Service Academy has provided training to 385 African Diplomats since 1986. On the other hand there are 14 joint Ministerial Commissions between Pakistan and some African countries that work to enhance cooperation in political, economic and cultural fields.

Nowhere is there an example of African and Pakistan solidarity more than in the field of Peacekeeping operations in Africa. To illustrate the importance attached by the Pakistan Government in this respect, suffice it to say, that out of 9880 Pakistani officers and soldiers engaged in peacekeeping operation around the world, 9432 of this overall force of peace and security are working in various parts of Africa. They form part of a total international force of 47908 peacekeepers, namely:

1. United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) – 7 Military observers out of 232.
2. United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) -3735 troops and 25 military observers out of 16163.
3. United Nations Operations in Brundi (UNOB) -1195 troops and 5 Military Observers out of a total of 5469.
4. United Nations Operation in the Ivory Coast -374 troops and 10 Military Observers out of 5469.
5. United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNASMSIL) -1271 troop and 2 civilian policemen out of 3450- strong force.
6. United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) - 2750 troops, 16 military observers and 24 civilian policemen out of 15880.
7. United Nations Mission in Sudan – A ten observers out of 458.

The Heads of the African Diplomatic Missions in Islamabad would like to thank the Pakistani Government and people for their strong

commitment to peace and security in Africa. Such a commitment has been demonstrated in the pattern of Pakistan voting in the UN when African questions are brought to vote.

Turning to trade relations between our two sides, the monthly bulletin of the Federal Bureau of Statistic dated August 2004; the volume of trade among African countries and Pakistan reached \$990 million in the year 2003/2004. In this year, Pakistan exported goods worth of \$520 Million and African exports to Pakistan reached \$470 million that is a surplus in favor of Pakistan. We trust that there is room for a substantial increase in the volume of trade provided there will be a regular exchange of visits among the Africa and Pakistani businessmen, participation in fairs and exhibitions, direct air and maritime services between Pakistan and Africa. Worth mentioning there are 14 Joint Ministerial Commissions between African Countries and Pakistan. Undoubtedly these agreements will contribute a lot to develop trade relations between Africa and Pakistan.

In this connection, we call upon the Pakistani Government and business community to explore ways and means of enhancing relations between Pakistan on the one hand and the three major regional economic groups in Africa, namely, COMESA, SADEC and both the Southern and Western economic organizations. It is therefore imperative that Pakistan and African countries explore ways and means of enhancing their trade.

Thus, to rapidly promote trade and get strong relations between Pakistan and Africa, we should encourage the following:-

- In addition to the 14 Ministerial Commissions currently in existence between Pakistan and African countries, ways should be explored to increase this number.
- Considering the fact that many Ministerial Commissions have been inactive, it is recommended herewith, that appropriate bodies be created to resuscitate those inactive once. They should work out beneficial programmes of activity and set targets for them to achieve.
- Regular exchange of visits among Africa and Pakistani exhibitions and seminars on trade promotion should be encouraged. This will facilitate identification of areas where mutual trade and investments are feasible.
- Similarly, exchange of visits of the top executive functionaries usually has tremendous impact in cementing relations. Such visits are usually followed by beneficial fallouts by way of useful discussions, signing of agreements and MoUs which facilitate trade, and enhance diplomatic understanding.

- There are also benefits to derive from exchange of visits by members of parliament. Apart from the exposure it offers them, it also gives them first hand experience on the various shades of the people's life. By interacting with their counterparts from other countries, legislators come to appreciate the needs of other countries and how legislation could be used to improve relations.
- Pakistan has recorded significant achievement in the fields of science and technology, information technology, telecommunications, agriculture and agro-allied industries. In any of the above fields, Pakistani experience shared with African countries will be very invaluable. This is particularly the case in matters concerning bio-technology, alternative energy source and above all water management and irrigation being domains where Pakistan has made great strides.
- The role of the press in promoting trade and investment and other forms of interaction between Pakistan and Africa cannot be overemphasized. Effective use should be made of media adverts as a way of bringing available opportunities to the awareness of the business communities.

African - Pakistani relations stand today on solid grounds in a rapidly changing world. We must stand together to protect our interests and above all our independence, sovereignty and identities fully aware that the future calls upon us to modernize our societies so that they become more democratic, corrupt free, more transparent and more respectful of human rights and the rule of law. Both Africa and Pakistan are seriously engaged in this lofty endeavor and muster enough political will to adopt policies and programs that would make this in the not so far distant future.

We need to muster the will and conjugate our efforts to push for a quantum change in our traditional relationship. The avenues are available. We should be able to explore and exploit them to the mutual benefits of our peoples.

The Heads of the African Diplomatic Missions Islamabad – Pakistan, *Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report-8*, December 2005, pp. 39-42.

FORTIFYING PAKISTAN-AFRICA RELATIONS

This article is divided into two sections: a general section which deals with Pakistan's relations with Africa presently. The second section describes the status of African Studies in Pakistan and how it can strengthen ties between and the continent of Africa and this country.

Pakistan-Africa Relations

Pakistan has fairly robust relations with most of Africa. It greatly values these relations and is committed to stronger ties with the African continent at large. Pakistan's relations with many African countries date back to their respective independence movements. Pakistan has supported both morally, materially, and on the diplomatic level countries such as Algeria, Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Tanzania, Namibia, Morocco, Libya, Egypt, Nigeria and others. Pakistan has established resident missions in 13 African countries while others are covered through concurrent accreditation. Some of the Africa specific efforts that can be cited as examples of strengthening Pakistan's ties with the continent are cited below.

A recent visit by President Pervez Musharraf to **Algeria** includes efforts to enhance cultural, trade, industrial, social and economic ties between the two countries. During this visit the Algerian President asked President Musharraf to facilitate a solution of the issue of the Western Sahara.

In 2003 the **Eritrean** government opened a resident Mission in Islamabad to strengthen ties between the two nations.

Kenya and Pakistan share strong ties for many years. There have been various protocols signed on the advancement of Information Technology, educational and cultural exchanges and trade. The ties between the two countries are further strengthened by the fact that many Kenyans of Pakistani extraction live in Kenya who act as a cultural bridge between the two countries.

Libya is another country which enjoys trade, diplomatic and cultural ties with Pakistan. In 2003 top Pakistani businessmen attended the "Tripoli International Fair" which evinced great interest in Pakistani products like carpets, leather goods, onyx, textiles and furniture.

Bilateral trade with **Mauritius** is rapidly improving. The Asian Diaspora in Mauritius has become a strong source of fraternal ties between the two countries. It is now quite popular among the Pakistani television channels to shoot their films and serials in beautiful Mauritius. There is much interest in Pakistani tourists for Mauritius.

Tanzania has a large Pakistani-descent population but unfortunately our High Commission is no longer operative in Dar-es-Salaam. There exists a genuine need to expand trade, cultural, educational, economic and diplomatic ties with this country. Tanzania was once a formidable front-line state against apartheid. Who can forget the illustrious leadership of the late Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere in the non-aligned movement and his contribution to the liberation struggle of Namibia and South Africa? He also made self-reliance a clarion call for Third World countries and brought a civic culture to Tanzania which left an enviable legacy of tolerance in a pluralistic society. Despite its 61 tribes Tanzania stands out as a shining example of an African country with

almost no ethnic strife not to mention the highest rate of literacy in East Africa.

In July 2003 King Mohammad VI of the Kingdom of **Morocco** conferred upon the President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf the highest civil award: "The Order of Wissam Al Mohammadi." Both countries agreed to expand cooperation in the fields of environment, science and technology, and finding solutions for important international issues like Kashmir, Western Sahara, Indo-Pakistan relations and conflict in the Middle East.

Nigeria has enjoyed fraternal relations in trade, culture, education, medicine, technology and military exchanges. Pakistan always vehemently opposed apartheid. Pakistan rejoiced at the freedom of the **Republic of South Africa** along with the rest of the world. Madiba Nelson R. Mandela paid a state visit to Pakistan in 1993. His visit was a very emotional experience for the Pakistani people. Even today Pakistanis appreciate Mr. Mandela's official statements condemning the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The people of Pakistan esteem him as one of the most revered world statesman.

The most interesting dimension that has emerged in the relations between Pakistan and South Africa is "cricket diplomacy." Children in remote parts of this country are familiar with the names of the South African cricket team members.

Another source of enhanced ties between the two countries is the emerging cooperation in the field of wildlife conservation. South African wildlife conservationists, biologists and wardens from Kruger National Park are involved in conserving Pakistani wetlands, building game reserves, national parks, protecting wildlife and biodiversity in the Northern areas of this country.

It must be mentioned here that Pakistan has the singular honor of being the highest contributor to the "**blue berets**" or the UN peacekeeping forces in Africa. Pakistani blue berets have been serving in Rwanda, Burundi, Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In addition to the above, over the last 20 years, 47 African countries have sent 1500 students to study under Pakistan's Special Training for Africa Program (STAP).

African Studies in Pan-African Institutional Framework

In the 1970s at least 6 Area Studies Centers were established by the University Grants Commission now called the Higher Education Commission (HEC) all over Pakistan. Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) houses the *Area Study Centre for Africa, North and South America*. The Director of this Center at the time in a correspondence with the UGC on May 23, 1984 requested the UGC to take away Africa as it was impossible to run three continents by one Center. UGC

declined the request. As of today, the Center library has less than 60 books on Africa. The Center does not publish on Africa unless it is "U.S. related." There are no courses being taught on Africa in the Center. There are two optional courses offered on African Politics at the Department of International Relations at QAU. The QAU library holdings have perhaps 40 books and 2 journals on Africa. The Institute of Modern Language does not offer any African language courses.

Needless to mention that Pakistan shares with Africa many cultural, political and religious leaders. Islam in Africa has served as an historical anti-imperialist force. Africa has produced countless figures who are shared heroes of the Third World in general. To name a few would be Nelson Mandela, Julius Nyerere, Joe Slovo, Ruth First, Bram Fisher, Chris Hani, Desmond Tutu, Walter Sisulu, Jomo Kenyatta, Kwameh Nkrumah, Frantz Fanon, Aime' Cesaire, Leopold Senghor, Amilcar Cabral, Patrice Lumumba, Samora Machel, Nndabi Azikwe, Ken Saro-Wiwa, Chinua Achebe, N'gugi Wa Thiongo Mahdi-al-Sudani, Omar Mukhtar of Cyrenacia, Ahmed-ben-Bella, Houari Boumeddiene and Gemal Abdel Nasser.

South Africa alone, the beautiful rainbow country has produced 6 Nobel laureates. The most recent being the illustrious novelist J. M. Coetzee. Who can forget the stupendous contribution to solving environmental issues by Mama Wangari Maathai of Kenya who received the Nobel Prize for this year. To be mentioned here is yet another Nobel laureate, another son of Africa, Wole Soyinka of Nigeria.

Any talk of South-South solidarity without Africa is absurd because Africa's contribution to liberation struggles, truth and reconciliation, non-aligned movement, Third World literature, art, poetry and music is truly staggering.

Pakistan must shed its apathy in the field of African Studies. To shake us out of this indifference the following suggestions are offered:

Suggestions

1. Twenty years is a long time to keep Africa Studies in the freezer. HEC and Area Study Centre for Africa, North and South America could perhaps expedite the de-frosting of Africa Studies in Pakistani universities so that teaching, publishing and research on this continent could flourish.
2. Courses on Africa should be offered in all Pakistani universities and training institutes. Afro-Asian studies and Third World Studies should be encouraged.
3. The Institute of Modern Languages could initiate instruction in African languages.
4. There are ample funds for Technical Assistance to Africa Programme in M.F.A and E.A.D. It could be requested from both Ministries that some

funds ought to be earmarked for academic research and scholastic improvement in the field.

5. Inter-departmental co-operation between HEC, Area Studies Centers and MFA's Africa Desk and Africans themselves would prove fruitful.
6. Linkage programmes with African Universities could promote faculty student exchange as well as improve understanding of each other.
7. HEC could encourage grants and funding for attending Africa-related conferences and research fellowships.
8. Joint publishing in the field of African studies with both western, African as well as Pakistani publishers should be encouraged.
9. Pakistani libraries ought to be encouraged to subscribe to African Studies journals published all over the world.

Conclusion

It is appropriate to conclude this article with a poem entitled "Come Africa" written by the most illustrious revolutionary Pakistani poet, the world renowned Faiz Ahmad Faiz:

*Come, Africa! Come, I have heard the ecstasy of your drum,
Come, the beating of my blood has become mad
Come, Africa! Come, I have lifted my forehead from the dust
Come, I have scrapped from my eyes the skin of grief
Come, I have released my arm from pain
Come, I have clawed through the snare of helplessness
Come Africa.*

(Faiz's poems English translation by Victor Kiernan:1971)

Professor Dr. Rukhsana A. Siddiqui Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, *Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report-8*, December 2005, pp. 43-47.

INTERACTION WITH AFRICA (2005-06)

Pakistan greatly values its relations with the African countries and is committed to developing stronger ties with them. Pakistan has had a historical relationship with African countries, going back to their independence movements, when Pakistan provided moral, material and diplomatic support to countries such as Algeria, Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. Pakistan's relations with all African countries have always remained close and cordial. These fraternal ties have been further strengthened by a broad similarity of views on a number of international and regional issues. To foster and further consolidate these relations, Pakistan has established resident missions in 12 African countries, while others are covered through concurrent accreditation.

Pakistan first established a framework for providing technical assistance to African states in 1987, covering diverse fields, including public administration, diplomacy, industry, agriculture, banking and human resource management, etc. Under STAP-Africa, which is on grant basis, we have provided training in diverse fields to over 1500 nationals belonging to 47 African countries. (The Foreign Service Academy alone has trained 350 African diplomats in specialized courses during the past decade).

Pakistan has entered into institutionalized cooperation with a number of African countries in the form of Joint Ministerial Commissions (JMCs) and cultural agreements. As a manifestation of Pakistan's solidarity with fraternal African countries, Pakistan has provided emergency relief assistance of food and medicines etc., to countries, which have fallen victims to civil wars, famines and other natural disasters. Pakistan has participated in UN-led peace-keeping operations beginning with Ghana in 1965, to Somalia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone in recent years.

Pakistan's policy of continuous support of the African countries, in spite of, at times, difficult global political environment, has earned immense respect amongst the African countries for assisting them in strengthening and improving human resource development.

In the subsequent paras, a country-wise account of developments vis-à-vis Pakistan's relations with various African countries, during the year under review [2005-06], is being given:

ERITREA

A four-member Eritrean military delegation headed by Major Alazar Dawit Ghide visited Pakistan in December 2005. The delegation *inter alia* visited POF Wah and discussed significant technical issues with the experts of the Ordnance Factory. A five-member Pakistan military delegation headed by Rear Admiral Azher Shamim Anwar, Director General Trq, JSHQ visited Eritrea in December 2005. During his stay in Asmara, Rear Admiral Anwar held talks with officials concerned and visited defence installations.

A ten-member military delegation of Eritrea, headed by Defence Minister General Sebhat Ephrem, visited Pakistan in June 2006. The delegation visited PAC Kamra, POF Wah, HIT, NDC and Electrical and Mechanical Engineering College. It also called on the President of Pakistan.

GUINEA

Pakistan and Guinea enjoy close, cordial and fraternal relations. Guinea supports Pakistan's principled position on Kashmir dispute. Both countries have cooperated with each other at various international fora. Pakistan has been offering technical assistance to Guinea by way of scholarships for its diplomats, bankers and defence personnel for training in Pakistani institutions.

Foreign Minister of the Republic of Guinea, Madam Sidibe Fatoumata Kaba, on the invitation of Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri paid an official visit to Pakistan from 24-26 August 2005. She was accompanied by her political advisor and National Deputy Director of Protocol. Bilateral consultations, between the two Foreign Ministers, assisted by their delegations, were held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a cordial atmosphere, reflecting the long standing close and fraternal relations between the two countries. There was a close identity of views on the important issue of the reform of the United Nations. During her stay in Islamabad, she also called on Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Monyane Moleleki of the Kingdom of Lesotho, alongwith a three-member delegation, visited Pakistan from 27-30 March 2006, at the invitation of Foreign Minister Khurshid M. Kasuri. This was Foreign Minister Moleleki's first visit to Pakistan. The invitation to the Foreign Minister of Lesotho is part of Pakistan's initiative to forge closer links with the African countries, especially those where we do not have diplomatic representation.

The two Foreign Ministers discussed the whole gamut of bilateral relations and issues of global and mutual interest. On the bilateral front, both sides expressed satisfaction over the existing cordial and fraternal ties between the two countries. Pakistan expressed its readiness to extend further technical assistance to Lesotho by providing training courses in various fields. Foreign Minister Monyane Moleleki commended the contribution of Pakistan in the development of Africa and its continuing interest in strengthening ties with African states.

Mr. Monyane also held talks with the Ministers of Commerce and Textile industry. He also called on the Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Foreign Relations. The Foreign Minister of Lesotho commended Pakistan role in the war on terror and measures taken to rein extremism. Mr. Monyane showed keen interest in Pakistan textile industry and was of the view that a very useful collaboration can be initiated in the field between the two countries.

MOROCCO

Pakistan established diplomatic relations with Morocco in 1958. The relationship has over the years gained strength by the exchange of high level visits and signing of a number of agreements between the two countries. Morocco has also been supportive of Pakistan at the International fora.

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz visited Morocco from 18-19 May 2006 on the invitation of his Moroccan counterpart Mr. Driss Jettou. In Rabat, Prime

Minister's engagements, besides talks with Prime Minister Driss Jettou, included meetings with the Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and interaction with leading academics of the country. In the wide-ranging talks held between the two Prime Ministers, it was emphasized to further increase bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic and commercial fields. The following bilateral Agreements were also signed during the visit:

- a. Avoidance of Double Taxation
- b. Executive Programme for Cultural Agreement
- c. MoU on Industrial Cooperation

Earlier, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Makhdoom Khusró Bakhtair visited Morocco from 26-29 June 2005, as a Special Envoy of the President of Pakistan. The Minister of State had an audience with His Majesty the King, and held meetings with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Minister for External Trade of Morocco.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF ASSISTANCE

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Morocco, Mr. Benaissa participated in the Donors Conference for Earthquake affectees held in Islamabad in November 2005. The assistance of US\$ 1.5 million, pledged by Morocco, has been received in the President's Relief Fund.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Chief of General Staff (CGS) of the Pakistan Army, Lt. Gen. Tariq Majeed paid an official visit to South Africa in the last week of May 2006. The visit mainly centred on the sale of defence equipment and strengthening defence cooperation between the two countries. During his meetings with his interlocutors, the general appreciated South African's stance on Pakistan's re-entry into the Commonwealth, and its support for Pakistan's efforts for the membership of the IOR-ARC.

SUDAN

A five-member Pakistan military contingent, headed by Rear Admiral Azher Shamim Anwar, Director General Trg, JSHQ toured Sudan in December 2005. A team of the National Defence College, Islamabad, headed by Air Vice Marshal Faaiz Amir, Member Directing Staff visited Sudan in March 2006. During their stay in Khartoum, the participants called on the Sudanese Deputy Chief of Operations for Training.

Mr. Hameed A. Kidwai, Roving Ambassador to the Sub-Saharan Africa visited Sudan in April 2006. The Ambassador called on the Sudanese Foreign Minister and discussed matters of bilateral interest.

COMOROS, NIGER, GAMBIA

The Pakistan High Commissioner accredited to Comoros attended the oath-taking ceremony of the Union's newly elected President Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Mohamed Sambi in May 2006. During his visit to Comoros, he called on the President and various cabinet ministers.

As a reflection of our solidarity and goodwill towards the people and Government of Niger, the Government of Pakistan has donated 1000 ton of basmati rice to Niger to replenish its short supply caused by the ensuing drought. The consignment is in the process of being sent to Niger.

On 23 July 2005, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan exchanged views by telephone, on matters of mutual interest and on the latest developments on UN Reform issues, with the Foreign Minister of Algeria Dr. Mohammad Bvedjaoui, Foreign Minister of Gambia Mr. Musa Gibril Bala Gaye, Foreign Minister of Comoros Mr. Souef Mohamed El Amine and Foreign Minister of Niger Mr. Alchatou Mindaoudon, noting in this regard that through the 'Uniting For Consensus' approach, UN Security Council would be more democratic, equitable and accountable. He was of the view that the African objectives of securing equitable representation can be better achieved through the 'Uniting For Consensus' formula.

Foreign Office Year Book 2005-2006 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan), pp. 57-61

UN MEMBER STATE OF AFRICA

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Algeria* | 17. Equatorial Guinea |
| 2. Angola | 18. Eritrea |
| 3. Benin | 19. Ethiopia |
| 4. Botswana | 20. Gabon |
| 5. Burkina Faso | 21. Gambia |
| 6. Burundi | 22. Ghana |
| 7. Cameroon | 23. Guinea |
| 8. Cape Verde | 24. Guinea-Bissau |
| 9. Central African Republic | 25. Kenya* |
| 10. Chad* | 26. Lesotho |
| 11. Comoros [Island] | 27. Liberia |
| 12. Congo | 28. Libya* |
| 13. Côte d'Ivoire [Island] | 29. Madagascar* [Island] |
| 14. Democratic Republic of
Congo | 30. Malawi |
| 15. Djibouti | 31. Mali |
| 16. Egypt* | 32. Mauritania |
| | 33. Mauritius* [Island] |

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|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 34. Morocco* | 45. South Africa* |
| 35. Mozambique | 46. Sudan* |
| 36. Namibia | 47. Swaziland |
| 37. Niger* | 48. Tanzania, United |
| 38. Nigeria* | Republic of |
| 39. Rwanda | 49. Togo |
| 40. Sao Tome and Principe | 50. Tunisia* |
| [Island] | 51. Uganda |
| 41. Senegal* | 52. Zambia |
| 42. Seychelles [Island] | 53. Zimbabwe* |
| 43. Sierra Leone | |
| 44. Somalia | |

[* Pakistan Missions. <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/Green_Book/GREEN_BOOK.htm>]

<http://www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/infonation1/e_g_count.htm>