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FOREWORD
BY THE FOREIGN SECRETARY

Guided by the vision of the founding father, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and consistent with the Constitution, Pakistan’s Foreign Policy seeks to maintain peaceful, friendly and cooperative relations with other countries of the world. The policy objectives and approaches are shaped by national dynamics and priorities, and take into account the challenges and opportunities that emerge from the evolving global political, strategic and economic environment.

Pakistan’s international partnerships and cooperative endeavors are based on the principles of equality, mutual trust, non-interference and respect for national sovereignty. Bilateral relations are pursued through institutional and structured engagements. High-level political contacts and dialogues provide the overarching direction for building robust, meaningful and result-oriented partnerships, covering all spheres of cooperation.

With United Nations at its core, multilateralism is one the key foreign policy priorities. Pakistan plays a strong, constructive and leadership role at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions / organizations. Upholding the principles of United Nations Charter, Pakistan supports the need of dialogue, diplomacy and cooperation to address international peace, security, development and human rights challenges.

Pakistan’s international relations remain underpinned by the desire to uphold human dignity and maintaining global peace through effective cooperation. Pakistan would continue to work towards a world where justice and fair play govern the international affairs and inequality, oppression and conflict, are abhorred.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Missions abroad, work to ensure that the foreign policy goals and objectives are mainstreamed in all strategies. In the regard, the highly professional team of officers and officials of the Ministry remains committed to effectively implementing these strategies and pro-actively advancing core nationals priorities.

I appreciate the team from the Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy Division for compiling the Year Book 2018-2019, that provides an overview of the Ministry’s work and key achievements. This book will serve as an informative reference document.

(Sohail Mahmood)
Foreign Secretary
EDITOR’S NOTE

Pakistan’ Foreign Office Year Book 2018-19 is a brief account of Pakistan’s foreign relations during the year under review. The draft, which was prepared by PP&PD Division, was reviewed by a 4-member committee, headed by Additional Secretary (Americas) Mr. Aftab Khokhar.

The Year Book provides an overview of Pakistan’s relations with other countries, catalogues the high-level visits from and to Pakistan and lists Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding signed by Pakistan during the period under review. The Book will serve as an important reference document especially for scholars, academicians, observers, diplomats and all those interested in studying the evolving contours of Pakistan’s foreign policy.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Sohail Mehmood, Foreign Secretary for his guidance and advice. I would like to acknowledge the cooperation extended to the Research Division by the territorial divisions and Pakistan Missions abroad in providing the requisite information for the Year Book 2018-19. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of my Directors Najam-us-Sehar, Majid Lodhi and Assistant Director Maryam Mushtaq.

Dr. Israr Hussain
Additional Secretary
(Policy Planning & Public Diplomacy)
IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURS (bordering countries)

AFGHANISTAN

During 2018-19, a renewed momentum in Pakistan-Afghanistan bilateral ties was witnessed due to enhanced high-level interactions. Pakistan has maintained that the only solution to the decades-long Afghan conflict lied in a politically negotiated settlement led and owned by the Afghans. The shift in the U.S. policy in favour of a political solution created an enabling environment to pursue that objective. Pakistan, therefore, facilitated the Afghan peace and reconciliation process and played a key role in the U.S.-Taliban direct talks.

Pakistan has maintained a policy of participating in all forums and supporting all initiatives that are meant for Afghan peace and stability. In pursuance of that, we have participated in the Geneva Conference, Moscow Format meetings, etc.

High level visits

i. Foreign Minister undertook his maiden foreign visit to Kabul on 15 September, 2018. During this visit, he met the Afghan leadership and discussed bilateral ties and developments related to Afghan peace and reconciliation process.
ii. The Foreign Minister then visited Kabul on 15 December, 2018 to attend the second Afghanistan-Pakistan-China Trilateral Foreign Minister’s Level Dialogue.

iii. Afghan National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib visited Pakistan on 28 May, 2019. He was accompanied by the Interior Minister Massoud Andarabi.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

i. The First Quarterly review session of Afghanistan-Pakistan Action Plan for Peace and Solidarity (APAPPS) was held on 10 June, 2019 in Islamabad. All the five working groups namely politico-diplomatic, intelligence, military, economy and refugees held their sessions simultaneously.

ii. Quadripartite Commission on Afghan Refugees between Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and UNHCR was held in Islamabad on 17 June, 2019. Afghanistan’s Minister for Refugees and Repatriation Sayed Hussain Alemi Balkhi represented Afghanistan; Mr. Hossein Zolfaghari, Deputy Minister of Interior for Security and Disciplinary Affairs, represented the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr. Shehryar Khan Afridi, Minister of State for States and Frontier Regions, represented the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and the UNHCR was represented by its Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, Indrika Ratwatte.

iii. Tripartite Commission on Afghan Refugees between, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the UNHCR was held in Islamabad on 18 June, 2019. Afghanistan’s Minister for Refugees and Repatriation Sayed Hussain Alemi Balkhi represented Afghanistan, Mr. Shehryar Khan Afridi, Minister of State for States and Frontier Regions, represented the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Afghanistan, Caroline Van Buren, and Pakistan, Ruven Menikdiwela, participated in the meeting.

**MoUs/ Agreements**

In December 2018, Afghanistan, Pakistan and China signed MOU on Counter-Terrorism under Afghanistan-Pakistan-China Trilateral Cooperation. The MoU was signed during the second meeting of Foreign Ministers’ Dialogue held
on 15 December, 2018 in Kabul. The MoU envisages joint cooperation among the three countries for fighting the menace of terrorism.

**Trade and Investment**

Total trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan for the year 2018-19 stood at US$ 1879.68 million. Pakistan exported goods worth US$ 1,322 million and imported goods worth US$ 557.68M. The balance of trade was US$ 764.32M in Pakistan’s favor.
Pakistan’s relationship with China is anchored in a broad-based, long-term “All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership” framework. The two sides have a multi-faceted bilateral cooperation in diverse fields such as economic, political, strategic and cultural areas. The two countries share similar views on world issues. The year 2018-19 further contributed to the deepening of this relationship. Major activities during the 2018-19 are as under:

**High-level visits**

The high-level visits between Pakistan and China during 2018-19 are as following:

i. Visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to attend 2\textsuperscript{nd} Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held on 25-28 April, 2019.

ii. Visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to attend an event related to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held on 2-5 November, 2018.


iv. Visit of State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi to Pakistan on 6-9 September, 2018.
vi. Visit of Deputy Chairman Senate Saleem Mandviwalla to China in April, 2019.
ix. Visit of Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani to China on 16-20 August, 2018.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. Visit of Mr. Gao Yunlong, Vice-Chairman Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) on 13-16 February, 2019.

ii. Visit of Mr. Zhang Chunxian, Vice Chairman of Standing Committee of National People’s Congress (NPC) in November, 2018.

iii. Visit of Mr. Song Tao, Minister for International Department of Communist Party of China (CPC) on 13-16 October, 2018.
Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The following developments took place under the institutional framework for cooperation:

i. The first meeting of the Foreign Ministers’ Strategic Dialogue was held on 18 March, 2019 in Beijing. The dialogue was co-chaired by State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China Wang Yi and Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

ii. The first meeting of the CPEC Joint Consultation Mechanism (CPEC-JCM) in Beijing (19 March, 2019). The Foreign Minister led Pakistan side.

iii. Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua visited China on 8-11 April, 2019 to formally launch the Joint Working Group on International Cooperation.

iv. 8th Round of China-Pakistan Bilateral Consular Consultations was held on 21 February, 2019. Director General (China), Ms. Ayesha Ali led the Pakistani delegation while the Chinese side was led by Deputy Director-General, Mr. Tong Defa.

v. Visit of Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou on 10 December, 2018 to attend the first round of Bilateral Political Consultations.

vi. Third Round of Maritime Dialogue between China and Pakistan was held in Beijing on 16 August, 2018. Director-General of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Chinese Foreign Ministry Wu Jianghao and Additional Secretary Asia Pacific of the Pakistan’s Foreign Ministry Imtiaz Ahmed co-chaired the dialogue.

Trade and Investment

China is Pakistan’s largest single trading partner, while Pakistan is China’s second largest trading partner in South Asia. Bilateral trade reached US$ 19.08 billion in 2018. Imports from China stood at US$ 16.90 billion and exports from Pakistan to China at US$ 2.17 billion. China-Pakistan FTA has been operative since 2007. Phase II of the CPFTA was signed during the Prime Minister’s visit in April, 2019.

According to State Bank of Pakistan Annual Report 2018, during FY 2018, China was the biggest investor in Pakistan with an investment of US$ 1.591 billion out of a total of US$ 2.537 billion which amounts to 63% of total FDI.
CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (CPEC)

The 8th Meeting of CPEC JCC was held in Beijing on 20 December, 2018. The meeting took stock of development and construction of CPEC since the 7th meeting and charted out plans for further cooperation under CPEC. The Joint Working Group on International Cooperation and Coordination, under CPEC, was set up in April, 2019 to further promote CPEC. A Think Tank Forum on CPEC was established to further streamline various research and academic activities.

A Declaration of Completion of Preliminary Design was signed between the relevant ministries of both sides during the visit of the Prime Minister to Beijing in April, 2019. During the visit, the Rashakai Specialized Economic Zones Joint Venture and License Agreement were signed. The Rashakai SEZ was inaugurated in May 2019.

A Joint Working Group (JWG) on Socio-economic Development was established during the visit of the Prime Minister to China in November, 2018. MoU on Implementation of Socio-Economic Cooperation under the JWG was signed between China International Development Cooperation Agency and Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform during the Prime Minister’s visit to China in April, 2019.

INDIA

Relations between Pakistan and India remained tense during 2018-19. There was no bilateral dialogue between the two countries during the period. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs agreed to a meeting between Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and External Affairs Minister (Late) Sushma Swaraj on the sidelines of the UNGA in September 2018. But the meeting was cancelled unilaterally by India on flimsy grounds within a day of its announcement.

On 14 February 2019, 40 personnel of Indian Central Reserve Police Force were killed in a car bomb in Pulwama, Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. India instantly blamed a group in Pakistan. In response, Pakistan asked India to provide credible and actionable evidence and action will be taken against any Pakistani national involved in the attack.

On 26 February, 2019, India carried out air strikes in Balakot, Pakistan. No life was lost in the attack. In the ensuing air battle on 28th February, Pakistan Air Force, in its very restrained and measured response downed two Indian aircrafts.
Pakistan Army captured an Indian Mig-21 pilot in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. However, Pakistan returned the pilot as a gesture of peace.

Indian anti-Pakistan rhetoric remained high during the Lok Sabha elections held in April-May 2019. The BJP leaders stoked nationalistic sentiment for electoral gains.

Despite these challenging circumstances, Pakistan held ground breaking of Kartarpur Sahib Corridor. This was done on 28 November, 2018 on the eve of 550th birth celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak in line with Prime Minister Khan’s commitment to promote regional peace and stability and promoting rights of minorities in Pakistan. This event was of historic significance and fulfilled longstanding demand of the Sikh community. Prime Minister Imran Khan inaugurated the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor.

Notwithstanding the escalated environment, the Mission issued over 37,000 visas to Indian nationals in order to promote people-to-people contacts. The Mission also issued 1926 passports, 69 emergency travel documents and legalized/attested 3,133 documents. Around 7,000 Indian pilgrims visited Pakistan on the following occasions:
i. 3,832 on the occasion of birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak from 12-19 November, 2018;
ii. 221 on the occasion of Hindu Festival at Shahdani Darbar, Sindh from 03-12 December, 2018;
iii. 139 on the occasion of Hindu Festival at Katas Raj, Chakwal from 09-15 December, 2018;
iv. 2,194 on the occasion of Baisakhi Festival in Pakistan from 12-21 April, 2019;
v. 146 on the occasion of martyrdom day of Guru Arjun Dev Ji from 14-23 June, 2019;
vi. 57 on the occasion of additional pilgrims related visits by Sikhs and Hindus from 01 July, 2018 to 30 June, 2019.

During the same period, only 387 Pakistani pilgrims visited India on the following occasions:

i. 152 on the occasion of 714th Urs of Hazrat Amir Khusro (RA) at Delhi from 2-9 July, 2018;
ii. 144 on the occasion of 405th Urs Hazrat Mujaddid Alf Sani (RA) at Sarhind Sharif from 05-15 November, 2018;

The Mission’s officers undertook twelve visits to provide consular services to Pakistani prisoners lodged in different Indian prisons. During the period under review, 63 prisoners were released and 573 fishermen were detained.

SITUATION IN THE ILLEGALLY INDIAN OCCUPIED JAMMU & KASHMIR (IIOJ&K) AND EFFORTS TO HIGHLIGHT KASHMIR ISSUE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertook measures to highlight the issue of Kashmir at all forums. A gist of these efforts is produced below.

Exchange of Visits

The following visits were conducted to increase awareness and garner international support for the Kashmir cause:

i. Visit of Senator Lee Rhiannon to Pakistan and AJK (28 August-3 September, 2019)
ii. Visit of British Parliament’s APPKG (All Parties Parliamentary Group on Kashmir) to Pakistan and AJK (16-20 September, 2018)

iii. Visit of Former Prime Minister of Norway Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik to Pakistan and AJK (28-30 November, 2018)

iv. Visit of Malaysian Consultative Organization MAPIM to Pakistan and AJK (18-23 June, 2019)

v. Visit of Iraqi Delegation to Pakistan and AJK (21-26 July, 2019)

**Reports Published on Kashmir**

The following reports, which were published by independent authorities on Kashmir, were widely circulated by the Ministry and were instrumental at giving traction to the Kashmir cause at international level.

i. 1st report by Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on Kashmir.


**Awareness at International Forums**

Pakistan utilized all relevant multilateral forums including the United Nations and OIC to highlight the plight of the Kashmiri People in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. The issue of human rights violations in IOJ&K was raised at the United Nations Human Rights Council sessions thrice in Geneva during the period under review.

**Emergency Meeting of OIC Contact Group in Jeddah on 30th April 2018**

In view of the brutal crackdown by the Indian occupation forces in IOJ&K which resulted in the killings of more than 25 innocent Kashmiri civilians, an emergency meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir was held in Jeddah on 30th April, 2018. The then Foreign Secretary, Ms. Tehmina Janjua, led Pakistan’s delegation to the meeting which was chaired by the Ambassador Abdullah Al Alim, OIC Special Envoy on Jammu and Kashmir. Delegations from Azerbaijan Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Niger also attended the meeting.
UN Human Rights Council

The Ministry, as a part of its awareness campaign on Kashmir, ensured the participation of Kashmiri delegates in the following sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva to highlight the Kashmir issue:

i. 39th session (11 September – 28 September, 2018).
ii. 40th session (25 February – 22 March, 2019).
iii. 41st session (24 June – 12 July, 2019).

Other Activities

In order to express solidarity with our Kashmiri brethren and commemorate their sacrifices in their relentless struggle against the Indian occupation, the Ministry also organized the following activities:

ii. Organizing seminars and photo exhibitions.
iii. Publication of articles on Kashmir.
v. Interviews of intellectuals.
vi. Screening of video documentaries on Kashmir.
vii. Distribution of publicity material and display of banners to highlight the plight of Kashmiri people.
viii. All the Pakistan’s foreign missions continued their efforts to raise the issue of Jammu and Kashmir at the highest possible fora in their respective host countries.

IRAN

Pakistan-Iran bilateral ties registered an upward trajectory during 2018-19 through enhanced bilateral exchanges. During these interactions, the two sides discussed a range of issues of mutual concern.

High Level Visits

i. Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. Javad Zarif was the first foreign dignitary to visit Pakistan on 31 August, 2018 after formation of new government. He also visited Pakistan on 31 October, 2018 with another delegation and
held meetings with Pakistan’s Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Chief of Army Staff.

ii. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid a high-level visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran on 21-22 April, 2019, on the invitation H.E. Dr. Hassan Rouhani, the honorable President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

iii. Foreign Minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Iran on 24 December, 2018 and held meeting with his Iranian counterpart.

iv. Federal Minister for Railways Sheikh Rashid Ahmed visited Iran on 6 March, 2019 to attend inaugural ceremony of Qazvin-Rasht Railway Route.


vi. Major General Mohammad Hussein Bagheri, Chief of the General Staff Armed Forces of Iran visited Islamabad on 15-17 July, 2018 at the invitation of Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan and held meetings with civil and military leadership.
Bilateral Visits

i. A delegation from Iranian parliament led by Chairman Pakistan-Iran Friendship Group Dr. Ahmad Amirabadi Farahani visited Islamabad on 18-19 June, 2019 and held meetings with Chairman Senate, Speaker National Assembly and Advisor to Prime Minister on Commerce.

ii. Commander Land Forces of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Brigadier General Mohammad Pakpour along with accompanying delegation visited Pakistan on 22 October, 2018.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

i. Director General, West Asia of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, Rasool Musavi visited Pakistan on 02 August, 2019 for the third round of consultations at the level of Director Generals of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs. The two sided discussed bilateral issues and regional situation especially the efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan.

ii. The Director General, International Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran Abbas Bagher Pour Ardakani, visited Islamabad for the second session of Pakistan-Iran Higher Border Commission (HBC) on 18 July, 2019.

Trade and Investment

During 2018-19, trade between the two countries reached US$ 392.08 million with US$ 22.86 million Pakistani exports comprising mainly of food items while rest comprised of import of Iranian oil and petroleum products.
RELATIONS WITH SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES

BANGLADESH

Bangladesh is an important country in South Asia and is a significant member of SAARC. Pakistan’s relations with Bangladesh have evolved over the years.

Trade and Investment

Balance of trade between Pakistan and Bangladesh has always remained in favour of Pakistan. Bilateral trade in 2018-19 stood at US$ 795 million. Potential exists to further increase the volume of bilateral trade.

Others

i. Pakistan Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)
   Pakistan annually offers Bangladesh two seats each for the professional colleges in medical and engineering disciplines under Pakistan Technical Assistance Programme (PTAP). Cooperation between defence forces of the two countries is a regular feature.

ii. Defence Cooperation
   Armed forces officers of the two countries attend various training courses in each other countries on regular basis.

BHUTAN

Pakistan and Bhutan have cordial relations. The second Bhuddha, Guru Padmasambhawa was born in Swat and is considered as the second holiest place in Buddhism. Bhutan is an important member of SAARC.

Trade and Investment

Due to landlocked geography, absence of direct connectivity and high cost of transportation, bilateral trade has traditionally remained nominal, i.e. less than half a million US dollars every year.
During 2018-19, total trade between Pakistan and Bhutan was US$ 830,000/-, out of which Pakistan exported goods worth US$ 590,000/- and imported goods worth US$ 240,000/- from Bhutan.

**Others**

**Pakistan Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)**
Under this program, Bhutan is offered one seat each at professional colleges in Medicine and Engineering in Pakistan.

**MALDIVES**

During the year in review the momentum of exchange of visits and delegations between Pakistan and Maldives continued apace.

**High Level Visits**

i. The Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mehmood Abbasi NI(M) visited Maldives on 21 July, 2018 on the invitation of Chief of Defence Force, Major General Ahmed Shiyam. During his stay in Maldives, the CNS called on the Maldivian President and Defence Minister. He also held detailed discussions with the Chief of Defence Force at Integrated Headquarters of Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF).

ii. A 5-member delegation of Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services (GFSS) of Maldives headed by Shidhata Shareef, Minister of GFSS, visited Karachi, Pakistan on 8-13 June, 2019. The delegation visited Special Children School Bahria College Karsaz, National Narcotic Control Office, and Children Rehabilitation Centre among others.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. A 20-member contingent of Maldivian National Cricket team visited Lahore on 16-26 October, 2018. The visit was sponsored by PCB.

iii. A 4-member delegation from Maldives National University visited Pakistan in April, 2019 to explore areas of mutual interests and collaboration.


v. A delegation from Civil Service Commission (CSC) of Maldives led by Dr. Aly Shameem, President/Chairman of CSC, visited Pakistan on 20-30 June, 2019 to explore areas of collaboration between CSC of Maldives and NIM, CSA and LUMS in Pakistan.

vi. A 6-member delegation of Dhivehi Language Academy (DLA), led by Mr. Ashraf Ali, President DLA, visited Pakistan on 21-28, April 2019. The delegation visited Iqbal Academy Lahore and Academy of Letters Islamabad to enhance bilateral institutional cooperation.

vii. A 4-member business delegation visited Karachi on 2-7 December, 2018. The delegation had fruitful meetings with Secretary, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, leadership of KCCI, and President and Vice President of FPCCI.

viii. A 5-member business delegation, comprising of textile importers visited Pakistan to attend Texpo Lahore held on 11-14 April, 2019.

**Trade and Investment**

Trade volume between Maldives and Pakistan is low due to absence of direct connectivity. During 2018-19, exports to Maldives increased by 12.47% and goods worth US$ 6.62 million were exported to Maldives.

**Others**

i. **Special Assistance Program for South Asia (SAPSA)**
Under SAPSA, Pakistan donated IT equipment, sports gear, medical equipment and books to various educational/ medical institutions in Maldives.

ii. **Pakistan Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)**
Three Maldivian students were awarded fully funded scholarship for MBBS in Fatimah Jinnah Medical University Lahore.

iii. A number of Maldivian Nationals were given trainings in different disciplines including training of Maldivian National Defence Force personnel’s training by Pakistan Armed Forces, Diplomatic Course for Junior Level Diplomats, Senior Management Course and International Commercial Banking Course held at NIBAF, Islamabad.
iv. Medical Camp
Pakistan High Commission, in collaboration with Ministry of Health Maldives, organized Medical Camps in various parts of Maldives on 7 – 12 July, 2018.

NEPAL

Pakistan has a long-standing friendship with Nepal grounded in common understanding and mutual support. Over the years, relations in the political, economic and cultural arena have expanded.

Bilateral Visits

i. A 3-member Nepali Parliamentarian delegation visited Pakistan on the invitation of Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS), Islamabad to attend International Conference on Legislative Effectiveness held on 18-20 March, 2019.

ii. A 6-member delegation of ABC News TV, led by its Chairman/Chief Editor visited Pakistan on 17-23 June, 2019. The delegation had made a 30 minute documentary titled, “The Archeological heritage of Hindu and Buddhist Religions Preserved in Pakistan”, which has been telecast inside and outside Nepal.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan’s total trade with Nepal during 2018-19 was US$ 6.31 million. Pakistan’s exports to Nepal were US$ 5.83 million, while the imports from Nepal stood at US$ 0.48 million.

Others

i. Defence Cooperation
A 2-member Nepali delegation participated in the 10th International Defence Exhibition Seminar (IDEAS) held in Pakistan on 27-30 November, 2018.

ii. Pakistan Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)
Pakistan offers a number of scholarships to Nepalese students annually, in various fields including medicine and engineering. Nepal availed 10 MBBS, 01 BDS, 08 D. Pharmacy and 06 Engineering seats under PTAP.
Diplomats from Nepal attended diplomatic courses held at Foreign Service Academy, Islamabad in 2018-19.
Two banking courses were also availed by officers of State Bank of Nepal offered by National Institute of Banking and Finance Islamabad.

iii. **Special Assistance Program for South Asia (SAPSA)**

Pakistan spent an amount of Rs. 50 Million on various projects in Nepal under SAPSA that included scholarships to over 400 Nepali students, donation of computers to schools, donation of sewing machines to different women organizations, financial contribution for establishment of a computer laboratory in a local school, etc.
Government of Pakistan donated two fully equipped ambulances to Tribhuvan Teaching Hospital, Kathmandu.
A seminar was organized on the historical linkages between Lumbini and Taxila in June, 2019. During the seminar, book titled “Kapilvastu and Takshila: conceptualizing the concept” was also launched.
The 9th “Made in Pakistan” exhibition was held in Kathmandu on 3-9 October, 2018. A group of 50 businessmen from Pakistan participated in the exhibition and showcased Pakistani products. The event has become an annual feature since 2010.

**SRI LANKA**

Pakistan and Sri Lanka maintain close, cordial and mutually supportive relations. The relationship is broad-based and multifaceted covering diverse fields like diplomatic, political, commercial, defence, people-to-people contacts and cultural exchange. The two countries share commonality of views on a wide range of international and regional issues.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. Secretary Defence of Pakistan, Lt. Gen. (R) Ikram-ul-Haq led a high level delegation to Sri Lanka on 2-5 October, 2018 for Pakistan- Sri Lanka Armed Forces Defence Dialogue. During his visit, he met his Sri Lankan counterpart Mr. Kapila Waidayyarathne and also held meetings with Chief of Defence Staff and Commanders of Sri Lankan tri-forces.

ii. In collaboration with National School of Public Policy (NSPP) Pakistan, a 12-member delegation of Sri Lankan civil servants visited Pakistan on 14-21 January, 2019.
Trade and Investment

Pakistan’s exports to Sri Lanka for 2018 and 2019 stood at US$ 441.24 million and US$ 364.58 million respectively while the imports from Sri Lanka for remained at US$ 58.15 million during both years.

Others

i. Allama Iqbal Scholarships
The Government of Pakistan launched Allama Iqbal Scholarships for Sri Lankan Students under Pakistan-Sri Lanka Higher Education Cooperation Programme. A number of scholarships were offered to Sri Lankan students in the fields of engineering, basic & national sciences and social & management sciences for the year 2019.

ii. Pakistan Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)
Under this program, the Government of Pakistan awarded fully funded higher education scholarships to 09 Sri Lankan students in the field of Pharmacy and Engineering in the top Pakistani institutions.

iii. The High Commission of Pakistan, in collaboration with the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka held an international seminar on “Buddhist and Ghandara civilization: The cultural nexus between Pakistan and Sri Lanka” on 11 March, 2019. Eminent scholars from China, Germany, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the seminar.

iv. Special Assistance Program for South Asia (SAPSA)
Under SAPSA, various projects were carried out including award of Jinnah Scholarship to more than 2000 students, up-gradation of district hospital Akurana, donation of ambulances, setting up of computer and science laboratories etc.
EXTENDED NEIGHBOURHOOD

CENTRAL ASIA

Important bilateral developments between Pakistan and the Central Asian Republics during 2018-19 are given below:

AZERBAIJAN

Pakistan and Azerbaijan have deep rooted ties grounded in mutual support. Azerbaijan is a member of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu & Kashmir. Pakistan-Azerbaijan Joint Working Groups have been constituted in the area of Agriculture, Trade and Military cooperation.

High Level Visits

A Parliamentary delegation of National Assembly of Pakistan led by Deputy Speaker Muhammad Qasim Khan Suri visited Azerbaijan for participation in 5th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue held in Baku on 1-3 May, 2019.

Trade and Investment

i. During 2018-19, bilateral trade between Pakistan and Azerbaijan was US$ 15.19 million.

ii. First-ever Triangular Countries (Azerbaijan-Pakistan-Turkey) Exhibition was held in Baku, Azerbaijan in April, 2019. More than 40 Pakistani companies participated in the exhibition.

iii. A 13-member delegation of Rice Exporter Association of Pakistan (REAP) led by Mr. Muhammad Ahmed Raza, Deputy Chairman visited Azerbaijan on 11-14 April, 2019.

iv. President Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry Mr. Junaid Esmail Makda led a delegation to Baku on 22 February, 2019.

KAZAKHSTAN

Pakistan-Kazakhstan relations are based on common approaches towards world issues as well as mutual understanding and goodwill.

Kazakhstan is an important Central Asian Republic. Pakistan and Kazakhstan are members of the Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC), ECO and signatories to the Quadrilateral Transit Trade Agreement (QTTA).

Bilateral Visits

Chairman National Security Committee of Kazakhstan, Mr. Karim Massimov visited Islamabad on 23 July, 2018.

High Level Interactions

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi met his Kazakh counterpart in Bishkek on 22 May, 2019 on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers Meeting.

The two Foreign Ministers also met in New York on the margins of the UNGA during September, 2019.

KYRGYZTAN

Pakistan and the Kyrgyz Republic have friendly relations, marked by mutual goodwill and a shared desire for increased cooperation.

High Level Visits

i. On the invitation of the President of Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Sooronbay Sharipovich Jeenbekov, Prime Minister Imran Khan visited Bishkek to attend the 19th Meeting of the Council of the Heads of State of SCO Member States on 13-14 June, 2019.

ii. Foreign Minister visited Bishkek to participate in meeting of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers on 21-22 May, 2019. During his visit, he also held delegation level talks with his Kyrgyz counterpart.
TAJIKISTAN

Pakistan and Tajikistan are virtually neighbours. The two countries have strong historic, cultural and affinities extending to civilizations. These are reflected in the strength of bilateral political equation and excellent cooperation on various regional and international organizations such as UN, OIC, ECO and SCO.

High-Level Visits

The Defence Minister of Tajikistan Sherali Mirzo visited Pakistan on 9 April, 2019.

Dr. Sania Nishtar, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation visited Dushanbe on 15-16 June, 2019 to represent Pakistan in the 5th CICA Summit.

High-Level Interactions

Prime Minister Imran Khan met with the Tajik President on the sidelines of the One Belt One Road Forum held in Beijing on 26-27 April, 2019.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation
The 5th Round of Pakistan-Tajikistan Staff Talks was held in March, 2019.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan exports sugar, dairy products, fruits and vegetables (potato, onion & oranges), rice, textile products and minerals to Tajikistan. Our imports from Tajikistan include cotton fiber, fruit and vegetable & unprocessed hides.

TURKMENISTAN

The year in review witnessed continued high-level engagement with Turkmenistan, with which Pakistan has common interests in the shape of TAPI, and cordial political ties. The two countries also cooperate with each other at various multilateral fora.

Bilateral Visits

i. Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov visited Pakistan on 11-12 March, 2019 to participate in the 2nd Round of Bilateral Political Consultations.

ii. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Energy Mr. Nadeem Babar visited Turkmenistan on 21-22 May, 2019 to participate in the 10th Turkmen Gas Congress (TGC).

iii. General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), visited Turkmenistan on 6-8 October, 2019.

Institutional Framework For Cooperation

i. Bilateral Political Consultations

During the 2nd Round of Pakistan-Turkmenistan Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC), which was held in Islamabad on 11-12 March, 2019, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Deputy Chairman of Cabinet of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov led their respective delegations.

ii. Joint Defence Consultation Group

The 3rd Session of Pakistan-Turkmenistan Joint Defence Consultation Group was held on 16-18 April, 2019 at Islamabad.

MOUs/Agreements
During the visit of Turkmen foreign Minister, following MOUs were signed:


ii. Memorandum of Understanding between Institute of International Relations of the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan and Foreign Service Academy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

iii. Protocol to amend the Agreement on Cooperation between Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan.

iv. Host Government Agreement on Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline network in Islamabad, which was signed by Federal Secretary Petroleum Mian Asad Hayauddin from the Pakistani side and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of TPCL Amanov.

v. Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment of Pakistan-Turkmenistan Joint Business Council (JBC) between Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FPCCI) and Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Turkmenistan.

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan is a key partner in Central Asia. Pakistan-Uzbekistan relations have strengthened over the years.

High Level Visits

The Uzbek Foreign Minister visited Islamabad on 01 November, 2018. He held delegation level talks with the Foreign Minister and also called on the Prime Minister.
Joint Press Stake out by Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and Uzbekistan at Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamabad-November 2018

High Level Interactions

i. Prime Minister of Pakistan met President of Uzbekistan on the sidelines of the OBOR Forum, which was held in Beijing on 26-27 April, 2019.


Bilateral Visits

Following bilateral visits took place during the period under review are as following:

i. Maj. Gen Zahid Mehmood, DG (FMC), JSHQs, led a 4-member tri-service Pakistan Armed Forces delegation to the 3rd Pakistan-Uzbekistan Staff Talks held in Tashkent on 26-27 August, 2019.


iii. The Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Elyor Ganiev led a delegation to Islamabad on 27 May, 2019.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan’s exports to Uzbekistan are pharmaceuticals, services, medical equipment, chemical products and citrus fruits etc. Pakistan’s imports from Uzbekistan include raw hide, horticultural products, fertilizers etc.

TURKEY

Pakistan and Turkey share unparalleled fraternal relations that are embedded in a shared historical, cultural and religious heritage. It is a relationship that has transformed into a strong strategic partnership over the years. Turkey has always supported Pakistan on core national issues including the Jammu & Kashmir dispute. Similarly, Pakistan always reciprocates in equal measures. The relationship was further strengthened during 2018-19 through a number of high-level exchanges.
High Level Visits

i. President Dr. Arif Alvi visited Turkey to participate in the inauguration ceremony of Istanbul Grand Airport on 29 October, 2018.

ii. At the invitation of the President of Republic of Turkey, H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister Imran Khan paid an official visit to Turkey on 3-4 January, 2019.

iii. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu visited Pakistan on 14 September, 2018.

Bilateral Visits

The other high profile visits to and from Pakistan were:

i. Former Chief Justice of Pakistan Mian Saqib Nisar visited Turkey on 16-19 December, 2018.
ii. Turkish Interior Minister Mr. Suleyman Soylu along with 10-member delegation visited Pakistan on 17 December, 2018.

iii. Minister of National Defence of Republic of Turkey Mr. Hulusi Akar visited Pakistan on 19-21 December, 2018.

iv. Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Yavuz Selim Kiran and President of Maarif Foundation Prof. Dr. Birol Akgun visited Pakistan on 12 October, 2018; 

v. Commander Turkish Air Force visited Islamabad in April 2019 and held meetings with both civil and military leaderships.

**Trade and Investment**

The total volume of bilateral trade during the year 2018-19 stood at US$ 673.94 million, with US$ 295.14 million Pakistani exports, and US$ 378.81 million imports. Both sides continued discussing possible areas under of cooperation under Free Trade Agreement.

Turkish investments in Pakistan reportedly reached US$ 2.7 billion. A number of Turkish companies are working in Pakistan and have invested here including Arcelik, Dawlance, Zorlu Holding (56.4 MW wind energy project Jhimpir Sindh, two solar power projects of 100 MW and 200 MW at Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park), M/s Hayat Kimya (US$ 150 million in household products, including diapers), Al-Bayrak Group (Metrobus projects in Lahore, Rawalpindi/Islamabad and Multan, major partner in Lahore Solid Waste Management project).
MIDDLE EAST

Pakistan enjoys close and deep-rooted relations with the Middle Eastern countries. These relations are founded on historical, cultural, religious and economic commonalities. Promoting cooperative relations with our Arab brethren has been one of the priorities of Pakistan’s foreign policy.

SAUDI ARABIA

Pakistan deeply values its fraternal ties with Saudi Arabia. Our common religious heritage creates a special bond amongst our peoples. Saudi Arabia is one of the major sources of foreign remittances and Foreign Direct Investment in Pakistan. Exchange of high level visits is one of the main characteristics of our valued ties with the Kingdom.
High Level Visits

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid his maiden State visit to Saudi Arabia on 18-19 September, 2018, at the invitation of King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz.

ii. The Prime Minister again visited Saudi Arabia on 22-23 October, 2018 at the invitation of the Crown Prince, to participate in the Second Future Investment Initiative (FII) Conference. The visit resulted in important understandings that included: Saudi budgetary support to Pakistan worth US$3 billion, provision of oil on deferred payment up to US$ 3.2 billion through a financing agreement and mutual understanding to reduce bilateral visit visa fee.

iii. President, Dr. Arif Alvi visited Saudi Arabia on 9-15 December 2018 for pilgrimage and paid a courtesy call on King Salman Bin Abdulaziz.

iv. Saudi Crown Prince, Muhammad Bin Salman paid a State visit to Pakistan on 17-18 February 2019, on the invitation of the Prime Minister. The major takeaways of the visit included launching of Saudi-Pakistan Supreme Coordination Council (SPSCC), to be headed by Prime Minister Imran Khan and Prince Muhammad Bin Salman. It has three main pillars/components i.e. political and security pillar, economic pillar and social pillar. The Crown Prince also announced the release of 2,107 Pakistani prisoners in the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia also decreased visa fee for Pakistani workers.


MOUs/Agreements

Several MoUs/agreements were signed during the visit of Saudi Crown Prince to Pakistan. These include:

i. MoU on refinery, renewable energy and mineral resources sectors envisaging Saudi investment worth US$ 20 billion,

ii. Financing agreement for provision of oil on deferred payment worth US$3.2 billion,

iii. Financing of five power generation projects by Saudi Fund for Development amounting to US$ 322 million,

iv. Agreement for cooperation between Pakistan and KSA in the field of sports,
v. Youth and Technical Cooperation Program on standardization.
vi. **Road to Makkah Project**

During the visit of Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, it was announced that Pakistan would be included in Road to Makkah initiative to help our Hajjaj complete their immigration in Pakistan before landing in the Kingdom. The Saudi side selected Islamabad Airport for the pilot project for Hajj 2019. Around 22,000 Pakistani Hajjaj were assisted through this facility at Islamabad Airport. It was also agreed that in successive years the facility will be expanded to other cities of the country.

![Image](image-url)

**Prime Minister Imran Khan and HRH Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman witnessing signing of MoUs at Islamabad on 17th February, 2019.**

**Trade and Investment**

Pakistan’s bilateral trade with the Kingdom currently stands at US$ 3.315 billion (2018-19), with exports worth US$ 0.329 billion and imports worth US$ 3.0 billion. Saudi FDI during 2018-19 was around US$ 19.2 million.
Pakistan received US$ 5 billion as remittances from Saudi Arabia during 2018-19.

**Visa on Arrival Facilitation to Saudi Arabia**

Pakistan eased its visa policy for Saudi Arabia in March 2019, by including it in the list of countries to be granted visa on arrival by Pakistan.

**BAHRAIN**

Pakistan’s bilateral relations with Bahrain have expanded and deepened over the years. Bahrain supported Pakistan’s OIC resolution for “Maintenance and Promotion of Regional Peace and Stability”. Bahrain also eased visa restrictions against Pakistani nationals introduced in July 2018.

**High Level Visits**

Foreign Minister of Bahrain H.E. Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa, visited Pakistan on 8-9 April, 2019, at the invitation of the Foreign Minister. He called on the Prime Minister, the President and held delegation level talks with the Foreign Minister.

**Trade and Investment**

Bilateral trade with Bahrain stood at US$ 0.618 billion with exports at US$ 0.065 billion and imports at US$ 0.298 billion.

**MOUs/Agreements**

Additional Protocol on Avoidance of Double Taxation was signed during the visit of Bahrain’s Foreign Minister to Pakistan.
EGYPT

Pakistan and Egypt enjoy close fraternal relations based on shared history and mutual interests. Egypt is an important country in the region and its stability is vital for the stability for the entire region.

In August 2018, Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani constituted an 8-member Pakistan-Egypt Friendship Group. Senator Raja Zafar-ul-Haq is the Convener of the Group. Similarly, the Egyptian Parliament formed a 7-member Friendship group with Pakistan in December 2018 and is headed by Mr. Yousri Fahmy Almgazi Ibrahim.

Bilateral Visits

i. Minister for Religious Affairs, Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri visited Cairo on 18-22 January, 2019 to attend the 29th Session of the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, titled “Building the character and its impact on the progress of country and preservation of their identity”.

ii. Dr. Sameh Aboul-Enein, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt visited Pakistan on 15-16 October, 2018 to participate in the international conference on “The Global Non-Proliferation Regime: Challenges and Responses.”

iii. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar visited Egypt on 24-25 September, 2018 to attend Cairo Dialogue and Trade Summit, organized by the South Asia Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI), Islamabad in collaboration with the Embassy of Pakistan and the Egyptian Ministry of Planning.

iv. Minister of State for Climate Change, Ms. Zartaj Gul visited Egypt and represented Pakistan in the 2nd World Youth Forum held in Sharm Al Sheikh on 3-6 November, 2018.

v. Chief of Army Staff General, General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited Cairo on 14-17 December, 2018 and held meetings with his Egyptian counterpart General, Lt. General Mohamed Fareed Hejazi, Shaikh Al-Azhar, Dr. Ahmad Al-Tayyab, and the Defence Minister, General Mohamed Zaki.
High Level Interactions

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan held a meeting with President Abdul Fattah Al Sisi on the sidelines of the OIC Summit held in Makkah on 30 May, 2019.

ii. The Foreign Minister met with his Egyptian counterpart on 29 May, 2019 at the sidelines of the OIC Summit in Jeddah.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The 8th Round of Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) between Pakistan and Egypt was held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad on 24 December, 2018.

Trade and Investment

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and Egypt during 2018-19 was US$ 205.9 million with US$ 71.6 million in exports and US$ 134.26 million in imports.

IRAQ

Iraq is an important country in the Middle East with centuries old history and strong cultural identity. Pakistan enjoys close ties with Iraq. 193,000 Pakistan zaireen visit Iraq for paying homage to holy sites.

High-Level Visits

i. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development, Syed Zulfiqar Abbas Bukhari, visited Baghdad on 23 January, 2019. During his visit, he called on the Iraqi President Dr. Braham Salih and held meetings with Minister of Labour, Dr. Basam Al-Zaman Majeed Al- Rubaei and leader of Al-Hikma Parly, Mr. Ammar Al-Hakim.

ii. The Senate Chairman Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, along with the Leader of Opposition visited Iraq on 11-13 January, 2019.
iii. Gen. Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee visited Iraq on 10-14 September, 2018. His engagements included a call on the Iraqi Defence Minister, Iraqi Chief of Staff, and Iraqi Air Chief.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. Iraqi Members of Parliament visited Pakistan to attend Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which was held in Gwadar on 29-31 October 2018. The meeting, which was hosted by the Senate of Pakistan, was attended by 100 MPs from 26 countries.

ii. A delegation of Iraqi Armed Forces headed by the tri-services commanders participated in the IDEAS 2018 held in Karachi on 27-30 November 2018. This was the first such visit by an Iraqi delegation and to participate in the IDEAS.

**Trade and Investment**

Total trade between Pakistan and Iraq was US$ 18.5 million with US$ 17.4 million in exports and US$ 1.0 million in imports.

**Others**

Two Iraqi diplomats underwent the 27th Advanced Diplomatic Course at the Foreign Service Academy, which was held on 4 February to 15 March 2019.

**JORDAN**

Jordan is an important country in the Middle East with whom Pakistan has close ties.

**High Level Visits**


ii. General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff visited Jordan on 1-4 October, 2018. During the visit, he was conferred with Order of Military Merit of the 1st Grade by King Abdullah II. Apart from his other engagements, he called on King Abdullah.
Bilateral Visits

Jordanian Members of Parliament visited Pakistan to attend Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which was held in Gwadar on 29-31 October, 2018.

Pakistan and Jordan have Parliamentary Friendship groups in the respective Parliaments of the two countries. The Chairman Senate, Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani constituted an 8-member Pakistan-Jordan Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Senate of Pakistan in September 2018.

Trade and Investment

Total trade between Pakistan and Jordan was US$ 63.5 million with US$ 41.2 million in exports and US$ 22.2 million in imports.

KUWAIT

Pakistan and Kuwait have close brotherly relations. Kuwait appreciates Pakistan’s help in 1991 against the Iraqi invasion and occupation. A Pakistan army contingent contributed in mine clearing operations in the strategic Bubiyan Island. Nine Pakistani soldiers embraced shahadat during these operations. The two countries cooperate with each other at the UN, OIC and other forums.

High Level Visits

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Kuwait on 18-19 May, 2019 at the invitation of the Foreign Minister of Kuwait, H.E. Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Apart from delegation level talks with his Kuwaiti
counterpart, he called on the Emir of Kuwait and held meetings with the Interior Minister of Kuwait.

High Level Interactions

The Foreign Minister held a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Sabah in New York on the sidelines of 73rd UNGA on 24 September, 2018.

Institutional framework for Cooperation

The 4th Session of Pakistan-Kuwait Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) was held on 26-28 September, 2018 in Islamabad. The session was co-chaired by Pakistan’s Minister of Finance Mr. Asad Umar and Kuwait’s Minister for Trade and Industry Khaled Al-Roudhan.

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade with Kuwait stood at US$ 1.3 billion with exports at US$ 0.11 billion and imports at US$ 1.2 billion in 2018-19.
LEBANON

Pakistan and Lebanon have fraternal ties. They share common views on a range of issues of international importance. The relationship between both the countries has strengthened in different fields during recent times.

High Level Interactions

Prime Minister Imran Khan met the Lebanese Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Saad Hariri on the sidelines of the World Government Summit held in Abu Dhabi on 10 February, 2019.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

i. The inaugural session of the Bilateral Political Consultation between Pakistan and Lebanon was held in Beirut on 29 November, 2018. Pakistan delegation was led by Ambassador Syed Hassan Raza, Special Secretary (ME & OIC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad. The Lebanese side was headed by Ambassador Ghadi Al Khoury, Director Political and Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Emigrants, Beirut.

ii. Inaugural session of military Staff Talks between Pakistan and Lebanon was held in Beirut on 10 October, 2018. Pakistan side was headed by Lieutenant General Malik Zafar Iqbal, Director General, Joint Staff Headquarters, while the Lebanese side was led by Brig. General Joseph Sarkis, Deputy Chief of Staff (Planning).

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Lebanon stood at US$ 20.9 million with US$ 18.3 million in exports and US$ 2.6 million in imports.

Others

i. Multi-party Parliamentary Friendship Group was established in the Lebanese National Assembly in August 2018.

ii. A delegation of Lebanese Members of Parliament attended Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which was hosted by the Senate of Pakistan in Gwadar on 29-31 October, 2018.
OMAN

Oman is Pakistan’s closest neighbor in the Gulf. Pakistan’s relations with Oman have remained cordial and friendly. This relationship has further strengthened and deepened over the years.

High Level Visits

i. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Muscat on 29-31 January 2019 to co-chair the 7th session of Pak-Oman JMC. He also met Mr. Yahya Said Al Jabri, Chairman Special Economic Zone Duqum and Mr. Abdulsalam Al Murshidi, Executive President State General Reserve Fund (SGRF).

ii. Air Vice Marshal Matar Bin Ali Al Obaidani, Commander Royal Air Force of Oman, visited Pakistan with a delegation on 31 March-4 April 2019 at the invitation of Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan. During the visit, AVM Matar held meetings with the leadership of all the three armed forces of Pakistan.

MOUs/Agreements

During the JMC, two MoUs on Labour and Training and Cooperation in the field of literature respectively were signed between the two sides.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan’s total trade with Oman stood at US$ 0.86 billion with exports at US$ 0.14 billion and imports at US$ 0.719 billion.
QATAR

The year witnessed a further strengthening of the cordial brotherly relations between Pakistan and Qatar, with sustained momentum of high-level exchanges.

High Level Visits

i. H.E Sheikh Mohammad Bin Abdul Rahman Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, visited Pakistan on 19 October, 2018.

ii. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Doha on 30 December, 2018. Apart from discussing bilateral issues, he conveyed Prime Minister’s assurance to Qatari leadership of the importance attached by Pakistan to the role played by Doha in the Afghan peace process.

iii. The Prime Minister paid an official visit to Qatar on 21-22 January, 2019. He called on the Emir, who thanked Pakistan for its balanced policy on Qatar-GCC crisis.
iv. His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar visited Pakistan at the invitation of the Prime Minister on 22-23 June, 2019. During the visit, he met the President and held delegation level talks with the Prime Minister. After the visit, Qatar announced US$ 3 billion as budgetary support and investment for Pakistan.

v. The then Finance Minister, Mr. Asad Umar, attended the 18th Doha Forum on 14-15 December, 2018.

**MOUs/Agreements**

During the visit of the Emir of Qatar in June 2019, following three MoUs/agreements were signed:

i. MoU on Establishment of Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment,

ii. MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Exchange of Financial Intelligence Related to Money Laundering, and Terrorism Financing and

iii. MoU for Cooperation in the Field of Tourism and Business Events between Pakistan and Qatar.

**Important Developments**

During the period under review, following important developments took place in bilateral ties between Pakistan and Qatar:

i. Qatar has operationlized import of 100,000 Pakistani workers, the MoU for which was signed in February 2016 and was pending implementation. Around 70,000 workers have been exported to Qatar ever since.

ii. Pakistan is among 8 countries chosen by Qatar for establishment of Qatar Visa Centres (QVCs), to facilitate prospective workers in completing procedures for Qatar Residency Permits prior to their departure. QVCs have been inaugurated in Islamabad and Karachi in the last week of December 2018. The QVCs will also be established in Peshawar and Lahore at a later stage.

iii. Pakistan waived off the requirement of ETA (Electronic Travel Authorization) for the issuance of visa on arrival for 30 days. The visa will be issued free of cost and will be extendable to another 30 days.
Trade and Investment

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and Qatar during 2018-19 was US$ 2.6 billion. Pakistan exported goods worth US$ 0.106 billion to Qatar and imported goods worth US$ 2.5 billion.

SYRIA

Pakistan supports territorial integrity and sovereignty of Syria. The Syrian Government appreciates Pakistan’s principled stance toward the crisis in Syria.

Trade and Investment

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and Syria during the year 2018-19 was US$ 8 million with exports worth US$ 7.9 million and imports worth US$ 0.04 million.

Others

Syrian diplomats have been receiving training at the Foreign Service Academy (FSA). One Syrian diplomat availed the 27th Advanced Diplomatic Course (4 February to 15 March, 2019) held in FSA.
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The UAE has been one of Pakistan’s closest friends and partners in the GCC, and the broader region. Pakistan’s relations with the UAE continued to deepen and expand, with multiple exchanges of visits during the year in review.

High-Level Visits

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid an official visit to UAE on 19 September, 2018.

ii. Prime Minister Imran Khan visited UAE on 18 November, 2018 at the invitation of the Crown Prince. The two sides agreed to chalk out a comprehensive roadmap to accelerate long term cooperation in trade, infrastructure, energy and economic development.

iii. His Highness Sheikh Muhammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces, paid an official visit to Pakistan on 06 January, 2019, at the invitation of Prime Minister.

Bilateral Visits

i. In the follow up of the first visit of the Prime Minister to UAE, a high-powered delegation comprising CEOs/senior officials of major UAE companies, visited Pakistan on 26 October, 2018, to establish “a long term strategic economic partnership” between the two countries.

ii. Chairman Board of Investment Mr. Haroon Sharif visited UAE on 6-8 December, 2018. He shared a draft Framework Investment Agreement. Both sides are fast processing Pakistan-UAE Framework Investment Agreement which will provide immense boost to UAE’s investment profile in Pakistan particularly in energy, power, housing, IT, trade logistics and agriculture.

MOUs/Agreements

Following bilateral MoUs/Agreements were signed between Pakistan and UAE during 2018-19:

i. During the visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to UAE, the two sides signed the agreement to upgrade bilateral relations to a “Long Term Strategic Economic Partnership”. The agreement was signed on 22 January, 2019 to formalize the Balance of Payment support of $3 billion for Pakistan.
ii. MoU in the field of manpower between Pakistan and UAE was signed in Geneva on the sidelines of International Labour conference in June 2019.

iii. Pakistan eased its visa policy for UAE in March 2019, by including it in the list of countries to be granted visa on arrival by Pakistan.

**Trade and Investment**

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and UAE during the year 2018-19 was worth US$ 10.2 billion with exports at US$ 1.4 billion and imports at US$ 8.8 billion.
EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

Pakistan established diplomatic relations with Australia in 1948 soon after its independence. Pakistan-Australia relationship is almost as old as our independence. Both the countries are Westminster style democracies and have passion for cricket and hockey. Pakistan’s relations with Australia continued to grow during 2018-19.

High Level Visits

The Minister of State for Climate Change, Ms. Zartaj Gul visited Canberra on 8-10 April, 2019. She held meetings at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Renewable Energy Agency and with the officials of the ACT Government. Ms. Zartaj Gul also led the Pakistani side at the roundtable discussion on climate change, environment, renewable energy, agriculture and water resources.

Bilateral Visits

i. Australia’s Ambassador for Women and Girls, Dr. Sharman Stone, visited Pakistan on 16-19 September, 2018 to exchange views on gender equality and the rights of women and girls.

ii. Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Special Secretary (Asia Pacific), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad visited Australia in April 2019 and met with senior officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

iii. A group of senior civil and military officials, as part of their Foreign Study Tour, from the National Defence University of Pakistan visited Australia on 15-20 April, 2019. They had meetings/briefings at a number of Australian Defence, Foreign Affairs Institutions and think tanks.
MoUs/ Agreements

Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, Margaret Adamson, and Secretary for Water Resources, Shamail Khawaja, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between Australia and Pakistan for collaboration on water, food and energy security on 18 September, 2018. The MOU was signed in the margins of the Indus Knowledge Forum. The Forum is part of a long-term Australian commitment, under the Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio (SDIP), to build capacity for integrated management of water, food and energy resources in the Indus Basin, TAF – The Asia Foundation, ICIMOD – International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development. The Australian Government is providing Pakistan with A$15 million (2016-20) in support under the SDIP.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The 7th meeting of the JWG was held in 5 February, 2019 in Canberra. Pakistan Australia Joint Working Group (JWG) on Border Management and Transnational Crime was established to strengthen cooperation between the two countries to combat transnational crime, such as money laundering, human smuggling, terrorism financing and illegal migration.

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Australia in fiscal year 2018-19 stood at US$ 511 million. Pakistan’s exports to Australia in 2018-19 were US$ 206 million. Pakistan imports from Australia were recorded at US$ 304 million in 2018-19.

Pakistan’s major exports to Australia include textiles, cereals, leather, medical instruments, paper & paperboard etc. While major imports from Australia are oil seed, edible vegetables, fertilizers, paper and paper board, mineral fuels, live animals, scrap (ferrous and non-ferrous).

Others

i. Defence Cooperation

The Australian Defence Forces personnel have been regularly attending training courses in our institutions whereas Pakistan Armed Forces personnel are being invited to Australian Defence Forces institutions.
Australian Defence Force sends a student to the National Defence University in Islamabad each year, conducts an annual counter-insurgency exchange between the Australian Command and Staff College and Quetta Command and Staff College.

ii. Australia and Pakistan hold regular Chief-to-Chief dialogues. Since 2010, there have been regular 1.5 track dialogues that bring together senior leaders from respective militaries, government agencies and think tanks to discuss issues of mutual interest.

iii. A ceremony was organised at the High Commission for Pakistan in Canberra on 17 November 2018 to present souvenirs to Prof. Dr. John S. Biggs and Mrs. Biggs to acknowledge their services in the field of medical education, family medicine training, assessment of post-graduate education and betterment of health system in Pakistan. The Steering Committee of Family Medicine and the Vice Chancellor of University of Health Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan had decided to present Professor and Mrs. Biggs these souvenirs as a mark of gratitude for their enormous work in Pakistan.

iv. A ceremony was organised at the Pakistan High Commission, Canberra to celebrate the return of a statue of Buddha on 12 December 2018. The statue was in the possession of Ms. Romy Dingle, an Australian citizen whose mother was a collector of artefacts and had brought it to Australia from Pakistan in the early 1970s. The family now wished to gift it to Pakistan, the place where it belonged.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Pakistan’s relations with Brunei are marked by cordiality, warmth and cooperation. The two countries have similarity of views on important regional and international issues.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

Bilateral Consultations Forum (BCF) was established in March 2018. The inaugural meeting of BCF was held in Islamabad on 25-26 February, 2019.

Bilateral Trade

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Brunei has been nominal. Most of the trade is carried out by small businessmen through Singapore or Dubai. Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Brunei has remained under US$ 10 Million.
CAMBODIA

Pakistan’s relations with the Kingdom of Cambodia have remained friendly.

Bilateral Trade

Bilateral trade is in favour of Pakistan and has been on the upward trajectory. In year 2018, total trade between Pakistan and Cambodia was US $34.45 million, with US $33.35 million worth exports from Pakistan. The main items of trade include textiles (including synthetic fiber and yarn), pharmaceuticals, leather, salt, surgical equipment, paper, electronic, etc.

INDONESIA

Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with Indonesia as key partner in ASEAN, and a country with sizeable resources. Both are members of the UN, OIC, NAM, G-77, Conference Asia Africa and D-8. Both countries have similarity of views on various regional and international issues. Late President Soekarno provided unprecedented military support to Pakistan during the India-Pak War in 1965.

Indonesia supported Pakistan to become the Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN in 1993 and later to become member of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in 2004. It is supportive of Pakistan candidature for Full Dialogue Partner of ASEAN.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The second meeting of Bilateral Consultative Forum at the level of respective Additional Secretaries was held on 26 November, 2018 in Islamabad. Pakistani delegation was led by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Asia Pacific) Imtiaz Ahmad and the Indonesian side was led by Director General for Asia Pacific and African Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Desra Percaya.

Trade and Investment

The two countries have signed a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in 2012 which became operational in 2013. Under the PTA, Indonesia has ratified
amendments to allow 20 more tariff lines for exports from Pakistan. As a result, Pakistan’s exports to Indonesia are targeted to further increase by US$160 Million.

Indonesia is Pakistan’s 8th largest trading partner. During 2018, bilateral trade between Indonesia and Pakistan reached US$ 3 billion and increased by US$ 431.51 million as compared to 2017. Indonesia’s exports to Pakistan remained the same whereas Pakistan’s exports to Indonesia grew by US$ 408 million, an increase of more than 100% compared to 2017.

JAPAN

Japan is among Pakistan’s leading development partners. On the bilateral front, in 2018-19 renewed interest in both capitals was witnessed to further intensify high-level exchanges and to deepen business and investment linkages.

High Level Visits

There has been frequent exchange of visits between Pakistan and Japan at various levels during 2018-19.


ii. Secretary, Senate of Pakistan Mr. Amjad Parvez Malik led a 3-member delegation to Tokyo on 25-29 September, 2018 in connection with IPU sponsored collaboration on Legislative Drafting with the Diet of Japan. The delegation held meetings with Secretary General of the House of Representatives of Japan and other high-ranking officials of the Legislative Wings of the Japanese Parliament.

iii. Mr. Kantaro Sonoura, Adviser to Prime Minister on National Security visited Pakistan on 4-5 December, 2018.

iv. State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane, visited Pakistan on 30-31 August, 2018.

Bilateral Visits

i. Mr. Shigeki Takizaki, Director General South East and South West Asian Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan visited Pakistan to lead the Security Dialogue on 18 June, 2019.

ii. Mr. Ichiro Matsui, Governor of Osaka Prefecture of Japan, visited Pakistan on 1-2 November, 2018.
iii. Mr. Seishiro Eto, Chairman of Japan-Pakistan Friendship League, visited Pakistan on 3-5 September, 2018.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

i. 11th round of Bilateral Political Consultations held on 8 November, 2018. Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua led the Pakistani delegation while Kazuyuki Yamazaki, Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, led the Japanese side.

ii. 6th Round of Joint Government Business Dialogue 10 December, 2018. The delegation for the dialogue was led by the Adviser to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Textile Abdul Razak Dawood.

iii. 7th round of Pakistan-Japan Consultations on Disarmament and Non-proliferation was held on 28 February, 2019. The Japanese delegation was headed by Ambassador Kazutoshi Aikawa Director General, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Pakistan side was led by Mr. Mohammad Kamran Akhtar, Director General, Arms Control & Disarmament Division.

iv. 7th round of Pakistan-Japan Security Dialogue (Politico-Military component) was held on 18 June, 2019 in which Pakistan side was led by Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Special Secretary (Asia Pacific) while Mr. Shigeki Takizaki, Director General, Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, led the Japanese side.
v. 10th round of Military-to-Military Talks were held in Islamabad on 18 June 2019. Rear Admiral Owais Ahmed Bilgrami SI(M), Additional Secretary Defence, Ministry of Defence led the Pakistan delegation while Mr. HIDEO SUZUKI, Director General for International Affairs, Bureau of Defence Policy, Ministry of Defence headed Japanese side.

**MoUs/Agreements**

During 2018-19, the following MoUs were signed:

i. Pakistan and Japan signed MoU on Technical Intern Training Program on 26 February, 2019.

ii. On 19 June, 2019, Pakistan and Japan signed a Memorandum on Defence Cooperation and Exchanges.

**Trade and Investment**

Total trade between Pakistan and Japan in 2018-2019 was US$ 1.94 billion; Pakistan’s exports to Japan were US$ 282 million and imports US$ 1.66 billion.

**Others**

i. The Photographic Society of Japan (PSJ) joined hands with the Photographic Society of Pakistan and the Pakistan Embassy Tokyo to bring the impressive work of 16 Pakistani photographers to Japan.

ii. The Embassy participated in the Asia-Pacific Friendship Society (ALFS) bazar held on 10 April, 2019 in Tokyo. The Embassy set up a stall to showcase Pakistan’s textiles, handicrafts and carpets.

iii. The Embassy in collaboration with the ALFS and the Diplomatic Corps in Japan organized a seminar to highlight the positive role of Pakistani women in the national development, in April 2019.

iv. The Embassy of Pakistan held a Pakistan Tourism Seminar at the Embassy in which leading travel agents and tour operators from Tokyo participated.

v. Owing to the Embassy’s consistent efforts, eight Pakistani companies participated in the Foodex Japan in February 2019 after a gap of 8 years.

vi. The Embassy welcomed 80 Japanese nationals as part of “Embassy Stamp Rally” in Minato World Carnival Festival on 28 January, 2019.
vii. As part of Independence Day celebrations of Pakistan, the Embassy facilitated Pakistani community members to organize five day long Pakistan Japan Friendship Festival at Ueno Park, Tokyo.

viii. The Mission held a series of photo exhibitions in different areas of the city entitled “Journey through Pakistan: A Land of Many Wonders” in June 2018.

ix. In connection with the 2nd Friendship Exchange Council (FEC) World Cooking Class, a live cooking demonstration of Pakistani cuisine was made by the spouse of the Ambassador in the Embassy on 26 June, 2018.

x. Books received from National Book Foundation, Islamabad were donated to those Japanese universities having Urdu Language Departments.

MALAYSIA

Pakistan has strong historic ties with Malaysia grounded in common affinities and shared objectives. During the year in review, these ties witnessed a marked upswing.

High Level Visits

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan’s visit to Malaysia on 20-21 November, 2018 has served to reinvigorate bilateral relations and paved way for closer economic, defence and political collaboration between the two countries.
ii. Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, paid a state level visit to Pakistan on 21-23 March, 2019. PM Mahathir attended the National Day Parade as Guest of Honour. Both Prime Ministers witnessed the ground-breaking ceremony of Proton Automobile Plant in Pakistan (Al Haaj Motors) and signing of three important Agreements/MOUs between the Edotco and Pakistan Mobile Telecommunication companies. The net outcome of the visit in terms of FDI was US$ 1 billion. During the visit, both Prime Ministers witnessed signing of Agreement on Partial Abolition of Visa for Diplomatic and Official Passport Holders, which has come in to force on 15 April, 2019.

**High Level Interactions**

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir on the sidelines of 74th Session of UN General Assembly in September 2019 in New York. Prime Minister appreciated Prime Minister Mahathir statement for supporting just and durable solution of the Kashmir issue through relevant UNSC resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir. Both Prime Ministers expressed desire to further deepen ties through consistent engagements and by adding substance to them through increased trade and investment.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

The inaugural session of Bilateral Political Consultations BPC) was held in Islamabad on 25 February, 2019 at the level of Foreign Secretary. The Pakistan side was led by Foreign Secretary, Tehmina Janjua. Mr. Dato Sri Muhammad Shahrul Ikram bin Takob, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia headed the Malaysian side.

**Trade and Investment**

In 2018-19, Pakistan Exports to Malaysia amounted to US$ 167.4 million and its imports stood at US$ 1, 176.8 million.

Pakistan and Malaysia signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement in November 2007 encompassing trade in goods, services, investment and economic cooperation. A Joint Review Committee has been constituted to review the implementation of the FTA and propose amendments if required. Both
sides agreed to further liberalize the tariff on remaining items through Early Harvest Programme to further promote trade.

Others

Pakistan–Malaysian Defence Cooperation includes training of Malaysian military personnel and deputation of Pakistan military doctors with Malaysian Forces.
NEW ZEALAND

Pakistan’s relations with New Zealand have remained cordial over the years. Following the heinous terrorist attack on two Christchurch Mosques on 15 March, 2019, Pakistan led the charge against Islamophobia.

High Level Interaction

i. Prime Minister’s call to Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern

In the wake of terrorist attacks in two Christchurch mosques on 15 March, 2019; Prime Minister Imran Khan called Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern over telephone on 21 March, 2019 to express solidarity with New Zealand, condemn the heinous terrorist act and convey his condolences on the loss of more than 50 precious lives. Prime Minister expressed his admiration for the humane handling of the situation by New Zealand’s Prime Minister and told her that she has shown the way to other leaders in the face of rising Islamophobia and global extremism. Prime Minister invited Prime Minister Ardern to visit Pakistan.

ii. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of New Zealand Winston Peters during the Emergency Meeting of the OIC Executive Committee convened in Istanbul on 22 March, 2019 and discussed matters of mutual concern with him. The Foreign Minister expressed deep sorrow on behalf of the Government and people of Pakistan, over the loss of precious lives and those injured in terrorist attacks on Christchurch mosques.

Relief and Rehabilitation of Christchurch victims

The tragic Christchurch terror attacks of 15 March, 2019 posed a huge challenge in terms of relief and rehabilitation work. The Mission despite its limited resources was able to deliver to the satisfaction of victims’ families as well as the people and the government of Pakistan. A special Investiture ceremony on behalf of Pakistan government was organized in May 2019 at Christchurch to confer Nishan-e-Shuja’at upon Shaheed Naeem Rashid, who challenged the terrorist in complete disregard of his own life, saving the lives of many others.
Trade and Investment

The volume of bilateral trade in 2018 stood at approx. US$ 151 million. There is an upward trajectory for the past 3 years. Pakistan’s exports to New Zealand during this period were US$ 51.70 million while imports from New Zealand stood at US$ 99.5 million.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Pakistan- Republic of Korea relations received an impetus during the year in review with the exchange of a number of high-level delegations and strengthening of economic and trade relations.

Bilateral Visits

Following high profile visits took place between Pakistan and Korea during the period under review:

i. A 4-member parliamentary delegation led by Ms. Choo Bae-Sook, Member National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, visited Pakistan on 21-24 July, 2019. The delegation met the Governor of Punjab and Speaker of Punjab Assembly.

ii. A 4-member parliamentary delegation led by Mr. Soo Hyuck Lee from the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, visited Pakistan on 24-25 April, 2019. The delegation met the President of Pakistan and Speaker of the National Assembly.

iii. A Senate delegation led by Deputy Chairman Senate, Saleem Mandviwalla, visited Korea to attend the 3rd meeting of Speakers of Eurasian Countries’ Parliament on 8-11 October, 2018.

iv. Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua visited Seoul to attend the 10th round of Bilateral Policy Consultations on 7 November, 2018.

Institutional framework for Cooperation

The 10th Round of the Bilateral Policy Consultations between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea was held in Seoul on 7th November, 2018.
Trade and Investment

During the year 2017-18, bilateral trade was US$ 1.398 billion with Pakistan’s exports to Korea at US$ 379 million while the imports from Korea were worth US$ 1.018 billion.

Republic of Korea is one of the largest investors in Pakistan with the FDI of $71 million for year 2018-19 (July-Feb).

Economic Development Co-operation Fund (EDCF) of US$ 500 million has been allocated for Pakistan from 2018 to 2020. Major projects being undertaken under EDCF are: IT Park Islamabad (US$ 76.28 Million), Gujranwala Electric Power Company Sub-stations for Rural Distribution (US$ 45 Million), 220KV Ghazi Road Grid Station (US$ 20 Million), Malakand Tunnel Project (US$ 78 Million), Children’s Hospital (US$ 36.7 Million), Sukkur (US$ 46 Million) and N-45 Kalkatak to Chital National Highway.

Grant Aid of US$ 20.42 million has been allocated for Pakistan by Korea in 2019 after a gap of 6 years. The aid will be used for the following projects:

i. Support of national capacity building to realize Girl’s Right to Education in Punjab and Gilgit-Baltistan.

ii. The programme for comprehensive capacity building in WASH (Water and Sanitation Hygiene) cell of Pakistan.

iii. Establishment of PAK-KOREA Testing Laboratory for PV Modules & Allied Equipment.
Ministry of Employment and Labour, South Korea has increased Pakistan’s Labour quota to the tune of 43% in total since July, 2016.

Others

i. A Workshop on International Humanitarian Law in the context of Kashmir issue was organized at the Korea Press Club on 15 February, 2019 by the Embassy.

ii. The Embassy participated in G-Fair Korea, 2018 (Korea Sourcing Fair) on 24-27 October, 2018 to display Pakistani goods to promote Surgical, Sports, Textiles, Handy Crafts and Carpets thorough "Emerging Pakistan" branding.

iii. The four day Korea International Medical and Hospital Equipment Show 2019 (KIMES) was held on 14-17 March, 2019. Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), facilitated ten Manufacturers and Exporters of Surgical and Beauty Instruments Exporters from Sialkot participate as exhibitors in the event under the theme of Emerging Pakistan.

MYANMAR

Pakistan attached importance to its relations with Myanmar, both bilateral and in context of ASEAN.

Trade and Investment

In 2018, bilateral trade between Pakistan and Myanmar was US$ 63.73 million. Pakistan’s major exports to Myanmar are raw cotton, cotton yarn, textile fabrics, textile fibre, leather, cement and leather products, agricultural related machinery, spare parts, pharmaceuticals, fish, oil seeds, sports goods, and fruits.

PHILIPPINES

Pakistan’s relations with the Philippines form an important component of our "Vision East Asia Policy", which aims at enhancing collaboration with the region in diverse fields.

The Philippines, a founding member of ASEAN, has been a steadfast supporter of our efforts to strengthen our institutional linkages with ASEAN. The
Philippines supports Pakistan's bid for the Full Dialogue Partnership (FDP) of the ASEAN.

**Trade and Investment**

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and the Philippines was US$ 203.34 million during 2018. Pakistan's exports to the Philippines were recorded at US$ 141.32 million, while the Philippines' exports to Pakistan amounted to US$ 62.03 million.

**SINGAPORE**

Pakistan has friendly relations with Singapore.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. A parliamentary delegation from Pakistan visited Singapore to attend workshop on International Trade on 7-9 May, 2018.

ii. Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms, Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui, attended Asia Venture & Philanthropy Network Conference and Asia Policy Forum 2018 held on 5-6 June, 2018 in Singapore.

iii. A four member delegation headed by Mr. Muhammad Ikram Khan, Member Finance, WAPDA visited Singapore on 28-31 July, 2018 for talks with Credit Suisse Bank to seek financing for the Diamer Basha and Mohmand Dam Projects.

**Trade and Investment**

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Singapore for 2018 was US$ 823 million. Pakistan’s imports from Singapore include refined petroleum products, hydrocarbons, computer accessories and parts, machinery, textile yarn thread, telecommunication equipment, motor tyres, medicines as well as scrap and steel. Pakistan’s exports to Singapore mainly include cotton yarn, rice, fruit, sports goods spices, food items, carpets, cotton, fabrics textiles, surgical goods and pharmaceuticals etc.
THAILAND

Pakistan and Thailand have always enjoyed a cordial relationship marked by mutual understanding and close cooperation. Pakistan recognizes Thailand as an important ASEAN country, located at the heart of Southeast Asia which can serve as a hub for trade, investments and communications. Thailand can provide useful platform for trade and investment in the ASEAN region. Thailand has been an important supporter of Pakistan in our bid for Full Dialogue Partnership with ASEAN.

Trade and Investment

The volume of bilateral trade registered an upward trend during 2018-19 and stood at US$ 1.27 billion.

VIETNAM

Pakistan-Vietnam bilateral relations are based on strong foundations of friendship, mutual respect and increasing cooperation. Both countries share common vision on regional and international issues.

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade in year 2017-18 was US$ 631 million, which has increased to US$ 657 million in 2018-19. Pakistan is the biggest annual importer of Vietnamese green tea. Pakistan’s main imports from Vietnam include green tea, Pepper, Seafood, Rubber and Textile products, while Pakistan exports products include cloth, cotton, raw materials for leather products, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals.
EUROPE AND RUSSIAN FEDERATION

EUROPEAN UNION

European Union

Pakistan-EU relations are marked by shared democratic values, principles of mutual respect, trust and cooperation. Strong bilateral relations with the EU and its Member States reinforce our partnership with the Union. The relations between the two sides have strengthened over the years, especially during the year 2018-19.

Pakistan and the EU signed Strategic Engagement Plan (SEP) to further enhance bilateral cooperation during the visit of the Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi to Brussels in June 2019. The SEP envisages extending already existing cooperation to include areas such as science & technology, climate change and people-to-people contacts.

Trade & Economic Relations

On the economic front, bilateral trade with the EU has gone up considerably over the past three years. Since the operationalization of the GSP+ facility, Pakistan’s exports to the EU have increased by 51% and EU’s exports to Pakistan have gone up by 47% compared to 2013. In 2018, Pakistan’s exports to EU stood at Euro 6.874 billion compared to EU’s exports of Euro 5.652 billion to Pakistan, thus resulting in trade surplus of Euro 1.222 billion in Pakistan’s favour.

Defence

In the defence domain, Pakistan and the EU hold staff talks at Director General Joint Staff level. The third round was held in June 2019.

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCSC) Gen. Zubair Mehmood Hayat met with the Chairman EU Military Committee Claudio Graziano during his visit to Brussels on 15 January, 2019.

Bilateral Visits

i. High Representative/Vice President Federica Mogherini visited Pakistan on 25-26 March, 2019 for the fourth Pakistan-EU Strategic Dialogue.
Earlier, in September 2018, she had met with the Foreign Minister in New York on the sidelines of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly.

ii. Federal Minister for Human Rights Dr. Shireen Mazari visited Brussels on 2-4 April, 2019 for extensive meetings with policy makers in the European Commission and the European Parliament. She met with the President of European Parliament Antonio Tajani and apprised him of prevailing situation in the Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K). She also met Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm, Secretary General in the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She also held a meeting with the Chair of the Asia Delegation in the European Parliament Jean Lambert,

iii. Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Raja Farooq Haider visited Brussels on 20 February 2019 to participate in a meeting of the European Parliament’s Sub-Committee on Human Rights. He highlighted the human rights violations by the occupying Indian forces in IIOJ&K.

iv. The then Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua visited Brussels on 20 March 2019 for the fifth Pakistan-EU Political Dialogue, which was co-chaired by Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service Jean-Christophe Belliard.

v. The ninth session of the Pakistan-EU Joint Commission was held in November 2018 in Islamabad. Secretary EAD Mr. Noor Ahmed and Additional Secretary (Europe) Zaheer Janjua, Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-chaired the Joint Commission Session from the Pakistan side. The EU side was led by Ms. Paola Pampaloni, Deputy Managing Director for Asia & Pacific, European External Action Service (EEAS).

**EU’s Stance on Kashmir**

In a significant development, the Sub-Committee on Human Rights of European Parliament hosted an official exchange of views on situation of human rights in Kashmir at the European Parliament on 19 February, 2019. MEPs called on India to immediately halt its atrocities in Indian-held Kashmir and carry out investigations into the incidents of grave human rights violations. The MEPs also highlighted the need for peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue through dialogue between Pakistan and India, and with full participation of Kashmiri people.

European Parliament held a debate on the deteriorating human rights situation in IOJ&K on 17 September, 2019. Ms. Tytti Tuppurainen, on behalf of HRVP Mogherini, briefed MEPs on the latest developments in IOJ&K. Several
MEPs called upon India to halt its atrocities in IIOJ&K and supported implementation of UNSC resolutions related to the Kashmir dispute.

**BELARUS**

Pakistan-Belarus have strengthened over the years.

**High Level Visits**

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Zubair Mehmood Hayat paid an official visit to Belarus on 16-19 December, 2018 on the invitation of the Ministry of Defence of Belarus. During his stay in Minsk, he called on President Lukashenko and held talks with the Foreign and Defense Ministers of Belarus.

**High Level Interactions**

Prime Minister Imran Khan had a bilateral meeting with President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Heads of State meeting in Bishkek on 14 June, 2019. Both leaders reviewed the existing level of cooperation between the two countries and the prospects for cooperation in the fields of agriculture and information technology. President Lukashenko extended an invitation to Prime Minister Imran Khan to visit Belarus at his earliest convenience which Prime Minister Imran Khan accepted. Prime Minister Imran Khan also extended an invitation to President Lukashenko to pay a state visit to Pakistan which the latter accepted.

**Bilateral visits**

A delegation led by Belarusian Deputy Minister of Industry, Dmitry Korchik, visited Pakistan on 17-20 February, 2019. During his stay, the Deputy Minister held talks at Ministry of Defence and also had meetings with Federal Minister of National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Industries and Production Mr. Afzal Latifand representatives of the leading economic entities of the Pakistan Army in Islamabad. Both sides agreed to increase the supplies of Belarusian machinery, especially in the field of agriculture to Pakistan.
**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

i. The 4\textsuperscript{th} round of Pakistan-Belarus Bilateral Political Consultations was held in Islamabad on 26 November, 2019. Additional Secretary (Europe) Dr. Aman Rashid and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Dapkiunas led their respective delegations. The two sides acknowledged the strong bonds of friendship between the two countries.

ii. The third Pakistan-Belarus Joint Working Group on Science and Technology was held in Minsk, and a two-member delegation headed by Dr. Shahzad Alam, Chairman PCSIR visited Minsk on 16 - 19 December, 2018. The Group agreed on a Programme of Joint Scientific and Technical Cooperation for the year 2019. Additionally, an Executive Programme for Scientific, Technological and Innovation Cooperation for 2019-2020 was also mutually agreed upon.

**Others**

i. A high-level military delegation from Pakistan participated in the International Exhibition of Arms and Military Machinery "MILEX-2019" held in Minsk from 15-18 May, 2019. The delegation was led by Major General Pilot Isaac Saleh Mohammed Al Baloushi, Head of the Executive Administration of Industries and Defence Capacities Development at the Ministry of Defence.

ii. Ms. Elena Dostanko, Head of the Academic Affairs Unit, Belarusian State University, visited Islamabad on 12-13 March, 2019 and met with the Deputy Chairman of Higher Education Commission (HEC) whereby she also delivered the invitation to further deepen cooperation in higher education sector between the two countries. To mark the 25 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Belarusian State University and Centre for Global and Strategic Studies also agreed to hold a scientific conference in the second half of 2019.

iii. The Embassy of Pakistan, in collaboration with TDAP showcased the finest quality of Pakistan mangoes in major shopping malls, like Galleria and Zamok on 19-21 July, 2018. A reception was also held at the Embassy which was attended by the Ministers of Industries, Information, member of Diplomatic Corps and other dignitaries from the Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture and the host Foreign Office.
iv. The Embassy of Pakistan held an exhibition at the National Art Museum from 27 March- 02 April, 2019 where a variety of Pakistani calligraphy, photography and paintings depicting historic cities and the natural beauty of the country were showcased.

v. A Pakistan Film Festival was held at the Cinema Belarus on 22-24 April, 2019 in which three modern-day Pakistani movies were screened to the diplomatic corps and general public at large to acquaint them with Pakistani cinema and culture.

BELGIUM

Pakistan and Belgium enjoy friendly and cooperative relations, both at the bilateral level and in the European Union context.

Trade and Investment

Belgium is the seventh largest European importer of Pakistani goods, after Germany, UK, Italy, Spain, France and the Netherlands. The current bilateral trade stands at slightly over Euros 877 million. Major products exported from Pakistan to Belgium are textiles, leather and leather products, sports goods, etc. Main Belgian exports to Pakistan include industrial products, plant and machinery, plastics, chemicals etc.

Cooperation at International fora

Pakistan and Belgium have been supporting each other’s candidatures at the United Nations and at other international organizations on the basis of reciprocity.
Pakistan supported Belgium’s candidature for the non-permanent seat of the UN Security Council for the term 2019-2020.

Others

Pakistan’s Minister for Human Rights Dr. Shireen Mazari inaugurated a Tourist Information centre in Brussels on 2 April, 2019.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINIA

Pakistan and Bosnia & Herzegovina have close, brotherly relations grounded in cultural and civilizational commonalities.

High Level Interactions

Prime Minister Imran Khan had a meeting with Mr. Sefik Dzaferovic Bosniak, Muslim Member of the Presidency of Bosnia & Herzegovina on the sidelines of the 14th OIC Summit held in Saudi Arabia in end May 2019. The Prime Minister extended invitation to Mr. Dzaferovic to visit Pakistan.

BULGARIA

Pakistan-Bulgaria relations span over half a century. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established in June 1965.

Bilateral Visits

The 2nd Inter Governmental Commission was held on 21 May, 2019 in Islamabad. An 11-member Bulgarian entourage, which was led by Deputy Minister Liliya Ivanova, held talks with Pakistan’s delegation headed by Secretary Economic Affairs Division (EAD) Mr. Noor Ahmed.

MoUs/Agreements

i. Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Regard to Taxes on Income on 21 May, 2019


iv. Document of Understanding between National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) and South-West University Neofit Rilski, Sofia on 17 September, 2018.

Others

i. **Pakistan Technical Assistance Programme (PTAP)**
A nominee of Bulgaria Post attended a program organized by the ECO Postal Staff College Lahore in October 2019.

ii. Mango Confectionary at Sofia Fashion Week Autumn 2018.

iii. A Cricket Clinic was organized at Professional High School of Telecommunication in Sofia.

iv. An IT Conference was organized by the Embassy “Collaboration in Information Technology between Bulgaria and Pakistan in terms of each Country’s Pedigree”.

v. 2nd International Friendship Chess Tourney.

vi. Cricket Coaching Event (CCE) at the University of National and World Economy (UNWE), Sofia.

vii. 3rd International Friendship Chess Tourney.

viii. Gallery Spot Titled “Journey through Pakistan” organized by the Embassy of Sofia University.

ix. Tourism Event Titled “Tourism Pedigree in Pakistan and Bulgaria-Prospect aplenty for Collaboration” Organized by the Embassy at the University of National and World Economy (UNWE).

x. Mango promo at Sofia’s premier commercial site, Ring Mall. This is Embassy’s third straight year for collaboration with ring mall.

xi. Embassy showcases culinary delights, Henna, Phool Patti Truck Art and Handicraft at the 2nd Asian Festival.

xii. Inaugural Squash Challenger Tournament organized by the Embassy of Pakistan at Maleeva Tennis Club in Sofia.
CZECH REPUBLIC

Diplomatic relations between Pakistan and former Czechoslovakia were established in 1950. Since then, bilateral relations have remained cordial and cooperative.

**Trade and Investment**

Total volume of trade between the two countries has reached US$ 243.3 million in 2019 of which Pakistan’s stood at US$ 193.3 million and imports from Czech Republic stood at US$ 51 million.

Pakistan’s principal exports to Czech Republic are textiles, leather goods, medical instruments, Basmati rice, carpets and jewelry. Czech Republic’s main exports to Pakistan are: electrical power machinery, packed medicaments and medicine, textile machinery, medical instruments, etc.

**Others**

i. The Embassy of Pakistan established its stalls at the “Festival of Embassies” held on 8 June, 2019 in the diplomatic district of Prague (Prague-6). Signature Pakistani cuisine and handicrafts were presented to the visitors consisting of diplomats, tourists and local residents.

![Single Country Exhibition, Fifth Chapter of Mango and Food Festival](image)

ii. A conference titled “Reaching out to the others: Overcoming Inter-Cultural Conflicts” was held at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs in
Prague on 7 November, 2018. The conference was aimed at addressing the issues of overcoming global threats, developing inter-cultural and intra-cultural dialogue, including inter-religious and intra-religious respect and discussions, enhancing justice, mutual cooperation and stability. The Conference took place as a result of consistent efforts of Muslim Ambassadors based in Prague represented through OICPG. The conference was jointly organized by the Ambassadors of the OICPG, Institute of International Relations (IIR) Prague and Anna Lindh Foundation under the auspices of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

iii. Embassy of Pakistan, Prague organized first ever Pakistan’s Single Country Exhibition, fifth chapter of Mango & Food Festival and the second themed Fashion Show on 27 June, 2018 at prestigious neo-renaissance Zofin Palace, located on an island in the Vltava River. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Eduard Muricky, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Czech Republic. It was attended by a large number of Ambassadors and Commercial Counsellors, Czech companies and office bearers of Czech Chambers of Commerce, officials of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Industry of Trade of Czech Republic and general public.

iv. **Engagement with think tanks:** Roundtable Conference on “China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Towards a New International Order” on 24th May, 2018 at Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague was organized with the help of Institute of Global Studies.

![Roundtable Conference on “China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Towards a New International Order”](image-url)
FINLAND

Diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Finland were established in 1951. During the year in review, these ties continued to improve.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The fourth round of Bilateral Political Consultation between Pakistan and Finland was held in Islamabad on 27 February, 2019. Additional Secretary (Europe) Zaheer Janjua led the Pakistani delegation, while the Finnish delegation was headed by Under-Secretary of State. The two sides also signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Political Consultations between the two Foreign Ministries.

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade during 2018-19 was US$ 107.49 million. Finnish companies Nokia, SSM, Wärtsilä, Stora-Enso and Vaisala are operating in Pakistan. A Finnish company Stora Enso has established a joint venture called Bulleh Shah Packaging Limited with Packages Pakistan in 2012. The joint venture employs around 950 persons and sales are forecast to be around Euros 100 million.

ESTONIA

Pakistan maintains cordial and friendly relations with Estonia since its independence. During the period under review relation between both countries remained friendly.

Trade and Investment

During the period bilateral trade between Pakistan and Estonia increased to US$ 17.62 million with Pakistan’s exports amounting to US$ 14.28 million and Estonian exports worth US$ 3.35 million.

FRANCE

Soon after Prime Minister Imran Khan assumed his office, French President Emmanuel Macron called the Prime Minister on 13 September, 2018 to congratulate him on winning the election and assuming the office of the Prime
Minister of Pakistan. During the phone call, both leaders stressed the need for further expanding bilateral ties in all fields of importance.

**Bilateral Visits**

Parliamentary interaction between Pakistan and France has been growing in recent years. A 3-member delegation from French Senate headed by Mr. Pascal Allizard (Senator, Chairman of France-Pakistan Inter-parliamentary Friendship Group and member of Foreign Affairs Committee visited Pakistan on 23-27 April, 2019.

It was followed by the visit of Senator Pascal Allizard, leader of Pakistan-France Friendship group in French Senate, to attend Asian Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Gwadar from 28 to 31 October, 2018 at the invitation of Chairman Senate. These visits further strengthened bilateral relations between the two countries and also promoted people to people contacts.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

The 13th round of Bilateral Political Consultations between Foreign Secretaries of Pakistan and France was held on 10 July, 2018 at Islamabad. The Pakistan side was led by Foreign Secretary Ms. Tehmina Janjua and the French side was led by Mr. Maurice Gourdault Montagne, Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France. During the consultations, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and discussed regional and international issues.

**Trade and Investment**

There has been a steady increase in bilateral trade over the years with balance of trade consistently remaining in Pakistan’s favor. Bilateral trade between Pakistan and France stood at US$ 1.504 billion in the year 2018-19, with our exports crossing the US$1 billion mark for the first time.

A number of measures were taken and several visits took place to promote ties in trade, economic and investment sectors, including:

i. Administrative, Economic and Trade Committee was upgraded from Secretary to Ministerial-level Joint Economic Commission (JEC) in November, 2018.
ii. Business France and Board of Investment, Pakistan signed a MoU on 18 July, 2019 to deepen and expand the existing trade, economic and investment ties between the two countries.

iii. A 30-member MEDEF (Association of French Entrepreneurs) delegation, representing 20 leading French companies, visited Pakistan on 8-11 April, 2019.

iv. An 18-member French delegation participated in Texpo, which was held in Lahore on 11-14 April, 2019.

v. Twelve Pakistani textile companies participated at Texworld, from 17-20 September, 2018.


vii. Twenty Pakistani companies participated in 27th Expo Protection, which was held in Paris on 6-8 November, 2018, to showcase preventive gloves, headgear and other specialized risk preventive wears at.

viii. A Mango Festival was organized by the Mission on 5 July, 2018 at Rungis International Market.

Others

i. **Defence Cooperation**
   Defence relations between Pakistan and France have been institutionalized through Joint Security Commission at the level of Secretary Defence and Joint Staff Talks at the level of Director General Foreign Military Cooperation, Joint Staff Headquarters. The 11th round of Joint Staff talks was held in Paris from 19-21, June 2019 and from Pakistan side Major General M. Shafique and Lt. Col. Naveed Ahmed participated.

ii. The cooperation in the field of archaeology between Pakistan and France dates back to 1958. To celebrate its 60 years, an event was organized at the Embassy on 18 April, 2018. Dr. Aurore Didier, the current Head of the French Archaeological Mission in the Indus Basin delivered the keynote address.

iii. The Second Annual Pakistan Festival was organized by the Embassy of Pakistan in Paris on 22 October, 2018 in collaboration with Pakistani community. During the event Pakistan’s culinary and cultural heritage was showcased.

iv. An International Conference titled “Call of the Mountains” aiming to showcase the majestic mountains of Pakistan in North was organized in UNESCO on 25 October, 2018. During the conference a panel discussion
with top mountaineers in Europe and civil society activists from Pakistan was held. A ceremony to award Pakistani pilots who rescued French mountaineer Elizabeth Revol from Nanga Parbat earlier in 2018 was also held.

v. Semi Finals of French Debating Association held at the Embassy on 22 March, 2019. The subject even was hosted at the Embassy and around 150 students from various universities in France participated in the event.

vi. In collaboration with “Nomade Adventure” and “Clio” the leading tour operator companies of France, special evenings to promote Pakistan as a tourist destination were held in April and May 2019.

vii. **Cooperation at International Fora**

Pakistan participated in 206th Session of UNESCO Executive Board held in Paris from 4-17 April, 2019. Pakistan delegation was led by MNA Ms. Wajiha Akram. Pakistan was re-elected to the 58 member Executive Board of UNESCO for the term 2019-23.

**MONACO**

During the year in review, cooperation with Monaco continued at bilaterally as well as at multilateral fora, especially in the United Nations.

**GERMANY**

Pakistan and Germany maintain a strong partnership. Germany is Pakistan’s fourth largest trading partner globally and the largest in EU. It hosts over 80,000 strong Pakistani Diaspora and around 5,000 Pakistani students.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. A delegation of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, headed by the Senior Minister for sports, Youth Affairs, Tourism, Culture, Archaeology & Museum, Mr. Muhammad Atif Khan, participated in the International Tourism Trade Fair (ITB) Berlin 2019 – the world’s largest travel & trade fair - held on 6-10 March 2019. Minister Atif Khan along with Ambassador Jauhar Saleem and Minister for Tourism Gilgit Baltistan inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion at the ITB.
ii. Pakistan Navy Ship ASLAT visited Hamburg, Germany for the first time on 4-7 August, 2018. This was first ever warship port-call from Pakistan to Germany.

iii. A delegation of Economic Affairs Division of Pakistan, headed by Secretary Economic Affairs Division Mr. Noor Ahmed, visited Germany in 2018. The delegation held Government to Government negotiations on development cooperation between Pakistan and Germany.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

Pakistan-Germany bilateral relations are governed by Pakistan-Germany Strategic Dialogue, which reviews the entire gambit of bilateral relations. So far four rounds have taken place and last round was held in Islamabad on 31 October, 2018 at the level of Foreign Secretaries. The Pakistan side was led by Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua while the German delegation was headed by State Secretary Walter Lindner of Federal Foreign Office.

The two sides also discussed bilateral cooperation especially in the spheres of political, trade and investment, education, culture, media, parliamentary exchanges and people to people contacts.

**Trade and Investment**

Pakistan and Germany trade volume in 2019 was US$ 2,927.4 million in which Pakistan’s exports to Germany stood at US$ 1,999 million and Germany’s exports to Pakistan was US$ 928.4 million in 2019.
Pakistan’s principal exports to Germany are textiles, leather goods, medical instruments, Basmati rice, carpets and jewelry. Germany’s main exports to Pakistan are: electrical power machinery, packed medicaments and medicine, textile machinery, cars, medical instruments, synthetic colors etc.

Pakistan embassy in Berlin also undertook several initiatives for increasing trade cooperation between the two countries, which include:

i. An event titled “Naya Pakistan’s Readiness for Wind Power Development” was organized in collaboration with the World Wind Energy Association (WWEA) during the Hamburg Wind Energy Fair and 17th World Wind Energy Conference (WWEC) 2018 on 27 September, 2018 at Hamburg Mess in which the participants were briefed about the wind energy potential in Pakistan, government’s plan to increase the share of wind energy in the energy mix and the investment opportunities available in this sector in Pakistan.

ii. Volkswagen (VW) AG, the largest and most successful Automotive Group in the world, signed the final agreement with Pakistan Premier Motors Limited (PML), a subsidiary of Pakistan Premier Systems Private Limited (PSL) for establishing VW Group CKD Assembly under the Licensing and Assembly contract on 07 November, 2018. The Ambassador witnessed the signing ceremony and also highlighted the great potential for further expanding the bilateral investment cooperation on the occasion.
iii. The Mission organized a round-table business conference on “New Business Opportunities in Pakistan-China Economic Corridor and beyond" on 17 January, 2019, in Hamburg with collaboration of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and Industries (IHK) and German Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industries (DIHK). The event was very well attended.

iv. A hundred and sixty nine exhibitors represented Pakistan in ISPO 2019 at Munich, the world’s largest fair for sports goods & sportswear.

**German Development Assistance**

Pakistan has been a recipient of German Development Assistance since 1961. Total development assistance encompassing both technical and financial cooperation since 1961 amounts to € 2.4 billion. The volume of development assistance and priority areas are identified through biannual review meeting between BMZ and Economic Affairs Division, held alternately in Berlin and Islamabad. For 2018, the volume of technical and financial assistance was € 14 million and for 2019 this volume reached € 88 million.

**Others**

i. Pakistan Student Association (PSA) Kiel in collaboration with Embassy of Pakistan Berlin organized "Pakistani Cultural Night" on 10 November, 2018 in the University of Kiel.

ii. In its endeavour to promote inter-faith harmony, the Embassy of Pakistan partially sponsored and participated in an Inter-religious Art Exhibition on 11 May, 2019. The calligraphic work of Mr. Shahid Alam, a well-known Pakistani German artist was exhibited.

iii. Premier of a Pakistani feature film in Germany.

**HUNGARY**

Diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Hungary were established in 1965. Pakistan and Hungary have regularly consulted each other under the framework of Bilateral Political Consultations. Trade relations of the two countries are also growing.
**Bilateral Visits**

i. A 9-member delegation of 110\textsuperscript{th} National Management Course from the National School of Public Policy, Lahore, visited Hungary on 12-18 April, 2019 on a foreign study tour. The delegation visited Hungary’s Ministries of Interior/Human Capacities/Defence; National Directorate General for Disaster Management; National University of Public Service; Immigration and Asylum Office; and think tanks.

ii. A delegation of the Islamabad Chambers of Commerce visited Budapest in June 2019. The delegation members belonged to pharmaceuticals, freight forwarding, advertising, automobiles, leather accessories, and real estate sectors of the economy of Pakistan. Their visit focused on identifying non-traditional trade markets.

**Trade and Investment**


**Others**

The Embassy of Pakistan in Budapest participated in the 8\textsuperscript{th} Diplomatic Fair held on 2 December, 2018 in Budapest. The fair was characterized by various countries’ stalls established by Budapest based foreign embassies showcasing their culture, music, handicrafts, and cuisine etc. The Embassy of Pakistan established two stalls where Pakistani embroidery, shawls and artifact were displayed and food was served.

**ITALY**

Bilateral relations between Italy and Pakistan continued the upward trend in 2018-19. The continued partnership of both the countries in international fora and an enhanced profile of economic activity have given dynamism to the relationship.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. A delegation led by Mr. Alessandro Profumo, CEO of Leonardo Global High Technology Company visited Pakistan on 9-10 July, 2018. During his visit, he called on the officials at Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence to discuss bilateral cooperation.
ii. Engineer Enzo Benigni, President of Elettronica Spa, visited Islamabad on 18-19 October, 2018.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

4th round of Bilateral Political Consultations between Pakistan and Italy was held on 13 December, 2018. The Pakistan side was led by Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua and the Italian delegation was headed by the Secretary General of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs H.E Ambassador Elisabetta Belloni.

**Trade and Investment**

Italy is Pakistan’s third largest market in Europe (after United Kingdom and Germany) and the sixth largest globally. Bilateral trade for the year 2018 stood at US$ 1,387.64 million, with exports from Pakistan worth US$ 804.4 million and imports of US$ 583.2 million.

**Cooperation at International Fora**

At multilateral/UN fora, Pakistan and Italy have established effective cooperative relationship whereby the two sides have extended support to each others’ candidatures beside collaboration on the important issue of UN reforms and expansion of the UN Security Council.

**LATVIA**

Pakistan maintains cordial relations with Latvia. Ambassador of Pakistan to Poland (concurrently accredited to Latvia), Mr. Shafqat Ali Khan visited Riga to represent Pakistan in the 100th Anniversary of the Latvian Republic on 11 November, 2018.

**Institutional Framework for Cooperation**

The 5th Round of Pakistan-Latvia Bilateral Political consultations were held in Riga on 6-7 May, 2019. Additional Secretary (Europe) Mr. Zaheer Janjua led the Pakistani side. During the consultations, whole range of Pakistan-Latvia relations was discussed.
Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade for the year increased to US$ 6.34 million with Pakistan’s exports amounting to US$ 4.36 million and Latvian exports worth US$ 1.98 million.

LITHUANIA

Diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Lithuania were established on 31 May, 1994. Pakistan recognized Lithuania on 08 September, 1991. Pakistan’s Mission in Minsk is concurrently accredited to Lithuania, while Lithuanian Ambassador in Ankara is concurrently accredited to Pakistan.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan and Lithuania’s total bilateral trade in 2019 was US$ 50.16 million. Pakistan’s exports to Lithuania were US$ 15.096 million and imports from Lithuania were US$ 33.06 million.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The 6th round of Pakistan - Lithuania Bilateral Political Consultations was held in Islamabad on 23 October, 2018. The Pakistan side was led by Ambassador Zaheer A. Janujua, Additional Secretary (Europe) and Ambassador Eduardas Borisovas, Director for Latin America, Africa, Asia and Pacific Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed the Lithuanian delegation.

MONTENEGRO

Ambassador Iftekhar Aziz presented his credentials to the President of Montenegro Mr. Milo Dukanovic on 23rd July, 2018. During the meeting, President Dukanovic expressed his desire to strengthen relations with Pakistan in all fields and expressed keen interest in enhancing most specifically cultural relation between Pakistan and Montenegro. He also conveyed readiness of the Government of Montenegro for the bilateral visa abolition agreement which had earlier been proposed by Pakistan as well as the agreement on bilateral political consultations mechanism.
THE NETHERLANDS

Pakistan and The Netherlands have a close and cooperative relationship.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan’s exports to Netherlands, during 2018, touched US$ 864 million, while Pakistan’s imports in the same period from Netherlands remained at US$846 million.

The Netherlands is the fourth largest investor in Pakistan. Apart from Philips, Shell and Veon, many new companies have invested in Pakistan. Friesland Campina, made an investment of US$ 450 million and has also announced further investments of US$ 2 billion. On 20 July 2018, Engro Corporation Ltd. of Pakistan and Royal Vopak of the Netherlands announced the signing of a Share Purchase Agreement regarding the sale of 29 percent share in Elengy Terminal Pakistan Ltd (ETPL) to Vopak.

NORWAY

Pakistan and Norway share common understanding on a number of international issues. Pakistan has a meaningful relationship with Norway in development cooperation, which is mostly project-related with emphasis on education, health, environment and gender equality.

Bilateral Visit

Former Norwegian Prime Minister and Executive Chair of Oslo Center, Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik visited Pakistan on 24-27 February, 2019 to attend a conference titled 'Kashmir: A Victim of State and Societal Coercion' organized by Pakistan and Denmark based think tank, Pakistan House in Islamabad on 25 February, 2019. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and the then Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry participated in the event. The conference was also attended by Kashmiri leaders, President AJK, former Ambassadors and senior retired army officers. Politicians and MPs from the UK shared video messages at the conference.
Trade and Investment

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and Norway in 2019 was US$ 123.91 million. Exports to Norway were US$ 99.79 million and Imports from Norway were US$ 24.24 million.

Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The 10th round of Bilateral Political Consultation between Pakistan and Norway was held in Islamabad on 4 April, 2019. Additional Secretary (Europe) Zaheer A. Janjua and Ambassador Tine Morch Smith, Director General (Regional Affairs) of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs led their respective delegations.

Diame Basha and Mohmand Dam Fundraiser (1 November, 2018)

The Mission organized a fundraising event to collect donations for the Diamer Basha and Mohmand Dam Fund on 1 November, 2018 at Kristen Senter, Oslo with over 2,000 participants. Senator Faisal Javed, Member Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, Mr. Shaukat Ali Yousafzai and famous television personality, Ms. Ateeqa Odho attended the event. During the event, a total amount of NOK 4.957 million, equivalent to PKR 8 crore, was raised.

POLAND

Pakistan-Poland relations continued to expand with high level visits and frequent interaction particularly in the defence sphere.

Bilateral Visits

i. Air Marshall Arshad Mehmood Vice Chief of Air Staff along with a delegation of Pakistan Air Force participated in the ceremonies to mark the centenary of Polish Air Force on 23-27 August, 2018.

ii. On 23-28 September, 2018, Inspector of the Polish Air Force Brig General Jacek Pszczola visited Pakistan on the invitation of the Chief of Air Staff. During his visit, he met Chairman Joint Chief of Staff and Armed Forces Chiefs.

iii. Major General Jan Mrek Sliwaka, Deputy General Commander of the Polish Armed Forces visited Pakistan on 15-18 October, 2018.
iv. A delegation of Polish Armament Group participated in the Karachi Defence EXPO, which was held on 27-30 November, 2018. Polish exhibitors also exhibited their state-of-the-art equipment during the EXPO.


**Trade and Investment**

The trade figures indicated steady growth of bilateral trade during the period under review. The volume of bilateral trade during 2018 was US$ 538 million. Exports from Pakistan to Poland in 2018 were worth US$ 424.3 million as compared to US$ 374 million in 2017 thus recording an increase of 11.85% during the year. Pakistan imported from Poland goods of worth US $ 113.56 million in 2018 as compared to US$ 115 million in 2017.

Main exports from Pakistan were garments and clothing accessories, other textile made ups, rugs, articles of leather whereas main items imported from Poland to Pakistan were machinery and mechanical appliances, iron and steel, mineral waxes.

The Polish Oil and Gas Company (PGNiG) has been active in Pakistan in exploration and production of oil and gas since 1997. It made notable discoveries of gas. The company has thus far invested more than US$ 200 million in Pakistan.

**PORTUGAL**

Pakistan has had friendly political relations with Portugal. Pakistan’s mission in Lisbon is concurrently accredited to the island country of São Tomé and Príncipe.

**High Level Visits**

i. The Portuguese health minister Mr. Adalberto Campos Fernandes, along with his four member delegation, visited Agha Khan University Karachi on 6-7 September, 2018. The delegation explored opportunities for
collaboration between the Agha Khan University and Portuguese health ministry.

ii. Mr. Usman Dar, Prime Minister’s Special Advisor on Youth Affairs, visited Lisbon on 21-22 June, 2019 to participate in the Lisbon Youth Conference 2019 hosted by Portugal.

Others

Pakistan’s football team, The Leisure League, arrived in Lisbon on 22 September, 2018 to participate in the Socca World Cup.

ROMANIA

During the year in review, positive momentum was witnessed in Pakistan-Romania relations.

Bilateral Visits

i. A Trade Mission from Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) visited Bucharest on 30-31 July, 2018. During the visit, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and RCCI was also concluded.

ii. A high level defence sector technical delegation, led by Major General Dr. Nicolae Lupulescu, Counselor to the Romanian Chief of Defence, attended IDEAS-2018, which was held on 27-30 November, 2018 in Karachi.

iii. Vice Admiral Alexandru MIRSU, Chief of the Romanian Naval Forces attended the Exercise AMAN-19 in February 2019 in Karachi.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan and Romania trade volume id US$ 32.72 million in 2019 of which Pakistan’s exports stood at US$ 17.42 million and imports from Romania stood at US$ 15.3 million. Pakistan is importing oil seeds and oleaginous fruits, machinery and its parts, petroleum & chemical elements as well as compounds from Romania. Pakistan’s major exports to Romania include chemical material and products, material of animal origin, cotton fabric (woven), synthetic fabrics and manufactured textile goods.
Institutional Framework for Cooperation

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Round of Pakistan-Romania Joint Military Committee meeting was held on 4 July, 2018 in Pakistan.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The relations between Pakistan and Russia were further strengthened during the year 2018-19 in different fields of cooperation. The relations were characterized by political goodwill, mutual respects and shared common interests.

High Level Visits

i. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Russia on 25-26 December, 2018 and held meeting with the Russian Foreign Minister Mr. Sergey Lavrov.

ii. Mr. Jam Kamal Khan, Chief Minister of Balochistan led Pakistan delegation in the inaugural meeting of the Forum of Heads of Regions of SCO Member States, which was held in Chelyabinsk, Russia on 3-6 December, 2018.

iii. Mr. Asad Qaiser, Speaker, National Assembly led 12-member Pakistani delegation to attend 2\textsuperscript{nd} International Forum “Development of Parliamentarianism”, which was held in Russia on 30 June-3 July, 2019.

iv. Senator Ms. Rubina Khalid led Pakistan delegation to Russia and attended Meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on "Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs on 18-21 April, 2019.

Bilateral Visits


ii. Mr. Asif Saeed Khan Khosa, former Chief Justice, Supreme Court visited Russia and attended International Conference of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation in May 2019.
iii. Mr. Mushahid Hussain Syed, Vice Chairman & Special Rapporteur of the ICAPP visited Moscow to attend 10th General Assembly of the ICAPP on 23-27 October, 2018.


vi. Syed Fawad Ali Shah, Secretary, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) visited Moscow to attend 35th Meeting of the Special Working Group on Customs Cooperation of the member States of SCO on 12-13 March, 2019.


Institutional Framework for Cooperation

i. The sixth session of Joint Working Group on Energy Cooperation was held in Islamabad on 27 December, 2018.

ii. The 13th Round of Pakistan-Russia Consultations on Strategic Stability was held in Islamabad on 28 March, 2019. The Russian side was led by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov while the Pakistan side was led by the then Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua.

MoUs/Agreements

MoU on Cooperation of Implementing Offshore Gas Pipeline Project between Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) of Pakistan and Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation was signed on 27 September, 2018 in Moscow.

Others

i. Defence Cooperation

Pakistan-Russia defence cooperation has steadily increased and is marked by frequent high-level visits, joint military exercises; port calls by Naval Ships,
participation in Joint Exercises, Military Games, exhibitions and Military Technical Cooperation. Pakistan-Russia military drills “Frienship-2018” was held between the two sides from 21 October, 2018 to 4 November, 2018 in Pakistan.

Pakistan participated in the SCO member states’ Joint Military Anti-Terrorist Command Staff Exercise called “Peace Mission-2018” in August 2018 in Chelyabinsk, Russia. Various visits of defence personnel took place to and from Russia during 2018-19.

ii. **Cooperation on Afghanistan**

Pakistan and Russia have convergence of views and close cooperation on Afghanistan. Russia’s role in Afghanistan peace process has increased and is acknowledged by international community after Moscow Format meeting held in November 2018 in Moscow. Pakistan participates in all the meetings of Moscow Format. Pakistan and Russia are also part of Quadrilateral forum of US, China, Russia and Pakistan on Afghanistan peace process.

**SPAIN**

Bilateral relations with Spain were established in 1950s. In early 1990s Pakistan took initiative to strengthen its relations with Spain because of growing number of Pakistani Diaspora in Spain.

**High Level Visits**

i. Mr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications visited Barcelona in February 2019 for the Mobile World Congress.

ii. Mr. Ali Haider Zaidi, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs visited Barcelona and Madrid in March 2019 and held productive meetings with Spanish Ministry of Communication and Barcelona Port Authorities.

**Bilateral Visits**

A delegation of 109th National Management Course visited Spain in November 2018 and held meetings in various Spanish Ministries, with think tanks and private sector companies.
Trade and Investment

Pakistan-Spain bilateral trade is on upward trajectory and trade volume again crossed US$ 1 billion mark for the year 2018. Pakistan’s exports to Spain continued their positive trend and reached US$ 1.09 billion, an increase of 28.07 percent when compared to 2017. Total trade between Pakistan and Spain stood at US$ 1.382 billion (an increase of 39.09%).

SWEDEN

Pakistan and Sweden have remained on friendly terms.

Bilateral visits

i. Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, undertook a visit to Sweden on 18-22 June, 2019 at the invitation of the Swedish defence giant SAAB. During the visit, the Air Chief also visited the cities of Linkoping and Gothenburg.

ii. Ms. Annika Ben David, Ambassador for Human Rights at the Swedish Foreign Office, visited Pakistan to attend the Asma Jahangir Conference on Justice for Empowerment, which was held in Lahore on 10-15 October, 2018.


Others


The event provided an opportunity to showcase Pakistan’s IT potential to Nordic companies and investors. The Ambassador inaugurated the Summit. In his speech, he highlighted the tremendous potential of IT sector and the impressive IT professionals pool in Pakistan.

On the sidelines, representatives from notable IT companies from the Nordic region met with Pakistani IT Companies and start-ups and made deals as well as contacts.
UKRAINE

Pakistan and Ukraine enjoy close and cordial relations which are based on mutual trust and a shared desire to further strengthen bilateral relations in all spheres.

Trade and Investment

Total bilateral trade between Pakistan and Ukraine in 2019 was US$ 129.4 million. Pakistan’s Exports to Ukraine were US$ 69.6 million and Imports from Ukraine were US$ 59.8 million.

Defence Cooperation

Defence cooperation with Ukraine is the hallmark of our bilateral relations. Collaboration in the defence sector is progressing smoothly with the exchange of visits of technical experts between the two countries in addition to the visit of senior defence officials. High level delegations frequently exchanged visits to attend defence exhibitions like “IDEAS” in Pakistan and “Arms and Security” in Ukraine.

i. A delegation of the Pakistan Air Force visited Ukraine in September 2018.


iii. A Ukrainian delegation led by Mr. Oleg Gladkovskyi, Deputy Secretary of National Security and Defence Council (NSDC) of Ukraine participated in the defence exhibition “IDEAS-2018” held at Karachi on 27-30 November, 2018.

THE UNITED KINGDOM

Pakistan and the UK have a deep-rooted relationship, based on shared history and experiences and reinforced by strong people-to-people contacts. A robust partnership with the UK is a key pillar of Pakistan’s foreign policy.
**High Level Visits**

i. Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, UK’s Minister of State for Commonwealth and United Nations visited Islamabad on 18 February, 2019 to discuss a range of matters including human rights, security and socio-economic matters. He also called on the Foreign Minister during his visit.

ii. Chief of Army Staff, General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited London on 20 June, 2019 and interacted with senior military leadership to discuss matters of mutual interest including the evolving geo-strategic environment.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. Mr. Simon Penney, Her Majesty’s Trade Commissioner to the Middle East visited Pakistan on 23-26 June, 2019 to discuss bilateral trade matters. During his visit, he called on Governor Sindh, Minister for Water resources, Deputy Governor of State Bank of Pakistan, Secretary Defence and Chairman, Board of Investment.

ii. Mr. Rehman Chishti MP, Trade Envoy, visited Pakistan on 14-18 September, 2018 in order to enhance trade cooperation between the UK and Pakistan.

**Trade and Investment**

With an annual bilateral trade volume of £ 1,953 million and over 100 British companies operating in Pakistan, the UK is Pakistan’s second largest (after Germany) trading and investment partner in Europe.

Pakistan is the largest recipient of British development assistance. DFID’s budget for 2018-19 was £ 345 million. DFID is supporting Pakistan in education and health sector, as well as poverty alleviation, through Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) and State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

The UK government has tripled the number of Chevening Scholarships for Pakistani students to 72 for the year 2018-19.
AMERICAS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The period under review, July 2018 to June 2019, witnessed significant developments in the Pakistan-U.S. relationship both on the bilateral and regional planes. The relationship witnessed an upward trajectory in the second half of the period. The momentum generated during the period under review culminated in the visit of Prime Minister to US in July 2019. The outreach to the U.S. Administration, Capitol Hill, media and think tanks in order to project Pakistan's viewpoint on all important issues of bilateral importance continued.

High Level Visits

1. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Islamabad on 5 September, 2018 and held delegation level talks with the Foreign Minister. He also called on the Prime Minister and the Chief of Army Staff in a combined meeting.

US Secretary of State Mr. Michael Pompeo calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad on 5th September, 2018
ii. Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited New York and Washington from 23 September to 3 October, 2018. In Washington, he met Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo and National Security Advisor John Bolton. He met with 9 U.S. Senators and 8 members of the House of Representatives. The Foreign Minister also met the Pakistani American diaspora and spoke at the US Institute of Peace and Asia Society. The visit was well-received and laid the foundation for sustained dialogue and engagement between our two countries.


iv. Finance Minister Asad Umar visited Washington on 10-12 April, 2019. He met the officials of the IMF, World Bank and Asian Development bank. The Minister also addressed the community at Chancery and invited Pakistani businessmen to invest in Pakistan.

v. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi hosted US Senator Lindsey Graham, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and senior member of Armed Services, Appropriations and Budget Committees in Islamabad on 20 January, 2019.

vi. American special representative for Afghan peace and reconciliation, Zalmay Khalilzad, had a delegation level meeting with Foreign Secretary Tehmeena Janjua on 9 October, 2018 to discuss developments in the Afghan reconciliation process.

vii. The second meeting of US Special Representative for Afghan Reconciliation Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad and the Foreign Secretary was held on 17 January, 2019. Ambassador Khalilzad was accompanied by an interagency delegation representing Departments of Defence, State and National Security Council. Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua was assisted by senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence.

viii. U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad visited Pakistan on 5 April, 2019 and called on the Foreign Minister. He also accompanied U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Ambassador Alice Wells to Pakistan on 29 April, 2019 and held delegation level talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
**Bilateral Visits**

Frequent exchanges at the bilateral level included:


ii. U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Pakistan Mr. Henry Ensher in February 2019.


iv. Visit by U.S. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Alice Wells.

**High Level Interactions**

i. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi met a bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers led by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference held on 15-17 February, 2019. He underlined that close engagement between Pakistan and the United States had historically proved to be a factor for stability in South Asia. He stressed the importance of a broad-based and structured relationship for promoting the two countries’ shared interests.

ii. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi spoke with US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo on 27 February, 2019 and apprised him of the violation of Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir by India and the sentiments of Pakistani government, parliament and the people. He added that Pakistan is desirous of peace in the region, but will not compromise on its territorial integrity. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi had a telephonic conversation with Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo in June 2019. Both leaders discussed bilateral relations and matters related to regional peace and security. They also discussed progress of peace efforts in Afghanistan.

**Trade and Investment**

The U.S. remains one of Pakistan’s largest trading partners accounting for nearly 16% per cent of our total exports, primarily consisting of textiles and apparel. During the calendar year 2019, the total trade between Pakistan and the US amounted to US$ 6.570 billion. Pakistan enjoyed a trade surplus with the US during this year as well. Out of total trade volume, Pakistan’s exports amounted to US$ 3.922 billion while the imports from the US stood at US$ 2.647 billion.
The U.S. is Pakistan’s largest trading partners. U.S. corporate sector has significant investments in Pakistan from leading companies such as Proctor & Gamble, Coca-Cola, Pepsico, Citibank, Exxon, Boeing, GE, etc.

A very active U.S.-Pakistan Business Council drives the corporate sector interest in Pakistan, which has increased due to the improvement in Pakistan’s economy. The Embassy remained actively engaged in attracting U.S. corporate sector to invest in Pakistan. Interactions with the U.S. Government agencies, including Treasury, Commerce and USTR also remained an integral part of the Embassy’s Trade and Economic Division strategy. On the economic front, senior officials from Pakistan’s finance and economic ministries remained actively engaged with the World Bank, IMF and other international financial institutions based in Washington D.C. At a bilateral level, regular and robust exchanges with USAID and OPIC were maintained.

**Others**

i. A Pakistan Day event was held in Baltimore, MD with support from the Embassy in March 2019.

ii. Embassy of Pakistan opened its doors on 4 May, 2019 to the public during the annual “DC Passport: Around the World Embassy Tour”.

iii. Highlights of the Pakistan Pavilion at the event included cultural display of provinces of Pakistan, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir, folk dances, live music and mouthwatering cuisine. Stalls of traditional Pakistani dresses and henna & handicrafts drew attention of ladies & children in particular.

iv. The embassy hosted a delegation of Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America (APPNA) led by its President Dr. Naseem A. Shekhani, in May 2019. Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan addressed a large gathering of Pakistani-Americans at a 'meet & greet' event organized by the Pakistan Association of Greater Houston (PAGH) in collaboration with Pakistan Consulate, Houston.

v. As part of the efforts to reach out to different communities and share the blessings of Ramadan and promote interfaith harmony and mutual understanding, the Embassy of Pakistan, hosted its annual Interfaith Iftar Dinner on 23 May, 2018. Eminent scholars representing Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism attended the iftar. The leaders of faith prayed in their respective languages, emphasizing the importance of interfaith harmony, peace and tolerance.

vi. The Embassy facilitated Pakistani students coming to study in the United States under various programs run by the State Department. This included students coming to the U.S. under the Fulbright Scholarship Exchange
Program (Pakistan receives the largest number of Fulbright Scholarships worldwide), the Global Undergraduate Program (UGRAD), Hubert Humphrey Fellowship, etc. The Embassy made sure that all such student groups were invited to the Embassy for orientation sessions, which are designed to facilitate their acclimatization in the United States. The Embassy remained in touch with these students and provided prompt assistance, as and when required by anyone of them.

vii. **Mission’s Congressional Outreach**

The Mission maintained regular outreach at the Hill and Ambassador held several meetings with key Congressional leaders, including members of the Foreign Relations/Foreign Affairs, Armed Services and Intelligence Committees in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

viii. **Think Tanks**

The Mission also maintains close interaction with major think tanks including Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), Brookings Institution, Atlantic Council, Middle East Institute, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP), Woodrow Wilson Center, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS), World Affairs Council (with chapters in Washington, New York, Los Angeles and many other cities), New America Foundation, etc.

**CANADA**

Pakistan and Canada relations are marked by cordiality, friendship and cooperation. The bilateral relationship further strengthened during the year 2018-2019.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. Speaker of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Ghani visited Canada on 15-18 April, 2019 to attend seminar on Gwadar-CPEC and Pakistan.

ii. A 17-member delegation from Pakistan attended ‘Women Deliver Conference 2019’ in Vancouver in June 2019. The Conference was
inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Canada. Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq and Mr. Ziauddin Yousafzai were the speakers from Pakistan.

**Trade and Investment**

In 2018, Pakistan’s exports to Canada stood at 380 million CAD million and imports remained at 587.6 million CAD. Major export products of Pakistan are textiles, leather, and food, which account for 74% of Pakistan’s exports to Canada.

Pakistan Canada Business Chamber, in collaboration with Consulate General of Pakistan, Montreal, organized 2nd Edition of PCBC International Trade Expo 2018 in September 2018 in Montreal and Toronto. Pakistani products of leather, gloves, surgical instruments, crockery, sports items, marble industry and handicrafts were exhibited.

**Others**

Our Missions in Canada participated in a number of events to project the culture and heritage of Pakistan.

i. The Consulate General of Pakistan in Toronto established ‘Pakistan Pavilion’ at Woodbine Mall in August 2018.

ii. The Mission arranged two exhibitions of Pakistani calligraphy and also published a booklet titled ‘Traditional Arts and Crafts in Pakistan” in October 2019.

iii. A seminar to promote awareness about the issues faced by the disabled persons was also organized.

iv. The Consulate General of Pakistan in Vancouver arranged 9th ‘Pakistan Festival’ to project Pakistani music, fashion, culinary heritage and handicrafts.

v. Four Pakistani films, namely, ‘Motorcycle Girl’, The Masquerade’, ‘Dia’ and ‘Nanu aur Mian’ were screened by the Mission at the South Asian Festival held in November 2018.
LATIN AMERICA

Significant developments in relations with major countries of Latin America during the period 2018-19 are given below:

BRAZIL

Relations between Pakistan and Brazil were further strengthened during 2018-19.

High Level Visits

i. In August 2018, Chairman Joint Chief of Brazilian Armed Forces Admiral Ademir Sobrinho paid an official visit to Pakistan and held important meetings with his counterpart and other senior officials of Pakistan Armed Forces.

ii. In May 2019, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, paid an official visit to Brazil. The successful visit of CJCSC General Zubair Mehmood Hayat proved yet another milestone in the way of deepening defence relations between the two friendly countries.

MoUs/Agreements

The following agreements were concluded between Pakistan and Brazil during 2018-19:

i. Agreement on Technical Cooperation (August 2018)

ii. MoU on Defence Cooperation in Brasilia (August 2019).

Trade and Investment

Pakistan and Brazil bilateral trade volume was over US$ 531 million in 2018. Balance of trade is in favour of Brazil (US$ 402 million) in comparison to our exports of about US$ 67 million in 2018.

Pakistan’s major exports to Brazil include cotton fabrics, inflatable balls, bed linen, medical and surgical instruments, leather goods, copper, rubber tyres, motorcycle accessories, polyester yarn etc while main items of Brazilian exports to Pakistan include soya bean oil, raw cotton, iron waste and machinery etc.
Separate delegations of Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Federal Chamber of Commerce & Industry visited Brazil in June 2019. The visits were aimed at enhancing business outreach. Likewise, a 6-member Trade delegation visited Pakistan to increase business and trade relations with Pakistani businessmen and traders.

**MEXICO**

The bilateral relationship between Pakistan and Mexico continued to move forward during 2018-19.

**Trade and Investment**

The volume of bilateral trade between the two countries was US$ 249 in 2018. Major exports of Pakistan to Mexico include cotton, textiles, leather goods, spices, toys, dental and sports goods etc. The import products from Mexico include machinery, articles of iron or steel, wood pulp, fibrous cellulosic material, roots and tubers, plastic articles and chemicals etc.

The Embassy of Pakistan in Mexico carried out numerous activities to promote trade potential of Pakistan during the period under review.

i. The Ambassador delivered a presentation on “Trade opportunities between Pakistan and Mexico” at a Conference on “World Summit of Logistics Platforms,” in Colima. He also visited the State of Tampico to attend the Energy Exhibition ENERTAM.

ii. The Embassy of Pakistan put up a stall at ENERTAM, to showcase Pakistan’s potential in renewable energy and other traditional products of Pakistan.

iii. Upon invitation by UNIK Travels, a Mexico based travel agency, the Mission participated in the World Tourism Event for the promotion of tourism potential of Pakistan.

**Others**

i. The Mission in collaboration with the embassies of OIC member countries in Mexico, celebrated Eid Festival on 8 June, 2019. The event aimed at projecting and promoting traditional cuisine and culture of Islamic countries as well as to familiarize the Mexicans of the religious
values as expressed through the celebration of Eid upon culmination of Ramadan.

ii. The Mission set up cultural display and food stalls in coordination with the Pakistani community living in Mexico at the Annual Fair of Friendly Countries held from 31 May to 16 June, 2019. The Fair was visited by more than 4.79 million people and generated an economic activity worth 1.02 billion pesos.
AFRICA

Pakistan greatly values its relations with Africa. It has been collaborating closely with the African countries bilaterally as well as in multilateral fora including the UN. Pakistan also regularly cooperates with the 27 African member states in the OIC.

Pakistan has 14 resident missions and 39 concurrently accredited Missions in Africa. 11 African Resident Missions are based in Islamabad. Pakistan has Joint Ministerial Commission mechanisms with 16 African countries while Bilateral Consultation mechanisms at the Foreign/Additional Secretaries level exists with 8 countries.

Pakistan also offers technical assistance to African countries under Pakistan Technical Assistance Programme (PTAP). In addition, training courses at the Foreign Services Academy are offered to diplomats from African countries.

Pakistan is the second largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping operation in Africa. Currently, over 8000 Pakistani troops are deployed under the UN Peacekeeping Missions primarily in six African countries i.e. Central African Republic, Darfur (Sudan), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ivory Coast, Liberia and Western Sahara.

Pakistan has also established Joint Commissions with 16 African countries namely Algeria, Gambia, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

The vast resources of African nations offer immense opportunities for Pakistani traders and businessmen to forge closer ties with African countries for a ‘win-win’ scenario.

ALGERIA

Bilateral Visits

Pakistan Navy Ship ASLAT paid a first ever visit on Port Call to Algiers on 9-12 July, 2018, which was a positive step towards strengthening defence ties
between two armed forces. PNS ASLAT was welcomed by Algerian Naval authorities on arrival.

**Trade and investment**

The volume of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Algeria was US$ 42.982 million during 2018-19. Pakistan exported goods worth US$ 13.047 million and imported goods worth US $ 29.935 million from Algeria.

**Others**

One Algerian diplomat attended Junior Diplomatic Course held in Islamabad in 2018. So far 10 Algerian diplomats have been trained in Islamabad.

**KENYA**

Pakistan and Kenya enjoy warm and cordial relations.

**High Level Visits**

i. A 4-member Pakistan delegation led by Advisor to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Malik Amin Aslam, attended the 4th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4), which was held in Nairobi on 11-15 March, 2019.

ii. Pakistan also participated in the first ever session of UN Habitat Assembly since the inception of the organization. Pakistan’s delegation was led by Ms. Zartaj Gul, Minister of State for Climate Change who was assisted by members of Pakistan’s Mission to UN Habitat. Pakistan was elected to the Executive Board of UN Habitat from the Asia Pacific group.

**Bilateral Visits**

i. A 13-member National Management College (NMC) delegation visited various Kenyan government institutions and departments in April, 2019.
ii. Five companies from Pakistan participated in Medic East Africa Conference, the largest business platform for the healthcare industry in East Africa, held in Nairobi on 25-27th September 2018.

LIBYA

Eight years after the revolution of 2011, Libya is still passing through a challenging phase of chaos. Keeping in view the importance of Pakistan’s close ties with Libya, Pakistan has maintained its diplomatic presence in Libya. The Mission endeavored to strengthen the bilateral relations between Pakistan and Libya during the period under review. In this regard, initiatives were undertaken to promote Pakistan’s interest in Libya, especially strengthening our economic and commercial ties, enhancing Pakistan’s image, ensuring safety and security of Pakistani diaspora and improving services extended to them.

Bilateral Visits

i. Two Pakistani women Parliamentarians visited Burkina Faso, which is concurrently accredited to the Embassy in Libya, to attend the 7th Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in Development of OIC Member States, which was held on 30 November-1 December, 2018.

ii. A number of Libyan military officials were offered training courses in Pakistan during the period under review. Around 12 armed force personnel attended various training courses in Pakistan during the year 2018-19.

Trade and Investment

Presently the volume of trade between Pakistan and Libya is US$ 54.62 and efforts are underway to double the trade volume in the coming years.

A Libyan company, ‘M/s Bab Afriqyia Export Company, Agriculture Machinery, Accessories and Spare Parts’, purchased 100 tractors along with other equipment (worth US$ 1 million) from M/s Massey Ferguson company, in Pakistan.
MAURITIUS

The relations between Pakistan and Mauritius have remained cordial. Mauritius is emerging as a gateway to Africa. Mauritian Government is attracting investment from other countries including Pakistan enroute to African continent.

MOUs/Agreements

The Embassy, being concurrently accredited to Seychelles, organized first ever signing of Memorandum of Understanding on Health between Government of Seychelles and Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Others

The Embassy of Pakistan in Mauritius organized/participated in various events such as:

i. Philanthropic services for eye patients of Mauritius led by a team of Pakistani ophthalmologists,

ii. Participation in 6th tourism and leisure exhibition,

iii. Organizing a Cricket Match between Pakistan Eleven (Players of Resident Mission of Cricket Playing Nations in Mauritius) and Mauritius Eleven,

iv. Pakistani food festivals

v. Visit of Muslim Scouts Trust Football Team of Mauritius to Pakistan etc.

NIGERIA

Bilateral Visits

i. The High Commissioner visited Lagos from 2–4 August, 2018 to meet the President of Lagos Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Pakistan Community based in Lagos.

ii. The High Commissioner attended Medic West Africa Trade Fair and had B2B meeting with Pakistani Businessmen and Lagos Chamber of Commerce & Industry from 8–10 October, 2018 in Lagos. From Pakistan seven companies of pharmaceutical sector and two companies of surgical sector participated in Fair.
Trade and Investment

Trade volume between Pakistan and Nigeria stands at Exports US$ 278.90 million.

Others

i. Cricket Tournament was organized by Pakistan Community Association of Abuja Nigeria (PCAAN) during November 2018.


iii. 2nd Asian Film Festival (10-14 December, 2018) was held. Ten countries participated including Pakistan.

SOUTH AFRICA

The relations between Pakistan and South Africa remained active at the working level.

High Level Visits

The Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited South Africa in January 2019 on the invitation of his counterpart General Yam. He held several meetings with key defence personnel in addition to his meeting with his counterpart.

Bilateral Visits

Pakistani cricket team visited South Africa in December 2018. During the visit, team played all cricketing format including T-20, one day and test cricket. To further relationship in sports and cultural fields Pakistan women cricket team also had a successful tour of South Africa in May 2019.

Trade and Investment

Pakistan-South Africa Trade & Investment Cooperation Seminar, 2018 was organized by the Trade Commission of Pakistan from 28 August-4 September,
2018. The seminar was attended by an eighteen (18) member delegation from Pakistan.

Fourteen (14) Pakistani Companies participated in the three-day 20th annual Apparel, Textile & Footwear (ATF) Trade Exhibition. All Arrangements for participation, advertisements, promotions & publicity and B2B meetings were made by the Trade Commission.

**SUDAN**

Pakistan and Sudan maintain generally close and warm relations. Both countries are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and Group of 77. Both sides support each other on International fora. Our bilateral relations with Sudan are normal and friction-free.

**Pakistan Technical Assistance Program**

Pakistan continued to extend technical assistance to Sudan in the form of short courses in diplomacy and providing education to a number of Sudanese students in Pakistanis universities. During 2018-19, around 80-100 students got admission in our medical/pharmaceutical and engineering colleges on self-finance basis. During the year 2018-19, one Sudanese diplomat availed diplomatic course in Foreign Service Academy (FSA), Islamabad.

**Defence Cooperation**

Pakistan and Sudan have strong defence cooperation since 1974. Pakistan has trained around 900 Sudanese Armed Force (SAF) personnel on gratis basis. Almost 100 persons from Sudan Armed Forces as well as other law enforcement agencies attended different courses at Pakistan during 2018-19.

During the year 2018-19, a five-member Sudanese Armed Forces delegation headed by Chairman Joint Chief of Staff, visited Karachi to participate in IDEAS-2018.

A large military contingent comprising 1400 personnel is assisting the Sudanese government as part of UN Peace Keeping Forces to restore the writ of government and undertaking humanitarian activities.
TANZANIA

Pakistan-Tanzania relations witnessed continued engagements during the year (July 2018 - June 2019) through exchange of goodwill messages, visits, trade, technical cooperation and cooperation in international organizations.

Trade and Investment

Bilateral trade was around US$ 130 million during the year with over US$ 100 million value of Pakistan's exports. A consortium of foreign fertilizer producers including Fauji Fertilizers of Pakistan continued their ongoing negotiations with Tanzanian Government for setting up a fertilizer plant in Tanzania.

TUNISIA

During the year in review, Pakistan and Tunisia maintained friendly relations.

Bilateral Visits

i. A Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) ASLAT, undertook a Port Call visit to Tunisia on 16 August, 2018.

ii. In order to increase security cooperation, Mr. Mahar Khaliq Dad Laq, Chairman National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) visited Tunisia and met with the Tunisian Interior Minister as well as other senior officials in January 2019.

iii. Twelve Tunisian businessmen participated in the TEXPO Pakistan 2019.
INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations

Cooperative multilateralism is one of the pillars of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy. Pakistan considers the United Nations (UN) the best means of addressing the global challenges that the world faces today. In line with Pakistan’s longstanding commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN, during the year 2018-19, Pakistan maintained its traditional high profile and leading role at the world body in pursuit of the collective objectives of global peace and security, development and human rights.

Foreign Minister’s Visit to New York to Attend the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (25-30 September 2018)

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, led the Pakistan delegation at the High-Level Segment of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) from 25-30 September, 2018.

The Foreign Minister addressed UNGA on 29 September, 2018, and presented Pakistan’s foreign policy priorities as well as development and humanitarian agenda. He also apprised of the grave human rights situation in IOJ&K. He eloquently highlighted key issues of regional and global importance. He delivered his speech in Urdu, which was the first of its kind in recent history, and was applauded.

The Foreign Minister also attended the following high-level events:

i. Speaking in the Ministerial Meeting of the Uniting for Consensus (UfC), where the Foreign Minister underscored that a more democratic and representative Security Council, which is in line with the aspirations of the wider member, states of the UNGA remains the cornerstone of any comprehensive reform process.

ii. At the High-Level Meeting to End Tuberculosis, the Foreign Minister appreciated the efforts and progress made by the World Health Organization. He stressed the importance of fighting the epidemic which still accounts for over 4500 deaths every day. The Foreign Minister then went on to praise Pakistan’s efforts in combating the
disease, which by implementing Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis Strategy, had yielded a success rate of 65%, much higher than the global average.

iii. Attended the SAARC luncheon and the Foreign Minister once again expressed Pakistan’s willingness to host the next SAARC Summit at an early date.

iv. The meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu & Kashmir provided a powerful forum to highlight the plight of the Kashmiri People.

v. The Foreign Minister also held bilateral meetings with world leaders on the sidelines of the UNGA.

vi. He also met with the Pakistani community and representatives of the media, during his visit.

**Jammu & Kashmir Dispute**

The Jammu & Kashmir Dispute continues to be Pakistan’s core Foreign Policy priority. It remains at the centre of Pakistan’s work and engagement at the UN. The most prominent avenue for its efforts is provided during the annual session of the UNGA, where Pakistan reaffirms, at the leadership level, its abiding commitment to the just and legal case of the Kashmiri People. Moreover, Pakistan has forcefully and regularly raised the issue during meetings of the Security Council (UNSC) and various Committees of the UNGA.

The annual Third Committee Resolution of the UNGA, The rights of peoples for self-determination is a firm and unequivocal affirmation of the inalienable right of the Kashmiri people by the members of the international community. Pakistan continues to successfully sponsor this resolution every year, as well as highlighting the issue of Jammu & Kashmir in the Fourth Committee.

The Jammu and Kashmir Dispute has remained a prominent area of focus for Pakistan in the Human Rights Council (HRC) as well. Under different agenda items, Pakistan continued to draw attention of the Council as well as the international community towards the barbaric human rights violations by Illegally Indian forces in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K). Pakistan strongly reiterated its call for establishment of Commission of Inquiry (CoI), as
recommended by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in its Kashmir Reports of 2018 and 2019. In addition to this, Pakistan also engaged prominent civil society actors, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu & Kashmir, on the sidelines of the UNGA also provides a powerful voice of concern for the plight of the Kashmiri People.

Pakistan continued to highlight the continued deployment of the United Nations Military Observers Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to monitor the situation along the Line of Control (LoC), which is an acknowledgment by the UN that Kashmir is a disputed territory and on the agenda of the UNSC.

**UN Security Council Reform**

Reform of the UNSC is a strategic imperative for Pakistan. As member of the Uniting for Consensus (UfC) Group, Pakistan maintains that there should not be any new centers of privilege, and accordingly, Pakistan, in principle, is opposed to the addition of new individual permanent members to the Security Council. Pakistan believes that permanent membership runs contrary to the ideal of having a more representative, democratic, transparent, effective and accountable Security Council.

Together with the other members of the UfC, like Italy, Canada, Spain, Turkey, South Korea etc, Pakistan has been consistently advocating for inclusive and transparent negotiations within the framework of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) process at the UN.

**Peacekeeping**

Pakistan has a longstanding commitment to UN peacekeeping, and as a leading troop-contributor, has a significant stake in its success. Pakistan’s participation in the UN Peacekeeping Operations, spanning over almost six decades, is the most tangible manifestation of its commitment to maintenance of international peace and security.

Pakistan, in March 2019, co-hosted with China, Indonesia and Egypt a ‘Triangular Formula Meeting’ under the aegis of the Group of Troop and Police Contributing Countries (T&PCCs). The T&PCCs is a platform used for informal
discussions to generate new ideas and innovative solutions for the strategic challenges faced by modern peacekeeping.

During 2018-19, Pakistan met the UN target of 15% deployment of female peacekeepers. This target was achieved in only 18 months. Furthermore, in June 2019, Pakistan deployed an infantry team in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Visit of the President of the UNGA to Pakistan**

Pakistan hosted the President of the UNGA, Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, in January 2019, in Islamabad. During the visit, Ms. Espinosa paid rich tribute to the contributions made by Pakistani peacekeeping contingents in the maintenance of global peace and stability.

**Transnational Organized Crimes**

During 2018-19, Pakistan actively participated in the global discussions related to transnational organized crime, especially drug problem, human trafficking, migrant smuggling and corruption.

With a view to drawing attention of international community to increasing prevalence of drug abuse among youth in educational settings, Pakistan introduced a resolution on this subject, which was adopted through consensus by the Commission on Narcotics and Drugs in its 2018 annual session. In follow-up to this resolution, Pakistan also organized two back-to-back regional events (a two-day expert-level meeting followed by one-day training session) in Islamabad in February 2019 and an event on sidelines of the 62nd CND session in Vienna in March 2019.

In December 2018, Pakistan hosted Senior Officials’ meeting (SOM) of Triangular Initiative (TI) in Islamabad. TI is an operational-level forum for enhancing collaboration among anti-narcotics agencies of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan in fight against illicit trafficking of Afghan opiates.

The above initiatives have contributed towards enhancement of Pakistan’s diplomatic profile as an important regional and global stakeholder in the domain of counter-narcotics. The resolution on assisting transit states helped Pakistan in further promoting its national narrative on this aspect of world drug problem. Hosting of TI event reaffirmed Pakistan’s unwavering commitment in supporting regional counter-narcotics efforts.
Counter-Terrorism

Pakistan continued to extend cooperation at the international level to fight the menace of terrorism. The various measures taken by Pakistan in this regard are highlighted below.

On 24 August, 2018, a National Committee for overseeing implementation of sanctions against individuals and entities designated by UNSC 1267 and 1989/2253/2368 (Al-Qaida/Da’esh Sanctions regime) and Security Council 1988/2254 (Taliban Sanctions regime) was established. Members of the National Committee consist of relevant federal and provincial ministries, departments and agencies.

The Committee shall provide guidance to the stakeholders on implementation of the sanctions measures; seek compliance reports from all concerned at the Federal and Provincial levels regarding the measures taken towards the implementation of the sanctions; discuss or review cases of non-compliance with the sanctions regime and recommend actions and take-up any ancillary and incidental matter thereto.

On 4 March, 2019, the Federal Government issued the UNSC (Freezing and Seizure) order 2019 in order to fulfill our international legal obligations, including the implementation of the UNSC sanctions which have been adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

In April 2019, with the purpose of supplementing the Order, the Guidelines or the implementation of the UNSC 1267 sanctions were launched at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Guidelines have been prepared by the National Committee for overseeing implementation of sanctions against individuals and entities designated by the UN Security Council 1267 Al Qaida/ Da’esh Sanctions regime and Security Council 1988 (Taliban Sanctions regime).

These Guidelines have been formulated, in consultation with stakeholders and in compliance with international standards especially the requirements of the UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).


In line with our responsibility of dissemination of information regarding updates in the ‘Consolidated List’ on the USC’s website, an SRO Portal was
launched on the home page of Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ website, for stakeholders to sign up and receive the SROs via e-mail, as soon as an SRO is issued by the Ministry.

The seventh round of Pakistan-EU Political Counter-Terrorism dialogue was held on 29 November, 2018 in Brussels. On the EU side the dialogue was chaired by Mr. Pawel Herczynski, Director for Security Policy (EEAS); and on the Pakistan side Mr. Ahmad Farooq, Director General Counter Terrorism. Both sides held in-depth discussions and exchanged perspectives on a wide range of counter terrorism issues in a cordial and constructive manner. Reaffirming that terrorism continues to pose a threat to states and societies across the globe, they reiterated their resolve to jointly combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The EU side appreciated Pakistan’s increasing efforts in fighting terrorism and emphasized the need for increased engagement on preventing and countering radicalization.

The parties agreed on the need for a comprehensive approach to terrorism, based on the rule of law and protection of human rights and for enhancing cooperation in dealing with extremism in all its aspects, including preventing and countering radicalization and addressing the root causes thereof. The parties furthermore underlined their joint commitment to regional peace and stability. Both sides underlined the importance of interfaith dialogue and harmony as a key to promote tolerance and social cohesion in the society.

The First Round of Pakistan-Turkey Counter Terrorism Consultations was held in Ankara on 31 May, 2019. The Pakistan delegation was led by Mr. Ahmad Farooq, Director General (Counter Terrorism), and the Turkish side was headed by Ambassador Aylin Tashan, Director General for Research and Security.

The two sides reviewed the global and regional threats posed by international terrorism and reiterated their resolve to jointly combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In this regard, both sides agreed on the enduring importance and need for a comprehensive approach to terrorism and extremism, based on the rule of law and addressing their root causes. Both sides also exchanged views on the threat posed by Da’esh in the Middle East and other parts of the world.

Pakistan briefed the Turkish delegation on the improved security situation in the country as a result of the concerted actions by all segments of the society. The major successes achieved in the fight against terrorism through operations Zarb-e-
Azb and Radd-ul-Fasad, as well as, the implementation of National Action Plan were highlighted.

While condemning the barbaric terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka and New Zealand, both sides reaffirmed that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any particular religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group.

**Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs**

Pakistan has a longstanding commitment to promotion and protection of human rights on the basis of its Constitution and the principles laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Government accords high priority to advancing mutually reinforcing objectives of development, human rights and democracy for the people of Pakistan.

In the international arena, Pakistan continued to play a constructive role in the promotion and protection of human rights. Pakistan extended full cooperation to the UN human rights machinery including Treaty Bodies and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council including through regular submission of national reports, participation in review processes and implementation of recommendations arising from such mechanisms. This level of engagement, participation and contribution demonstrates Pakistan's commitment as well as actions to advance the cause of human rights.

For the period of 2018-19, Pakistan submitted its Fifth Periodic Report on Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) to the Committee in October 2018. Pakistan also submitted its initial report on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (CRC-OPSC). Moreover, follow-up reports on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention against Torture (CAT) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) were also submitted to the relevant bodies.

During the 63rd Commission of Status of Women, Pakistan organized a number of side events to highlight our national priorities. These include:

i. 11 March, 2019 – Side event jointly organized by Pakistan, Gambia and Qatar on “Social Protection: Making it work for families to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”
ii. 11 March, 2019 – Side event, co-sponsored by Canada, Pakistan, State of Qatar, United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on “Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Women formerly associated with Terrorist Groups”.

iii. 12 March, 2019 – side event, hosted by Iran, Pakistan and Indonesia on “Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for Women empowerment: Achievements and Challenges – An Asian perspective”.

iv. 15 March, 2019 – Side event, hosted by Pakistan and Turkey on ‘Breaking Stereotypes: Muslim Women as agents of change’.

Pakistan continues to advocate for rights of all peoples, irrespective of caste, colour or creed. In the UNGA, Pakistan alongside the Philippines, jointly tabled a resolution entitled “Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace” in the plenary of the UNGA under agenda item “Culture of Peace”. The resolution was adopted by consensus.

Pakistan also facilitated the UNGA Assembly resolution on the Commemoration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Adoption of the Convention on the ‘Rights of the Child’.

Pakistan was elected on behalf of the Asia and Pacific Group (APG) to serve as Rapporteur during the 70th Session of UNHCR Executive Committee. In this position, Pakistan played a pivotal role in the adoption of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR). In addition to this, Pakistan played an active role at the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt Global Compact for Migration (GCM) in December 2018. The GCR and GCM are considered as landmark documents with regard to international cooperation towards refugees, migrants and mixed movements.

At the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in May 2019, in Geneva, Pakistan highlighted steps taken by the government and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) against natural calamities and promote international cooperation in this important area.
Climate Change

As one of the most affected countries in the world due to climate change, Pakistan remained committed to the Climate Change process and remained diligent in all UN/International Body mechanisms to combat the phenomenon. During the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in December 2018, in Poland, Pakistan was able to ensure that its national emission reduction actions would be supported by international climate finance. Additionally, Pakistan was able to secure approval of US$ 50m for ‘Zero Emission releasing Metro Bus’ project in Karachi, which would be the first eco-friendly transport project in the world.

Pakistan also continued to highlight the ‘Billion Tree Tsunami’ which had become the first entity under the global ‘Bonn Challenge’ to surpass the pledge of restoring 3.48m hectares of forests.

Economic and Social Development

Pakistan maintained a sustained leadership profile in the economic and social development spheres of the UN. In the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Pakistan played its role in following up comprehensive implementation of the outcomes of the major UN Conferences, including 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Addis Action Agenda on Financing for Development.

Pakistan also remained at the forefront of the UN Development System Reforms Implementation, Sustainable Energy, Information and Communication Technology, Disaster Risk Reduction and South-South Cooperation.

Pakistan actively participated in the High Level Meeting on International Cooperation to Combat Illicit Financial Flows and argued that the illicit financial flows were a key contributory factor for the economic under performance of developing countries and a major obstacle to poverty eradication.

In collaboration with Norway and Denmark, Pakistan organised a meeting entitled “Friends of Sustainable Energy’ in May 2019, showcasing that Pakistan was willing to transition into deploying renewable sources of energy to generate power/electricity.
Candidatures to Various UN/International Bodies

Pakistan continued to maintain its strong profile at the international level through membership of the principal organs and other key bodies of the UN system and major international organizations, with a success rate of 100 percent.

During the last year, Pakistan was able to successfully launch and win candidatures to 17 UN bodies / organizations. These include, Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) for the period 2020-23, OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) for the period 2019-22, Council of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for the period 2019-22, Vice President, Bureau of COP 24, UNFCCC for the period 2019-20, Vice President of ECOSOC, and Board of Green Climate Fund (GCF), UNFCCC for the period 2019-21, among many others.

DISARMAMENT

Pakistan continues its active participation in all disarmament related international fora. A brief rundown of the major activities is reflected below:

Bilateral Engagements on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Issues

During the period under review, bilateral consultations on non-proliferation and disarmament issues were held with Russia (28 March, 2019), China (30 May, 2019), UK (23 July, 2019), Japan (28 February, 2019), Turkey (30 January, 2019), and EU (28 November, 2018) respectively.

These consultations were valuable as efforts to foster better mutual understanding of the regional and global security challenges and seek support for our mainstreaming into global non-proliferation regimes as an equal partner. The views on the regional and global developments, including with respect to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation were exchanged.

Pakistan’s multilateral engagements at the 73rd Session of the UNGA

At the 73rd session of UN General Assembly, Pakistan’s four resolutions were adopted with an overwhelming support in November 2018. These resolutions included:
i. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure Non-Nuclear Weapon States against use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
ii. Conventional arms control at the regional and sub-regional levels.
iii. Regional disarmament.
iv. Confidence-building measures in the regional and sub-regional context.

Pakistan gets elected on the IAEA Board of Governors

In September 2018, Pakistan got elected on the Board of Governors of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna for a two-year term 2018-2019. Pakistan has been elected to serve on the Board 19 times in the past and has played a crucial part in the formulation of the Agency’s policies and programmes. The election represents global recognition of the country’s status as a responsible nuclear power state.

Pakistan is a founding member of the IAEA and has enjoyed a mutually beneficial collaboration with the Agency on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Pakistan-Russia Joint Statement on “No First Placement of Weapons in Outer Space”

Pakistan and Russia signed a Joint Statement on “No First Placement of Weapons in Outer Space” on 22 May, 2019 in Bishkek. The Joint Statement was signed by the two Foreign Ministers and is a reflection of convergence of views between Pakistan and Russia on prevention of arms race in Outer Space.

Outer Space is being used by an increasing number of States and Pakistan has been consistently highlighting the risks of weaponization of Outer Space, which threaten the long-term sustainability of peaceful space activities.

Pakistan’s Effective Participation in Geneva based disarmament fora

In keeping with Pakistan’s longstanding tradition of multilateralism, and concrete contributions to the promotion of regional and international security, Pakistan continued to participate actively in Geneva-based disarmament fora.

Pakistan is a founding member of the Conference on Disarmament (CD), which is the world’s sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum. During the year 2018-19, as a responsible nuclear weapons possessing State, Pakistan participated constructively in the work of the CD. Pakistan’s delegation made
substantive contributions to the formal and informal deliberations held in the CD on all its agenda items. While continuing to promote its vital security interests, Pakistan cooperated with other fellow Member States to build the foundations of a more peaceful and secure world.

Pakistan subscribes to the goal of universal and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament under the cardinal principle of equal and undiminished security for all States. Pending the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear disarmament in the CD, Pakistan supports the immediate commencement of negotiations on Negative Security Assurances and the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space. Pakistan is also ready to join negotiations in the CD on other contemporary issues to counter the threats posed by Cyber Weapons, Chemical and Biological Terrorism, Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems, and a Fissile Material Treaty that encompasses the existing stockpiles of fissile material.

Pakistan is a State Party in good standing to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). The CCW places prohibitions or regulations on the use of certain conventional weapons, balancing their legitimate military utility against humanitarian considerations. The BWC was the first multilateral disarmament treaty to ban an entire category of a weapon of mass destruction. Pakistan remains committed to these two important international instruments and often assumes leadership positions in their meetings held in Geneva. In the CCW framework, Pakistan has been promoting legally binding restrictions on the introduction of destabilizing autonomous weapons that use Artificial Intelligence with lethal effects.

**ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (OPCW)**

Pakistan is member of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) since 1997. As a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), Pakistan takes its obligations seriously and continues to fulfill all the CWC-related requirements on priority.

Following activities were undertaken by the CWC National Authority for the period during 2018-2019:
i. CWC National Authority of Pakistan organized 8\textsuperscript{th} Advance International Assistance and Protection Course in Islamabad on 12-16 November 2018. This course was attended by the nationals of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Belize, Maldives, Panama, St Lucia and Nigeria.

ii. The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) conducts Routine Industrial Inspections every year in members states. The OPCW has so far conducted around 6600 such inspections in different states. Such inspections were also carried out by the OPCW in Pakistan in which Pakistan maintained excellent standing. This re-affirmed Pakistan’s determination to fully abide by its commitments under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

iii. The CWC National Authority of Pakistan in collaboration with U.S. Department of States Chemical Security Programme (CSP) organized the following workshops in Islamabad:

ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)

Pakistan maintained a steady momentum of its engagement with the OIC, which is the second largest international organization after the United Nations.

Prime Minister Imran Khan attended the 14th Islamic Summit, held in Makkah-al-Mukarramah on 31 May, 2019. In his address to the Summit, he effectively highlighted various challenges confronting the Muslim Ummah, especially blasphemy against the Holy Prophet, the situation in Indian occupied Kashmir (IoK) and Palestine, Islamophobia and the need for promotion of science, technology and innovation in Muslim countries. As a result of the government’s efforts, the Summit reiterated the OIC's principled support for the legitimate right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with UN resolutions.

Earlier, the 46th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), held in Abu Dhabi on 1–2 March, 2019, unanimously adopted various resolutions tabled by Pakistan on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, India-Pakistan peace process, maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia, and protection of Islamic holy places.

The OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir, comprising Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Niger and Azerbaijan, also remained active. In its various meetings, the Contact Group, inter alia, stressed upon the Indian Government to stop violating basic human rights of Kashmiris.

On the OIC’s platform, Pakistan also raised voice against growing Islamophobia and incidents of hatred towards Islam and Muslims. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi wrote a letter to the OIC Secretary General and urged him to take concrete measures on the issue. He also attended the emergency meeting of OIC Executive Committee, held on 22 March 2019 in Istanbul, to discuss a collective response to the Christ Church terrorist attack. He proposed a ten-point solution to combat Islamophobia.

DEVELOPING-EIGHT (D-8)

Pakistan maintains a close interaction with the Developing-Eight (D-8), a group of 8 Muslim countries, to promote economic and development cooperation. Since 2012, Pakistan has hosted a Summit meeting, two sessions of Council of
Ministers and five Sessions of the D-8 Commission. With Pakistan’s efforts, the D-8 has been able to obtain observer status at the UNGA.

In October 2018, D-8 Secretary General Dato Ku Sharri visited Pakistan to further promote cooperation among member states. During the visit, he called on the Foreign Minister, Minister of state for Revenue, Chairman Board of Investment and President Federal Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Pakistan attended the 41st Session of the D-8 Commission and 18th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers held in Antalya, Turkey form 1-3 November, 2018. Before the sessions, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi also held an informal discussion session with the Islamabad based D-8 ambassadors/high commissioners and stressed the need for expeditious implementation of agreed D-8 MoUs/Agreements to benefit from economic opportunities.

**ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)**

The 29th Meeting of the Regional Planning Council (RPC) of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was held on 17-20 December, 2018 at the ECO Secretariat, Tehran. The meeting was attended by the delegations from ECO Member States. During the sessions, eight sectoral committees discussed various issues related to Trade and Investment, Transport and Communication, Energy, Mineral and Environment, Agriculture, Industry, Tourism etc. At the closing session, the Work Program and the Calendar of events for the year 2019 were adopted by the Council.

The highest policy and decision-making body of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), the Council of Ministers (COM), met on 24
September, 2019 on the sidelines of 73rd Session of UN General Assembly to discuss relevant regional and global developments within the ECO framework. During the meeting the Foreign Ministers spoke of their commitment to enhance regional trade and improve socio-economic conditions within the region. They also expressed hope that the ECO region’s transit potential could be fulfilled through the expansion of East-West, North-South and South-West trade corridors.


Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour, Secretary General ECO visited Islamabad on 13-15 March, 2019. Pakistan was the first country Dr. Hadi visited in his capacity as ECO Secretary General. During his visit, he called on the President, the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and several other Federal Secretaries.

SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION (SAARC)

Pakistan attaches great importance to regional cooperation within the framework of SAARC. Pakistan remains committed to the principles and objectives of the SAARC Charter, which calls for improving the lives and livelihood of the peoples of South Asia. Pakistan has always played a proactive role to make SAARC a model of regional cooperation, based on the principles of sovereign equality.
Under SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Area) Agreement, Pakistan’s exports are US$ 175 million. Pakistan’s main exports to SAARC countries comprise wheat, cement, cotton, tea, fresh vegetables and fruits.

Pakistan hosts three important SAARC Regional Centres, namely SAARC Energy Centre (SEC), SAARC Arbitration Council (SARCO) and SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SCCI).

**High Level Meetings**

i. 4th meeting of SAARC Agriculture Ministers was held on 27 June, 2019 in Thimpu, Bhutan. Pakistan was represented by our Acting High Commissioner in New Delhi Syed Haider Shah. The ministerial meeting was preceded by the Technical Committee and Senior Officials meetings.

ii. 13th Informal Meeting of the SAARC Finance Ministers was held in Fiji on 2 May, 2019 on the sidelines of the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual General Meeting. Advisor to Prime Minister Abdul Hafeez Sheikh represented Pakistan.

iii. SAARC Foreign Ministers’ meeting on the sidelines of 73rd Session of UNGA is an annual feature. In September 2018, the Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj walked out of the SAARC Foreign Ministers’ meeting after giving her statement.

**19th SAARC Summit**

So far there have been 18 SAARC Summits. Pakistan has the honour of hosting two SAARC Summits in the past. Pakistan is also the host of 19th SAARC Summit. The 19th SAARC Summit was scheduled to be held in Islamabad in November 2016. However, India blamed Pakistan for the Uri Attacks of September 2016 and announced to withdraw from the Summit. Later, on India’s instigation, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka also withdrew from the Summit and the 19th SAARC Summit was postponed.

Since then, there has been very little activity in SAARC. The only working mechanism of SAARC since 2016 is the Programming Committee meeting which is held at the SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu in December every year. India and Bangladesh have reduced their participation in all SAARC meetings. India and Bangladesh either do not participate at all or
participate at the lowest possible level, particularly in the SAARC meetings held in Pakistan.

ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August, 1967 in Bangkok. ASEAN is a vibrant trading bloc of ten South East Asian nations (Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos).

Pakistan is the Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN. Pakistan was accorded the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner (SDP) at the 26th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on 23 July, 1993. It was agreed to initially cover cooperation in trade, industry, investment, environment, science and technology, drugs and narcotics, tourism and human resources development.

Pakistan is the oldest Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN. Pakistan also signed Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) with ASEAN in 2004 and became member of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) the same year.

ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM (ARF)

The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was established in 1994. The ARF is a key forum for security dialogue in Asia, complementing various bilateral alliances and dialogues. It provides a platform in which members can discuss current regional security issues and develop cooperative measures through confidence-building and preventive diplomacy to enhance peace and security in the region.

It comprises 27 members: 10 ASEAN member States (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), 10 ASEAN Dialogue Partners (Australia, Canada, China, the EU, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea(ROK), Russia and the United States), one ASEAN observer (PNG) as well as Bangladesh, Mongolia, North Korea, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

Pakistan acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia on 2 July, 2004 in Jakarta. On the same day Pakistan was also admitted as the 24th participant of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).

Pakistan is the only Sectoral Dialogue Partner that is also member of ARF. Pakistan has been participating in various meetings and workshops arranged by ARF member countries.
ASIA COOPERATION DIALOGUE (ACD)

The Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) is a continent-wide forum, which provides a platform to Asian countries to regularly exchange views on areas of mutual interest and foster an Asian community without duplicating other organizations or creating a bloc against others.

The Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) was established in June 2002 in Thailand. Currently, the ACD comprises 34 countries and its Provisional Secretariat is in Kuwait City.

Pakistan is one of the founding members of ACD and assigns high priority to this forum. Pakistan hosted the Fourth ACD Ministerial Meeting in Islamabad on 4-6 April, 2005. During the meeting, the leaders adopted the Islamabad Declaration on cooperation in finance, energy security, flow of capital and investment.

ASIA EUROPE MEETING (ASEM)

Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), established in 1996, is a bi-regional, informal dialogue forum between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and cultural issues, with the objective of strengthening the relationship between the two regions, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

It has strategic importance for peace and development of the two regions and plays an important role in enhancing Asia-Europe understanding. Asia needs European experience and technology, while Europe needs Asia’s growing markets and human resources. ASEM currently has 53 members.

Pakistan joined Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in 2006. Since then, we have regularly participated in Ministerial and Summit meetings of ASEM. Pakistan has also been regularly contributing to Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

Cooperation with other International Organizations/Institutions

On 29 August, 2018, World Bank’s Vice President Mr. Hartwig Schaefer held a meeting with Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and discussed matters of significance to the new government including education, agriculture and rural development with special emphasis on regional connectivity as well as World Bank's collaboration in CASA-1000 and Khyber Pass Economic Corridor (Peshawar-Torkhum-Kabul Motorway).
On 11 July, 2019, President World Economic Forum Mr. Borge Brende visited Pakistan. During the visit, he called on the Prime Minister and other dignitaries. In his meeting with the Prime Minister, a wide range of issues related to trade, investment, security and governance came under discussion. Mr. Brende praised the Prime Minister’s billions tree project and termed it very important initiative in the context of climate change. The Prime Minister announced the establishment of National Accelerator on Closing the Skills Gap in Pakistan in partnership with the World Economic Forum while Punjab Skills Development Fund will serve as its national secretariat. The National Skills Development Accelerator would be led and guided by a team of co-chairs from the public and private sectors.

Director General WHO Dr. Tedros Adhanom visited Pakistan on 7-8 January, 2019. During the visit, he called on the Prime Minister and briefed him about WHO’s ongoing programmes in Pakistan. He also held meetings with the Foreign Minister, Minister of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination and Minister for Human Rights.

Pakistan’s first independent nomination ‘Suri Jagek’ was successfully adopted on 28 November, 2018 for inscription as Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in need of urgent safeguarding at the 13th Session of UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Committee held in Mauritius. Similarly, Pakistan effectively made concerted diplomatic efforts to successfully avert listing of Lahore Fort, Shalamar Gardens and Makli Graveyards in the UNESCO’s danger list of sites, during the 43rd Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Baku from 30 June to 10 July, 2019.
INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued to pursue economic diplomacy. Envoys Conference on Economic Diplomacy was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad on 27-28 December, 2018, in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and the Board of Investment. Representatives of public and private sectors were invited to share their valuable input towards objectives and goals of the conference. Select Ambassadors from Europe, Asia pacific, China and the Middle East region attended the Conference. The purpose of the event was on how to enhance trade and attract FDI in the country. Prime Minister Imran Khan, who attended the concluding session of the Conference, appreciated the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for holding the Envoys Conference with collaboration of key stakeholders responsible for foreign trade and investment. He stated that efforts should be intensified for exploring new markets for Pakistani products in Africa and Latin America.

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched Science Diplomacy initiative in order to promote Pakistan’s achievements in science & technology and further harness collaboration with foreign counterparts. The Ministry designated a focal point to act as a liaison between national S&T stakeholders and international partners. The first high level Inter Agency meeting on “Science Diplomacy”, which was chaired by Foreign Minister, was held on 16 January, 2019.

The Science Diplomacy initiative is aimed at establishing international research collaborations, capacity building, improving public health, matching labour skills with international market requirements and to improve Pakistan’s access to smart technologies and international technical assistance, especially in the context of the implementation of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). Science Diplomacy initiative would also facilitate the work of the National Knowledge Economy Task Force headed by the Prime Minister especially in the context of international collaborations.
Besides its socio-economic dimension, Science Diplomacy will afford Pakistan an opportunity to project a positive and progressive image of Pakistan and enhance Pakistan’s influence in the developing countries and the Muslim world.

All Pakistani Missions abroad have been asked to nominate focal points with Science Diplomacy related responsibilities. The efforts of some of our Missions have already started to bear fruit in the shape of signing of MoUs between Pakistani universities and universities of good repute in the Western countries, increase in post-graduate science scholarships for Pakistanis in Canada, engagement of public and private sector entities for partnerships in early diagnosis and treatment of chronic diseases like cancer.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is formulating a plan of action with the help of inputs and feedback of both public and private sector stakeholders, to facilitate international STI collaborations and to support different projects and programs related to the national development agenda and SDGs.

**FACILITATION TO OVERSEAS PAKISTANIS**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened 8th Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee in February 2019. IMC recommended cases of 264 Pakistani prisoners, detained in 07 countries, and expenditure of US$ 8,779,415/- for payment of their fines and legal assistance.

Financial and legal assistance provided in the fiscal year 2018-19 to Overseas Pakistanis for transportation of dead bodies, legal assistance and tickets to destitute Pakistanis by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Mission abroad is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Exp. on dead bodies (US$)</th>
<th>Exp. on legal assistance (US$)</th>
<th>Exp. on air tickets for destitute Pakistanis (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>892,772.29</td>
<td>498,065.0</td>
<td>490,110.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 2018-19, 4,637 Pakistani prisoners were released from different countries in the year 2018-19.

Prime Minister’s Performance Delivery Unit (PMDU) assigned the task to collect data of all Pakistanis imprisoned abroad on account of petty crimes and those that could be released on payment of fines. On the basis of the data received from our Missions abroad, a list of 215 prisoners was finalized. Approximate expenditure required as recommended by the Missions on the payments of fines, amounts to US$ 133,516,2 (US$ 1.3 million).
FOREIGN OFFICE PUBLICATIONS

i. **Year Book**

A brief account of Pakistan’s relations with the rest of the world during the year under review is encapsulated in one volume of the Year Book. The Year Book for 2018-19 has been uploaded on the Ministry’s website.

ii. **Joint Communique**

It is a collection of joint communiques that Pakistan signed with the various countries since its independence on 14 August, 1947. The work has been divided into three volumes: Volume-I, 1947-76, Volume-II 1977-97 and Volume-III 1998-2014.

iii. **Pakistan Treaty Series**

The project aims at printing all the agreements/treaties, Pakistan signed with various countries since its coming into being on 14 August, 1947. So far 12 volumes of the “Pakistan Treaty Series” have been published and very well received by diplomats, media, researchers and academicians. The compilation of the thirteenth volume is in process.

These publications are quite useful and serve as source material to those interested in the foreign policy of Pakistan. Diplomats, researchers, scholars and media people invariably consult these publications while looking for a speech, high-level visit from and to Pakistan, join communique/joint statement, message and agreement etc.
LIST OF AGREEMENTS/PROTOCOLS/MoUs SIGNED DURING 1ST JULY 2018-30 JUNE 2019

The following agreements and MoUs were signed between Pakistan and other countries from 1st July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

AFGHANISTAN

MOU on Counter Terrorism signed under Afghanistan-Pakistan-China Trilateral Cooperation.

BAHRAIN

Additional Protocol on Avoidance of Double Taxation

BULGARIA

i) Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Regard to Taxes on Income.


iii) Agreement for Cultural, Educational and Scientific Exchange and Cooperation between Trakia University Stara Zagora and University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore.

iv) Document of Understanding between National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) and South-West University NeofitRilksi, Sofia.

BRAZIL

i) Agreement on Technical Cooperation.

ii) MoU on Defence Cooperation.

CHINA

i) Rashakai SEZ Joint Venture and License Agreement.
ii) MoU on Implementation of Socio-Economic Cooperation under the JWG between China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) and Ministry of Planning Development and Reform (MOPDR) of Pakistan.

EUROPEAN UNION

Strategic Engagement Plan (SEP) between Pakistan and European Union

FRANCE

MoU between Business France and Board of Investment, Pakistan

GERMANY

Agreement between Volkswagen (VW) AG and Pakistan Premier Motors Limited (PML) for establishing VW Group CKD Assembly under the Licensing and Assembly contract

JAPAN

i) MoU on Technical Intern Training Program.

ii) MoU on Defence Cooperation and Exchanges.

MALAYSIA

i) Three Agreements signed between the Edotco and Pakistan Mobile Telecommunication.


SAUDI ARABIA

i. Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) between Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA).


v. MoU between the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to explore investment opportunities in the refining and petrochemical sectors.

vi. MoU between the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the field of mineral resources sector.

vii. Cooperation agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the field of sports.

**OMAN**

i) MoU between the State Council of the Sultanate of Oman and the Senate of Pakistan in the field of strengthening cooperation in Parliamentary Affairs.

ii) MoU on Labour and Training.

iii) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Literature.

iv) MoU between the respective National Defence Universities (NDUs) of Pakistan and Oman.

**QATAR**

i) MoU on Establishment of Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment.

ii) MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Exchange of Financial Intelligence Related to Money Laundering, and Terrorism Financing.

iii) MoU for Cooperation in the Field of Tourism and Business Events between Pakistan and Qatar.

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

MoU on Cooperation of Implementing Offshore Gas Pipeline Project between Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) of Pakistan and Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation
SEYCHELLES

Memorandum of Understanding on Health between Government of Seychelles and Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

TURKMENISTAN

i) Visa Abolition Agreement for holders of diplomatic passports.

ii) MOU between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for Programme of Cooperation 2019-2024.

iii) Memorandum of Understanding between Institute of International Relations of the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan and the Foreign Service Academy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

iv) Protocol to amend the Agreement on Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan.

v) MOU for the Establishment of Pakistan-Turkmenistan Joint Business Council (JBC) between the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FPCCI) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Turkmenistan.

vi) Pakistan and Turkmenistan inked the finalized version of the host government agreement on the Turkmenistan Afghanistan Pakistan India (TAPI) gas pipeline network in Islamabad.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

i) Agreement to upgrade bilateral relations between Pakistan and UAE to a “Long Term Strategic Economic Partnership”.

ii) MoU in the field of Manpower.

iii) Visa on arrival to citizens of UAE.
HIGH LEVEL VISITS FROM AND TO PAKISTAN DURING 1ST JULY 2018-30 JUNE, 2019

**Afghanistan**

i. Foreign Minister undertook his maiden foreign visit to Kabul on September 15, 2018. The Foreign Minister visited Kabul on 15 December, 2018 to take part in the second Afghanistan-Pakistan-China Trilateral Foreign Minister’s Level Dialogue.

ii. Afghan National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib visited Pakistan on 28 May, 2019. He was accompanied by the Interior Minister Massoud Andarabi.

**China**

i. Pakistan attended the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai (5 November, 2019). The Prime Minister represented Pakistan in the Expo as the Guest of Honour.

ii. Visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to China for the 2nd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (25-28 April, 2019) and earlier on 2-5 November, 2018.

iii. Visit of the Foreign Minister to China to attend the Foreign Ministers’ Strategic Dialogue and the first meeting of the CPEC Joint Consultation Mechanism (CPEC-JCM) held on 18-19 March, 2019 respectively.

iv. Visit of State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi to Pakistan (6-9 September, 2018).


vi. Visit of Deputy Chairman Senate Saleem Mandviwalla to China (April 2019).

vii. Visit of Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou to Pakistan (6 March, 2019).

viii. Visit of Chief of Army Staff to China (September 2018).

ix. Visit of Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani to China (16-20 August, 2018).
Iran

i. Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. Javad Zarif was the first foreign dignitary to visit Pakistan on 31 August, 2018 after formation of new government. He also visited Pakistan on 31 October, 2018 with another delegation and held meetings with Pakistan’s Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Chief of Army Staff.

ii. Prime Minister Imran Khan’s visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 21-22 April, 2019.

iii. Foreign Minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Iran on 24 December, 2018 and held meeting with his Iranian counterpart as part of the government’s policy of outreach to the neighbourhood.

iv. Federal Minister for Railways Sheikh Rashid Ahmed visited Iran on 6 March, 2019 to attend inaugural ceremony of Qazvin-Rasht Railway Route.


vi. Major General Mohammad Hussein Bagheri, Chief of the General Staff Armed Forces of Iran visited Islamabad from 15-17 July, 2018 at the invitation of Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan.

Maldives

i. The Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mehmood Abbasi NI(M) visited Maldives from 21 to 21 July, 2018 on the invitation of Chief of Defence Force, Major General Ahmed Shiyam.

ii. A 5 member delegation of Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services (GFSS) of Maldives headed by Shidhata Shareef, Minister of GFSS, visited Karachi, Pakistan on 8 – 13 June, 2019.

Azerbaijan

A Parliamentary delegation of the National Assembly of Pakistan headed by the Deputy Speaker Muhammad Qasim Khan Suri visited Azerbaijan for participation in the 5th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue held in Baku, from 1-3 May, 2019.
Kyrgyzstan

i. On the invitation of the President of Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Sooronbay Sharipovich Jeenbekov, Prime Minister Imran Khan visited Bishkek to attend the 19th Meeting of the Council of the Heads of State of SCO Member States on 13-14 June, 2019.

ii. Foreign Minister visited Bishkek to participate in meeting of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers on 21-22 May, 2019. During his visit, he also held delegation level talks with his Kyrgyz counterpart.

Tajikistan

Defence Minister of Tajikistan Sherali Mirzo visited Pakistan on 9 April, 2019.

Turkmenistan

i. Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov visited Pakistan on 11-12 March, 2019 to participate in the 2nd Round of Bilateral Political Consultations.

ii. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Energy Mr. Nadeem Babar visited Turkmenistan on 21-22 May, 2019 to participate in the 10th Turkmen Gas Congress (TGC).

iii. General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), visited Turkmenistan from 6-8 October, 2019.

Uzbekistan

Uzbek Foreign Minister visited Islamabad on 01 November, 2018.

Turkey

i. President Dr. Arif Alvi visited Turkey to participate in the inauguration ceremony of Istanbul Grand Airport on 29 October, 2018. At the invitation of the President of Republic of Turkey, H.E Recep Tayyip
Erdogan, Prime Minister Imran Khan paid an official visit to Turkey on 3-4 January, 2019.

ii. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu visited Pakistan on 14 September, 2018.

**Saudi Arabia**

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid his maiden State visit to Saudi Arabia on 18-19 September, 2018, at the invitation of King Salman Bin Abdulaziz.

ii. President, Dr. Arif Alvi visited Saudi Arabia from 9-15 December, 2018 for pilgrimage and paid a courtesy call on King Salman Bin Abdulaziz.


**Bahrain**

Foreign Minister of Bahrain H.E. Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa, visited Pakistan on 08-09 April, 2019, at the invitation of the Foreign Minister.

**Egypt**

i. Minister for Religious Affairs, Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri visited Cairo on 18-22 January, 2019 to attend the 29th Session of the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs.

ii. Dr. Sameh Aboul-Enein, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt visited Pakistan on 15-16 October, 2018 to participate as the main speaker in the international conference on “The Global Non-Proliferation Regime: Challenges and Responses.”
iii. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar visited Egypt on 24-25 September, 2018 to attend Cairo Dialogue and Trade Summit.

iv. Minister of State for Climate Change, Ms. Zartaj Gul visited Egypt and represented Pakistan in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} World Youth Forum held in Sharm Al Sheikh on 3-6 November, 2018.

v. Chief of Army Staff General, General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited Cairo on 14 to 17 December, 2018 and held meetings with his Egyptian counterparts.

\textbf{Iraq}


ii. Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani accompanied by Leader of the Opposition visited Iraq on 11-13 January, 2019.


\textbf{Jordan}


ii. General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff visited Jordan on 1-4 October, 2018.

\textbf{Kuwait}

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Kuwait on 18-19 May, 2019 at the invitation of the Foreign Minister of Kuwait, H.E. Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

\textbf{Oman}

i. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Muscat on 29-31 January, 2019 to co-chair the 7\textsuperscript{th} session of Pak-Oman JMC.
iii. Air Vice Marshal Matar Bin Ali Al Obaidani, Commander Royal Air Force of Oman, visited Pakistan with a delegation on 31 March to 4 April, 2019 at the invitation of Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan.

Qatar

i. H.E Sheikh Mohammad Bin Abdul Rahman Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, visited Pakistan on 19 October, 2018.


iii. The Prime Minister paid an official visit to Qatar on 21-22 January, 2019.

iv. His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar visited Pakistan at the invitation of the Prime Minister, on 22-23 June, 2019.

v. The then Finance Minister, Mr. Asad Umar, attended the 18th Doha Forum on 14-15 December, 2018.

United Arab Emirates

i. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid an official visit to UAE on 19 September, 2018 to unfreeze bilateral relations with this important GCC partner.

ii. Prime Minister Imran Khan paid second visit to UAE on 18 November, 2018 at the invitation of the Crown Prince.

iii. His Highness Sheikh Muhamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces, paid an official visit to Pakistan on 6th January, 2019, at the invitation of Prime Minister.


Australia

Japan

i. Secretary Pakistan Senate Mr. Amjad Parvez Malik led a three member delegation to Tokyo from 25-29 September, 2018 in connection with IPU sponsored collaboration on Legislative Drafting with the Diet of Japan.

ii. Mr. Kantaro Sonoura, Adviser to Prime Minister on National Security, Japan, visited Pakistan on 4-5 December, 2018.

iii. State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan, Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane, visited Pakistan on 30-31 August, 2018.

Malaysia

i. Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan’s visited Malaysia on 20-21 November, 2018.

ii. Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, paid a state level visit to Pakistan on 21-23 March, 2019.

Belarus

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General ZubairMehmood Hayat paid an official visit to Belarus on 16-19 December, 2018 on the invitation of the Ministry of Defence of Belarus.

Russian Federation

i. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, led a delegation to Russia and held meeting with the Russian Foreign Minister Mr. Sergey Lavrov on 25-26 December, 2018.

ii. Mr. Jam Kamal Khan, Chief Minister of Baluchistan led Pakistan delegation in inaugural meeting of the Forum of Heads of Regions of SCO Member States in Chelyabinsk, Russia on 3-6 December, 2018.

iii. Mr. Asad Qaiser, Speaker National Assembly led 12-member Pakistani delegation to attend 2nd International Forum “Development of Parliamentarianism” from 30 June to 3 July, 2019 in Russia.

iv. Senator Ms. Rubina Khalid led Pakistan delegation to Russia and attended Meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on "Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs on 18-21 April, 2019.
Spain
i. Mr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications visited Barcelona in February 2019 for the Mobile World Congress.

United Kingdom
i. Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, UK’s Minister of State for Commonwealth and United Nations visited Islamabad on 18 February, 2019.

United States of America
i. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Islamabad on 5 September, 2018.
vi. Senator Lindsey Graham, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Senior Member of Armed Services, Appropriations and Budget Committees visited Islamabad on 20 January, 2019.

Brazil
i. In August 2018, Chairman Joint Chief of Brazilian Armed Forces Admiral Ademir Sobrinho paid an official visit to Pakistan.
ii. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, paid an official visited Brazil in May 2019.

South Africa
The Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited South Africa in January 2019.
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