

**Message from Mr. Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic
of Pakistan on the Thirty-Ninth SAARC Charter Day
(8 December 2023)**

On the 39th SAARC Charter Day, I extend my heartiest felicitations to the SAARC Member States and the people of South Asia

08 December 1985 marks the day when leaders with vision and foresight adopted the SAARC Charter, and pledged to work together for the progress and prosperity of South Asia. This day reminds us of the responsibility placed on our shoulders by our peoples, to address the common challenges of poverty, illiteracy, disease and under-development.

Undoubtedly, SAARC has the immense potential to provide a sound framework to transform the lives of over two billion people residing in the South Asian region.

Pakistan, as one of the founding member states of SAARC, has consistently shown its commitment to the Organization's objectives. It has actively participated in the SAARC processes and activities

Pakistan is a firm believer in the strength and potential of regional cooperation for national and regional development. It further believes that result-oriented regional cooperation can be achieved only by adhering to the cardinal principles of sovereign equality and mutual respect, as enshrined in the SAARC Charter.

I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate Pakistan's commitment to the SAARC process. I am confident that the current hindrances to the Organization's smooth functioning will be removed, thus enabling the SAARC member states to forge ahead on the path of mutually-beneficial regional cooperation.

I commend the efforts being made by the SAARC Secretariat for the Organization's smooth functioning.

I wish the people of South Asia, peace, progress and prosperity. Let us work together to realize the true potential of our region for the benefit of South Asia and the rest of the world.
