



Term Report  
2012-2013



Saarc Chamber of Commerce and Industry



In pursuance of my duty under Article-25-b-ix of SAARC CCI constitution,  
I present the term report of SAARC CCI for 2012-2013

Secretary General  
SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry

In partnership with

Friedrich Naumann  
STIFTUNG FÜR DIE FREIHEIT



## Table of Contents

Presidential Review	06
Executive Summary	07
Overview	09
SAARC CCI Activities 2012-2013	13
SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneur's Council Activities	25
SAARC Young Entrepreneur's Council Activities	32
SAARC CCI Meetings (EC & GA)	35
Global Partners Activities	39
Glimpses	43
Financial Report	51

## Presidential Review



**Vikramjit Singh Sahney**  
President, SAARC CCI

Looking back to January 2012, when I assumed the office of the President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) inculcates me a feeling that how rapidly time has passed. During 2012-2013, although the world economy witnessed dramatic changes and robust recovery after global financial crisis, still many countries could not achieve economic growth targets. However, it is encouraging that South Asian countries were successful in maintaining growth rate of around 5.5% well over the global economic growth of nearly 5%.

To serve the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) as a representative of South Asian Business Community is always a matter of great honour and pride for any businessman in South Asia. I also felt honoured and privileged to head this Regional Apex Body on various regional and international forums.

While presenting term report, I, whole heartedly appreciate my team of Vice Presidents Mr. Jashim Uddin Ahmed (Bangladesh), Mr. Thinly Palden Dorji (Bhutan), Mr. Mahendra Parmar (India), Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik (Pakistan) and Mr. Kosala

Wickramanayake (Sri Lanka) for their dedicated efforts to make my tenure a great success. I also appreciate the services of my predecessors particularly Mr. Annisul Huq, the Immediate Past President (Bangladesh) and Mr. Tariq Sayeed, the former President SAARC CCI ( Pakistan ) and Mr. Padma Jyoti, former President, SAARC CCI (Nepal) for their devoted attachment to the organization particularly bringing sizeable delegations in all the events during my tenure. I am also indebted to the management of all National Chambers in South Asian countries particularly the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for its continued and committed support. It was because of the effective support of my colleagues, which helped me in keeping up the momentum and make humble endeavours to further promote the cause of the organization.

Being an avid representative of the private sector, I believe that a vibrant private sector is an indispensable factor for triggering economic dynamism, enhancing productivity, transferring and diffusing new industrial technologies, maintaining competitiveness, and contributing to entrepreneurial development and an ultimate solution to combat poverty. The role of business and industry assumes critical importance in the economic prosperity of countries as it lays the basis for a viable regional bloc in South Asia as well as an integrated world altogether. As the SAARC member countries continue their drive for economic growth, the key factor which will enable them to achieve high rates of growth and sustained high economic performance, will be a strong private sector that shares the development objectives and aspirations of the government in its journey of economic development irrespective of the political differences.

During my two year tenure, I particularly focused on effective involvement of youth and women entrepreneurs in addition to socio-cultural exchanges and Media, which I believe were quite helpful for image building of SAARC CCI. The overwhelming success of the 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave held in New Delhi, India can be regarded as the milestone achievement of SAARC CCI wherein Commerce Ministers from all South Asian countries, Secretaries and Ambassadors witnessed and graced the biggest congratulation of the Private Sector. The presence of all eight Commerce Ministers in SBLC, the first time in history of SAARC CCI has created hype and given great exposure to the organization, for which I feel greatly satisfied.

Lastly, I am happy to state that as a result of our continued efforts, the SAARC leaders have endorsed our one proposal i.e. allowing spouses and children under 18 years to avail SAARC Visa Exemption stickers for all EC members of SAARC CCI. I do believe our pending request for increase in SAARC Visa Exemption Stickers from 200 to 500 will soon be considered. I request the upcoming management under leadership of the new President Mr. Ismail Asif to carry the flagship of SAARC CCI with more dynamism and enthusiasm.

Wishing the new management of SAARC CCI all the best in its future endeavours!

## Executive Summary

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) remained active during the term 2012-13 and till March 2014, under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney.

During the term under review, SAARC CCI organized over all 26 activities including 20 seminars/conferences/ meetings and 6 Executive Committee Meetings in various member countries, as compared with 29 activities organized in the previous term i.e. 2010-2011. The Executive Committee Meetings were organized in similar number to the previous term. The major areas under focus were regional integration, Trade facilitation, socio-cultural exchanges, Women entrepreneurs and Youth development. The 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave (5th SBLC) was the landmark achievement of SAARC CCI wherein eight Commerce Ministers from all South Asian Countries graced the occasion with their presence and greatly helped in image-building of the organisation.

In addition to the activities organised under MoC with FNSt, the President SAARC CCI represented the organization at various regional and International Fora and had the privilege to interact and meet the Prime Ministers & President of Bhutan, India, Nepal and Pakistan and Finance Ministers of all South Asian Countries. His participation in various events has helped in institutional linkages and promotion of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in more profound manner. As members of Pak-India Joint Councils (which is represented by 8 members of SAARC CCI including President and VP Pakistan) SAARC CCI played an important role in promoting relationship between India and Pakistan.

In addition to continuing its partnership with China-South Asia Business Forum (Kunming) and Sichuan-South Asia Business Forum (Sichuan), SAARC CCI sought partnership with WIPO, resultantly it was invited by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) to Geneva at Study tour, comprising officials of the secretariats of all National Chambers. Similarly on issue of Bio-energy and carbon Standards, SAARC CCI participated in programs organised by Swedish International Standards (SIS) organisation and SIDA. SAARC CCI was well represented in 5th South Asian Economic Summit and signed MoU with CACCI to further expand scope of cooperation with other countries as well.

Particular attention was given on publication of post-event reports. In addition to bringing out 23 editions of SAARC Biz, 14 publications including post event reports and one Research Study "Financial Cooperation in South Asia" and market intelligence report "Investment in India" were published during the term under review as compared with 12 reports published in the previous term.

The term under review, witnessed a lot of improvement in relationship between SAARC Secretariat and SAARC CCI Secretariat. As a result of extensive correspondence and follow up on important matter, SAARC Secretariat invited SAARC CCI to make presentations on four important meetings/ group of experts, as compared with only two such invitations in the previous term. SAARC CCI was also provided an opportunity to interact and meet with Finance Ministers from all South Asian countries in May 2013 at New Delhi on the occasion of SAARC Finance Ministerial Moot, organised by ADB, wherein SAARC CCI presentation was appreciated by Ministers. This interaction was facilitated by SAARC secretariat, which speaks of improved liaison of SAARC CCI with its parent body.

Because of close working relationship, initiatives and input provided, H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC issued a letter of appreciation to SAARC CCI, the first ever in the history of SAARC CCI. H.E. himself participated in five events of SAARC CCI.

Apart of that the issue of SAARC Visa sticker was strongly taken up with relevant authorities, including request letters to all Secretaries of Interior Ministers, submission of position paper to SAARC Secretariat and discussed the issue during call to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by Commerce Ministers from South Asian countries on occasion of 5th SBLC, requesting to support our proposal for increasing SAARC stickers to 500 for each country on one-year basis.

As the result of extensive follow up, the request for increase in stickers is under review and hopefully will be executed in next meeting of Foreign Ministers before the upcoming SAARC Summit.

It is however, encouraging that under the revised "Guidelines and Procedures and Rights and Obligations of SAARC Apex Bodies" issued by SAARC Secretariat dated March 17, 2014, the spouses and children under 18 of the Executive Committee member of SAARC CCI shall be entitled for SAARC Visa Exemption Sticker. This was also one of the major demands of the SAARC CCI.

The under reviewed tenure (2012-2013) witnessed fair growth in terms of membership. A new organisation, Confederation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (CII) has been inducted in the SAARC Chamber's mechanism. During the term, 54 Life members were registered including 39 from Pakistan and 15 from India as compared with 98 members during the previous term. In addition to that, two applications (one each from Afghanistan and Nepal) are under process.

An encouraging growth in overall finances has been witnessed in all heads during the term.

In January 2012, capital income (Trust Corpse) was accounted for Pak Rs. 156.23 million, which increased to Pak Rs. 179.21 million. This shows a growth of 15.62%. The referred capital revenue includes Pak. Rs. 157 million, which has been placed under Term Deposit Account.

In term of revenue and expenditures, the year 2012 witnessed, a profit of Rs. 13.49 million (Rev=27.60 million, Exp= 14.11 million) while in year the expenditure were estimated at 13.66 million against revenue income Pak. Rs. 22.58, showing surplus of Pak Rs. 8.91 million.





Overview

## SAARC CCI Brief Introduction:

Established in 1985, SAARC had hitherto avoided including core economic issues in its programme, but in the wake of the desire for a SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the SAARC Secretariat commissioned a study on Trade, Manufactures and Services in 1988. The study was completed in 1991 and strongly supported to establish a SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry to bring about improvement in the business environment disseminate information about potential tradable goods and identify joint ventures in the SAARC region.

Pursuant to the directive of the SAARC Secretariat, SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry, assisted by the National Federations, submitted its draft constitution to the SAARC Secretariat and received its approval in December 1992. This signified the official recognition of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) by all the national governments of SAARC as the apex body of all the National Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of SAARC as follows:

- Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry( ACCI)
- Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI)
- Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCCI)
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- Maldives National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MNCCI)
- Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI)
- Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI)
- Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka (FC-CISL)

Presently all National Chambers/ Federations of the respective member countries serve as focal points to facilitate the SAARC CCI Secretariat in Islamabad.

## Recognition as an apex body of SAARC CCI:

In recognition of the SAARC CCI's efforts and achievements, the SAARC secretariat, in April 2000, extended its recognition of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry as the apex chamber of the region for another period of 15 years, instead of a procedure to review this recognition after a period of every 2 years.

The President of the SAARC CCI is now a permanent invitee to the Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC) of SAARC to give a presentation of the private sector's view points to the commerce secretaries of the seven nations of SAARC.

## Headquarters of SAARC CCI:

The constitution of SAARC CCI designates Pakistan as the Permanent Secretariat of SAARC with a Secretary General to be the Chief Executive Officer of the Secretariat. Soon after the formation of SAARC CCI Headquarters was set up in the premises of FPCCI in Karachi and later on in December 1997 was shifted to Islamabad.

## Management & Operations:

In October 1993, Mr. S.M Inam from Pakistan was elected as the President of the SAARC CCI. In Feb 1994, SAARC CCI was formally inaugurated in Dhaka by the then Prime Minister of Bangladesh. Since its establishment, the Presidency of SAARC CCI has been enjoyed by all seven founder members. Mr. Salman F Rahman of Bangladesh, Mr. Kantikumar R Podar of India, Mr. Qasim Ibrahim of Maldives, Mr. Padma Jyoti of Nepal, Mr. Macky Hashim from Sri Lanka, Dasho Ugen Tshenchup Dorji from Bhutan and Mr. Tariq Sayeed from Pakistan,

Mr. Annisul Huq from Bangladesh have so far been the President of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Presidency of SAARC CCI rotates amongst the member countries for a two-year term and after completing its circle, the Presidency has been once again handed over to India. Mr. Vikramjith Singh Sahney, is the incumbent President who has assumed the office since January 24, 2012.

## Organs:

The SAARC Chamber shall comprise the following organs:

- a. The General Assembly (also to be known as GA)
- b. The Executive Committee (also to be known as EC)
- c. The General Secretariat

## Membership:

The membership of SAARC CCI is as follows:

- Constitute Bodies- all Federations/ National CCI
- Executive Committee Members
- Life Members- Individuals
- Associate members- leading chambers / Association other than National CCI
- Annual Members
  - 1- Corporate members
  - 2- Individuals

## Objectives:

The objectives of the "SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry" are:

- To encourage Trade, Service, Industry, Small & Medium Enterprise, Agriculture, Intra-Regional through creating strong business linkages amongst the entrepreneurs of the region of South Asia
- To make recommendations to safeguard the economic and business interests of the SAARC
- To serve as a consultative body of the Private Sector of the region to provide input/ feed back on regional economic issues
- To encourage Member Countries to accord preferential terms of trade to

each other and finally strive towards the gradual realization of the SAARC Economic and Monetary Union.

- To promote the exchange of commercial, technical, industrial management and scientific information, education and know-how amongst its members
- To collate, collect and disseminate statistical data and joint research and development among the SAARC Member Countries.

### **Focused Areas:**

The thrust areas for the SAARC CCI can be divided in to five major areas:

- Awareness building on key economic issues i.e. trade facilitation, NTBs, TBTs, Harmonization of Customs Procedures, intra-regional investment and such others pertaining to promote economic cooperation at the regional level
- Develop global linkages as a part of its outreach strategy
- Provide services to its members and representatives of the private sector
- Work closely with governments, NGOs, CSOs to raise the concern on socio-economic issues
- Develop an institutional framework for supporting economic cooperation

### **Services:**

SAARC CCI offers following services:

- Liaison with parent body to exchange views on the areas of activities
- Dissemination of data/information amongst members on socio-economic issues
- To create awareness amongst the stakeholders about economic issues in the region
- To voice concerns of the Private Sector of the region at relevant platforms
- To provide input /feedback of the Private Sector on economic and trade related issues to SAARC Secretariat for policy formulation etc.





SAARC CCI Activities  
2012-2013

## SAARC CCI Succession Ceremony (term 2012-2013), 23rd January, 2012 – New Delhi, India

The succession ceremony of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) took place on January 23, 2012 at New Delhi, India. This prestigious occasion was coined with SAARC Business Summit inaugurated by Hon'ble Anand Sharma, Minister for Commerce, Industry and Textiles of the Government of India who pinned the emblem of SAARC CCI to Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Corporate President of Sun Group, New Delhi on the occasion of taking over as the Presidency of SAARC CCI for the term 2012-13. Mr. Annisul Huq, the outgoing President of SAARC CCI from Bangladesh handed over the flag of SAARC CCI to Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney as a symbolic of official relinquishment of his services he rendered during his term 2010-2011.

Mr. Annisul Huq, the outgoing President of SAARC CCI thanked the cooperation of the Pakistan business leader Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik and his team of Vice Presidents i.e. Mr. Thinley Palden Dorji from Bhutan, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha from Nepal, Mr. Kosala Wickramanayake from Sri Lanka and Mr. Vikramjith Singh Sahney as Senior Vice President of SAARC CCI during his tenure



*Mr. Annisul Huq, Outgoing President, SAARC CCI is handing over the flag of SAARC CCI to Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, the newly elected President of SAARC CCI in presence of Hon'ble Anand Sharma, Commerce Minister of India and Mr. R V Kanoria, President, FICCI.*

2010-2011. Mr. R.V Kanoria - President FICCI, Mr. Ranjan Mathai-Foreign Secretary Government of India also addressed at the occasion. Over 500 businessmen, Government officials, celebrated personalities including over 60 member business delegation from Pakistan attended this prestigious ceremony. The Business summit was also addressed by Dr. Shashi Throor, Indian Parliamentarian from Lok Saba, Ms. Shabana Azmi, Ms. Poonam Dhillon, Ms. Sadichha Shrestha, Miss. Nepal, Mr. Vikram Doraswami, JS, Ministry of External Affairs (GoI) and Begum Salma Ahmed from Pakistan also addressed the session on Human Resources Development in South Asia, which was chaired by newly elected President SAARC CCI.

## 7th Meeting of Group of Experts on SAFTA

Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI made a brief presentation before SAFTA Group of Experts. Mr. Sahney was assisted Mr. Tariq Sayeed former President, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Sec-

retary General, SAARC CCI and Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, Member Technical Committee of SAARC CCI on SAFTA.

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry demands Liberal SAARC Visa Policy for Businessmen, substantial reduction in Sensitive list, removal of Para-tariff and Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) and exhibition of greater political will for swift execution of trade facilitation mechanism to ensure accelerated growth in intra-SAARC Trade



*(L-R) Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President, Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, and Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI during the meeting.*

Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI while making presentation in the 7th Committee of Experts on SAFTA held on 15th February 2012 in Islamabad demanded for revising SAARC Visa Exemption Stickers Scheme (SVES) for the businessmen, which entitled them to acquire SAARC Sticker for one year instead of one month or three months under the new Policy, which was regarded as detrimental to business promotion in South Asia. The SAARC CCI maintained its demands for increase in Stickers to 500 for businessmen of each member state in South Asia.

President SAARC CCI identified 10 basic reasons, hindering the performance of intra-regional Trade in South Asia stating that lack of political will and absence of compatible trade facilitation mechanism, sizeable sensitive list, Para-Tariff Barriers (PTBs) and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and improper infrastructure were the core issues, which need to be dealt on preferential basis. He proposed several measures like substantial reduction of items under sensitive list, removal of NTBs, imperious implementation of Multimodal Transport Agreement and representation of Private sector in policy making level to improve the intra-regional trade in South Asia. He sought representation of SAARC CCI at Ministerial and

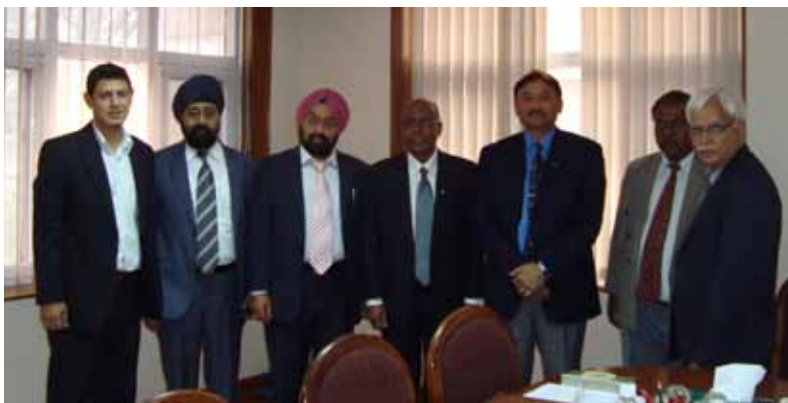
Head of states level. Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Founder and former President of SAARC CCI, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pak) Muhammad Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, former EC Member SAARC CCI were also present during the meeting.

## President, SAARC CCI meets Secretary Commerce, Bangladesh

Mr. Md. Ghulam Hussain, Commerce Secretary of Bangladesh led a business delegation to India and visited Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for a meeting on 27th March, 2012. The meeting was held under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President SAARC CCI. The objective of the meeting was to look for opportunities and to remove stumbling blocks to boost the bilateral trade and investment between the two neighbouring countries. During the meeting, Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI highlighted the areas of priority concerns and their implementation so far which includes elimination of non-tariff barriers; free flow of cotton for production and amendment in visa regime to reduce the trade gap and trade imbalance between the two countries.

## President SAARC CCI Calls on H.E. Secretary General, SAARC

Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) paid a courtesy call to H. E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC on 30th March, 2012 at the SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu, Nepal. Mr. Sahney was accompanied by Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President of SAARC CCI (Nepal), Mr. S. S. Banga from India, Dr. Hemant Dabadi, Director General of FNCCI, Mr. Ratish Basnyat, SAARC Desk Incharge, Nepal and Ms. Prabina Pandey, Officer of FNCCI. Mr. Amrit Lagoon, Director of SAARC was



(L-R) Mr. Ratish Basnyat, SAARC Desk Incharge (Nepal), Mr. S. S. Banga, GA Member from India, Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President SAARC CCI, H. E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President of SAARC CCI (Nepal), Mr. Amrit Lagoon, Director of SAARC, Dr. Hemant Dabadi, Director General of FNCCI.

also present in the meeting. Mr. Sahney briefed the Secretary General, SAARC about activities and functioning of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry including its structure, formation and activation of various councils, consultative meetings/programs, conferences and the mega events like SAARC Business Leaders Conclave and LEAD 2012. He requested the Secretary General to help reactivate Maldives Chamber of Commerce and Industry in SAARC CCI affairs.

Further to that Mr. Sahney sought assurance of the Secretary General for more involvement of the Private Sector representatives in the important Government level meetings.

## Regional Conference on Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCCI) and in partnership with Friedrich Nau-



Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President of SAARC CCI jointly presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Power and Energy, Govt of Sri Lanka.

mann Foundation, Fur Die Freiheit, organized a Conference on "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia" on April 22, 2012 in Paro, Bhutan.

The Conference was organized under the theme "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia", as a response of the Private Sector to these challenging issues and to involve them towards addressing these issues under a regional mechanism.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan, H.E. Lyonchen Jigmi Y Thinley inaugurated the conference. Hon'ble Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister for Power and Energy, Govt of Sri Lanka attended the Conference as guest of honour. Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC, H.E. Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuck, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry for Economic Affairs, Royal Govt. of Bhutan, Dasho Topgayl Dorji, President BCCI, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General SAARC CCI, Mr. Subodh Kumar, Executive Programs FNF also shared their opinion at the inaugural session, which was attended by more than 200 delegates including 50 from other countries of SAARC.

The inaugural session was followed by two technical sessions each one on Climate Change and Energy. The session on Climate Change was chaired by H.E Lyonpo Dr. Pema Jamtsho, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Agriculture & Forest, Royal Govt. of Bhutan while H.E. Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuck, and Minister for Economic Affairs Bhutan chaired session on Energy. The sessions were addressed by prominent academicians, experts from Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka including Vice Presidents of SAARC CCI Mr. Thinly Palden Dorji (Bhutan).

## SAARC CCI Conference on Energy, Climate Change and Water Management, Islamabad, Pakistan

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in partnership with Freidrich Naumann Foundation, Fur Die Freiheit, Regional office, New Delhi organized a Conference on Energy, Climate Change and Water Management in South Asia on 30th April 2012 in Islamabad.

The Conference was inaugurated by Dr, Zafar Iqbal Qadir, Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of Pakistan. Senator Dr. Mohammad Azam Khan Swati, former Federal Minister for Science and



Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Dr, Zafar Iqbal Qadir, Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of Pakistan in presence of (L-R) Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, Former Vice President, FPCCI, Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI, Dr. Mohammad Azam Khan Swati, former Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Mr. Haroon Rasheed, Vice President, FPCCI, Mr. Hilal A. Raza, Director SAARC Energy Centre (Pakistan).

Technology addressed the Conference as Guest of honour along with other speakers including Mr. Hilal A. Raza, Director SAARC Energy Centre (Pakistan), Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI. Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan) offered welcome address while Muhammad Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI moderated the session ended with concluding remarks by Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik Fmr. Vice President FPCCI summed up the session with his concluding remarks.

The inaugural session was followed by a technical session which was chaired by Mr.

Olaf Kallerhoff Resident Representative FNF, Pakistan. The session was addressed by Mr. Arshad H. Abbasi, Advisor on Water and Climate Change SDPI, Mr. Ravan Ekanayake, IPDS, Sri Lanka while Mr. Kanwer Javed Iqbal, Research Fellow, SDPI shared the finding of SAARC CCI Conference on Energy and Climate Change held in Bhutan on April 22-23, 2012, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister of Bhutan in Paro. The speakers were of the opinion that the developed countries of the World are responsible for making the World polluted and should extend technical support to address the challenges posed by Climate Change. The Governments of South Asia need to revisit their policies to make South Asia an energy efficient region through shared vision and common stance on issues pertaining to energy and climate change.

## SAARC CCI Delegation Calls on to Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa, Minister of Economic Development, Government of Sri Lanka

The SAARC CCI delegation comprising of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Mr. Mahendra Parmir, VP (India), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, VP (Pakistan), Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake, VP (Sri Lanka), Mr. Muhammad Iqbal Tabish, SG of SAARC CCI, Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President, FCCISL, Mr. Satinder S. Banga, EC Member (India) of SAARC CCI, Mr. Kulwant Singh, Mr. H.S Chadha, Ms. Ambika Sharma, Deputy Secretary General-FICCI, Mr. Goutam Gosh, Additional Director, FICCI and others respected members of SAARC CCI calls on Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa Minister of Economic Development, Govt of Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI during the meeting with Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa, Minister of Economic Development, Govt of Sri Lanka.



During the meeting Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister said that Economic Integration was the best way to achieve and sustain economic prosperity among the South Asian nations. Enlarging the opportunities for trade and investment among the SAARC countries could be an effective instrument to stimulate economic growth in the region.

The delegation discussed with the minister about the possibility of investing in Sri Lanka in areas such as port and shipping, low cost housing, Oil and gas, automobile, agriculture, poultry etc. They also stressed on the requirement to have joint - tourism development programmes and said that joint programmes by the member countries for the tourist from other countries are rare.

## Seminar on Trade Facilitation in South Asia: Addressing barriers to foster Trade Chain

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Collaboration with the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka and in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF): Fur Die Freiheit, organized Seminar on Trade Facilitation under the theme "Addressing Barriers to Foster Trade Chain" on 13th July, 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The seminar was aimed at creating



(L-R) Mr. Kosala Wikramnayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka), Hon<sup>ble</sup> SJB Rana, Former Finance Minister, Govt of Nepal, Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, H.E Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister for External Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President FCCISL, Mr. Subodh Kumar, Executive Programmes, FNF, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, & Mr. Annisul Huq Former Presidents of SAARC.

awareness amongst the Private Sector and to invite deliberations from Academia and the Government officials on the issues pertaining to trade facilitation.

H.E Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister for External Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka as the Chief Guest of the Seminar and Inaugurated the conference. The seminar was also addressed by Professor Madhukar Rana, former Finance Minister of Nepal, South Asian Business Leaders including Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Sri Lanka, Vice Presidents of SAARC CCI Mr. Mahendra Parmar (India), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik (Pakistan), Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake (Sri Lanka) and Mr. Subodh Kumar, Senior Program Executive, FNF in presence of Mr. Jayarathan Herath, Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Sri Lanka, Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President (Bangladesh) and Mr. Tariq Sayeed, founder Member and former President of SAARC CCI (Pakistan). Muhammad Iqbal Tabish, Secretary

General, SAARC CCI moderated the seminar.

The Inaugural session of the seminar was followed by the two technical sessions i.e. Procedural Barriers and Solutions and Addressing Infrastructure & Logistic issues. which were addressed by academicians and experts like Dr. Prabir De, Fellow-RIS, India, Ms. Ashani, Research Officer, IPS (Sri Lanka), Government officials of Sri Lanka, Begum Salma Ahmed, Vice Chairperson SCWEC (Pakistan) & VP-FPCCI, Ms. Rita O' Sullivan, Country Director, ADB, experts and professional from South Asian region.

The experts identified procedural barriers as serious bottlenecks hindering the smooth flow of trade in the South Asian region. Various flaws in commercial, transport, regulatory and financial systems, were pointed out, which have led to the involvement of more procedures compared to other regional trade blocs in the globe, and in turn had an adverse impact on trade facilitation mechanisms in the region.

The seminar was successful in term of facilitating dialogue between relevant stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. It sought solutions as to how procedural flaws could be contained and documentation requirements could be reduced through simplification of procedures to foster trade processes in the region.

## SAARC CCI Dinner meeting in honor of Pakistan's Parliamentarians

Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI & World Punjabi Organization hosted a dinner meeting in honour of Pakistan's Parliamentarians delegation led by Senator Jahangir Bader, leader of the house, Senate of Pakistan on August 22nd, 2012 in New Delhi, India. Pakistani Parliamentarians were on a three-day visit to India to interact and meet their counterparts in India and had detailed deliberations on socio-political and economic issues.

A large number of business persons, representatives of SAARC CCI and members of World Punjabi Organization, Parliamentarians from Pakistan and India graced the gathering including Senator Muhammad Jahangir Bader, Senator Haji Muhammad Adeel, Mr. Na-

deem Afzal Gondal, Mian Abdus Sattr, Syed Tayyab Hussain, Engineer Khuram Dastgir Khan, Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan, Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, Mr. Iftikhar Ullah Babr and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Secretary General of PILDAT. Indian side included celebrated personalities like, Mr. S.S. Dhinsa, Mr. M.S. Gill. Besides Mr Tarlochan Singh, Mr Arvind Mehta-JS, MOC, GOI; Mr. Kuldeep Nayar & a large community from industry also participated.

## Institutional Capacity Building Workshop

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized "Institutional Capacity Building Workshop" on 1st-2nd Nov, 2012, Sri Lanka in partnership with Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit, Regional Directorate New Delhi. The Institutional Capacity building Workshop is a regular annual feature of the activities of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry, which aims at creating network & enhance the cooperation between National Chambers of Commerce & Industry from South Asian countries and the Secretariat of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry permanently located in Islamabad. The workshop was jointly conducted by Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General SAARC CCI and Mr. Subodh Kumar,



Group Photo of SAARC CCI Incharge SAARC Desks along with Mr. Iqbal Tabish, SG SAARC CCI and Mr. Subodh Kumar Executive Programmes, FNF.

Snr. Executive Programs, FNF. The officials of National chambers/Federations working as associates to SAARC desks exchanged views to enhance cooperation between SAARC CCI and their respective organizations. The Secretary General, SAARC CCI briefed the participants about the role of National Chambers/ Federations in respect of SAARC CCI. He also briefed about upcoming activities of SAARC CCI and sought their cooperation for deepening institutional linkages. Mr. Subodh noted the gradual progress in the functioning of SAARC CCI and hoped for further improvement in future. The representatives of the Chambers/ Federations made presentations during the workshop and suggested various ways and means to bridge the gap. In addition to that, a senior official from the Customs of the Government of Sri Lanka Mr. G. A. L. GAMINI, Director of Customs (Social Protection), Sri Lanka Customs was invited to deliver lecture on Customs rules and regulations applied in general and in context of SAFTA in particular.

To involve more officials of the National chambers' in the affairs of SAARC CCI, two representatives from each National Chamber were invited to attend the Workshop. Besides Mr. Bader Munir, Assistant Secretary & Mr. Mahmood Habib Mir, Chief Accountant from SAARC CCI, other officials who attended the workshop included Mr. Hashem Rasouli, Public Relation Director Mr. Ali Zaki, Regional & International Organization's Desk Manager-ACCI, Ms. Prabina Pandey, Officer, Ms. Kreeti Khatiwada, Senior Assistant-FNCCI, Mohammad Mizanur Rahman Mukul, Joint Secretary, FBCCI, Ms. Sonam Choden, Business Support Department, Ms. Sonam Wangmo, Personnel Officer, BCCI, Ms. Anjali Taneja, Senior Assis-

tant Director - International Affairs, FICCI, Ms. Mehreen A. Razzak, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Sehrish Jamil, Executive Officer-FPCCI.

## Energy Cooperation in South Asia: Commitments & New dimensions

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a one day seminar on Energy Cooperation in South Asia: Commitments & New dimensions on November 24, 2012, in Federation House, New Delhi, India. The event was organized in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and in partnership with Freidrich Naumann Foundation. The event was organized with objective for providing gap-analysis



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI recent publication to Mr Gireesh B Pradhan, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, during its launching ceremony.

in respect of harnessing untapped renewable energy potential, presenting SWOT analysis of existing conventional energy resources and suggesting ways and means for barrier free flow of secured energy trade and investments, thereby ensuring greater regional cooperation.

Mr. Gireesh B Pradhan, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India was the Chief Guest of the seminar and inaugurated the conference. During the inaugural speech by Mr. Gireesh B. Pradhan Secretary, Ministry of new and alternative energy, India emphasized for energy cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels stressing that a shift towards alternative energy was drastically required to mitigate the global warming. Alternative energy in India contributes 12.7% to the total energy production presently.

In addition to Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Tariq Sayeed,

Former President, SAARC CCI and Mr. P.S. Bami, President, India Energy, the inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Subodh Kumar Agarwal, Executive (Programmes), Friedrich Naumann Foundation New Delhi and Dr. Arbind Prasad, Director General, FICCI. The inaugural session was followed by technical session which was addressed by energy experts like Mr. Mollah Amzad from Bangladesh, Mr Ashish Khanna, Lead Energy Specialist and India Energy Team Leader, World Bank, Mr Nitya Nanda, Fellow and Area Convener (Centre for Global Agreements, Leg. and Trade), TERI, Mr. Gyanendra L. Pradhan, Chairman, SAARC CCI Council on Climate change, Energy and water Resources and Mr. Kanwar Muhammad Javed Iqbal, Senior Research Associate-Environment, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan and Mr. Kosala Wickramnayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka) addressed the Conference.

The conference concluded with the expert's opinion to urge upon the need for adoption of integrated approach to tap enormous potential in hydropower and alternative energy while terming it as an inevitable factor for sustainable growth and deepening of economic cooperation. At the conclusion of conference, SAARC CCI also launched its recent publication on "Energy Policy in SOUTH ASIA".

## Meeting of President SAARC CCI with Mr. Vikram Doraiswamy, JS- (SAARC), MEA, Government of India

Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI had a meeting with Mr. Vikram Doraiswamy, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, Mr. Sridharan, Director SAARC, MEA, India. During the meeting President SAARC CCI enlighten Mr. Doraiswamy about the activities of SAARC CCI and sought his assistance in regarding SAARC CCI demands for Flexible visas regime; participation in SAARC Summit; involvement of SAARC CCI with SAARC Secretariat vis-à-vis joint studies, capacity building and research analysis to be considered while forming policies, Vision to work under the aegis of SAARC Secretariat & SAARC desk, Govt. of India and CSR activities in SAARC Region supported by Sun Foundation.

## Outcome of discussions:

- Engage research analysts at SAARC Secretariat and add value by SAARC CCI.
- More interactive and favourable engagements with Mr. Amrit Lagoon & his successor (whenever) since the Chair of Economy in SAARC Secretariat is with India & to our interest.
- MEA coming up with enhanced engagements & outlook on SAARC, Keep agenda as in line with that for a progressive approach
- Welcome associate membership from other chambers but protect rights of founder members.
- To avail facility of SVES, membership to any federation is not criteria. Any bonafide entrepreneur / businessman will get it. SAARC Desk in GOI will push more number of SVES in this regard.
- Consult & change calendar – as per venue & dates on the lines of SAF activities, the next one being in Maldives.
- SAARC Trade Centre at Delhi Haat, Pitampura, spread over 7.5 acre land in New Delhi, in collaboration with MEA will be inaugurated on 8th December 2012. SAARC CCI to work towards getting different member nations on board by seeking their interest level. SAARC CCI will sell the concept and make it an integrated trade centre. A detailed report on the concept and modalities to be

worked out and put up for consideration and action.

- Economic Summit & SBLC – possibility on the sidelines of SAFTA Ministerial session – as per date. Govt. of India to invite session to be held in Delhi.
- SAARC Parliamentarian Forum-. Take into confidence & cognizance Mr. U.S. SAKSENA, JS, Lok Sabha Parliamentarian Affairs and Ms. Meira Kumar and propose the same. In the meanwhile, Indo-Pak Parliamentarian Forum being supported by FICCI/SAARC CCI in early August.

MEA shall recommend the participation of SAARC CCI in the SAARC Ministerial Summit.

## 27th Anniversary of SAARC (Charter Day 8th December, 2012)

The SAARC Chamber of commerce & industry organized a seminar in commemorating 27th Anniversary of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) on 8th December 2012 in Marriot Hotel in Islamabad. The seminar was organized under theme "Trade and Investment – New Dawn in South Asian



*Cake Cutting ceremony during 27th Anniversary of SAARC celebrations: (L-R) Malik Sohail Hussain, Chairman Diplomatic Relations, FPCCI, His Excellency Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal, Ambassador of Nepal in Pakistan, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Senator Mr. Mushahid Hussain, PML-Q, Mrs. Samina Fazil, former President, Islamabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry.*

Integration". Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Secretary General, PMN (Q) grace the occasion as guest of honor.

The seminar commenced with introductory remarks of Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General,

SAARC CCI. While sharing remarks he said that the business community of the region is committed to promote economic cooperation of the region and SAARC CCI is actively involved in promoting economic liberalization in the region through number of activities focused on awareness building on core issues, developing global linkages, providing services to private sector, working closely with the Governments of respective countries of SAARC and developing institutional framework for promoting economic cooperation in the region.

Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), SAARC CCI in his welcome remarks said that the region could account for over half of global output by the middle of this century but we are not prepared for it. He added that lack of political commitment, protectionists policies, non-resolution of issues have been the main hurdles in the development of South Asia. He welcomed the recent development in bilateral relations between India and Pakistan and India and Bangladesh have commenced a new era in history of South Asia.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Special guest in his keynote address said that the 21st-century is the 'Asian Century' in which we will witness the dominance of Asian politics, business and culture which calls for governments and private sector to play their due role. Asia is reverting back to global supremacy in business, knowledge, culture, politics and innovation after 250 years, he said, adding that in the emerging scenario SAARC nations should brace for the change. Mr. Mushahid Hussain also proposed to have a South Asian Parliament like European Parliament to ensure rapid development.

The inaugural session of the seminar was followed by technical session which was chaired by Senator Haji Adeel and was addressed by Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Dy. Executive Director, Economic Growth Unit, SDPI, Dr. Muhammad Pervaz, Program Leader, Technology Transfer, SAARC Energy Centre and Syed Mohsin Ahmed, Chairperson South Asian Micro Finance Network (SAMN). While concluding the session, Senator Haji Adeel said that only way to provide relief to majority of the world's population living in this region is through increased trade and reduced friction.

Ambassadors, diplomats from SAARC family and business leaders underlined the need for political commitment, review of protectionists policies, and resolution of issues to ensure dawn of a new era in history of South Asia. President and office bearers of various business chambers and associations were also present on the occasion.

## SAARC Charter Day Celebration by SAARC CCI & FICCI

To commemorate 27th Anniversary of SAARC and express Solidarity with SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), SAARC CCI and FICCI celebrated SAARC Charter Day 2012 on 8th December 2012, at Hotel Taj Mansingh, Mansingh Road, New Delhi, India.

Mr. Sudhir Vyas, Secretary (ER), MEA, India, Shri O.P. Chautala, former Chief Minister of Haryana, Mr Mohammad Monirul Islam, Counsellor – Political, High Commission for the People's Republic of Bangladesh, H.E. Major Genl. V Namgyel, Ambassador, Royal Bhutanese Embassy, Mr Kinzang Dorji, Dy Chief of Mission Royal Bhutanese Embassy, Ms Khadeeja Ibrahim, Deputy High Commissioner, High Commission of the Republic of Maldives, Mr Bishnu Prasad Lamsal, Minister – Economic, Embassy of Nepal, H E Mr Salman Bashir, High Commissioner, High Commission for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr Babar Amin, Head of Chancery & Dy High Commissioner, High Commission for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr Naeem Anwar, Minister – Trade, High Commission for the Islamic

Republic of Pakistan, Ms. Saima Sayed, First Secretary (Political), High Commission for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Senator Hari Ram, Senate of Pakistan, H E Mr Prasad Kariyawasam, High Commissioner, High Commission for the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr Sheelkant Sharma, Former Secretary General, SAARC and many other renowned personalities joined the celebrations.



*H E Mr Rev Harris Majeka, High Commissioner of South Africa; Mr Bishnu Prasad Lamsal, Minister Economic, Embassy of Nepal; Mr Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Dr Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General of SAARC; Mr R V Kanoria, President, FICCI; Mr Sudhir Vyas, Secretary (E R), MEA; H E Mr Prasad Kariyawasam, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka; H E Mr Salman Bashir, High Commissioner of Pakistan; Mr Mohammad Monirul Islam, Counsellor - Political, Bangladesh High Commission; H E Major General V Namgyel, Ambassador of Bhutan.*

On this occasion Shri Sudhir Vyas read out the message of the Prime Minister of India released for this SAARC Charter Day. Speaking on the occasion, Padma Shri Vikramjit Sahney said, "SAARC was chartered to give a collective commitment and greater meaning and content to the region. Since then, it has emerged as beacon of hope and expectation of millions of people in the region. Admittedly, there is a lot to be done but the political will is there."

The occasion had the flavor of young and old alike in their true national costumes proudly accentuating their countries and mingling within the region. The Armed Forces band welcomed the dignitaries in the national flavor and flags of all countries proudly displayed the diversity in uniformity. This was further accentuated in the country panels that showcased the interdependence of the countries as also the diversity and abundance of natural treasures therein making this region a self sustainable.

## Strategy Roundtable on SAARC CCI

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) organised a strategy Roundtable on April 20, 2013 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Chaired by President Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, the roundtable was attended by more than forty business leaders, representing National Chambers/ Federation from South Asian countries.

Mr. Siegfried Herzog, Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, New Delhi, India moderated the roundtable, which aimed at redefining the role of National



*Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI presides over the strategy roundtable held on April 20, 2013 at Kathmandu, India. Mr. Suraj Vaidya, President FNCCI, office bearers and Executive Committee Members of SAARC CCI are seen in the audience*

Chambers/Federations towards SAARC CCI affairs and their involvement in driving SAARC CCI's thought leadership activities.

The participants comprising notable business figures from South Asia, were of the opinion that in view of the changes being taken place around the globe, there was a dire need to develop consensus driven action agenda and a road map to effectively involve the private sector in SAARC CCI affairs so that the organisation could play compatible role to promote business in the region.

To involve more dynamic members and to engage them in the process, the roundtable mainly focused on two important issues i.e. generating business interest within South Asia and involvement of influential businesspersons in SAARC CCI mechanism. The participants contributed policy recommendations to make SAARC CCI more visible and heard by respective Government in South Asia.

## Seminar on Financial Cooperation in South Asia: Challenges and Prospects:

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) and in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Stiftung: fur die freiheit, Regional Directorate, New Delhi, organised a seminar on Financial cooperation in South Asia: Challenges and Prospects on April 21, 2013 at Kathmandu, Nepal.

The seminar was organised as a precursor to the Meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers to be hosted by Asian Development Bank on May 3, 2013 at New Delhi, India. The objective of the seminar was to work out policy recommendations and onward presentation to the Ministers during their informal meet at New Delhi.

The seminar was addressed by academicians and experts like Dr. Ahsan H. Mansur, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute, Bangladesh, Mr. Abdul Wassay Haqiqi, Lecturer, American University in Afghanistan, Mr. Muhammad Abdul Wahab Siddiqui, Senior



*(L-R) H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. Annisul Huq, Former President, SAARC CCI (Bangladesh)*

Consultant, SDPI, Pakistan, Mr. Kishore Maharjan, CEO, Civil Bank Limited, Nepal, Mr. Joseph Silvanus, CEO, Standard Chartered Bank Limited, Nepal, Engr. M. A. Jabbar, Practitioner Economist, Pakistan.

The experts were of the opinion that because of lacking in financial cooperation at regional level, the cross border trade and investment was not at par with potential available. They stressed for putting in place a mechanism based on strong, sound, coherent and synchronized financial system while regarding it an integral component of regional economic cooperation, which would create preferences for increase in cross-border trade and investment opportunities and encourages flow of capital amongst SAARC member countries.

## H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General SAARC addresses the Executive Members of SAARC CCI

On special invitation of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC Chamber of Com-

merce and Industry (SAARC CCI), H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) addressed the Executive Members of SAARC CCI on April 21, 2013 at a local hotel in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The session aimed at interaction of H.E. Secretary General with the business leaders from across South Asia and to exchange views on socio-economic issues and finding ways and means to work more closely and effectively



*H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC (in the middle) while addressing to the Executive Committee Members of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) along with Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SCCI on April 21, 2013 at Kathmandu, Nepal. The others (L to R) include Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, VP-SAARC CCI (Nepal), Dasho Ugen Tsechup Dorji, President of Bhutan CCI and former President SAARC CCI, Mr. Suraj Vaidya, President FNCCI, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, VP-SAARC CCI (Pakistan) and Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President SAARC CCI from Bangladesh.*

While addressing to the executive Committee members of SAARC CCI, H.E. Secretary General termed the session as a useful exercise and complimented President SAARC CCI for this initiative. He appreciated the role of SAARC CCI for creating awareness about economic issues and asked the business leaders to come up with answers such as, non-tariff barriers, outdated customs procedures, bureaucratic hurdles, lack of good connectivity, lack of banking facilities etc. and asserted the Private Sector for lobbying with the Governments and policy makers to address the issues effectively.

He assured all possible assistance to SAARC CCI in order to arrive at better and implementable policy decisions while referring SAARC CCI representation at CEC, SAFTA Committee of Experts, he ensured that opportunities for SAARC CCI leadership to interact and represent at Ministerial level will be provided as SAARC has arranged informal interaction of SAARC CCI with Finance Ministers during their upcoming meet on May 3, 2013 at New Delhi, India.

### **Five Member Indian Delegation Calls on to Hon'ble Prime Minister of Pakistan**

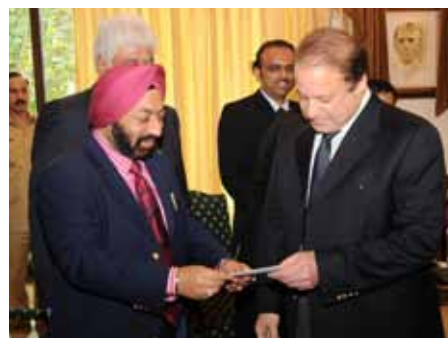
A five member Indian delegation of Pakistan India Joint Business Council calls on Hon'ble Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, of Pakistan.

The delegation was comprises of Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, Chairman & Managing Director, Sun Group & President SAARC CCI, Mr. Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman, Hero Corporate Services, Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises Ltd, Mr. Deepak Amitabh, Chairman & Managing Director, PTC India Ltd, Mr. Naresh Trehan, Chairman & Managing Director, Medanta – The Medicity.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister told the meeting that he had directed Hon'ble Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister for Water and Power, to visit India and explore potential areas of cooperation between the two countries. The Hon'ble Prime Minister told

the Indian businessmen that his government was following investor-friendly policies. "We are facing acute power shortage in our country and any assistance in the power sector would help us in addressing the issue" he added.

Indian members of the Pak-India Joint Business Council informed the Hon'ble Prime Minister that being located in the same region and facing similar problems, India could be of



*Recalling Memories: President SAARC CCI presents a set of photographs taken with Hon'ble Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in late 90s.*

great help in providing support in the fields of medical science, higher education and technical/vocational training. The meeting also discussed Non Discriminatory Market Access and agreed that the industrialists of both the countries should be provided level-playing field. Hon'ble Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage Mr. Pervez Rashid, Hon'ble Minister for Water and Power Mr. Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Special Assistant to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Tariq Fatemi and senior officials were also present during the meeting.

### **Trade Corridors and Regional Connectivity in South Asia :**

To deliberate upon the importance of trade and transport corridors for depending regional integration in South Asia, SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry has convened a panel discussion on "Trade Corridors and Regional Connectivity in South Asia" on 13th November 2013 at Marriott hotel, Islamabad in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, Regional Directorate New Delhi, India.

The discussion started with Welcome Remarks of Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan) which was followed by the presentations by Special guest Mr. Haroon Sharif, Advisor to WB (Pakistan) on South Asia, Mr. Ali Salman, Executive Director Prime Institute-Lahore, Mr. Shah Faisal Kakar, Director (South Asia), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (GoP) and Dr. Usman Mustafa, Chief, Project Evaluation and Training Division and Head of Management Department, PIDE.



(L-R) Mr. Shah Faisal Kakar, Director (South Asia), Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Pak, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI, Ms. Robina Ather, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pak), Mr. Haroon Sharif, Advisor to World Bank (Pak), Mr. Mir Naveed Jan Baloch, Vice President-FPCCI, Mr. Ali Salman, Executive Director, Prime Institute-Lahore

The discussion succeeded in suggesting ways and means for ensuring increased regional connectivity in South Asia with a focus on prospects for cooperation in transport and communication. The need for greater regional cooperation and ability to better implement resolutions emerged as key issues at the conference. The discussion was largely participated by SAARC CCI members, Pakistan Business community diplomats of SAARC member countries and journalists.

## 29th SAARC Charter day Celebrations: South Asia - Back to Future

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) organized a seminar entitled "South Asia Back to Future" to commemorate the 29th Charter Day of SAARC in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation on December 9th 2013.



Caption: Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Professor Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning & Developing, Govt of Pakistan. Others (L-R) includes Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI, Mr. Kunwar Qutubuddin, GA Member, SAARC CCI and Begum Salma Ahmed, Chairperson, SCWEC (Pakistan).

The day was celebrated to venerate the day SAARC Charter, which was signed in the first Summit of SAARC on 8th December 1985 at Dhaka. The seminar was aimed at promoting cause of SAARC as an organization as well as a mechanism, working for socio-economic uplift of the South Asian community.

H.E Dr. T.C Raghvan High Commissioner of India to Pakistan was Guest of Honour, while Professor Ahsan Iqbal Federal Minister for Planning and Development was the Chief Guest while Mr. Ghulam Minister of Industries and Production, Pakistan delivered special address.

The seminar brought together representatives from Public and Private Sector, diplomatic corps, CSOs, NGOs and various walks of life.

## SAARC-CCI Capacity Building Workshop :

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) organized an institutional capacity building workshop in collaboration with the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) on the 28th November, 2013 at Taj Tashi Hotel, in Thimphu, Bhutan. The workshop aims to create networks and to enhance cooperation among the SAARC countries. The one day workshop was focused on the role of private sector in South Asia. Except



Mr. Dasho Sonam P. Wangdi, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Royal Bhutan Government.

from the Maldives, representatives from all the apex trade bodies from SAARC countries attended the workshop to exchange views and discuss the issues related to South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA), and other cross-cutting issues of trade and development in the region.

At the outset, Mr. Phub Tshering, the Secretary General of BCCI, welcomed all and explained that seeking new direction for the private sector in SAARC and strengthening of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry was the purpose of the workshop. Then the Joint Secretary of Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Royal Bhutan Government, Mr. Dasho Sonam P Wangdi, welcomed all on behalf of the Bhutan Government, and eulogized the socio-economic developments in Bhutan, recent achievements, and the role of the governments to facilitate business. He then presented his keynote paper titled, "Investment Opportunities in Bhutan", highlighting the evolution of openness of investment regime in Bhutan. At the conclusion of inaugural session, Deputy Secretary General of SAARC Chamber, Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Butt, offered a vote of thanks to the audience, the Bhutan Government, and the co-host Bhutan Chamber for facilitating the event.

The workshop was followed by two technical sessions focused on the theme, "Role of Private Sector in South Asia", and "Strengthening Co-operation on Infrastructure & Development". The workshop concluded with the opinion that private sector should be interacting more with respective governments and at the level of SAARC institutions to bring in the desired changes and policy reforms. It was further concluded that consensus will be needed to initiate remedial actions to remove and reduce existing trade barriers.

## International Consultative Workshop on Energy Cooperation, Climate Change and Water Management: Initiatives for Regional Integration

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) organized a one day "International Consultative Workshop on Energy Cooperation, Climate Change and Water Management: Initiatives for Regional Integration", on 12th December 2013, in Kathmandu, Nepal. Hon'ble Mr. Umakant Jha, Hon'ble Minister of Energy, Irrigation and Science & Technology & Environment, Government of Nepal, grace the occasion with his presence as Chief Guest and H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, also joined the workshop as special guest. The inaugural session was followed by two technical sessions which were chaired by Mr. Helal A. Raza, Director, SAARC Energy Centre and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Sharestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI.



(L-R) Dr. Rajiv K Mishra, Executive Director, PTC India, Mr. Bishwa Prakash Pandit, Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Mr. Pradeep K. Shrestha, Vice President SAARC CCI (Nepal), Hon'ble Mr. Uma Kant Ja, Minister of Energy / Irrigation, Govt of Nepal, H.E. Ahmed Saleem, SAARC Secretary General, Mr. Gyanendra Lal Pradhan, Chairperson, SAARC CCI Council on Water, Climate Change and Energy and Muhammad. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI

Hon'ble Mr. Umakant Jha, Hon'ble Minister of Energy, Irrigation and Science & Technology & Environment, Government of Nepal, in his inaugural address urged for the need of prudent planning for mega projects at regional level, which could be technically feasible, socio-culturally acceptable, environmentally benign and economically viable to share cost and benefits, required for exploring the huge untapped hydro power potential of more than 250,000 MW in SAARC region.

While earlier to Chief Guest. H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC conveyed that at the political level, successive SAARC Summits convened over the years have given specific directives in promoting energy cooperation. As a follow up to such directives a number of initiatives have been undertaken including establishment of SAARC Energy Centre, finalization of SAARC Energy Trade Study, holding of South Asian Energy dialogue, energy ring concept and inter-Governmental mechanism etc; which establish energy as priority agenda of regional integration process.

## Hon'ble Anand Sharma, Commerce Minister of India Leads a Business delegation to Pakistan

For the first time in the Indo-Pak history since partition in 1947, the commerce ministers of both the countries along with high-powered business leaders gathered at the Lahore. Expo Centre on Monday pledging to open arms, hearts and gates for one another to tape trade



Hon'ble Mr. Makhdoom Amin Fahim (L) shakes hand with his Indian Counterpart Hon'ble Mr. Anand Sharma (R) on his arrival to Wagha Border in Lahore. H.E Shahid Malik, Pakistani High Commissioner in Pakistan and H.E Mr. SharatSabhharwal, Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan and Mr. Zafar Mahmood, Secretary Commerce, Govt of Pakistan are also seen in the picture.



potential of both South Asian states furthering the track II diplomacy successfully.

A 120 member's strong Indian Businessman delegation led by Commerce Minister Anand Sharma visited Pakistan on the invitation of Hon'ble Mr. Makhdoom Amin Fahim, Federal Minister for Commerce. The delegation comprises of leading businessmen included Mr. R V Konaria, President, FICCI, Mr. Vikramjit Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Rajan Bharti Mittal, the head of India's leading telecom company, Bharti and Mr. Naresh Goyal, the head of the nation's largest airline, Jet Airways, Mr. B.Muthuraman, has been elected President of the Confederation of Indian Industry. The high-profile delegation met Pakistani business leaders and authorities in Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad. Trade Minister Sharma underlined the need for the two countries to dismantle existing barriers to trade. He was of the opinion that the road map that we have defined for ourselves should bring in a liberal trade regime. He further stated that it has also happened for the first time that commerce secretaries of both countries have remained in close coordination during this period to pave way for enhancing bilateral trade through dialogues.

### 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave:

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) organized 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave with its theme "South Asian Century: Progressing towards Regional Integration" in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and National Federations/ Chambers of SAARC member nations, In partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) & The World Bank Group - as the knowledge Partner on 16-17th Jan 2014, in New Delhi, India.

The Conclave aims at providing policy recommendations for the SAARC Summit scheduled in Nepal for promotion of economic activities in SAARC to policy makers at the highest level.



(L-R) Mr. Siegfried Herzog, Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Hon' ble Tofail Ahmed , Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh, Hon'ble Norbu Wangchuk, Minister of Economic Affairs, Bhutan, Mr. V. S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI , Hon' ble Mr Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, H.E Mr Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, Mr. Sidharth Birla, President, FICCI, Hon'ble Mohamed Saeed, Minister for Economic Development, Maldives , Hon'ble Shanker Prasad Koirala, Minister for Commerce and Supplies, Nepal, Hon'ble Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Commerce and Textile, Pakistan, Hon'ble Abdul Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka joining hand together on the occasion of declaration passed on 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave 2014 on January 17-18 at New Delhi, India.

The Conclave witnessed the congregation of large business delegations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Over 500 leading business leaders and eminent International experts, Academia, Media and social scientists from across the region deliberated for two days on various pertinent issues of regional economic cooperation.

Senior officials from Member States addressed the contemporary and emerging issues like repositioning of South Asia in Asian Century, regional integration, Energy, water and Climate Change, Trade Facilitation, trade and investment etc'. The Conclave organized special sessions on Young Entrepreneurs in South Asia, while recommending the Governments of South Asia to provide business enabling environment to foster the process of regional integration. The Fifth SAARC Business Leaders Conclave concluded with adoption of declaration.

### South Asia Women Summit: Lahore, Pakistan & handover, takeover ceremony of SCWEC

After conclusion of the term of FNCCI Nepal, FPCCI Pakistan took over the chair of SAARC Chamber's Women Entrepreneurs Council for the term 2014-2015. Mr. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, President Women Wing of Pakistan Muslim League (N) the ruling party in Pakistan took over the chair from outgoing chairperson Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal , a leading women en-



Ms. Pramila A. Rijal, out going Chairperson SCWEC, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI and Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif in presence of Ms. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Chairperson, (Elect) SCWEC , Mrs. Shireen Arshad Khan, Chairperson AHAN-PAK, and Mr. S M Munir, Chairman TDAP.

trepreneurs leader in Nepal during South Asian Women Summit organised by SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Collaboration with FPCCI, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Board of Investment and in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation organized South Asian Women Summit on 20th March, 2014 in Lahore, Pakistan.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Main Shahbaz Sharif was the Chief Guest of the conference and address the inaugural session. During the Inaugural Session, Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Member National Assembly assumes the responsibility of Chairperson of SCWEC along with Ms. Hina Mansab Khan as Vice Chairperson SCWEC (Pakistan). The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. S. M Munir, Chairman TDAP, Mr. Pervaiz Malik, Member National Assembly, Mr. Imran Afzal Cheema, Secretary, BOI, Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Chairperson (Elect) SCWEC, Ms. Pramila A. Rijal, Chairperson (Out going) and Mr. Bharat Raj Poudyal, Ambassadors of Nepal to Pakistan.

The inaugural session was followed with Technical session which was chaired

by Mrs. Ayesha Zaheer, Executive Committee Member, SCWEC (Pak) and was address by Ms. Rabia Javery Agha, Secretary Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Ms. Rina Latif, Professional Fashion Designer under the brand Rina Latif (Bangladesh), Ms. Archana Garodia Gupta, Business woman founder, one of India's premier Fashion Jewellery brands and Hon Justice Ms. Shiranee Tilakawardane, Judge of the Supreme Court, Sri Lanka. The remarks of felicitation were offered by Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, Chairperson AHAN & former MNA( PML-N), Ms. Saeeda Nazar, Facilitator, Pakistan Women Entrepreneurs Affairs and Ms. Hina Mansab Khan, Vice Chairperson SCWEC (elect).

SAARC Chamber  
Women  
Entrepreneur's  
Council  
Activities

## Women Chef Event “Taking Taste beyond Borders”- 30th March, 2012, Nepal

On the occasion of 102nd International Women’s Month, SCWEC organized an event-Celebrating “Women Chef’s Taking Taste beyond Borders “on 30th March, 2012 in Hotel De l’ Annapurna, Kathmandu, Nepal. The Woman Chefs were from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. It provided a platform to Women Chefs from South Asia to share their challenges and achievements of their career. It was an inspirational event for women looking forward to develop their career in the culinary industry.



Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal- Chairperson, SCWEC, fifth from right, with H.E. Ahmed Saleem, SAARC Secretary General, sixth from right and Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney , SAARC CCI President, seventh from right and SCWEC EC members and Vice Chairs of SCWEC.

Women chefs are rare and it was an honor for SCWEC to present seven women culinary experts from the SAARC region, some who have not only established themselves in their careers but also gained acclaim in their field, and some who had just entered this arena. The Women Chefs were awarded certificates of appreciation by SAARC Secretary General H.E Ahmed Saleem.

## Product Quality Management & Certifications for Businesswomen in Food sector- SCWEC, Nepal, 17th- 18th June 2012

The aim of this workshop was to raise the quality of products produced by businesswomen in Nepal by giving inputs on quality certifications that are benchmarks



Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chairperson, ( third from left ) with Ms. Asha Sridhar-Indian Expert, TUV Nord- India, (first from left), Mr. Horst Ammann- Program Manager- SAARC TPN, (second from left), Mr. Umakant Jha- Chief Guest, Secretary to the Industry Ministry of the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Industry ( third from right ), Ms. Jeewan Prabha Lama- Director General, Food Technology and Quality Control Department, (Second from right), and Ms. Shreejana Rana- Vice Chair of SCWEC, (first from right)



Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chairperson, SCWEC, welcoming the participants of workshop

for quality. Quality management systems were discussed both at the micro level, for SMEs and at the macro level for women representatives as a whole. Women in Nepal have been actively involved in the food sector as SMEs for producing various food products that are widely available in the market today.

The two day workshop had been facilitated by experts from India- Ms. Asha Sridhar, TUV Nord- India, and Nepal- Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Thakur, Director-WTO/TBT, Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology, with a presentation highlighting on the Practicalities of quality improvements and Quality management systems for SMEs in Nepal. More than 40 different SMEs hailing from the hotel industry, restaurant chefs and owners; pickle making, honey producing, organic farming etc. were involved in the workshop.

## “Women of South Asia and Sustainable Development Conference”, 17th-18th July 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal

The SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council (SCWEC) organized the Fourth Annual Conference of SWAN (South Asia Women’s Network) on “Women of South Asia and Sustainable Development” jointly with South Asia Foundation (SAF), Jamia Millia University, and SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council (SCWEC) on 17th and 18th of July, 2012 at Hotel De l’ Annapurna, Durbar Marg Kathmandu Nepal.

The aim of this conference was to bring the women of South Asia together with a focus on developing institutional linkages to share expe-

riences, identify best practices, and work towards issue based collaboration and to prepare a Long Term Sustainable Development Plan for the Women of South Asia, covering all the eight sectors in partnership with Institutions and organizations working in similar areas. The two day conference was attended by more than 60 delegates from nine countries of South Asia.



Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chair- SCWEC (third from left), H.E. Ahmed Saleem, SAARC Secretary General (second from left), Ms. Veena Sikri, Convener of SWAN (fourth from right) during the conference.

### Value Links- Sustainable Value Chain Promotion for SAARC Businesswomen, September 24th-28th, 2012, New Delhi, India

Supply Chain Workshop was held from 24th to 28th Sep 2012 in Delhi, India. Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chair- SCWEC and Ms. Shanti Chadha, SCWEC Nepal EC Member attended the workshop at New Delhi, India. The workshop helped in better understanding of "Strengthening of the supply chain logistics" through case study of products being marketed through different suppliers, manufacturers and supply systems. An expert from Germany was lecturer to the workshop.

### Product Quality Management & Certifications for Businesswomen in Food sector- SCWEC, 6th and 7th October 2012, Bangladesh

A two day Workshop on PRODUCT QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND CERTIFICATION FOR BUSINESSWOMEN IN FOOD SECTOR was held on October 6 & 7, 2012 organized by Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh (WEAB). "The aim of this workshop was to raise the quality of products manufactured by business women in the SAARC region by giving inputs on quality certifications that are benchmarks for quality,"



Chief Guest of Inaugural Session, The Hon'ble Minister for Industries is seen addressing the guests and participants. On his left seen are Mrs Nasreen Fatema Awal Mintoo, Vice Chairperson, SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council (Bangladesh), Mr Jashim Uddin, Vice-President, FBCCI

### 15th International Business Forum, Low Carbon High Growth-Business Models for Changing climate, October 21st to 23rd 2012, Pretoria, South Africa

Ms. Shreejana Rana, SCWEC Vice Chair person (Nepal) and Ms. Shanti Chadha, EC Member SCWEC (Nepal) attended the 15th International Business Forum at Pretoria, South Africa. SCWEC Vice Chairs and EC Members from Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, and Maldives attended the forum. Ms. Rana, on behalf of SCWEC did a presentation on "Impact of Chance and Impetus to Regional Cooperation".

### WORK SHOP ON PRODUCT QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND CERTIFICATION FOR BUSINESS WOMEN IN THE FOOD SECTOR , 29th & 30th November, 2012, Sri Lanka

The workshop on Product Quality Management and Certification for Business Women in the Food Sector of Sri Lanka was organized by the Women's Chamber of Industries in Sri Lanka and was supported by the SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneur's Council.

The aim of the work shop was to promote the raising of the quality of food products manufactured by participating women entrepreneurs, so that their products would be more competitive in the National and International markets. The workshop was of one and a half days duration, and consists of five sessions, where four of the Sessions were dedicated to technical presentations and group work.



Product Quality Management and Certification workshop participants

The Technical presentations were on aspects of Product Quality Management Certification and was expected that the participants would make the best use of the workshop and strive to adopt relevant Product Quality Certification with respect to their Industry.

## Supply Chain Workshop (4th-5th August 2013)

SAWDF organized a two days' workshop on supply chain management on 4th and 5th August 2013 at Hotel De L Annapurna, Kathmandu. It was supported by GIZ, Nepal. The workshop provided opportunity to share and learn about different models of value chain both in Nepal and India. There were all together 32 participants from 24 enterprises representing 18 associations.



Group photo taken at the conclusion of workshop.

Altogether 15 workshops, forums, conferences were organized by SCWEC in coordination with the SCWEC chapters.

## South Asia Women Summit: Lahore, Pakistan

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Collaboration SCWEC, FPCCI, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Board of Investment and in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation organized South Asian Women Summit on 20th March, 2014 in Lahore, Pakistan.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif was the chief Guest of the conference and address the inaugural session. During the Inaugural Session, Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Member National Assembly assumes the responsibility of Chairperson of SCWEC along with Ms. Hina Mansab Khan as Vice Chairperson SCWEC (Pakistan). The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. S. M Munir, Chairman TDAP, Mr. Pervez Malik, Member National Assembly, Mr. Imran Afzal Cheema, Secretary, BOI, Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Chairperson (Elect) SCWEC, Ms. Pramila A. Rijal, Chairperson (Out going) and Mr. Bharat Raj Poudyal, Ambassadors of Nepal to Pakistan.

The inaugural session was followed with Technical session which was chaired



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab (Pak), Mian Muhamamd Shahbaz Sharif while addressing the South Asian Women Summit.

by Mrs. Ayesha Zaheer, Executive Committee Member, SCWEC (Pak) and was address by Ms. Rabia Javery Agha, Secretary Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Ms. Rina Latif, Professional Fashion Designer under the brand Rina Latif (Bangladesh), Ms. Archana Garodia Gupta, Business woman founder, one of India's premier Fashion Jewellery brands and Hon'ble Justice Ms. Shiranee Tilakawardane, Judge of the Supreme Court, Sri Lanka. The remarks of felicitation were offered by Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, Chairperson AHAN, Ms. Saeeda Nazar, Facilitator, Pakistan Women Entrepreneurs Affairs and Ms. Hina Mansab Khan, Vice Chairperson SCWEC (Pakistan) (Elect.).

## Change of Guard at SCWEC:

Mrs. Pramila A. Rijal, Vice Chairperson of SCWEC handed over Chairpersonship of SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneur Council to Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Member National Assembly of Pakistan during South Asian Women Summit by exchanging a medal in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Punjab Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif. On assuming the office of Chairperson SCWEC, Mrs. Malik said Ms. Pramila A. Rijal has set high standards and left no stone unturned in uplifting the Business standards of South Asian women.



Mrs. Pramila A. Rijal, Chairperson, SCWEC (Outgoing) after handing over Chairpersonship of SCWEC to Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik, Chairperson SCWEC (Elect) waving hands to the audience in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab (Pak), Mian Muhamamd Shahbaz Sharif. Others (L-R) Mrs Ayesha Zaheer, former Vice Chairperson SCWEC (Pak), Ms. Rizwana Shahid, Advisor to SCWEC and Ms. Hina Mansab Khan, newly elected Vice Chairperson, SCWEC (Pak) .



SAARC CCI Young  
Entrepreneur's Council  
Activities

## SAARC CCI Youth Convention: “Light Tomorrow with Today”

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in collaboration with Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a Youth Conference under the theme “SAARC CCI Youth Convention: Light Tomorrow with Today” Supported by Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

In Paro, Bhutan, HRH Ashi Sonam Dechen Wangchuck, Hon'ble President, Bhutan National Legal Institute graced the seminar with her presence as the Chief Guest. Mr. Thinley Palden Dorji, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Bhutan) deliver the



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Her Royal Highness Princess of Bhutan, Ms. Sonam Dechan Wang- chuck, during SAARC CCI Youth Convention: “Light Tomorrow with Today” on 21st April 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.

Welcome address while Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI moderated the inaugural session. The seminar was organized with an objective to broaden scope of the SAARC Chamber’s Young Entrepreneurs Forum by inviting the leading personalities from various walks of life who can add value and share their knowledge and expertise and compliment the efforts of the forum towards making SAARC a more vibrant region.

## Young Entrepreneur’s Summit- South Asia (YES-SA) 2013:

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry in collaboration with the Federa-



(L-R) Mr. Samir Thapa, President, NYEF, H.E. MR. Alf Arne Ramslien, Ambassador of Norway in Nepal, Mr. Padma Jyoti, Former President, SAARC CCI, Mr Lila Mani Paudel, Chief Secretary Government of Nepal, Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President of SAARC CCI (Nepal) and Mr. Saurabh Jyoti, Chairman SCYEF.

tion of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) and Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs forum (NYEF) organized Young Entrepreneur’s Summit- South Asia (YES-SA) 2013, under the theme “Engine of the nation” on 19th-21st September 2013 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Aimed at sharing best corporate strategies and empowering positive business thinking, the Summit was organised in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation: fur die freiheit, Regional Directorate, New Delhi. The summit provide youth of South Asia, a platform to create network, exchange of information, share knowledge on best business practices and ethics in view of changes taking place across the world and South Asia.

A 3-day Summit commenced with inaugural session held in the evening of 19th September inaugurated by Chief Guest, Mr Lila Mani Paudel, Chief Secretary Government of Nepal. Mr. Saurabh Jyoti, Chairperson SYEF, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President SAARC CCI (Nepal), Mr. Suraj Vaidya , President, FNCCI, Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President , SAARC CCI, H.E. Mr. Alf Arne Ramslien, Ambassador of Norway in Nepal. Prior to that an introductory video presentation entitled “Chariots of Fire” was made to enthuse the spark of innovation and entrepreneurship followed by welcome remarks of Mr. Samir Thapa, President, NYEF.

The inaugural session was followed by technical sessions held in next two days. The event succeeded in bringing together more than four hundred young entrepreneurs from Nepal and across South Asian region, diplomats and journalists.

## 3rd SAARC CCI Young Entrepreneur’s Summit

Inspired by overwhelming success of the 1st and the 2nd South Asian Young Entrepreneurs Forum (SYEF) held in Kathmandu in 2012 and 2013, the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & industry (SAARC CCI) organized the 3rd Edition of SYEF (1st in Pakistan) under the theme of “Youth in Asian Century: Making a Global Niche” in collaboration with the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) in partnership with Friedrich Naumann Foundation: fur die freiheit on Feb-



February 14-15, 2014 at Lahore- the socio-culture and commercial hub of Pakistan.

The forum was an initiative to bring together young business professionals and leaders from various business sectors of South Asian countries and aims at fabricating a new league of young business leaders from the region that are equipped with the knowledge and ability to meet the challenges of the dynamic business world.



*Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Governor Punjab, Pakistan.*

Hon'ble Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Governor of Punjab inaugurated the conference as Chief Guest of Forum. Hon'ble Engr. Khurram Dastagir, Minister for Commerce & Textiles, Pakistan also grace the event as special guest and address the inaugural session. The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Saurabh Jyoti, Chairman, SCYEF, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President, Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Former President, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal) and Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Bader, Vice Chairman SYEF (Pakistan). The inaugural session concluded with Fashion show and dinner.

The second day of the conference, four session including the valedictory session were held, which was addressed by the prominent businessmen and Youth of South Asia. The conference succeeded in bringing the a sizeable participation of youth from Pakistan and across the region. The conference concluded with gala dinner hosted by Federation of Pakistan chambers of Commerce & Industry.





SAARC CCI Meetings  
(EC & GA)

## The 54th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 54th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI was held in Delhi on January 24, 2012 under the chair of newly elected President of SAARC CCI, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney.

While chairing the meeting Mr. Sahney presented a detailed policy statement for the year 2012-13, which included improving linkage between SAARC CCI and SAARC Secretariat, Institutional Capacity-building of SAARC CCI, SAARC CCI Representation in SAARC Ministerial and Summit Level, Liberal Visa Regime in South Asia, Business promotion model to enhance economic cooperation in South Asia, Sectoral initiatives for Promotion of Joint Ventures in mutually interested areas, Encouraging people-to-people interaction through socio-cultural and business delegations, Image building of SAARC CCI as a true consultative body to SAARC on economic issues, Transformation of SAARC CCI into R&D Based institution, Encouragement and Promotion of Membership, Global outreach Strategy for



*Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI while delivering his policy statement.*

Striking new partnerships with International Organizations and Funds generation mechanism for SAARC CCI Headquarters Building. The house highly appreciated the policy statement. He also complimented the outgoing Executive Committee Members of SAARC CCI under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Annisul Huq for their dedicated efforts to make SAARC CCI a more efficient organization. He stated that the overwhelming success of SAARC CCI Youth Convention "LEAD 2012", held in Dhaka in January 2012, the 4th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave held in September 2011 and the Term Report of SAARC CCI 2010- 2011 were very strong evidences that SAARC CCI remained very active during the Presidency of Mr. Annisul Huq. He highly appreciated Mr. Huq and his team of young and dynamic Vice Presidents, EC members, SAARC Chamber's Secretariat and its focal points in all National Chambers/Federation for their contribution. At the occasion, Mr. Sahney also announced for establishing Women Empowerment Centre in all SAARC countries to be funded by Sun International Pvt., Ltd. which would not only offer different vocational training courses but also help creating employment opportunities for women.

## The 55th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 55th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on 21st April 2012 in Paro, Bhutan under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI. Snr Vice President Mr. Ahmed Mujuthaba and Vice Presidents including Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik (Pakistan), Mr. Pradeep Ku-

mar Shrestha (Nepal) and Mr. Thinley Palden Dorji, (Bhutan) and Secretary General, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, were also present during the meeting. The main agenda items of the meeting included mechanism for broadening the scope of representation for the Private Sector in SAARC CCI, mechanism regarding fund generation for managing day to day affairs of SAARC CCI, adoption of LEADS forum as an



*(L-R) Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI.*

annual event of SAARC CCI, Constitution of Steering Committee for 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave and Formation of Committee on promotion of "Made in SAARC Exhibition".

## The 56th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 56th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on 13th July 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka under the Chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI. At this occasion, SAARC CCI Immediate Past President Mr. Annisul Huq and former President Mr. Tariq Sayeed were also present. Other respected members including SAARC CCI Vice Presidents Mr. Mahendra Pramar, (India), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik (Pakistan), Mr. Kosala



*Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General and Mr. Tariq Sayeed, former President of SAARC CCI*

Wikramnayake (Sri Lanka) and Secretary General, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, were also present in the meeting. The house unanimously approved the minutes of last Executive Committee Meeting held in Paro, Bhutan. The major agenda items discussed during 56th EC meeting include strategy to activate SAARC CCI councils and amendment in the SAARC CCI constitution clause regarding Associate Membership. During the meeting Hon'ble Mr. S. J. B. Madhukar Rana, Former Finance Minister of Nepal also made a presentation on role of SAARC CCI in Changing Global Scenario.

### The 57th Executive Committee Meeting and 18th General Assembly of SAARC CCI

The 57th Executive Committee Meeting and 18th General Assembly of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) was held in joint session on 21st April 2013 at Kathmandu, Nepal under the Chairmanship of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney.

President SAARC CCI appreciated the management of the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry for hosting the meeting and also thanked Mr. Suraj Vaidya for extending very warm hospitality to the delegates. To broaden



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI is chairing the joint session of 57th Executive Committee and 18th General Assembly on April 21, 2013 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Other (L-R) includes, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal), Dasho Ugen Tsechup Dorji, President Bhutan CCI and former President SAARC CCI, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General and Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President SAARC CCI are seen in the photograph.

the scope of representation of the private sector, the General Assembly of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) approved the amendment in the constitution, which would allow national level chambers/confederations/business associations other than the founder member federations/National Chambers from South Asian countries to join SAARC CCI as member organizations.

The General Assembly also endorsed other several decisions of the Executive Committee as a constitutional requirement, including approval of activity report and audited accounts, annual calendar of activities, formation of Council on Intellectual Property Rights and Patron/Life members applications.

More than 50 members (except Maldives) from South Asian countries including Mr. Jashimuddin (Bangladesh CCI), Mr. Thinly Palden Dorji (Bhutan), Mr. Mahendra Parmar (India), Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha (Nepal), Vice Presidents of SAARC CCI Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik (Pakistan) and Former President SAARC CCI from Bangladesh Mr. Annisul Huq and Dasho Ugen Tsechup Dorji, former President of SAARC CCI from Bhutan and current President of Bhutan CCI and Mr. Azrahsh Hafezi, Chairman International Committee of ACCI (Afghanistan) also attended the

meeting.

### The 58th Executive Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 58th Executive Meeting of SAARC CCI held in Male, Maldives on August 17, 2013 under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI. Hon'ble Trade and Tourism Ministers of Maldives also grace the occasion with their presence and addressed the members. Trade and Tourism Ministers of Maldives have urged for tangible and result-oriented measures to spur up the economic integration process in South Asia and to move SAFTA at required pace. Hon'ble Mohammad Ahmed, Trade Minister of Maldives suggested for action-oriented public-private partnership model to unleash the true potential and strengthen the regional mechanism. He invited



(L-R) Mr. Kosala Wickramanayke, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka), Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Hon'ble Mohammad Ahmed, Trade Minister of Maldives and Hon'ble Mohammad Adeeb, Tourism Minister of Maldives.

the business leaders from South Asia to take advantage of the open economic policies of Maldives and invest in areas of mutual benefits including renewable energy, tourism, hotels and hospitality industry.

Hon'ble Mohammad Adeeb, tourism Minister informed that tourism was the fastest growing sector of Maldivian economy, projecting arrival of more than 1.0 million tourists in 2013. He identified shortfall of hotels sought FDI in multi-specialty hospitals, while referring Government plan envisioned for Maldives as Health Tourism destination. President SAARC CCI briefed the Maldivian Ministers about role and functioning of the organization and sought their assistance for free movement of business people across South Asia, which was inevitable for promotion of economic cooperation. Immediate former President of SAARC CCI, Mr. Annisul Huq (Bangladesh), Mr. Is-

mail Asif, Vice President Maldives National Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, VP( Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake, VP (Sri Lanka) also presented their view point during interactive session with Maldivian Ministers. Mr. Jashimuddin, Vice President SAARC CCI (Bangladesh) was also present at the occasion.

Including office bearers of SAARC CCI, about 40 representatives from all national Chambers/ Federations Executive Committee Members participated in the 58th Executive Committee Meetings and discussed the future action agenda to help promote regional economic cooperation. The meeting was convened by Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General of SAARC CCI.

## The 59th Executive Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 59th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI held in Delhi, India on 2014 under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI. In addition to incumbent EC Members of SAARC CCI from SAARC countries Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Former President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President, SAARC CCI also attend the meeting.

During the meeting the house appreciated unanimously appraised the overwhelming success of the 5th SAARC Business Leaders 59th Executive Committee Meeting: Conclave, on 16-17th Jan, 2014 in Delhi.

The house highly appreciated President and his team of young and dynamic Vice



(L-R) Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal), Mr. Asif Ismail, Upcoming President, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate former President, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former & Founder President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Mr. Md. JashimUddin (Vice President), Bangladesh .

Presidents, SAARC Chamber's Secretariat officials and its focal points in all National Chambers/ Federations for giving new dimensions to SAARC CCI by bringing all Commerce Ministers of SAARC countries at SAARC chamber Platform. The house unanimously approved the agenda of 58th Executive Committee Meeting held in Male, Maldives. The house also discussed in detail the forthcoming Made in India Show in Lahore, Pakistan, organized by federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry.

Mr.Saurabh Jyoti, Chairman, SAARC Young Entrepreneur Forum and Director, Jyoti Group of Companies (Nepal) & Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bader, Vice Chairman, SYEF (Pakistan) appraised the house about forthcoming SAARC Young Entrepreneurs Summit Schedule in Lahore, Pakistan.

## The 60th Executive Meeting of SAARC CCI

The 59th Executive Committee & 19th General Assembly Meeting of SAARC CCI was held under the chair of Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI

on 19th April 2014 in Bandos Island, Maldives. This was the last Executive Committee & General Assembly Meetings of SAARC CCI under the President of Mr. Sahney. Mr. Sahney, a leading businessman from India while relinquishing his services presented brief report of the activities during his term 2012-13 in the joint session of the 59th and 60th Executive Committee and the 19th General Assembly Meetings.

The Committee while greatly appreciating the performance of the outgoing President, ap-



(L-R) Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Hon'ble Mohammad Adeb, Tourism Minister of Maldives and Mr. Ismail Asif, President (elect), SAARC CCI.

proved term report and the annual audit of SAARC CCI along with endorsement of other important decisions taken in 57th, 58th and 59th Executive by General Assembly. The house also appreciated Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General of SAARC CCI for execution of decisions in constitutional framework and his hard work to successfully steer the functioning of the organisation.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. SAARC CCI delegation from Pakistan was led by former President Tariq Sayeed while Zakria Usman, President FPCCI led 14- members delegation comprising Zubair Ahmed Malik, Immediate Past President FPCCI, Mian Shaukat Ahmed, Snr. Vice President FPCCI and Executive Committee Members i.e. Saifuddin Zoomkawala, Hameed Akhtar Chadda, Fazal Elahi, Shahzada Alam. and Luqman Yehya.

Begum Munawwara Hakum Ali, newly appointed Vice President SAARC CCI led Bangladeshi delegation. Mr. B.K.Bijoria, Mr. Vinod Juneja and Mr. Rakesh Muthra represented India. Dr. Debadi, Dg-FNCCI (Nepal), Tissa Jayaweera newly appointed Vice President and Mr. Kosala Wickramanayake, outgoing Vice President of SAARC CCI represented Sri Lanka while Maldives was represented by Mohammad Rasheed, Vice President, Ismail Noordin and Muhammad Atif.



# Global Partners Activities

## The 7th China South Asia Business Forum (CSABF), June 5-7, 2012

The 7th China South Asia Business Forum was organized under the theme Building Bridges through Socio-Economic Cooperation. The forum was jointly inaugurated by Hon'ble Senior Federal Minister for Commerce, Mr. Makhdum Amin Fahim and Mr. Wang Jinzhen, Vice Chairman of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

The inaugural session of 7th CSABF was also addressed by Hon'ble Mr. Gu Zhaoxi, Vice Governor of the People's Government of Yunnan Province, H.E Mr. Syed Ashrafur Islam, Minister of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives, Bangladesh, Hon'ble Mr. Ahmed Mohamed, Minister of Ministry of Economic Development of Maldives, Hon'ble Mr. Rishard Bathiudeen Sri Lanka Industry & Commerce Minister, Hon'ble Dr. Sahrudin Sahar, Afghan Deputy Minister of Commerce & Industries, Mr. Topgyal Dorji, President Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Mr. Lal Mani Joshi, Secretary of Minister for Commerce and Supplies of Nepal.

In absence of Mr. Vikramajit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI, Mr. Tariq Say-



Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC CCI while addressing 7th China South Asia Business forum.

eed, former President represented South Asian Private Sector. At this occasion, a goodwill message by President SAARC CCI was relayed through Video Conference. Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Md. Jashimuddin, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Bangladesh), Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan), Mr. Kosala Wickramanayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI ( Sri Lanka) also addressed the session.

The inaugural session was followed by two technical sessions i.e. "Innovative Ideas for Trade and Investment between China and South Asia" & "Important breakthroughs in Economic Cooperation between China and South Asia" which were addressed by prominent speakers from South Asian countries and China. The Business Forum was attended by top Chinese leadership of Yunnan province and dignitaries of South Asian countries.

## 3rd Sichuan-South Asia Business Promotion Seminar

The 3rd Sichuan- South Asia Business Promotion Seminar under the theme of "Reach Consensus and Take Golden Opportunities" --Industrial Transfer and

Trade Investment, was held in Chengdu City of Sichuan Province of the People's Republic of China. In absence of Mr. Vikramajit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President represented the South Asian Business Community who addressed the inaugural session along with Deputy Governor. The seminar was addressed by Ambassadors of Bangladesh, Nepal and Maldives, diplomatic corps representatives from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. President FNCCI, President and Vice Presi-



(L-R) Mr. Vikramajit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Hon'ble Mohammad Adeb, Tourism Minister of Maldives and Mr. Ismail Asif, President (elect), SAARC CCI.

dent FPCCI, Director FICCI, FBCCI and representatives from MNCCI also addressed the session, which was moderated by Secretary General, SAARC CCI.

## SAARC CCI Sign MOU with CACCI

During the 26th CACCI Conference, SAARC CCI and CACCI inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), on October 5th, 2012 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The both organizations expressed their willingness to extend coopera-



Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former & Founder President, SAARC CCI, presents SAARC CCI Official crest to CACCI President Amb. Benedicto Yujuico on the occasion of signing MoU. (L) Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President SAARC CCI (Nepal) and Mr. Suraj Vaidya, President, FNCCI also present at the occasion.

tion to promote economic cooperation including exchange of trade delegations, participation in conferences, exhibitions and business related activities and exchange of information



about trade, economy and investment on reciprocal basis. Mr. Tariq Sayeed, former President signed MoU in behalf of President Vikramjit Singh Sahney and Executive Committee of SAARC CCI with President CACCI Amb. Benedicto Yujuico.

## 5th South Asia Economic Summit 2012

The 5th South Asia Economic Summit 2012 was recently concluded in Islamabad which framed the recommendations for the 18th Summit of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), to be held in Nepal. The Summit was inaugurated by Syed Naveed Qamar, the Hon'ble Federal Minister of Defense, Govt of Pakistan. The inaugural session was also addressed by Hon'ble Jairam Ramesh, Minister for Rural Development, Govt of India, Hon'ble Sham L. Bathija, Minister Senior Adviser for Economic Affairs to the President of Afghanistan,



(L-R) Hon'ble Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Govt of Pakistan, Mr. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh, Mr. Annisul Huq, Past President SAARC CCI (Bangladesh) and Mr. Nihal Rodrigo, Former Secretary General SAARC at the Valedictory session of the Summit.

Hon'ble Rajiva Wijesinha, Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka, Mr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister, Bangladesh and Mr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada, Governor Central Bank of Nepal.

The Economic Summit was organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) a think-tank in Islamabad, Pakistan. The Summit attracted 150 delegates from across the region including 114 speakers, celebrated personalities from the region including ministers, economists and civil society members and focused on issues relating to South Asia economic outlook, impacts of global financial crisis, regional trade, energy cooperation, transport connectivity, women empowerment, engaging youth and Diaspora for economic growth. The SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry was actively involved in the Economic Summit and hosted a dinner and musical evening in honour of the delegates. Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President SAARC CCI, addressed the valedictory session, whereas Mr. Iftikhar Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan) while delivering special remarks at the gala dinner. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal) addressed the session on "Regional Trade in Agriculture: Prospects for South Asia" and Mr. Thinley Palden Dorji, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Bhutan), addressed the session on "Transport & Logistics Corridors: South Asian Outlook". The sessions were also addressed by Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, President FPCCI (Pakistan), chaired the session on "Potential Supply Chains in South Asia: Identification & Prospects" while Mr. Iqbal Tabish presented paper on Competition policies in South Asia and Consumer rights.

The Summit underlined the importance of setting up of SA Commission on Environment, a Social Accountability Framework for Saarc as a regional organisation and agreements under Saarc summits, convergence of regional trade agreements towards norms agreed in SAFTA, increasing the capacity of institutions that can operationalise SAFTA, conventions on migration to protect the rights of migrants across SA and setting up of national commissions to expediently address in-country constraints to connectivity which includes infrastructure, management and su-

pervision in order to moving towards inclusive and sustainable in South Asia. The SDPI summit, which brings together the largest gathering of experts from the region is therefore an excellent effort from the region, is therefore an excellent effort to give policy input in multiple areas.

## World Intellectual Property Day Celebrations - 2013

Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights "Creativity - The Next Generation" To commemorate World Intellectual Property Rights Day, the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) in collaboration with Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) organised a seminar under the theme of "Creativity – the next generation" on Friday, the 26th April, 2013 in the Conference Hall of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Islamabad.



Mr. Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry presenting official crest to Director General IPO-Pakistan Mr. Tarik Feroze at the occasion of seminar.

The objective of the seminar was to create awareness amongst the business community about IPR issues and to enlighten them challenged faced by South Asian countries pertaining to Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Geographical Indications etc.

Renowned experts, public and private sector practitioners like Dr. Arshad Ali, Director General SEECs-NUST and Mr. Muhammad Siddique, Ex-Collector Customs who made presentations on "Experience in Introducing IP course for university students" and "Role of Pakistan Customs in Enforcement of IPRs" respectively. Prior to that Mr. Muhammad Ismail, Deputy Director (PBR/SME) made presentation on IP Management in Pakistan: Theme of the Year "Creativity the Next Generation" followed by presentation made by Ms. Nadia Shah, Deputy Director (Law) on "Trademark and Geographical Indications as Economic

Tools for Business Development". Mr. Ismail also shared the Message of Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan in pretext of the World IPR Day.

The seminar was attended by approximately 100 participants from various walks of life predominantly by Private Sector representatives.

## 8th China-South Asia Business Forum (CSABF)

The 8th China-South Asia Business Forum (CSABF) organized by China Centre for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Yunnan Province of PRC in collaboration with SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry on 6th June 2013 at Kunming city of the Yunnan Province of China.

H.E. Mr. Li Jiheng, Governor of Yunnan Province, Inaugurated the forum which was also addressed by H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), H.E. Khalid Masood, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Founder and former President of SAARC CCI Mr. Tariq



(L-R) Ms. Tan Yun, Vice Secretary General of CCPIT, Yunnan Sub-Council, Mr. Macky Hashim, Former President. SAARC CCI, Mr. Wang Kailiang, Chairman of CCPIT, Yunnan Sub-Council, Mr. Yu Ping, Vice Chairman of CCPIT, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former & Founder President of SAARC CCI.

Sayeed, Mr. Macky Hashim, former President of SAARC CCI from Sri Lanka, Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, President FPCCI, Mr. Yu Ping, Vic Chairman, CCPIT (Beijing), Secretary Ministry of Industries and trade, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr. Rafique Ahmed, President of FIEO, India, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI and Mr. Zaki Akram Uddin, President of FBCCI, Bangladesh who chaired the session.

The Leaders from South Asian countries have urged for deeper economic cooperation with People's Republic of China (PRC), stating that China-south Asia economic cooperation would change the Global economic order to add prosperity to global prosperity. Since the creation of this platform in 2006, a visible improvement in trade between China and South Asia has been witnessed, exceeding from \$ 30 billion in 2007 to \$ 93 billion in 2012, which they termed as below potential while comparing it with China's trade with ASEAN, which has crossed \$ 400 billion. They appreciated that the Forum has been instrumental in deepening the cooperation between two great civilizations of the World, which would bounce back as economic power in near future.

## 4th Sichuan-South Asia Business Promotion Seminar

4th Sichuan-South Asia Business Promotion Seminar was organized by Chinese Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Sichuan Council at Chengdu. The seminar was inaugurated by H.E. Gan Lin, Vice Governor of Sichuan Province of the People's Republic of China. Addressing at the inaugural session, H.E said that Sichuan Province is abundant of energy resources and can help South Asian countries to overcome energy crisis." He offered the Private Sector of South Asia to benefit from the experience of power generation and manufacturing enterprises of the province to address energy challenges.



(L-R) Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, President FPCCI, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, SG-SCCI, Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake, VP-SCCI (Sri Lanka).

Mr. Tariq Sayeed, former President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) who led the South Asian business delegation asked the Chinese enterprises to help South Asian countries to develop required infrastructure for power generation stating that the region of South Asian was faced with energy deficit of more than 70,000 MW. The seminar was also addressed by Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, President of the FPCCI (Pakistan), Abdul Hossain Fahim, President ACCI (Afghanistan), Mir Shahabuddin Mohammad, Secretary General FBCCI (Bangladesh), Mr. Atul Shunglu, Deputy Sec. General, FICCI (India), Mr. Ismail Asif, Vice President, MNCCI (Maldives), Mr. Anoop Bhattarai, President NCEC (Nepal), Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake, President IBC and Vice President SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka), H.E. Muhammad Azizul Haque, Ambassador Bangladesh and H.E. Mohammad Rasheed, Ambassador of Maldives. The session was presided over by Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General of SAARC CCI.



Glimpses



(L-R) Muhammad Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI, Mr. Annisul Huq, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President (Elect), SAARC CCI, Hon' ble Anand Sharma, Commerce Minister of India and Mr. R V Kanoria, President, FICCI while Inaugurating SAARC CCI Succession ceremony & South Asian Business Summit, in New Delhi, India.



Mr. Annisul Huq, Outgoing President, SAARC CCI is handing over the flag of SAARC CCI to Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, the newly elected President of SAARC CCI in presence of Hon' ble Anand Sharma, Commerce Minister of India and Mr. R V Kanoria, President, FICCI during SAARC CCI Succession ceremony.



Hon' ble Anand Sharma, Commerce Minister, Govt of India pins emblem of SAARC CCI to newly elected President of SAARC CCI, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney during SAARC CCI Succession ceremony in New Delhi, India.



(L-R) Mr. Shashi Tharoor, Member Parliament, Govt of India, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI (elect), Ms. Shabana Azmi, Bolly wood Actor, during SAARC CCI South Asian Business Summit, in New Delhi, India.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI address the Business Summit in New Delhi, India.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI while presiding the Executive Committee meeting. Others (L-R) includes Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI & Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan) on 21st April, 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



Hon'ble Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuck, Minister for Economic Affairs, Bhutan while greeting with Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President SAARC CCI in presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan Mr. Jigme Thinley, during SAARC CCI conference on "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia" on 22nd April, 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan Mr. Jigme Thinley, while addressing SAARC CCI conference on "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia" on 22nd April, 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President SAARC CCI presenting official crest to Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan Mr. Jigme Thinley during SAARC CCI conference on "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia" on 22nd April, 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President and Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General of SAARC CCI jointly presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister for Power and Energy of Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Her Royal Highness Princess of Bhutan, Ms. Sonam Dechan Wang- chuck, during SAARC CCI Youth Convention: "Light Tomorrow with Today" on 21st April 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



Group Photo taken at the occasion of Youth Convention: "Light Tomorrow with Today" on 21st April 2012, in Paro, Bhutan. (L-R) Mr. Kinlay Wangchuk, Managing Director, Radio Valley 99.9.FM, Mr. Sau- robh Jyoti, VC- SYEF, Nepal , Ms. Dechhen Pelden, Bhutan, Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Bader, Vice Chairman, SYEF, Pakistan, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President SAARC-CCI (Nepal) Mr. Vikram- jit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Ms. Saba Gul, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Business and Life Skills School (BLISS), Pakistan, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pakistan) and MS Bhutan 2012.



(L-R) Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, Mr Ahmed Mujuthaba, Snr.VP (Maldives), of SAARC CCI during the conference on "Climate Change and Energy Cooperation in South Asia" on 22nd April, 2012, in Paro, Bhutan.



(L-R) Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Hameed Akhter Chadda, GA Member, SAARC CCI and Mr. Malik Sohail Hussain, Chairman, Media & Protocol-FPCCI along other respected members of WPO during their visit to Delhi, India in April, 2012.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI & Mr. Ghulam Ali, Famous Pakistani classical Singer during WPO Pakistan Chapter delegation visit to Delhi, India in April, 2012.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI during the meeting with Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa, Minister of Economic Development, Govt of Sri Lanka during his visit to Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 14 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa, Minister of Economic Development, Govt of Sri Lanka. Mr. Iqbal Tabish Secretary General, SAARC CCI and Mr. Kosala Wikramnayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka) also seen in the picture, on 14 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI at Lightening the Lamp ceremony while inaugurating seminar on "Trade Facilitation in South Asia" in presence of H.E Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister for External Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, former President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President FCCISL & Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President SAARC CCI (Pakistan), on 13 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



SAARC CCI 56th Executive Committee meeting held under the Chair of President, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney: (L-R) Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President FCCISL, Mr. Kosala Wikramnayake, Vice President (Sri Lanka), Mr. Annisul Huq Immediate Past President, Mr. Vikramjit S. Singh, President, Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President and Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Mahendra Parmar, Vice President (India) of SAARC CCI, on 13 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



(L-R) Mr. Kosala Wikramnayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka), Hon'ble SJB Rana, Former Finance Minister, Govt of Nepal, Mr. Vikramjit S. Singh, President, SAARC CCI, H.E Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister for External Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr. Kumar Mallimaratchi, President FCCISL, Mr. Subodh Kumar, Ex-ecutives Programmes, FNF, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, & Mr. Annisul Huq Former Presidents of SAARC CCI during the inaugural session of the seminar on "Trade Facilitation in South Asia" on 13th July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President SAARC CCI while delivering his keynote address at the inaugural session of the seminar on "Trade Facilitation in South Asia" on 13 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI while presenting SAARC CCI official crest to H.E Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister for External Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka & Chief Guest of Seminar in presence of H.E SJB Madhukar Rana, Former Finance Minister of Nepal (left) and Mr. Jayarathan Herath, Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Sri Lanka (Right) during seminar on "Trade Facilitation in South Asia" on 13 July, 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



R-L) Ms. Fathimath Dhiyana Saeed, SG SAARC, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI and Mr. Kosala Wikramnayake, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Sri Lanka).



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI recent publication to Mr Gireesh B Pradhan, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, during its launching ceremony. Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President of SAARC CCI were also present at the occasion, The launching ceremony was took place at the conclusion of seminar on "Energy Cooperation in South Asia: Commitments & New dimensions" on November 24, 2012, in New Delhi, India.



(L-R) H E, Mr. Rev Harris Majeka, High Commissioner of South Africa; Mr Bishnu Prasad Lamsal, Minister Economic, Embassy of Nepal; Mr Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Dr Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General of SAARC; Mr R V Kanoria, President, FICCI; Mr Sudhir Vyas, Secretary (E R), MEA; H E Mr. Prasad Kariya wasam, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka; H E Mr Salman Bashir, High Commissioner of Pakistan; Mr Mohammad Monirul Islam, Counselor - Political, Bangladesh High Commission and H E Major General V Namgyel, Ambassador of Bhutan during "SAARC Charter Day 2012" celebration on 8th December 2012, at Hotel Taj Mansingh road, New Delhi, India.



Mr Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting bouquet to Mr. Md. Ghulam Hussain Commerce Secretary of Bangladesh, during a seminar in FICCI.



(L-R) Mr Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Md. Ghulam Hussain Commerce Secretary of Bangladesh, Dr Rajiv Kumar, Secretary General, FICCI, Mr Shiv Shankar Mukherjee, Advisor, FICCI, during a seminar in FICCI.



Group photo of the women chefs participants of the contest from Nepal, with H.E Mr. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI and Mrs. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chairperson, SCWEC.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting a SAARC CCI publication to Hon'ble Finance Minister, Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Govt of Bangladesh during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.



(3rd from L-R) Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry addressing at the session "SAARC Ministers' Panel - Forging Enduring Ties" during FICCI Frames in New Delhi, India.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting a SAARC CCI publication to Mr. Omar Zakhilwal, Finance Minister and Chief Economic Advisor, Govt of Afghanistan, during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.





Mr. Vikramit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI publication to Hon'ble Mr. Shankar Prasad Koirala, Finance Minister, Govt of Nepal, during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.



Mr. Vikramit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI publication to Hon'ble Chidambaram Palaniappan, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.



Mr. Vikramit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI publication to Hon'ble Finance Minister, Mr. Abdulla Jihad, Govt of Maldives, during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.



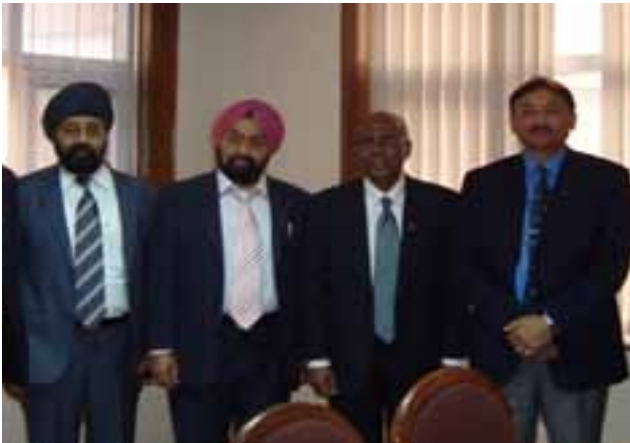
Mr. Vikramit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI publication to Dr. Sarath Leelananda Bandara Amunugama, Former Cabinet Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs and Former Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning, during SAARC Finance Minister Meeting on 3rd May 2013, New Delhi, India.



Ms. Shazia Khushk, Singer from Pakistan and Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President While performing at the cultural night organized in honor Indian delegation visit to Pakistan.



Group photo of Pakistani Businessman Delegation with Mr. Shahid Malik, High Commissioner of Pakistan In India, Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Secretary General, FICCI, Mr. Vikramjit Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former President, SAARC CCI and Shri Arvind Mehta, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Govt. of India.



SAARC CCI delegation group-photo taken on the occasion of call on to H.E. Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General of SAARC. (L-R) Mr. Satinder Singh Banga, General Assembly Member (India), SAARC CCI, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Sharestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal).



Senior Federal Minister for Commerce, Makhdoom Amin Fahim and Indian Commerce Minister Shri Anand Sharma witnessing at the signing ceremony of three Trade Agreements on Customs Operation, Mutual Recognition Agreement and Agreement on Redressal of Trade Grievances between India and Pakistan in Islamabad.



The 58th Executive Committee Meeting of SAARC CCI at HIH, Maldives. (L-R) Mr. Kosala Wikramanayake, Vice President (Sri Lanka), Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal), Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President (Pakistan), Mr. Annisul Haq, Former President, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Hon'ble Mohammad Ahmed, Trade Minister of Maldives, Hon'ble Mohamad Adeb, Tourism Minister of Maldives, Mr. Hamid Ismail, President, MNCCI.



Group Photo taken at the conclusion of 58th Executive Committee Meeting held in HIH, Maldives.



L-R: Mr. Naeem Anwar, Minister – Trade, HCP; Mr Gulzar Firoz, VP, FPCCI; Mr Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI and Senior FICCI Executive Committee member; Mr Zubair Ahmed Malik, President, FPCCI and Mr Arvind Mehta, Joint Secretary, MCI, Government of India during FPCCI delegation visit to India.



Recalling Memories: President SAARC CCI presents a set of photographs taken with Mian Nawaz Sharif in late 90s.



Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Governor Punjab, Pakistan. Hon'ble Federal Minister for Commerce, Khurram Dastagir, was also present at the occasion.



H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, presenting a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Former President SAARC CCI in presence of Mr. Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President SAARC CCI, during 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave, on 16-17th Jan, 2014, in New Delhi, India



H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, presenting a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Former & Founder President of SAARC CCI in presence of Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC, Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, during 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave, on 16-17th Jan, 2014, in New Delhi, India



H.E Ahmed Saleem, Secretary General, SAARC, presenting a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Padma Jyoti, Former President of SAARC CCI in presence of Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Past President, SAARC, Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, SAARC CCI & Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Nepal), during 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave, on 16-17th Jan, 2014, in New Delhi, India



(L-R) Mr. Syed Yawar Ali, Chairman, Nestle Pakistan and former CEO, Lahore Electricity Supply Corporation, Mr Sunil Munjal, Chairman, Hero Corporate Services, India, Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, President, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha, Vice President (Nepal), Mr. Mahendra Parmar, Vice President (India), Mr. Annisul Huq, Immediate Former President, Mr. Asif Ismail, Upcoming President of SAARC CCI, during 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave, on 16-17th Jan, 2014, in New Delhi, India



Mr. Suhas Gopinath, Chairman & CEO, Global Inc, Ms. Sadichha Shrestha, Miss Nepal 2010, Ruby Dhalla, a Canadian Politician, Ms. Kamila Siddiqi, CEO Kaweyan Business, Afghanistan, Mr. Saurabh Jyoti, Chairman, SYEF, Director, Jyoti Group, Nepal, Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bader, CEO, 5 Mangoz, Pakistan, during 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave, on 16-17th Jan,



(L-R) Mr. Vikramjit Sing Sahney, President, SAARC CCI, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab, Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Hon'ble Federal Minister for Commerce Engineer Khurram Dastagir, Mr. Tariq Sayeed, Founder and Former President of SAARC CCI during 3rd SAARC CCI Young Entrepreneur's Summit on 14-15th February, 2014, Lahore, Pakistan.



*Mr. Vikramjit S. Sahney, President, SAARC CCI presenting SAARC CCI official crest to Hon'ble Khurram Dastagir, Federal Minister for Commerce, Govt of Pakistan in presence of (L-R) Mr. Iftikhar Ali Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI(Pakistan) and Mr. Saurav Jyoti, Chairman SYEF, during 3rd SAARC CCI Young Entrepreneur's Summit on 14-15th February, 2014, Lahore, Pakistan.*



*Group photo taken on the occasion of SCWEC delegates calls on to Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Acting Governor of Punjab and Speaker Punjab Assembly, Govt of Pakistan. Mr. Iftikhar A. Malik, Vice President, SAARC CCI (Pak) was also present at the occasion of "South Asian Women Summit, on 20th March, 2014, in Lahore, Karachi.*

# Financial Report

**Amir Alam Khan & Co.**  
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

**SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2013**

**Amir Alam Khan & Co.**

**Chartered Accountants**

55/1, Bank Road, Rawalpindi

Tele: 5563483, 5563256

Fax : 5517358

E-mail: aakco@hotmail.com

**AUDITORS' REPORT TO MEMBERS**

We have audited the annexed balance sheet of the **SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (HEAD QUARTERS)** as at December 31, 2013, the related income and expenditure account and cash flow statement together with the notes forming part thereof (here-in-after referred to as the financial statements for the year then ended).

It is the responsibility of the management to establish and maintain a system of internal control, and prepare and present the financial statements in conformity with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position, of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Head Quarters) as at December 31, 2013 and of its surplus and cash flow for the year then ended.

Rawalpindi,  
April 10, 2014

*Amir Alam Khan*

Amir Alam Khan & Co.

Chartered Accountants

Habib Fakhruddin



**SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31,2013**

	Note	2013		2012	
		(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>FUNDS AND LIABILITIES</b>					
General fund	3	48,149,976	457,917	39,231,247	404,863
Research and development fund	4	831,780	7,910	631,780	6,584
Donation for capital expenditure	5	137,166	1,304	155,942	1,609
		<u>49,118,922</u>	<u>467,131</u>	<u>40,218,969</u>	<u>415,058</u>
<b>TRUST CORPUS</b>	6	<b>179,215,826</b>	<b>1,704,383</b>	<b>167,878,758</b>	<b>1,732,495</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Trade and other payables		1,048,640	9,973	882,520	7,044
		<u>229,383,388</u>	<u>2,181,487</u>	<u>208,780,247</u>	<u>2,154,595</u>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Property, plant and equipment	7	16,470,561	156,639	17,161,468	177,105
Capital work in progress - Building		28,665,951	272,620	28,665,951	295,830
Long term security deposits	8	95,000	903	95,000	980
Long term staff advances	9	2,850,000	27,104	3,600,000	37,152
		<u>48,081,512</u>	<u>457,267</u>	<u>49,522,419</u>	<u>511,067</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Short term investment	10	-	-	135,000,000	1,393,190
Advances	11	2,537,040	24,128	889,000	9,174
Prepayments		743,000	7,066	630,000	6,502
Receivables	12	8,664,283	82,398	5,378,917	55,489
Cash and bank balances	13	189,357,553	1,810,829	17,361,910	179,173
		<u>181,301,876</u>	<u>1,724,221</u>	<u>159,257,827</u>	<u>1,643,528</u>
		<u>229,383,388</u>	<u>2,181,487</u>	<u>208,780,247</u>	<u>2,154,595</u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Islamabad.

  
SECRETARY GENERAL

  
CHIEF ACCOUNTANT





**SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

	Note	2013		2012	
		(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTION</b>					
FBCCI		556,250	6,250	605,625	6,250
BCCI		266,020	2,500	239,750	2,500
FICCI		1,378,125	13,125	1,271,813	13,125
MNCCI		262,500	2,500	242,250	2,500
FNCCI		656,250	6,250	605,625	6,250
FPCCI		1,378,125	13,125	1,271,813	13,125
FCCI/SL		656,250	6,250	605,625	6,250
ACCI		245,000	2,500	240,625	2,500
		<u>5,498,520</u>	<u>52,500</u>	<u>5,083,126</u>	<u>52,500</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	14	<u>17,088,685</u>	<u>169,615</u>	<u>22,520,914</u>	<u>243,208</u>
		<u>22,587,205</u>	<u>222,115</u>	<u>27,604,040</u>	<u>295,708</u>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>	15	<u>(13,627,332)</u>	<u>(135,090)</u>	<u>(13,942,966)</u>	<u>(150,165)</u>
<b>FINANCIAL CHARGES - BANK CHARGES</b>	16	<u>(41,144)</u>	<u>(408)</u>	<u>(168,863)</u>	<u>(1,807)</u>
		<u><u>8,918,729</u></u>	<u><u>85,617</u></u>	<u><u>13,492,211</u></u>	<u><u>143,714</u></u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Islamabad,

  
 SECRETARY GENERAL

  
 CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

**SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

	2013		2012	
	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Surplus for the year	7,660,707	74,130	12,532,043	143,715
Adjustment for non cash items:				
Depreciation	406,155	3,863	808,246	8,341
Financial charges	41,144	408	168,863	1,807
(Loss) on sale of disposal	(658,774)	(6,519)	-	-
Net cash generated from operations before working capital changes	7,451,232	71,882	13,509,152	153,863
Adjustments for changes in working capital and others:				
(Increase) \ decrease in current assets				
Advances	(1,648,040)	(14,954)	525,000	6,607
Prepayments	(113,000)	(564)	(35,000)	139
Receivables	(3,287,366)	(26,909)	(2,410,510)	(22,382)
Increase \ (decrease) in current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	366,120	2,929	74,299	256
Cash generated from operations	2,768,946	32,384	11,662,941	138,483
Financial charges paid	(41,144)	(408)	(168,863)	(1,807)
Net cash generated from operating activities	2,727,802	31,976	11,494,078	136,676
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Property, plant and equipment	(2,250)	(21)	(2,296,939)	(23,704)
Short term investments	135,000,000	1,393,190	(22,000,000)	(132,028)
Long term staff advances	750,000	10,048	600,000	9,723
Sale proceed	925,000	8,797	-	-
Net cash generated from / (used in) investing activities	136,672,750	1,412,014	(23,696,939)	(146,009)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Proceeds from trust corpus	11,337,068	(28,112)	11,646,120	(11,042)
Net cash generated from financing activities	11,337,068	(28,112)	11,646,120	(11,042)
<b>NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>				
	150,737,621	1,415,878	(556,741)	(20,376)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>				
	17,361,910	179,173	16,958,484	189,269
Effect of foreign currency exchange gain on cash and cash equivalents	1,258,022	15,578	960,168	10,280
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR</b>				
	169,357,553	1,610,629	17,361,910	179,173

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements

Islamabad,

  
SECRETARY GENERAL

  
CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

**SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

**1. THE CHAMBER AND ITS OPERATION**

SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (the Organization) was formed on December 20, 1988 and was given final recognition at SAARC Standing Committees' Seventeenth session held in Dhaka during 7-9 December, 1992. It is a non-trading organization providing services to its members in the field of commerce and industry and promoting intra-regional trade between the member countries.

**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are summarized below :-

**2.1 ACCOUNTING CONVENTION**

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**2.2 BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Companies Ordinance, 1984 and approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan in all material respects. Approved accounting standards comprise of such International Accounting Standards as notified under the provisions of Companies Ordinance, 1984. Wherever, the requirements of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 or directives issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan differ with the requirements of these standards, the requirements of Companies Ordinance, 1984 or the requirements of the said directives take precedence.

**2.3 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

These are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation except for land. Depreciation is charged to income by applying the reducing balance method at the rates varying from 10 per cent to 30 per cent. Full year depreciation is charged on additions while no depreciation is charged on deletions during the year.

Maintenance and repairs are charged to income. Major renewals and improvements are capitalized. Gains and losses on disposals, if any, are included in income currently.

**2.4 INVESTMENTS**

Investments are classified as held to maturity, which are securities with a fixed maturity that the Organization has the intent and ability to hold until maturity.

**2.5 GRANT FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Grants utilized for capital expenditure are depreciated on reducing balance method, using rates applied to assets for which they are utilized, to offset the depreciation charged on assets constructed or purchased from such grants.

**2.6 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

Liabilities of trade and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in future for goods and services received.

**2.7 REVENUE RECOGNITION**

Members' subscription is accounted for on accrual basis.

**2.8 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATIONS**

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into rupees at the rates of exchange prevailing on the date of transaction. All assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences, if any, are reflected in the profit and loss account for the year.

*LA*

	2013		2012	
	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>3. GENERAL FUND</b>				
Opening balance	39,231,247	373,098	25,731,123	265,543
Add: Surplus for the year	8,918,729	84,819	13,492,211	139,238
Rectification of error	-	-	7,913	82
	<u>48,149,976</u>	<u>457,917</u>	<u>39,231,247</u>	<u>404,863</u>

**4. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

This amount is raised for establishing in-house research cell to meet the basic and emerging needs of members and to further develop role of SAARC CCI as a proactive consulting body to SAARC secretariat.

	2013		2012	
	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>5. DONATION FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>				
Friedrich Naumann Stiftung fur die Freiheit	606,500	5,768	606,500	6,259
Less : Accumulated depreciation	(542,761)	(5,162)	(534,495)	(5,516)
	63,739	606	72,005	743
Australian Aid	455,760	4,334	455,780	4,703
Less : Accumulated depreciation	(382,333)	(3,636)	(371,823)	(3,837)
	73,427	698	83,937	866
	<u>137,166</u>	<u>1,304</u>	<u>155,942</u>	<u>1,609</u>

**6. TRUST CORPUS**

This represents amount received from patron, corporate and life members. It is utilized to finance activities of the SAARC chamber as may be decided by the Executive Committee.

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

-----RUPEES-----									
PARTICULARS	COST			R A T E %	DEPRECIATION				WDV
	AS AT JANUARY 01, 2013	ADDITIONS / (DELETIONS)	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2013		AS AT JANUARY 01, 2013	ADJUSTMENT	FOR THE YEAR	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2013	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012
<b>LAND</b>	14,443,530	-	14,443,530	-	-	-	-	-	14,443,530
<b>OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>									
Fax machine	66,650	-	66,650	10	62,154	-	2,450	64,504	22,046
Computer system	753,540	-	753,540	30	610,449	-	42,927	653,376	100,164
Photocopy machine	223,000	-	223,000	10	114,773	-	10,823	126,596	97,404
Mobile phone	36,600	2,250	38,850	30	33,228	-	1,687	34,915	3,935
Other office equipment	848,152	-	848,152	10	453,733	-	39,442	493,175	354,977
<b>FURNITURE &amp; FIXTURE</b>									
Office furniture	464,509	-	464,509	10	312,431	-	15,208	327,539	136,870
Library books	21,672	-	21,672	20	20,153	-	304	20,457	1,215
<b>FNF PROJECT ASSETS</b>									
Computer system	388,600	-	388,600	30	381,274	-	1,598	382,872	3,728
Photocopy machine	219,900	-	219,900	10	153,221	-	6,668	159,889	60,011
<b>AUSAID PROJECT ASSETS</b>									
Computer system	285,360	-	285,360	30	274,775	-	3,176	277,951	7,409
Multimedia projector	170,400	-	170,400	10	97,047	-	7,335	104,382	66,018
<b>VEHICLES</b>									
Motor car	3,348,139	(1,279,000)	2,069,139	20	1,613,345	(1,010,775)	293,314	895,885	1,173,254
<b>2013 - Rupees</b>	<b>21,288,052</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>20,011,302</b>		<b>4,126,584</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>424,932</b>	<b>3,540,741</b>	<b>16,470,561</b>
		<b>(1,279,000)</b>				<b>(1,010,775)</b>			
<b>2012 - Rupees</b>	<b>18,991,113</b>	<b>2,296,939</b>	<b>21,288,052</b>		<b>3,295,959</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>830,625</b>	<b>4,126,584</b>	<b>17,161,468</b>

-----DOLLARS-----									
PARTICULARS	COST			R A T E %	DEPRECIATION				WDV
	AS AT JANUARY 01, 2013	ADDITIONS / (DELETIONS)	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2013		AS AT JANUARY 01, 2013	ADJUSTMENT	FOR THE YEAR	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2013	AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012
<b>LAND</b>	137,361.20	-	137,361	-	-	-	-	-	137,361
<b>OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>									
Fax machine	824	-	824	10	591	-	23	614	210
Computer system	7,166	-	7,166	30	5,806	-	408	6,214	953
Photocopy machine	2,121	-	2,121	10	1,092	-	103	1,194	926
Mobile phone	348	21	369	30	316	-	16	332	37
Other office equipment	8,066	-	8,066	10	4,315	-	375	4,690	3,376
<b>FURNITURE &amp; FIXTURE</b>									
Office furniture	4,418	-	4,418	10	2,971	-	145	3,116	1,302
Library books	206	-	206	20	192	-	3	195	12
<b>FNF PROJECT ASSETS</b>									
Computer system	3,677	-	3,677	30	3,626	-	15	3,641	35
Photocopy machine	2,091	-	2,091	10	1,457	-	63	1,521	571
<b>AUSAID PROJECT ASSETS</b>									
Computer system	2,714	-	2,714	30	2,613	-	30	2,643	70
Multimedia projector	1,621	-	1,621	10	923	-	70	993	628
<b>VEHICLES</b>									
Motor car	31,842	(12,181)	19,678	20	15,343	(9,526)	2,769	8,520	11,158
<b>2013 - Dollars</b>	<b>202,454</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>190,312</b>		<b>39,245</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,041</b>	<b>33,673</b>	<b>156,639</b>
		<b>(12,181)</b>				<b>(9,626)</b>			
<b>2012 - Dollars</b>	<b>195,987</b>	<b>23,704</b>	<b>219,691</b>		<b>34,014</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,572</b>	<b>42,586</b>	<b>177,105</b>

	2013 (Pak Rupees)	2012 (Pak Rupees)
7.1 Depreciation for the year has been allocated as under:		
Grant for capital items		
FNF	8,266	9,692
AusAID	10,511	12,887
Administrative expenses	406,153	808,246
	<u>424,930</u>	<u>830,625</u>

7.2 Asset shown under Friedrich Naumann Stiftung Fur die Freiheit (FNF) project having cost of Rs. 386,600 (2012 - Rs. 386,600) and Rs. 219,900 (2012 - Rs. 219,900) respectively are 100% financed by FNF.

7.3 Asset shown under AusAid project has total cost Rs. 591,700 (2011 - Rs. 569,700) from which 80% Rs. 455,760 (2012 - Rs. 455,760) is borne by AusAid and 20% (Rs. 113,940) born by SAARC CCI.

	2013		2012	
	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>8. LONG TERM SECURITY DEPOSITS</b>				
Utilities	20,000	190	20,000	206
Land lord	75,000	713	75,000	774
	<u>95,000</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>980</u>
<b>9. LONG TERM STAFF ADVANCES</b>				
Total advances	3,450,000	32,810	4,200,000	43,344
Current portion of long term advances	(600,000)	(5,706)	(600,000)	(6,192)
	<u>2,850,000</u>	<u>27,104</u>	<u>3,600,000</u>	<u>37,152</u>

**10. SHORT TERM INVESTMENT**

This represents Term Deposit Receipts in MCB Bank Limited for a period of twelve months and carries mark up rate at 7.00 to 9.00 percent per annum.

	Note	2013		2012	
		(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>11. ADVANCES</b>					
Staff		1,937,040	18,422	289,000	2,982
Current portion of long term advances		600,000	5,706	600,000	6,192
		<u>2,537,040</u>	<u>24,128</u>	<u>889,000</u>	<u>9,174</u>
<b>12. RECEIVABLES</b>					
Membership subscription	12.1	6,718,426	63,893	5,106,632	52,700
Receivable from FNF	12.2	1,945,857	18,505	270,285	2,789
		<u>8,664,283</u>	<u>82,398</u>	<u>5,376,917</u>	<u>55,489</u>
12.1 Membership subscription					
FBCCI		1,312,500	12,482	605,625	6,250
FICCI		1,378,125	13,106	1,271,813	13,125
MNCCI		787,500	7,489	726,750	7,500
FNCCI		1,312,501	12,482	605,625	6,250
FPCCI		1,378,125	13,106	1,271,813	13,125
FCCISL		549,675	5,228	625,006	6,450
		<u>6,718,426</u>	<u>63,893</u>	<u>5,106,632</u>	<u>52,700</u>


	Note	2013		2012	
		(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>12.2 Receivable from FNF</b>					
Opening balance		270,285	2,570	-	-
Seminars/Conferences		11,849,457	112,691	12,599,823	130,029
Web Expenses		78,000	742	307,575	3,174
		<u>12,197,742</u>	<u>116,003</u>	<u>12,907,398</u>	<u>133,203</u>
Less: Claims received from FNF		<u>(10,251,885)</u>	<u>(97,498)</u>	<u>(12,637,113)</u>	<u>(130,414)</u>
		<u>1,945,857</u>	<u>18,505</u>	<u>270,285</u>	<u>2,789</u>
<b>13. CASH AND BANK BALANCES</b>					
Cash in hand		364,214	3,464	42,051	434
In Current account					
Local currency		160,297,987	1,524,470	6,130,281	63,264
Foreign currency		8,695,352	82,695	11,189,578	115,475
		<u>169,357,553</u>	<u>1,610,629</u>	<u>17,361,910</u>	<u>179,173</u>
<b>14. OTHER INCOME</b>					
Interest income - TDR		12,201,761	121,109	16,967,812	183,238
Promotional activities	14.1	496,764	4,931	411,634	4,446
Gain on currency translation		1,258,022	12,487	960,168	10,369
Visa facilitation		28,800	286	194,000	2,095
Bank profit		1,349,460	13,394	2,668,997	28,823
Event income		57,780	573	99,368	1,073
Donation		1,039,304	10,316	1,215,800	13,130
Gain on sale of assets		656,774	6,519	-	-
Miscellaneous income		-	-	3,136	34
		<u>17,088,685</u>	<u>169,815</u>	<u>22,520,914</u>	<u>243,208</u>
<b>14.1 Promotional activities</b>					
Receipts		1,005,154	9,977	506,574	5,471
Cost of publications		(508,390)	(5,046)	(94,940)	(1,025)
		<u>496,764</u>	<u>4,931</u>	<u>411,634</u>	<u>4,446</u>
<b>15. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>					
Staff salaries and benefits		7,808,218	77,501	5,475,163	59,127
SAARC event (Travelling / Accommodation)		2,519,526	25,008	4,514,614	48,754
Office rent		1,125,000	11,166	1,046,000	11,285
Communication		228,701	2,270	222,026	2,398
Electricity		181,389	1,802	370,319	3,999
Gas		53,490	531	68,650	741
Water		35,098	348	54,967	594
Entertainment		231,415	2,297	163,291	1,763
Vehicle running		459,035	4,556	232,510	2,611
Postage and courier		195,940	1,945	207,968	2,246
Travelling and conveyance		28,610	284	42,605	460
Auditor's remuneration		50,000	496	50,000	540
Newspaper and periodicals		15,963	158	16,634	180
Printing and stationary		107,070	1,063	116,411	1,257
Repair and maintenance		104,423	1,036	105,754	1,142
Sanitation expense		97,299	966	97,563	1,054
Mid term report		-	-	351,195	3,793
Depreciation		406,155	3,863	808,246	8,341
		<u>13,627,332</u>	<u>135,090</u>	<u>13,942,966</u>	<u>150,185</u>


	2013		2012	
	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)	(Pak Rupees)	(Equivalent Dollars)
<b>16. FINANCIAL CHARGES - BANK CHARGES</b>				
Bank charges	41,144	408	168,863	1,807
	<u>41,144</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>168,863</u>	<u>1,807</u>

**17. FIGURES**

In these financial statements figures have been rounded off to the nearest rupee and of the previous year have been re-arranged and re-grouped wherever necessary to facilitate comparison.

Islamabad.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Term Report  
2012-2013



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