

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the  
*Austrian Federal Institute for International Transfer of Education and Training  
(BIB)*  
and the  
*Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*

From 9<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2003, the Chairman of the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E. Prof. Dr. ATTA-UR-RAHMAN, visited the Republic of Austria on invitation of the Austrian Federal Minister for Education, Science and Culture, H.E. Mrs. Elisabeth GEHRER. The aim of the visit was to conduct talks about possibilities of cooperation mainly in the fields of education, training, and research. In the course of the visit, talks with representatives of Austrian Universities and competent officials of the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture (BMBWK) were held. Additionally, an exchange of ideas took place with H.E. Mrs. Elisabeth GEHRER.

The visit was carried out in a very cordial atmosphere and included presentations of relevant Austrian University institutes and of respective economic aspects as well as the presentation of the Austrian Federal Institute for International Transfer of Education and Training (BIB). The Austrian side explained the structure and functioning of BIB and submitted appropriate documents.

The Pakistani side expressed its interest in the possibilities of cooperation with the Austrian side and specified the envisaged fields of cooperation as follows:

- information technology (IT): electronic governance, electronic commerce, IT-education, software development and IT-enabled services;
- chemical and pharmaceutical research: with special consideration of the pharmaceutical chemistry;
- biotechnology;
- renewable energy: wind power and solar power;
- technology parks: transfer of know-how for set-up and organization of technology parks;
- engineering science
- specialised technology
- nanoscience
- basic science (physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology)
- other fields of science and technology

Both sides agreed that the aforementioned fields provide adequate opportunities for a cooperation. The Pakistani side agreed that the cooperation will take place on a commercial basis on mutually agreed terms for each project and the Austrian side agreed to nominate suitable cooperation partners within this framework. After receipt of the necessary information from the Pakistani side, the Austrian side agreed to submit an appropriate offer about details of the cooperation to the Pakistani side.

In the framework of the talks, the above mentioned cooperation areas were agreed upon and the following specific modes of cooperation between the Pakistani and the Austrian side were identified:

- cooperation at the university level:
  - Faculty development program in above mentioned areas:  
Exchange of doctoral students and post-doc students from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Republic of Austria. The exchange program shall start in October 2003 and will be financed in total by the Pakistani side. The Austrian side agreed to organize the necessary "infrastructure" (host, monitoring, administration, etc.). The specialization fields of the aforementioned exchange students remain to be agreed upon jointly.

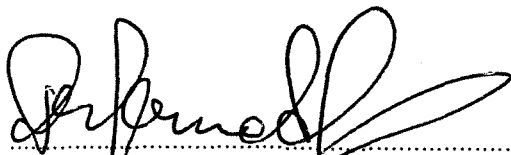
- Institutional linking  
Jointly selected research institutes in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Austria will be linked to perform educational and research programs.
- cooperation in the field of technology:
  - Technician training:  
special courses for bachelor-level staff in the fields of IT;
  - know-how transfer for the set-up of technology parks;
  - citizen card development (Universities pilot project); the appropriate Austrian institute will submit an appropriate offer (project contents / cost / set-up / implementation / time schedule) within a period of two weeks from the date of signing the protocol;
  - CMM-training for companies (software);
  - tele-medicine;
  - GIS-mapping;
  - industry-industry cooperations including training and joint-venture company formation, especially in the field of textiles;

In the framework of the envisaged cooperation between Austrian and Pakistani Universities, an official exchange of letters was agreed between H.E. Mrs. Elisabeth GEHRER and H.E. Prof. Dr. ATTA-UR-RAHMAN.

The present MoU shall be regarded as an integrated part of the aforementioned official exchange of letters.

The Pakistani side expressed their thanks for the very cordial and heartily reception by the Austrian side. Both sides emphasized the fruitful and open atmosphere in the course of the visit.

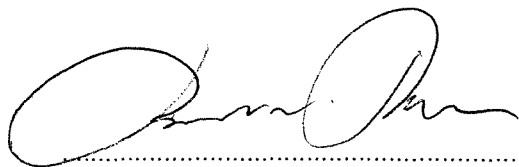
Vienna, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2003



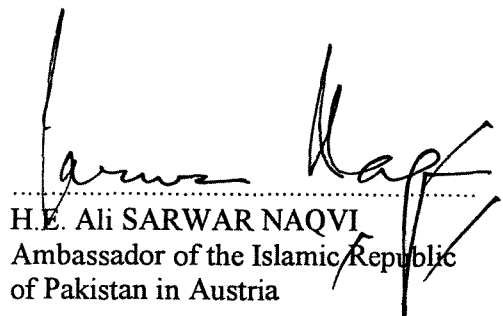
Dr. Gernot GRIMM  
Executive Director of the Austrian  
Federal Institute for International Transfer  
of Education and Training (BIB)



H.E. Prof. Dr. ATTA-UR-RAHMAN  
Chairman of the Higher Education  
Commission of the Islamic Republic  
of Pakistan



Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Bernd M. RODE  
member of the board of the Austrian Federal Institute for  
International Transfer of Education and Training (BIB),  
National Coordinator for Austria of the Asean-  
European University Network (ASEA-UNINET)



H.E. Ali SARWAR NAQVI  
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic  
of Pakistan in Austria