



NEWSLETTER

Embassy Of Pakistan The Hague

January - March 2023



پاکستان - نیدرلینڈ

PAKISTAN - NEDERLAND

Seventy Five Years of Sisterly Relations



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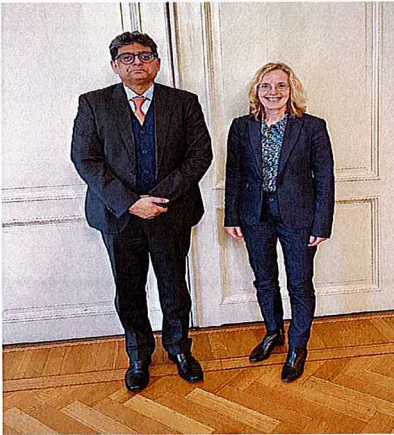
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Meeting with the Dutch Ambassador to Pakistan (08 January)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar met with the Dutch Ambassador to Pakistan Ms. Henny de Vries.

Both the sides discussed further strengthening of bilateral relations and celebrations to mark 75 years of bilateral relations in 2023.



Meeting with Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, VEON (17 January)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar met with Mr. Matthieu Galvani, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, VEON. They both discussed issues of mutual interest. Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar appreciated VEON's investment in Pakistan and urged to further expand their investment and services in Pakistan.

Delegation of the 117th National Management (19 January)

A delegation of 117th National Management Course of National School of Public Policy (NSPP) on a study tour of the Netherlands visited the embassy. The participants were briefed by Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar on various aspects of Pakistan - the Netherlands relations.

They visited Friesland Campina head office. The participants learnt about Engro Corporation's collaboration with the Dutch dairy giant.





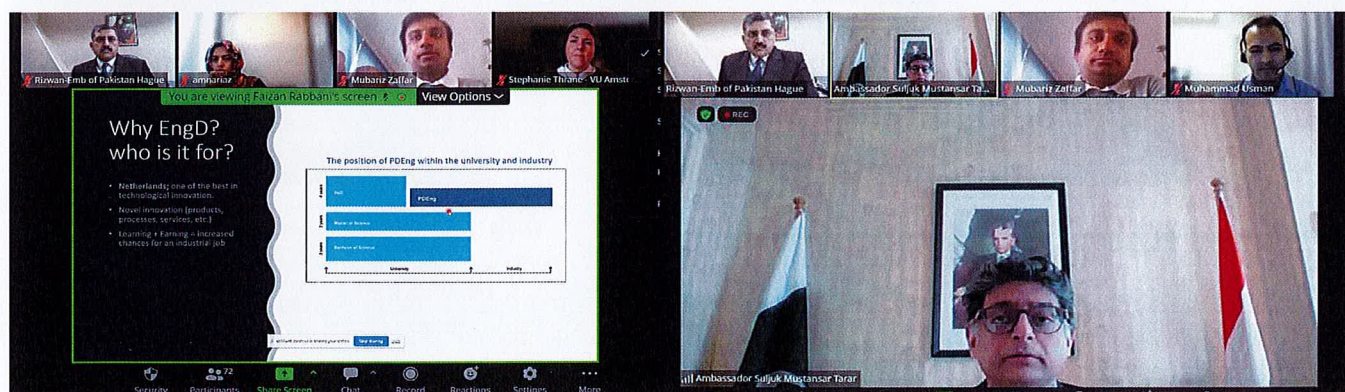
Potato and Horticulture Hybrid Seminar during Horti Expo Lahore (28 January)

A hybrid seminar on potato farming and horticulture was held during Pakistan Horti Expo 2023 which had been organised by Agriculture Department Punjab in Lahore. The seminar was jointly organised by PUM - the Netherlands and Government of the Punjab. Pakistani companies, potato growers and private & public entities from Pakistan attended the event. The Dutch companies and experts of PUM gave detailed presentations on latest technologies to enhance production of potato in Pakistan.

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar and Mrs. Henny Fokel de Vries, Ambassador of the Netherlands to Pakistan, delivered opening statements. Ambassador Henny appreciated this initiative and urged the participants to benefit from the Dutch experience in agriculture technology and help Pakistan in meeting food security challenges.

Ambassador Suljuk acknowledged cooperation extended by the Netherlands in various fields. He urged the Dutch entities to consider growing potato seeds in Pakistan and capitalise on potential of Pakistan's agriculture sector. He also appreciated efforts of Agriculture Department Punjab for synergising efforts of stakeholders through such events. He assured both sides that Embassy shall remain available to extend all kinds of facilitation in this regard.

Presentations were made by PUM experts and representatives of M/s Solynta and M/s Eastman. The panellists answered various queries from the audience. The initiative was much appreciated by the participants.



Webinar to highlight Opportunities for Pakistani Students (01 February)

The Embassy of Pakistan, the Netherlands organized a webinar to highlight opportunities for Pakistani students wanting to pursue PhD and PDEng in the Netherlands. A large number of students from Pakistan registered for the webinar. The speakers included currently enrolled PhD scholars and professionals who made presentations on academic and research opportunities, admission requirements, scholarships, and life of students in the Netherlands.

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar, in his remarks, mentioned opportunities and challenges for Pakistani students in the Netherlands. He outlined Embassy's different initiatives to build capacity and awareness by connecting Pakistani diaspora, Dutch professionals with students and professionals in Pakistan. He thanked the speakers for devoting their time to the initiative which was organized with Pakistani Youth and Students Association in Delft. Ambassador Tarar mentioned that the Embassy would continue its endeavours to organize similar initiative in the future as well.

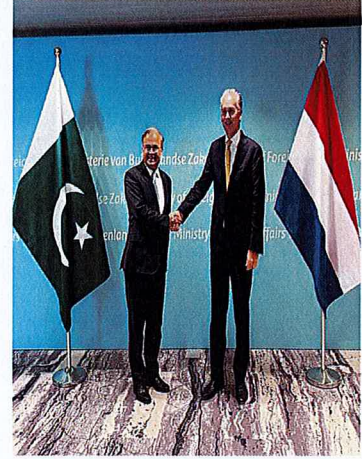


Observance of Kashmir Solidarity Day (05 February)

The Embassy of Pakistan, The Netherlands organized a seminar to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day. The speakers included Ms. Marjan Lucas, Dutch Peace Activist and Former Member of the Dutch Peace Council, Professor Dr. Tahir Abbas Chair of Radicalisation Studies at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs, Leiden University, The Hague, and Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar. The seminar was attended among others by Kashmiri diaspora, academics, students and Dutch participants.

Ms. Marjan Lucas spoke about the current situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). She expressed the hope that Kashmir would not become a forgotten conflict because of changing geo-political focus. In this context, she cited the book by Dutch journalist Joeri Boom, who has mentioned IIOJK in his book's chapter titled "Too many to kill".

Professor Dr. Tahir Abbas spoke from the angle of Kashmiri diaspora about the origins of the Kashmir Solidarity Day in 1990 in response to the situation in IIOJK and plight of Kashmiris including the diaspora. More than two million Kashmiri lived in Europe and elsewhere, and many of them had been displaced by the Indian high handedness. Professor Abbas emphasized the need for diaspora to educate the people about the plight of Kashmiris in IIOJK.



10th Round of Pakistan - the Netherlands Bilateral Political Consultations at the Hague (08 February)

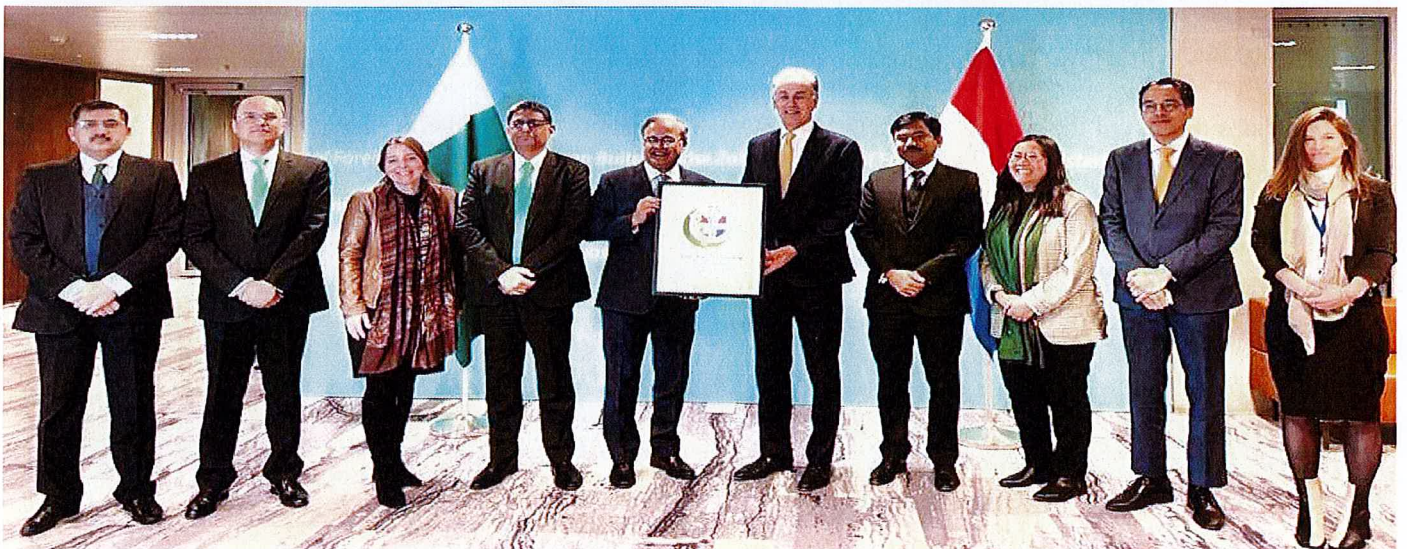
The 10th Round of Pakistan - the Netherlands Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) was held in the Hague. Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan and Mr. Paul Huijts, Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, led the respective sides. The Foreign Secretary was assisted by Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar, Mr. Amjad Aziz Qazi, Director General (Europe-I), and senior officials.

The two sides discussed the entire gamut of bilateral relations between Pakistan and the Netherlands as well as regional and multilateral issues of common interest. They expressed satisfaction over the momentum in bilateral cooperation and resolved to further enhance engagement in a range of areas including political, economic, trade and investment, climate change, agriculture, water management, dairy & livestock, education and culture. Considering the Dutch expertise, the two sides also agreed to further deepen cooperation and capacity building in agriculture, especially, in increasing crop output, seed development and capacity building of small land holder farmers.

The Foreign Secretary discussed challenges posed by climate change and appreciated the Dutch government's assistance in flood relief and post flood risk assessment.

The Secretary General appreciated Pakistan's assistance in the Dutch evacuation operations from Afghanistan. The Foreign Secretary reiterated Pakistan's commitment to a peaceful, stable, prosperous and connected Afghanistan. He also stressed that terrorism was a threat to regional peace and stability and emphasized the importance of collective efforts to combat this menace.

The Foreign Secretary briefed the Secretary General on the situation in South Asia and the situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), including grave human rights violations and illegal attempts to change the demographic structure of the occupied territory. He said that the international community should play its role in resolving Jammu & Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri people.





Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan's Meeting with Director General of the Organization of the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) (08 February)

Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan met with the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Ambassador Fernando Arias in the OPCW headquarters in the Hague.

The two sides discussed the ongoing cooperation between Pakistan and the OPCW. The Director General OPCW, Ambassador Fernando Arias appreciated Pakistan's role as member of the Executive Council and its contribution to different capacity building programs. Through its capacity building programme and international training courses for participants from around the globe, Pakistan has been actively contributing to the work of the OPCW and implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

The Foreign Secretary appreciated the work being done by OPCW and reaffirmed Pakistan's abiding commitment to the full implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. He conveyed that Pakistan looked forward to the early operationalization of the ChemTech centre.



The Foreign Secretary's Interaction with Dutch Members of Parliament (08 February)

Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan interacted with the Dutch Members of Parliament, officials and interlocutors at a dinner hosted by Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar. The Foreign Secretary discussed issues of mutual interest in Pakistan—the Netherlands bilateral relations.

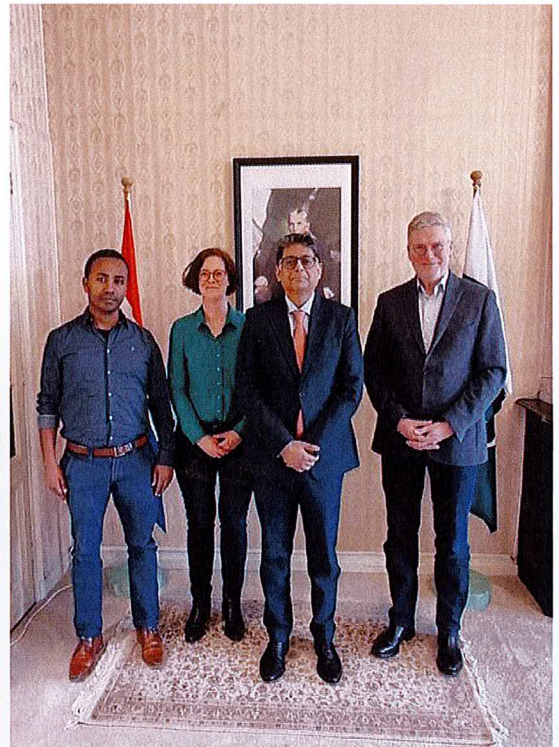
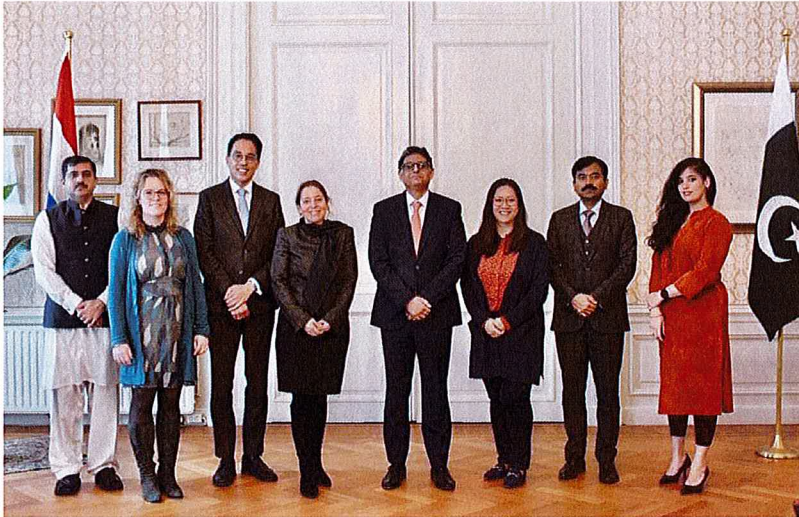


New Year Reception/ 10th Anniversary of Diplomat Magazine (15 February)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar attended the New Year Reception organized by the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Court of Justice, the Hague Academy of International Law and Diplomat Magazine.

Wageningen University & Research (01 March)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar met with a team of Wageningen University & Research (WUR) led by Prof. Dr. Gert HJ Kema to discuss areas of possible collaboration in Agriculture sector. The Embassy is actively pursuing the objective of collaboration with the Netherlands in the field of agriculture.



Department of Asia & Oceania Team (03 March)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar hosted Department of Asia & Oceania Team, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for a Pakistani lunch. The conversation focused on recently held Pakistan – the Netherlands Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) and celebrations of 75 years of bilateral relations in Islamabad and The Hague.



E-Kachehri (January - March)

The Embassy of Pakistan held E-Kachehri on Monday 30 January and 27 March 2023. Pakistani diaspora living in the Netherlands were invited to join E-Kachehri and discuss their issues individually with Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar and Embassy's team.

Suggestions made were noted and details about the problems related to Pakistani institutions/departments would be referred to the concerned in Pakistan. The platform provided was appreciated by the Pakistani diaspora.

102nd Session of Executive Council of the OPCW

(14 - 17 March)

The 102nd session of Executive Council of the OPCW held from 14-17 March 2023 in The Hague.

Permanent Representative of Pakistan Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar delivered the national statement; re-affirming Pakistan's commitment to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), hoping for reversion to consensus & looking forward to the Fifth Review Conference.



OPCW





Pre-Ramadan Exhibition - Desi Swag in Amsterdam) (19 March)

Mrs. Rabia Suljuk Mustansar Tarar inaugurated pre-Ramadan exhibition organized by the community members in Amsterdam. A sizeable number of families attended the event.

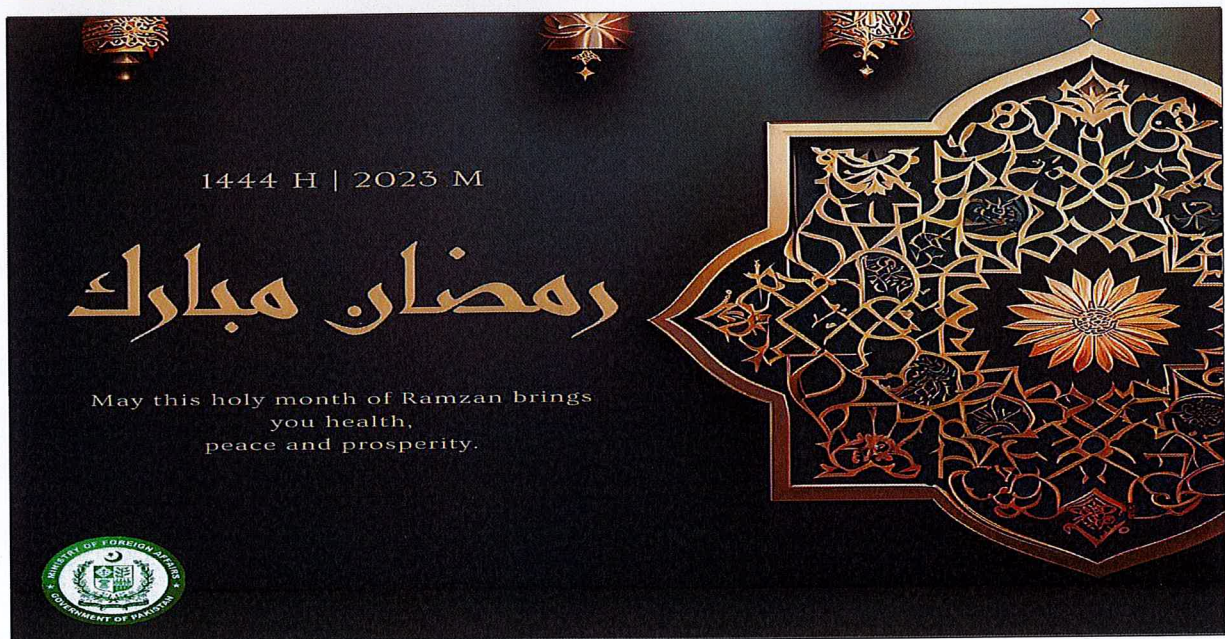


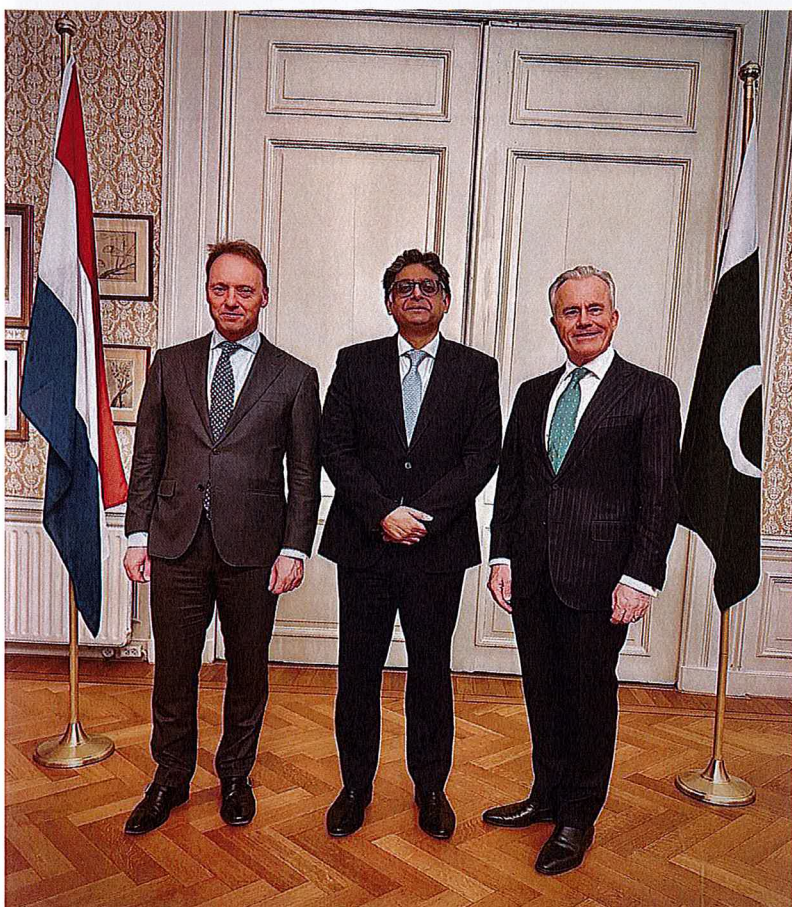
Meeting with Turkish Delegation

(22 March 2023)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar met with Prof. Haluk Songur, Consular for Religious Affairs, Türkiye Embassy in the Netherlands.

He briefed about the funds collected by the Turkish community in the Netherlands for flood relief assistance and re-construction of education institutions in Pakistan.





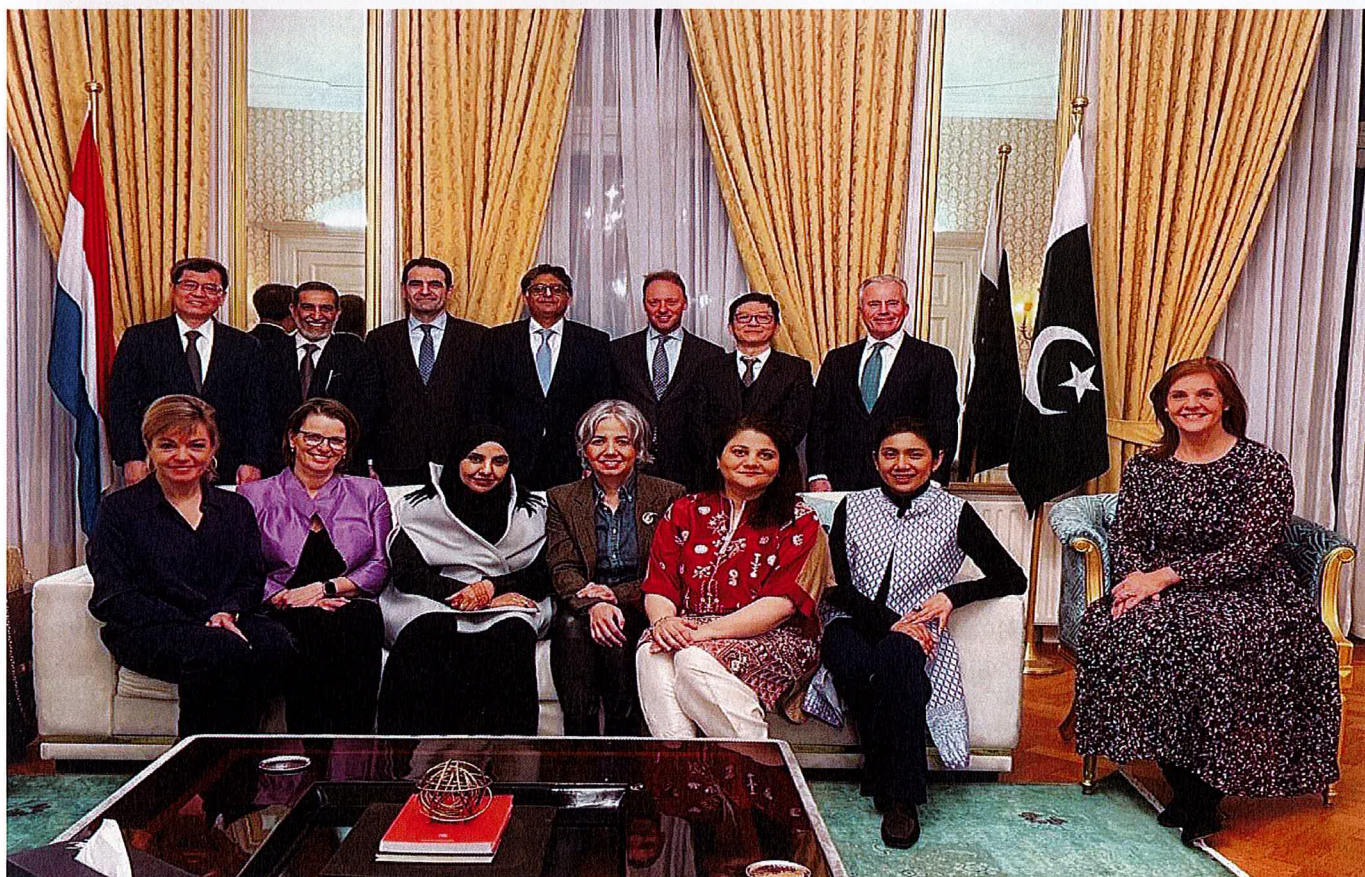
Dinner in honor of Outgoing CEO of Friesland Campina (15 March)

Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar hosted dinner in honor of outgoing CEO of Friesland Campina Mr Hein Schumacher & Mr. Roel van Neerbos President of Consumer Dairy Friesland Campina.

Ambassador of China Mr. Tan Jian, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Mr. Ziad Al Atiyah, Ambassador of Thailand Mr. Chattri Archjananun, Ambassador of Türkiye Mr. Selçuk Ünal & Ambassador of the United Kingdom Ms. Joanna Roper also joined the event.

Ambassador Tarar appreciated Friesland Campina's investment in Pakistan and looked forward to continued cooperation with Mr. Roel van Neerbos President of Consumer Dairy Friesland Campina and successor of Mr. Schumacher at Friesland Campina.

Ambassador Tarar also highlighted to Mr. Hein Schumacher, who is the incoming CEO of Unilever, Unilever's long-standing operations in Pakistan & that he looked forward to





Celebrations of the 83rd Pakistan Day (23 March)

The Embassy celebrated the 83rd Pakistan Day with traditional zeal and enthusiasm. A flag hoisting ceremony was held at Pakistan House, which was attended by a large number of Pakistani community from different parts of the Netherlands.

The national flag was hoisted by Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar at the tune of national anthem. Special messages of the President and Prime Minister for the occasion, highlighting objectives of the creation of Pakistan, were read out to the audience.

The Ambassador in his address underscored significance of the day for entire nation, paid tribute to the leaders of Pakistan movement. He briefed the participants about achievements in the 75 years history of bilateral relations between Pakistan and the Netherlands. He reiterated the resolve to take bilateral relations to the new heights and informed about the celebrations being held in the Netherlands and Pakistan to mark 75 years of the establishment of bilateral relations this year. He also paid homage to the Kashmiri people in their just struggle for right to self-determination from the illegal Indian occupation.

The Ambassador appreciated the Pakistani community's active role in assistance to flood relief activities in Pakistan during floods in 2022. He urged the community members to continue to play a constructive role in the promotion of Pakistan - the Netherlands relationship.

Visit

PAKISTAN

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Explore Pakistan Event (27 March)

The Embassy of Pakistan organized an event 'Explore Pakistan' with the idea to present Pakistan's multifaceted tourism potential to the Dutch travel industry. The event was attended by famous Dutch photographer Jimmy Nelson, CEOs of leading tourism companies, media persons and representatives of airlines, PUM and VvKR - an association of 450 travel specialists.

Famous mountaineer Wilco van Rooijen and The Managing Director (MD) of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) Mr. Aftab ur Rehman Rana also virtually joined the event. The audience were shown different thematic videos on range of landscape and cultural heritage of Pakistan. The Embassy is actively promoting tourism opportunities offered by Pakistan and the event was part of such efforts.

