

**Draft Message from the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic  
of Pakistan on the Thirty-Eighth SAARC Charter Day**

**(08 December 2022)**

On the Thirty-Eighth SAARC Charter Day, I wish to felicitate the SAARC Member States and their citizens on behalf of the people and Government of Pakistan.

On 8<sup>th</sup> of December every year, we celebrate the spirit with which our leaders worked towards finalization of the SAARC Charter. They envisioned SAARC as a regional organization, meant for the people of this region.

Pakistan is one of the founding members of SAARC and has remained committed to the objectives of the Organization as enshrined in its Charter. We have always played an active role in the SAARC processes and activities.

South Asia is blessed with enormous human and natural resources and holds great promise for sustainable economic development. We believe that SAARC could provide a conducive and congenial atmosphere to transform the lives of the people of South Asia.

Pakistan considers SAARC as an important instrument for collective response to regional challenges, particularly the development needs. Pakistan further considers that effective and result-oriented regional cooperation could best be achieved by adhering to the cardinal principles of sovereign equality and mutual respect as embodied in the SAARC Charter.

We continue to hope that the obstacles in the way of holding the next SAARC Summit will be removed soon, enabling the SAARC to function as an effective instrument of regional cooperation.

I sincerely wish all the people of the South Asian region happiness, prosperity, and peace. I also hope that SAARC will regain its vitality, and contribute towards achieving a better future for our peoples.

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