



Government of Pakistan
FREQUENCY ALLOCATION BOARD

Plot No.112, H -10/4, Islamabad

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May 11, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

Visit of Dr. Hamadoun Toure Secretary General ITU to Pakistan

World Telecom icon, Dr. Hamadoun Toure Secretary General ITU, the Head of the UN Agency for Telecommunication, visited Frequency Allocation Board (FAB) HQs, Islamabad on May 11, 2012 morning and co-chaired FAB Board meeting along Ms. Nargis Sethi Cabinet Secretary and Chairperson FAB. Ms. Nargis Sethi in her welcome speech thanked the distinguished guest and Dr. Kim Regional Director ITU for visiting FAB and to share his views and experience with Pakistan. She also commented that being Secretary of Government of Pakistan and a working women I am especially delighted to know that the ITU has chosen World Telecom Day Theme 2012 as "Women and Girls in ICT" emphasizing the gender equality on which the present government in Pakistan has also focused in the current years.

The co-chaired FAB Board meeting was also attended by Executive Director FAB, Member Telecom MoIT, Chairman PTA, Chairman PEMRA, DG(Technical) ISI, Additional Secretary MoIB, representative of Defence Ministry and senior officers of FAB.

Dr. Toure praised the performance of FAB and viewed that it is the powerful Board where in all the important organs like the Telecom and Broadcasting regulators, the policy making ministry MoIT, the defence and technical/ security agencies of the government are members of the Board. Dr. Toure further viewed that the government need spectrum for their strategic government organization at the same time the spectrum is also arranged for the telecom sector which is the main engine for the development of the country. He emphasized that if we try go fast we go alone and if we go together we move far and therefore we should go together to go far and fast.

He praised the Board and Ms. Nargis Sethi for making spectrum available for the 3G and Broadband and on her strategic thinking of creating a dedicated Spectrum Re-farmation Directorate in the FAB. He appreciated the good efforts of FAB for re-farming and releasing spectrum for further progress of Pakistan as future of Pakistan has largely based on the progressive decisions of the FAB Board. He also viewed that monitoring system that FAB have is very important for good spectrum management and keeping it clean from interference hazards.

Dr. Toure also praised the government on their women empowerment actions and highlighted that women empowerment is main agenda of the Millennium Development Goals of the ITU and therefore, this year ITU theme 2012 is "Women and Girls in ICT". He further praised the government for appointing fulltime dedicated minister for the Telecom Sector under whose leadership the telecom sector especially the Broadband sector will flourish and will create jobs for the talented engineers of Pakistan. He pointed out the telecom industry is tool for progress for Pakistan and he has good feeling about Pakistan and he was pleased to see such a good and friendly environment in the country.

Dr. Toure also viewed that Pakistan is moving ahead with the 3G spectrum auction and showed confidence on the capabilities of Pakistan. He also offered ITU assistance in the 3G spectrum auction process if any is required.