



# Report

## **Vice Chancellors' Forum 2013 Universities in the Islamic World: Challenges of Internationalization**

September 23 - 24, 2013  
Islamabad - Pakistan



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## 1. Vice Chancellors' Forum 2013– An Overview

The COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), Pakistan in collaboration with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO); Higher Education Commission, Pakistan (HEC); Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Pakistan (MoST); and the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) is organized a 2 - Day Vice Chancellors' Forum on 'Universities in the Islamic World: Challenges of Internationalization' on September 23 - 24, 2013. The venue of the Forum was Serena Hotel, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Globalization as a social phenomenon has long been debated, but prospects of its extensive impact on the contemporary world affairs and other facets of human development and endeavors have come to the fore more in the past few decades. A key strategy for responding to the dictates of globalization adopted by Universities across the world is 'Internationalization'. It is regarded as the integration of an international and intercultural dimension into the tripartite mission of higher education viz. teaching, research and service to the society.

Internationalization over the years has transformed from a reactive to a pro-active strategy. The Universities have social, cultural, ideological, political, and economic responsibilities towards society; the predominant role though is creation of knowledge and knowledge workers. Internationalization of Universities is seen as an enticing cocktail of possibilities, as it provides an enormous opportunity for the academics to become creators of difference and effectors of the change thus facilitating emancipation and social progress. The increasing competition, commercialization and the cross-border delivery

of higher education has challenged the value traditionally attached to voluntary and missionary academic cooperation, exchanges & partnerships. At the same time, internationalization of curriculum, teaching and learning processes, i.e. 'internationalization at home' has become relevant and compliments the traditional focus on mobility.

Internationalization of higher education is seen as a panacea for many of the ills of isolation and alienation that many Islamic countries have had historically faced until the recent past. The winds of change coming in from mobility of students, signing of international memoranda of understanding, forging research linkages, offering dual and joint degree programmes with foreign partners, establishing branch campuses abroad, organizing international alumni chapters, creating international quality assurance frameworks and accreditation bodies, instituting international rankings, intensifying competition for the international student recruitment, appointing recruiting agents overseas, virtual and e-learning, and so forth are expected to allow Universities in the Islamic World to be a part of the global knowledge creation system.

The event was successfully convened on the planned dates. 160 delegates (including 9 accompanying delegates) from 151 universities/ Higher Education Institutions of OIC member states participated which included 87 universities from within Pakistan and 64 from abroad.

The Assistant Secretary General, Organization for Islamic Conference, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Director General of the Colleges of Applied Sciences, Ministry of Higher Education, Sultanate of Oman, Education Advisor, Incharge Academics & Cultural Attache, Royal Embassy of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Director General & Secretary to Director General ISESCO, Kingdom of Morocco and

Minister for Higher Education & Scientific Research, Republic of Sudan, and Executive Director, Higher Education Commission, Islamic Republic of Pakistan also participated in the Forum.

Over 100 MoUs were also signed on the sidelines of the Forum. The Forum provided a platform to University leaders for fostering collaboration, strengthening cooperation and encouraging dialogue among them and the institutes they represent. Critical reflections on the major internationalization strategies advocated by Islamic countries in general, and Universities in particular were presented to assess the extent and scope of the ongoing internationalization activities.

The Forum was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Zahid Hamid, the Hon'ble Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Other dignitaries present at the occasion

included H.E. Mr. Abdul Moiz Bukhari (Assistant Secretary General, OIC), H.E. Dr. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri (Director General ISESCO), H.E. Mr. Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman (State Minister for Education, Training and Standards for Higher Education, Islamic Republic of Pakistan), H.E. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed (Executive Director, Higher Education Commission, Islamic Republic of Pakistan), Minister of Higher Education, Republic of Sudan, and H.E. Dr. S. M. Junaid Zaidi, Rector, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The opening ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks to all the delegates by Dr. S. M. Junaid Zaidi, Rector, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Islamic Republic of Pakistan. A more heartwarming highlight of the occasion was dinner hosted by the Hon'ble President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the honour of delegates.

## 2. Report by the Chief Rapportier

**Mr. Nisar Ahmed Siddiqu,**  
Director/ Vice Chancellor  
Institute of Business Administration, Sukkur  
Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

This report features some of the major highlights of the " Vice Chancellors' Forum 2013 Universities in the Islamic World: Challenges of Internationalization", such as Report by the Chief Rapporteur, Forum's Resolution, List of International and National Participants and Forum's Programme.

## 3. Plenary Talk on

### **A Revolution in Higher Education through Internationalization**

By Professor Atta-ur-Rehman, FRS  
NI,HI,SI,TI, UNESCO Science Laureate,  
President, Pakistan Academy of Sciences  
Former Federal Minister for Science and  
Technology, Former Chairman Higher  
Education Commission Pakistan

In his plenary talk, Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman mentioned that the present world is the world of innovations based on the inventions of:

- Meta-materials - - - Cloaking Devices
- Bullet Proof Paper - - - Nano-cellulose
- Stem Cells
- Anti-aging Compound
- Seeing with the Tongue

Whereas future materials include carbon, nano-tubes, and carbon sheets. So the question arises how can universities meet challenges of a knowledge economy? For this purpose, we must keep investing and patiently wait for the results. We must not look at others for our help. We must trust in Allah and help ourselves. In his opinion, the challenges for universities for

tomorrow include: Innovation and entrepreneurship and establishing Centers of Excellence.

## Innovation and Entrepreneurship

- Our universities are lacking in innovative research and that is the reason that there is not a single university in the Islamic World which is included in the top hundred ranked world universities.
- In order to meet shortages in PhD faculty in our universities, we also need to take initiatives through internationalization in acquiring and benefitting from Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC) available in the universities of scientifically advanced countries.
- He announced that soon in Pakistan i-MOOCs (integral approach to MOOCs) will be available. It would bring a paradigm shift from teaching to tutoring.

## Centers of Excellence

- To achieve excellence we must have a strategic approach and Pakistan has worked for it in the form of Network of Cooperating Universities (NCU).
- Pakistan is an exciting beginning, using technology for learning. For this purpose, Pakistan Education and Research Network was established. CIIT is also playing a very positive role in this regard. Established just a decade ago, ranked top 3 amongst IT universities and has dual degree programs with Lancaster University. It has got its Digital Library that has access to 25000 journals and 65000 books.
- Our major challenge lies in attracting our brightest talent back to our countries for serving in the Centers of Excellence and encouraging the national talent in undertaking research in innovative areas.

- Pakistan is trying to achieve this goal by:
- Dramatic change in salaries of the teachers;
  - Massive foreign scholarship programs;
  - International linkages; and
  - Foreign collaborations.
- This has resulted in international praise for Pakistan. 6 Pakistani universities are ranked amongst top 300-500 universities of the world.

## Conclusion

- Pakistan's potential lies in its youth. Let this conference make a new beginning;
- Form a strong network of collaboration; and
- Universities must benefit from MOOCs.

## 4. General Assembly Session

**Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed**  
Executive Director,  
Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.

### 4.1 Agenda Item – 1 School of Scholarships

- There is a need to create a pool of opportunities for youngsters to keep moving as to find the avenues in research by exploring different other Islamic countries besides theirs' and also to help mobilize people from different parts of the Islamic world. It was suggested that it will create 'Ummah' concept which was discussed thoroughly in the last forum held in June 2012. In this connection 'website' was suggested as a solution so that everyone can get the information about the scholarships related to MS or PhD.
- Mechanism would be developed by the

host institution in which they will set the criteria to evaluate the candidates. In addition, no tuition fee and no hostel dues will be charged by the funding organization/ university.

- A Committee comprising 5-6 members from the universities in the Islamic world will be constituted who will submit a proposal on Day 2 of VCs' Forum. The names proposed for the committee were:
  - VC, Bangladesh University
  - Rector, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Islamabad
  - VC, UET Lahore
  - VC, University of Iran
  - VC, University of Sudan

### 4.2 Agenda Item – 2 Creating a Joint R&D Fund

Research and Development (R&D) sector will generate revenues for thematic, collaborative and impact based research. The IT Ministry/ Government will also be involved in order to be updated about the current research trends.

### 4.3 Agenda Item – 3 Institutional Mobility Mechanism

It is very important to improve the quality of research in the universities in the Islamic World.

### 4.4 Agenda Item – 4 Ranking of Islamic Universities

An authentic criterion is to be set for putting universities in ranking list. We need to develop an international system for Accreditation and Ranking. All Islamic Countries need to set their own standards/criterion for ranking based on the ethics and interests of Islamic World.

#### 4.5 Agenda Item – 5 Setting up of the Centres of Excellence with New Technologies

The 'Virtual' Centres of Excellence need to be developed for the networking purpose. The initiative has already been taken by Quid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Ghulam Ishaq Khan University, and University of Engineering and Technology, Taxila, however, to further develop the idea, the resources from universities in the Islamic world can be pooled in.

#### 5. Technical Session 1-A

##### Speakers

- Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali President/  
Vice Chancellor,  
Open University, Malaysia
- Prof. Muhammad Ali Shaikh  
Vice Chancellor,  
Sindh Madressatul University, Pakistan
- Prof. M. Imtiaz Hussain  
Vice Chancellor,  
Islamic University of Technology,  
Bangladesh

#### 5.1 Invited Talk – 1 Internationalization and Universities: Building Human Capital in the Islamic World

**Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali**  
President/ Vice Chancellor,  
Open University, Malaysia

- There is economic, socio economic diversity, illiteracy, gender disparity, lack of budget for education seen everywhere effecting the higher education sector;

- To conclude, Prof. Tan Sri Anuwar Ali said that universities are an important contributor to national progress, especially for building human capital necessary in growing economy. It is important for Islamic countries to leverage on each other's assets to create universal benefits for the Islamic world for common interests;
- ODL can be a viable solution for institutions and countries looking to explore internationalization in Higher education; and
- More emphasis should be laid on the collaboration in the following areas:
  - QUM design programs curricula;
  - Sharing ICT facilities;
  - Training and exchange of academic staff;
  - Collaborative research and publications; and
  - Sharing of learning material.

#### 5.2 Invited Talk – 2 Fostering Fraternity through Exchange of University Faculty and Students in the Muslim World.

**Prof. Muhammad Ali Shaikh**  
Vice Chancellor,  
Sindh Madressatul University, Pakistan

There are certain principles followed by everyone which are similar to all of us. We at the same time have different cultural identities and beliefs. We should bring all colors and beliefs together under one roof by introducing one university with the other. Universities can play very important role by:

- Exchanging bright faculty and students on teaching assignments/ research;
- Arranging conferences/ seminars of



different academics of different countries on topics:

- Female empowerment programs.
- Role of women in the Islamic world.
- Sending a delegation of students to other countries;
- Promotion of books by different publishers of different countries; and
- Departmental collaboration on mega level.

### Recommendations

- A mechanism should be developed to train and exchange faculty;
- Seminars on media and Islamic world should be organized to address the issues faced by Islamic countries in general and to female in particular;
- Interdisciplinary collaboration is need of the day; and
- Publishers of different Islamic states must join hands to promote and exchange their publications.

### 5.3 Invited Talk – 3 Research and Innovation: the Role of International Collaboration.

Prof. M. Imtiaz Hussain  
Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Technology, Bangladesh

- 'Media Centre' should be developed for both teachers as well as students to create knowledge based Ummah;
- Islamic universities need to extend their intellectual services to the other universities in all research domains.
- Co-Chair of the session, Dr. Hasan Shoab Murad (VC, UMT, Lahore) announced 50 fully funded scholarships for the students of Islamic Countries and requested the

forum to ponder and devise the same mechanism for the betterment of Muslim Ummah.

## 6. Technical Session 1-B

### Speakers

- Prof. Gamal El Sawaf  
Dean of Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University, Egypt.
- Prof. Ahmed B. Khairy  
President, Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology, Egypt.
- Prof. Osman Kamil SAG  
Rector, Piri Reis University, Turkey.
- Prof. Dato' Ibrahim Ahmad Bajunid  
Deputy Vice Chancellor INTI International University, Malaysia.

### 6.1 Invited Talk – 4

Experience of Alexandria University towards Internationalization: Objectives and Challenges.  
Prof. Gamal El Sawaf  
Dean of Medical Research Institut  
Alexandria University, Egypt

The speaker emphasized that the brain drain process needs to be reversed in the Islamic World.

### 6.2 Invited Talk – 5 Holistic Vision to Science and technology Parks for internationalization: the Egypt-Japan University of the Science and Technology Prospective

Prof. Ahmed B. Khairy  
President, Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology, Egypt

Prof. Ahmed Khairy shared his Egypt-Japan University Model. It is a research oriented university and plans to establish science and technology parks in future. They also have a technology licensing office.

### 6.3 Invited Talk – 6 Unique International Implementation of Quality Standards System in Maritime Education and Training throughout the World and in Turkey.

Prof. Osman Kamil SAG  
Rector, Piri Reis University, Turkey.

Prof. Dr. Osman Kamil SAG shared the achievements of his university. His university excels in maritime education and training. They have adopted international standardized accreditation and marking system. The students are granted jobs upon graduation. It's important branch is maritime engineering which is linked to industry.

#### Summary

- Internationality means what the institute is, and internationalization means, that it should go forward;
- The University is responsible for creating ideas, sustenance of ideas and sharing of ideas. It should preach the philosophy of comprehensive internationalization; and
- Universities should be able to change the mindsets and have clarity of vision. They should move from rhetoric to achievement.

## 7. Technical Session 1-C

### Speakers

- Dr. Siham Mohamed Ahmed Bakhit  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Al Zaiem Al Azhari University, Sudan
- Prof. Anis Ahmad  
Vice Chancellor, Riphah International University, Pakistan
- Prof. Serif Ali Tekalan  
Rector, Fatih University, Turkey

### 7.1 Invited Talk – 7 Towards Robust University Ranking.

Dr. Siham Mohamed Ahmed Bakhit  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Al Zaiem Al Azhari University, Sudan

The speaker dealt with a number of university ranking issues and encompassed on the areas such as:

- Current ranking problems;
- The tools and not the goals for ranking;
- Quality and excellence;
- Categorization of universities;
- Prioritizing and specifying Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for each region (Islamic World);
- Need and criteria for ideal KPIs and their effective performance;
- Longitudinal benchmarking;
- Entrepreneurship;
- Little demarcation between quality, strategy and innovation;
- Attitudes and values; and
- Institutional values.

### Recommendations

- We should introduce a Leading view of the quality and value of knowledge and

- basically of the value of the human being;
- Category will keep the standard and respect privacy;
- Matching KPIs for smart performance;
- Presentations by Category and Specific criteria will unmask the endeavors of the growing universities;
- Specific strategy and relevance to achieve success and gain confidence; and
- In the era of knowledge based society; be rational in addressing your problems, not to blame the others.

### Vision for OIC Ranking

- Ranking is complementary to strategic performance for entrepreneurship of the Islamic world;
- It should enforce the reconstructive reforms by giving more weight to the breakthrough KPIs;
- It is a reflection of improvement, so all universities are welcomed;
- It should lead to improvement of the average score, to ensure the train is running; not the individual cars; and
- For values and attitudes, we need deep understanding and innovative ways for measurement.

### Vision

- Establish a system that respects the value of knowledge and linking them with wisdom, faith and moral values that verify the value of human as successor of God on earth; and
- Rediscover the ranking systems of universities in a way that empowers universities to explore their capabilities, potentials and improve their performance in a scientific manner that helps in promoting their services to their communities and nation and empowers them for international leadership.

### Ranking Prospective

To accomplish this mission, it is necessary to lay a framework and criteria for formulating indicators for ranking universities according to the existing international criteria without jeopardizing the uniqueness of the Islamic world as a world selected for revelation and the right source of knowledge. These prospective should include:

- Quality Assurance & Excellence as an indicator used by the International Union for Higher Education and the European Organization for Quality – (EOQ). These indicators can be used for benchmarking;
- University strategic plan which enable measuring institutional growth and development;
- The social responsibility of universities and their linkage with community including their collaboration with industry, service sector and universities;
- Knowledge production and initiatives that support the Islamic vision of knowledge and disseminate its concepts and values; and
- Entrepreneurship is the destination.

## 7.2 Invited Talk – 8 Conceptual Challenges of Internationalization of Universities.

**Prof. Anis Ahmad,  
Vice Chancellor, Riphah International University,  
Pakistan**

- Belief system is often dropped out of the international criteria of education;
- Education also has an instrument of socialization;
- Teachers being role models for the values to be inculcated among the students;

- It is extremely important for us to ensure that KPIs cannot be separated from the culture from where they are coming;
- We should have mechanized KPIs. One of the way is, through the availability of courses at HE; and
- The standard of education can be harmonized according to the global standards.

In that perspective, we face certain problems:

- Homogenization of values and culture resulted in portraying West as the model. Importing that super structure lead to the complete corruption of indigenous culture. We need to look for the alternative ways to protect the indigenous culture, values, beliefs and thoughts;
- A revolutionary strategy is needed to promote indigenous values in position to the capitalist mindset that everything possible starts in the West;
- We need to get out of the colonial mind-set;
- The so-called filled objectives of Shariah (which are confined to traditional classrooms) have to ensure that sanctity of life is to be preserved;
- Shariah should be liberated and brought into the main line of education;
- Value of reason, rational development, logical and critical development need to be inculcated in our education system;
- Ensure that personal dignity is fully respected;
- Family values need to be protected;
- We need to think in the revolutionary ways to come up with the global values, which are acceptable and implementable to East as well as West; and

- We must have collectivism and social responsibility as purpose for education.

### 7.3 Invited Talk – 9 The Importance of Internationalization of Higher Education.

Prof. Serif Ali Tekalan  
Rector, Fatih University, Turkey

- Internationalization is synonymous to Globalization. Globalization is important but glocalization is more important; and
- There are number of exchange programs in Turkey and globalization is very relevant to the Fatih University.

### Recommendations

- We should pay attention to diversity, specific characteristics and criteria are needed for every university; and
- Internationalization is relevant to availability and transfer of value, culture and democratic mind-set.

### 8. Panel Discussions

#### 8.1 Panel Discussion – 1

### The Millennium Year Sleep In Research and Enquiry In the Islamic World.

#### Panelists

- Prof Hamit Okur  
President, Istanbul Medeniyet University, Turkey.
- Prof. Syed Khawaja Alqama  
Vice Chancellor, Bahauddin Zakaryia University, Pakistan.

- Prof. Amvam Zollo  
Paul Henri, Rector, University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon.
- Prof. Ado ShehuGarki  
Vice Chancellor, Katsina University, Nigeria.

### Comments / Suggestions

- Turkey has invested heavily on education, especially in satellite technology. Those countries who are advanced in Science and Technology are leading the world.
- There are some areas which are not addressed so far. We are making speeches with no solution to the problems. The Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) should come forward and play their role to find the solution to these problems;
- There should be the focused development of the 'Centre of Excellence'. This century is century of solar energy. We need to develop technology collaboratively. Let us join hands to produce technology and not just consumers. This area needs to be focused in research and innovation;
- To create a database of all the participating universities, we have to have a platform which would develop networking system for all the participating universities;
- Ignorance, poverty and separations from Islamic beliefs (society) are the bitter foes of Muslims; and
- Being a good innovator or the consumer innovation for our survival, we need to get together to develop mechanism to develop strategies in order to improve and update our current status.

## 8.2 Panel Discussion – 2 Building World Class Universities in the Islamic World.

### Panelists

- Prof. Mohd Hamdi Bin Abd Shukor  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Malaya, Malaysia.
- Dr. Muhammad Saeed Mabrook Khanbash, President, Hadhramout University, Yemen.
- Dr. Ensieh Khazali  
President, Al-Zahra University, Iran.

### Comments / Suggestions

- The importance of HRD for Islamic World and a need to develop the capacity to deal with security crisis, public trust, access to software, high-tech labs and value quality was emphasized;
- It was also suggested that the universities should have their own resource pools, demand driven policies and be more research oriented;
- There is also a need to reflect upon the ranking standards;
- We need to focus on the plan to mobilize scholarships for the teachers as well as the students. There is a need to generate new curriculum and new degree programs. Internationalization is a mean to achieve our goals; and
- Stress was laid on establishing good labs with enabling environment, and creating knowledge to the world class standards.

### 8.3 Panel Discussion – 3 Future of the University and University of the Future.

#### Panelists

- Prof. S. Sohail. H. Naqvi  
Vice Chancellor, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan
- Prof. Ashraf Jawaid OBE  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Bedfordshire, UK
- Prof. Iqrar Ahmad Khan  
Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan
- Prof. A.K.M. Azharul Islam  
Vice Chancellor, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh
- Prof. Fatherrahman A Elmahi Ahmed  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Nile Valley University, Sudan

#### Comments / Suggestions

- The talk was initiated by floating four subthemes that encompass the following major theme of the discussion:
  - Technology;
  - Innovation and Entrepreneurship;
  - People; and
  - The Role of the Government.
- The universities must be independent to generate their own resources and leaders of the future. We need to develop strong networking between schools, colleges and industry in order to meet this objective, universities need to play civic role through development of curriculum, training and research;
- The universities should play their role to contribute in local and national economy. They should not only generate economy for themselves but also for Government;

- Internationalization is the need of the day. Students should be sent abroad in order to develop good relationships and business with concerned countries. It will help students to learn how other economies work;
- Education sector is under pressure. It is required that one must ensure the access to quality education at higher education level for their citizens. Muslim nation need to develop HE systems that can match those of developing nations. They must design strategies that could be wholly counterproductive with those of advanced countries.

#### Challenges

- Carefully calibrated performance Indicators;
- Global university performance labels;
- Issue of quality assurance;
- Universities will have multiple futures and identities;
- There is no one direction to go to; and
- Universities need to involve evolution process, the change, which needs to be managed. Focus in Pakistan has been to access the higher education resources, intellectual as well as economic growth etc.

#### Future Measures

- Universities must have openness where students must be the active partners in the growth of knowledge;
- Investment paradigm needs to be addressed at the same time. There is a need of compartmentalization and integration and reintegration must be employed by the universities;
- Another suggestion was that public private partnership is needed in the

current scenario and it is important for the universities to adopt need based admission strategy where the talent should not be labeled with grades and finance;

- It was proposed to all the universities that in order to maximize the efficiency, all academicians may put their curricula, information, CVs and other universities may cross check with them as to transform knowledge from one university to the other across the world;
- It is a change that can lead to compartmentalization by sharing of resources;
- Expertise must be acknowledged. Strength lays in learning and vision. Therefore, taskforce can be formed for the universities of the future; and
- Focus of the universities is to generate funds but knowledge should not be labeled with money-making to make the future of the university as well as to make them the University of the Future.

#### 8.4 Panel Discussion – 4 Internationalization Models

##### Panelists

- Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali  
President / Vice Chancellor, Open University, Malaysia
- Prof. Eltayeb Abdel Wahab Mohamed Mostafa, Rector, University of Bakht Al-Ruda, Sudan
- Dr. Bakhshibek Gadoev  
Vice Chancellor, Avicenna Tajik State Medical University, Tajikistan.
- Prof. Mehmet Bulut  
Vice Rector, Yildirim Beyazit University, Turkey.

##### Comments/Suggestions

- The discussion focused around finding new ways and strategies to address brain drain problems and professional development of teachers;
- It was suggested that there is a need to re-establish PhD students association to share their projects and knowledge;
- Furthermore, the idea was floated to start summer schools for Islamic world like Maulana Roomi students' exchange program; and
- The need to work on monthly basis and encourage mutual exchanges of students, teachers and administration was also emphasized. We need to come together and work together.

#### 8.5 Panel Discussion – 5 Policy Reforms in Internationalization: Experience of Islamic World

##### Panelists

- Prof. Muhammad Saleem Shuja  
Vice Chancellor, The University of Lahore, Pakistan
- Prof. Mohamed Boussetta  
President, Interim Ibn Tufail University, Morocco.
- Dr. Siham Mohamed Ahmed Bakhit  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Al Zaiem Al Azhari University, Sudan.

##### Comments/Suggestions

- There are three aspects of the discussion.
  - Policy Reform.
  - Internationalization.
  - Enhancing the International Profile of the University.

- As China is coming out like a giant in advancement and development of technology and now becoming so powerful because of knowledge. It is not necessary that we need bombs to scare others. All that is needed is education; the knowledge, a technical education. Technical education is the need of the day. Advanced countries invest heavily on education sector. Instead of investing on mega physical structures of universities, we need to invest on faculty. In Islamic countries, population is biggest problem as a result it gives birth to crime and poverty except Turkey, Iran and Malaysia;
- In order to be successful as an Educational institution and an Educational system, the educational system should be advanced and according to the needs of the day;
- Another major change that could be brought about in education system is through administrative system of university. This Administrative system should work as an independent body. Rather than having direct nominations from the president of the university, administrative candidature system, comprised of students as well as faculty, should be developed for the purpose of nominations. At the same time, consultation system of the university should be made more effective and independent involving its students and faculty, so the president of the university is no more the only identity to take decisions anymore;
- Curriculum is the fairest step, a key of internationalization. Thus, faculty from across the globe will be available to teach the students. We have to develop platforms for internationalization for

overcoming other problems. Also we need to bridge the gap between students and teachers by arranging continuous meetings; and

- Student-teacher mobility should be focused in the perspective of internationalization. We should be open to the system of internationalization in order to improve the proficiency of our universities.

## 8.6 Panel Discussion – 6 Is Internationalization a Western Construct? What is the Islamic World View?

### Panelists

- Prof. Dato'Zakaria b. Kasa  
Vice Chancellor, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia
- Prof. Zakir Hussain  
Vice Chancellor, GC University, Pakistan.
- Prof. Gamal El Sawaf  
Dean of Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University, Egypt.

### Comments/Suggestions

- The discussion started off with the criticism about the western philosophy of imposing their will on Muslim countries and their philosophy of world as global village. The speakers preached that not to look towards the West but try to solve our problems in coordination with Islamic countries; and
- It was suggested that we need to collaborate and open our universities and schools for both Muslim and non-Muslim countries and set the trends for Muslim Ummah.



## 8.7 Panel Discussion – 7 Pooling Resources: Encouraging Mobility

### Panelists

- Prof. Ahmed Mohammad Al-Hawamdeh  
Rector, Jerash University, Jordan
- Dr. Hashim Ali Mohamed Salim  
Vice Chancellor, Sudan University of  
Science and Tech Sudan.
- Prof. Dr. Mustafa Gunes  
Vice Rector, Gediz University Izmir,  
Turkey.
- Prof. Dr. Naheed Zia Khan  
Dean, Faculty of Management Sciences,  
Fatima Jinnah Women University,  
Pakistan.

### Comments/Suggestions

- Mobility is the need to un-end the end. The mobility of students and faculty is required. The program of mobility needs to be made successful. There are obstacles and challenges at the start always, but we need to find the way out. A study produced in 2003 by Oxford University revealed that internationalization on national level on structural and cultural level is important. We as Muslim Ummah will also face challenges that need great deal of convincing. But, if there is a will, there is a way;
- Strong infrastructure is not just enough. Problems need to be discussed with their concrete solutions;
- There should be exchange of faculty as well as staff;
- Participant universities can collaborate in publishing articles in each other universities;
- News of the universities must be shared by others on their websites;

- Staff and students should be encouraged to visit other universities' websites which must be visible in the global context;
- A system to be established for the supervision of the post graduates students;
- There are two broad perspectives; tangible, which incorporates material resources and intangible, having intellectual resources which need to be considered by the universities. There is a need of pooling both resources; tangible and intangible for the development; and
- In order to encourage mobility, we need to open up to each other and appreciate the significance of social mobility. Government must set up a special budget for the mobilization of families from one country to the other. A concrete proposal is required as far as pooling resources and mobility between universities is concerned. A database needs to be designed for all the participant universities in order to collaborate effectively.

## 8.8 Panel Discussion – 8 Research and Innovation: The Role of International Collaboration.

### Panelists

- Mr. Jamal Eddine El Hani  
Vice Prsident, University Mohammed V  
Agdal, Morocco.
- Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed  
Vice Chancellor, Bayero University  
Kano, Nigeria
- Prof. Arif Karademir  
Vice Rector, Bursa Technical University,  
Turkey.
- Prof. Aslan Bilici  
Vice Rector, Dicle University, Turkey.

## Comments/Suggestions

- Encouragement is required to internationalize university education because it bridges gaps and create understanding of culture, religion and education;
- We need to take action by sharing our problems and by signing MoUs. Furthermore, we need to redesign and modify the curriculum according to the international standards; and
- We, as Muslims, should look back to our rich Islamic heritage, based on internationalization and collaboration. We do not need to mix internationalization and westernization. Moreover, we need to adopt uniformity in curricula and try to produce original work.

### 8.9 Panel Discussion – 9 Islamic Educational Networking Opportunities for Scholars, Experts and Researchers.

#### Panelists

- Prof. Ebubekir Ceylan  
Rector, Hakkari University, Turkey.
- Prof. Ali Akmaz  
Rector, Sirtak University, Turkey.
- Prof. Mohammad Mujalli Alqaseem Al Mahameed, Vice President, Irbid National University, Jordan.

## Comments/Suggestions

- English Language is the need of the day but we need to develop our own platform to teach Arabic by offering course in the respective language;
- The need of Islamic Educational Networking Opportunities for Scholars,

Experts and Researcher was emphasized; and

- In this context, the participant universities must play a pivotal role to interact with each other.

### 8.10 Panel Discussion – 10 Role Model University from Islamic Perspective.

#### Panelists

- Prof. Abdul Qadeer Khan Rajput (SI)  
Vice Chancellor, Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Pakistan.
- Prof. Saadaldin Abdulhai Mahmoud Atia  
University Principal, Al-Neelain University, Sudan.
- Dr. Nazir Ahmed Sangi  
Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University, Pakistan.
- Dr. Muhammad Mpezamihigo  
Vice Rector, Islamic University in Uganda, Uganda.

## Comments/Suggestions

- Attention was drawn towards poverty, unemployment and insecurity in many Islamic countries which has led to the downfall of the academia in the Islamic world. We need to address these issues collectively;
- Education should be accessible to all and we should use technology to economize education; and
- First, we should study our own environment and then build strategic vision based on systems. We should try to minimize our struggle for power in HEIs and find strategies to focus more on our educational outcome.

## 9. Resolution

Two days' Vice Chancellors Forum on 'Universities in the Islamic World: Challenges of Internationalization', met at Islamabad on September 23-24, 2013 and adopted by consensus, the following Resolution:

**Takes cognizance** of the fact that COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), in collaboration with Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of Pakistan, the Islamic Educational & Cultural Organization, and Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World convened the first ever meeting of the Vice Chancellors of the Islamic World on June 11-12, 2012, which was participated by over 130 Vice Chancellors of the Islamic World. This event provided an excellent opportunity to the participating universities to develop linkages with other participating universities;

**Expresses** appreciation to the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of Pakistan, Islamic Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization, Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, and COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Islamabad Pakistan for convening the 2nd Meeting of the Vice Chancellors Forum (VC Forum 2013);

**Appreciating** that VC Forum 2013 would provide a platform to the University Leaders for fostering collegiality, strengthening cooperation, and encouraging dialogue among the member universities. This would facilitate discussion, analysis thereby contributing to the formulation of strategies on major challenges of Internationalization faced by the Islamic World in modern times;

**Taking note** of the Agenda for the VC Forum 2013, which includes (i) establishment of VC Forum as a legal entity having a permanent secretariat, (ii) creation of Islamic Universities Pool of Scholarship (iii) creating a Joint Research and Development Fund (iv) instituting Personal Mobility Program for facilitating travel and inter-action among researchers and scholars (v) institutionalizing ranking among universities of the VC Forum, and (vi) setting up of Inter-disciplinary Centre(s) of Excellence;

**Commending** the input and commitment of the participating delegates for their deliberations in the various sessions of the VC Forum 2013;

**Recommending** the establishment of a permanent Secretariat of the VC Forum for convening future meetings of VC Forum and ensuring greater integration and cooperation among the universities of the Islamic World in general and through the following course of action in particular:

1. To maintain a continuous liaison with members of the VC Forum for promoting the cause of higher education in the Islamic World;
2. Make efforts for the creation of a Joint Research and Development Fund by reaching out to the relevant institutions and organizations in the Islamic World and relevant international institutions for promoting research and higher learning in the universities of the Islamic World;
3. Facilitate mobility of experts, scholars and students of the Islamic World for sharing the expertise and academic facilities available in other universities of the Islamic World through the provision of financial assistance, travel grants, scholarships and developing institutional arrangements for achieving this objective;

4. Inter-act with the members of the VC Forum for establishing Centers of Excellence in various areas; and
5. Institutionalizing ranking among universities of the Islamic World.

**Commending** further the member states of OIC and the members of VC Forum for their consistent support and cooperation in convening 2nd meeting of the VC Forum held at Islamabad on September 23-24, 2013; and

**Expressing appreciation** to the hosts for the excellent arrangements for arranging the VC Forum 2013, and the hospitality extended to the delegates during their stay in Islamabad.

## 10. List of Participants

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93. **Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary**  
Vice Chancellor  
University of Engineering & Technology,  
Texila, Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
94. **Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadar Marwat**  
Vice Chancellor  
Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Upper  
Dir,  
Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

## 11. Programme

Day 1, Monday September 23, 2013

**0800-0900** Welcome Desk/Registration/Networking Lobby  
(Shamadan) – Serena Hotel, Islamabad

**0900-1000** Opening Ceremony  
Hall: Shamadan

**1000-1045** Plenary Talk by Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman, FRS  
NI, HI, SI, TI, UNESCO Science Laureate  
President, Pakistan Academy of Sciences  
Former Federal Minister of Science & Technology  
Former Chairman Higher Education Commission Pakistan

**1045-1130** Tea / Coffee Break

**1130-1300** Networking Session

**1300-1400** Lunch/ Prayer Break

**1400-1545** General Assembly Session  
Hall: Sheesh Mahal

**1545-1600** Tea /Coffee Break

**1600-1700**

**Hall: Sheesh Mahal**

**Shamadan – Hall 1**

**Shamadan– Hall 2**

**Technical Session – IA**

**Technical Session – IB**

**Technical Session – IC**

Chair: **Prof. Ahmed Yousif  
A. Al Draiwesh**  
President  
International Islamic  
University, Pakistan

Chair: **Prof. Ali Abdelaziz  
Ali Mohamed Eissa**  
Vice President  
Ain Shams University  
Egypt

Chair: **Dr. Ramin Rahmani**  
President Gorgan  
University of  
Agricultural Science  
and Natural Resources  
Iran

Co-Chair: **Dr. Hasan  
Sohaib Murad**  
Rector / Vice Chancellor  
University of Management  
& Technology Pakistan

Co-Chair: **Prof. Mohd. Hamdi  
Bin Abd Shukor**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
University of Malaya  
Malaysia

1600-1615

Invited Talk – 1

**Topic:** Internationalization and Universities: Building Human Capital in the Islamic World

**Speaker:** Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali  
President/ Vice Chancellor  
Open University  
Malaysia

Invited Talk – 2

**Topic:** Experience of Alexandria University towards Internationalization: Objectives and Challenges

**Speaker:** Prof. Gamal El Sawaf  
Dean of Medical Research Institute  
Alexandria University,  
Egypt

Invited Talk – 3

**Topic:** Towards Robust University Ranking

**Speaker:**Dr. Siham Mohamed Ahmed Bakhit  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
Al-Zaiem AlAzhari University, Sudan

1615-1630

Invited Talk – 4

**Topic:** Fostering Fraternity through Exchange of University Faculty and Students in the Muslim World

**Speaker:** Prof. Muhammad Ali Shaikh  
Vice-Chancellor  
Sindh Madressatul Islam University, Pakistan

Invited Talk – 5

**Topic:** Holistic Vision to Science and Technology Parks for Internationalization-The Egypt-Japan University of the Science and Technology Prospective

**Speaker:** Prof. Ahmed B. Khairy  
President  
Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology  
Egypt

Invited Talk – 6

**Topic:** Conceptual Challenges of Internationalization of Universities

**Speaker:** Prof. Anis Ahmad  
Vice-Chancellor  
Riphah International University, Pakistan

1630-1645

Invited Talk – 7

**Topic:** Research & Innovation: the Role of International Collaboration

**Speaker:** Prof. Dr. Hudaib Al-Mutairi  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Al-Qadisiyah, Iraq

Invited Talk – 8

**Topic:** Unique International Implementation of Quality Standards System in Maritime Education and Training Throughout the World and in Turkey

**Speaker:** Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kemal Cengiz  
Vice-Chancellor  
Marmara University, Turkey

Invited Talk – 9

**Topic:** The Importance of Internationalization of Higher Education

**Speaker:** Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kemal Cengiz  
Vice-Chancellor  
Marmara University, Turkey



**Speaker:** Prof. M. Imtiaz Hossain  
Vice Chancellor  
Islamic University of  
Technology, Bangladesh

**Speaker:** Prof. Osman  
Kamil SAĞ  
Rector  
Piri Reis Maritime  
University, Turkey

**Speaker:** Prof. Serif Ali  
Tekalan  
Rector  
Fatih University  
Turkey

1645-1700

**Invited Talk-10**

**Topic:** Unleashing Higher Education  
Leadership: Driving  
Internationalization in a  
Globalizing World

**Speaker:** Prof. Dato' Ibrahim  
Ahmad Bajunid  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
INTI International University  
Malaysia

End of the Day – 1

Day 2, Tuesday September 24, 2013

0900-1300

Hall: Sheesh Mahal

Hall: Shamadan

0900-0945

Panel Discussion-1

Panel Discussion-2

**Topic:** The Millennium Year Sleep in Research & Enquiry in the Islamic World

**Topic:** Building World Class Universities in Islamic World

- Panelists:**
1. Prof. Hamit Okur  
Panelist/Session Chair  
President  
Istanbul Medeniyet University  
Turkey
  2. Prof. Syed Khawaja Alqama  
Vice-Chancellor  
BahauddinZakariya University  
Pakistan
  3. Prof. Amvam Zollo Paul Henri  
Rector  
University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon
  4. Prof. Ado Shehu Garki  
Vice Chancellor  
Katsina University, Nigeria

- Panelists:**
1. Prof. MohdHamdi Bin Abd Shukor  
Panelist/Session Chair  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
University of Malaya, Malaysia
  2. Dr. Mohammad Saeed  
Mabrook Khanbash  
President  
Hadhramout University, Yemen
  3. Dr. EnsiehKhazali  
President  
Al-Zahra University, Iran

0945-1030

Panel Discussion – 3

Panel Discussion – 4

**Topic:** Future of the University & University of the Future

**Topic:** Building World Class Universities in Islamic World

- Panelists:**
1. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi  
Panelist/ Session Chair  
Vice Chancellor  
Lahore University of Management  
Sciences, Pakistan
  2. Prof. Ashraf Jawaid OBE  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
University of Bedfordshire  
United Kingdom

- Panelists:**
1. Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali  
Panelist/ Session Chair  
President/ Vice Chancellor  
Open University, Malaysia
  2. Prof. Eltayeb Abdel Wahab  
Mohamed Mostafa  
Rector  
University of Bakht Al-Ruda, Sudan

3. Prof. A.K.M. Azharul Islam  
Vice Chancellor  
International Islamic University  
Chittagong, Bangladesh

4. Prof. Iqrar Ahmad Khan  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Agriculture  
Faisalabad, Pakistan

5. Mr. Fathelrahman Ahmed  
Elmahi Ahmed  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
Nile Valley University, Sudan

3. Dr. Bakhshibek Gadoev  
Vice Chancellor  
Avicenna Tajik State Medical  
University, Tajikistan

4. Prof. Mehmet Bulut  
Vice Rector  
YildirimBeyazit University, Turkey

1030-1045 Tea /Coffee Break

1045-1130

**Panel Discussion – 5**

**Topic:** Policy Reforms in  
Internationalization:  
Experience of Islamic World

**Panelists:** 1. Prof. Muhammad Saleem Shuja  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Vice-Chancellor  
The University of Lahore, Pakistan

2. Prof. Mohamed Boussetta  
President Interim  
Ibn Tufail University, Morocco

3. Dr. Siham Mohamed Ahmed Bakhit  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
Al Zaiem Al Azhari University  
Sudan

**Panel Discussion – 6**

**Topic:** Is Internationalization a Western  
Construct?: What is the Islamic  
World View

**Panelists:** 1. Prof. Dato' Zakaria b. Kasa  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Vice Chancellor  
Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris  
Malaysia

2. Prof. Zakir Hussain  
Vice-Chancellor  
GC University, Pakistan

3. Prof. Gamal El-din Ahmad  
Amin El-sawaf  
Dean of Medical Research Institute  
Alexandria University, Egypt

4. Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Navvab  
Chancellor  
Islamic School of Art, Iran

5. Dr. Recep Gulmez  
Director of International Relations  
Erzincan University, Turkey

1130-1215

Panel Discussion – 7

**Topic:** Pooling Resources:  
Encouraging Mobility

- Panelists:**
1. Dr. Ahmed Mohammad  
Mohamoud Al-Hawamdeh  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Rector  
Jerash University, Jordan
  2. Dr. Hashim Ali Mohamed Salim  
Vice-Chancellor  
Sudan University of Science and  
Technology, Sudan
  3. Prof. Mustafa Gunes  
Vice Rector  
Gediz University Izmir, Turkey
  4. Prof. Naheed Zia Khan  
Dean Faculty of Law, Commerce &  
Management and Administrative Sciences  
Fatima Jinnah Women University, Pakistan

Panel Discussion – 8

**Topic:** Research and Innovation: the  
Role of International Collaboration

- Panelists:**
1. Mr. Jamal Eddine El Hani  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Vice President  
University Mohammed V Agdal  
Morocco
  2. Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed  
Vice-Chancellor  
Bayero University Kano, Nigeria
  3. Prof. Arif Karademir  
Vice Rector  
Bursa Technical University, Turkey
  4. Prof. Aslan Bilici  
Vice Rector  
Dicle University, Turkey

1215-1300

Panel Discussion – 9

**Topic:** Islamic Educational Networking  
Opportunities for Scholars,  
Experts and Researchers

- Panelists:**
1. Prof. Ebubekir Ceylan  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Rector  
Hakkari University, Turkey
  2. Prof. Ali Akmaz  
Rector  
Sirmak University, Turkey
  3. Prof. Mohammad Mujalli  
Alqasem Al Mahameed  
Vice President  
Irbid National University Jordan

Panel Discussion – 10

**Topic:** Building World Class Universities  
in Islamic World

- Panelists:**
1. Prof. Abdul Qadeer Khan Rajput (SI)  
Panelist /Session Chair  
Vice Chancellor  
Mehran University of Engineering  
and Technology, Pakistan
  2. Prof. Saadaldin Abdulhal Mahmoud Atia  
University Principal  
Al-Neelain University, Sudan
  3. Prof. Nazir Ahmed Sangi  
Vice Chancellor  
AllamaIqbal Open University, Pakistan

4. Dr. Syeda Farhana Jhangir  
Vice Chancellor  
Shaheed Benazir Women University,  
Peshawar, Pakistan
5. Dr. Muhammad Mpezamihigo  
Panelist/Rapporteur  
Vice Rector  
Islamic University in Uganda, Uganda

1300-1400	Lunch / Prayer Break
1400-1500	Presentation of Conference Report Hall: Shamadan
1500-1530	Discussion and Adoption of the Resolution Hall: Shamadan
1530-1700	Closing Ceremony Hall: Shamadan



## Co-Organizers



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