

PBBF ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1.3.2011 TO 25.2.2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2010-2011)

Mr. Sameer H.Dodhy (President)
Mr. Mohammed A.Rajpar (Vice President)
Mr. Zahid Dada (Vice President)
Mr. Mehelli B.Dinshaw (Secretary General)
Mr. Takreem ul Haque (Treasurer)
Mr. Asif Ali Rashid (Executive Committee Member)
Mr. M Faisal Iftikhar (Executive Committee Member)

MEMBERSHIP

Membership strength 81

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

4 meetings of the Executive Committee were held on 1st Jan, 2011, 27th April, 2011, 16th August, 2011 and 25th February' 2012.

AGM AND NETWORKING

Pakistan Belgium Business Forum (PBBF) organizes events from time to time to benefit its members. In this vein, PBBF hosted the AGM along with networking event to discuss matters of mutual interest with senior officials of Public and Private entities. This was the 14th AGM which was held on 12th February 2011 at the Beach Luxury Hotel, Karachi. The meeting was attended by **32** members.

Following guests were present at the event:

- 1- Dr. Ishrat Hussain, Dean & Director, Institute of Business Administration (former State Bank Governor)
- 2- Mr. Asfar Din Talpur, Director General (P&D), Port Qasim Authority
- 3- Mr. Mir Hussain Ali, Secretary, Environment & Alternative Energy, Government of Sindh
- 4- Mr. Malik Subah Sadiq, Deputy Director, FIA

A presentation was also given on "UN Global Compact" which is basically a voluntary effort for businesses to subscribe to 10 principles covering labour rights, environment, human rights, anti-corruption, etc. The benefits to be gained in terms of being trusted and selected by other progressive businesses up and down the supply chain were also highlighted.

VISIT TO BELGIUM - I

Pakistan Belgium Business Forum (PBBF) President, Mr. Sameer Hamid Dodhy, and alongwith Mr. Asif Ali Rashid (Executive Committee Member) and Mr. Syed Ammar Bukhari (PBBF Member) attended the General Assembly organized by Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Belgium (FCCIB) in Brussels on 27 May 2011.

PBBF's representatives also conducted a series of bilateral meetings with representatives of Belgian government agencies as well as local Chambers from all regions of Belgium.

In a separate visit PBBF's representatives also visited the office of Mr. Henk Mahieu (Deputy Director, Bilateral Relations Trade and Economic Diplomacy).

VISIT TO BELGIUM - II

Mr. Mohammed A.Rajpar visited Brussels on 7th September, 2011 and met with H.E. Mr. Jalil Jilani, Ambassador of Pakistan in Belgium, Mr. Qasim Niaz, Ms. Ayesha Saeed (Commercial Secretary), Mr. Wouter Van Gulck (FCCIB), Mr. Jean Phillip Mergen (Beci), Ms. Nancy Cobbaut (FIT), Ms. Sabine Vincke (FIT) and Mr. Peter Bulckaert (FIT) and discussed matters of mutual interest.

DINNER IN HONOUR OF MR. MICHEL KEMPENEERS

Pakistan Belgium Business Forum organized a dinner reception in honour of Mr. Michel Kempeneers, Asia-Pacific Division of the Wallonia Foreign Trade & Investment Agency (AWEX) on 19th September, 2011 at a local hotel.

The Chief Guest was Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Chairman of Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

Pakistan Belgium Business Forum dinner reception was attended by members, former diplomats and the leading businessmen of Karachi.

MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT AND TRADE CONFERENCE

The Multilateral Investment & Trade Conference 2011, a joint effort by the bilateral business groups of friendly countries based in Pakistan and the Board of Investment (BOI) and Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), to boost business relations between these countries and Pakistan, was held on Thursday, October 20 at the Marriott Hotel, Karachi. Investors and business leaders from more than 15 countries participated in the strategic breakout groups which included infrastructure & energy, engineering, agriculture & dairy, mines & minerals and pharmaceuticals. The Conference was arranged with the collaborative efforts of the business forums from Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Russia, Sri Lanka and Switzerland, showing confidence in the productivity and potential of the Pakistani people and resources.

Mr. Saleem H. Mandviwalla, Minister of State/ Chairman BOI, Mr. Ian James Donald, Managing Director, Nestle Pakistan and Mr. Yasin Anwar, Governor, State Bank of Pakistan address the audience.

8) INTERACTION WITH MEMBERS

On April 5, the Pakistan Belgium Businessmen Forum (PBBF) held an informal gathering at The Sports Bar, Kamameshi. The get-together (GT) allowed PBBF members and friends to catch up with each other outside the regular office environment. Over coffee and snacks, the conversation ranged from business, media and society to 'natural capital'. Despite being held on a weeknight, the event was a refreshing change for those who managed to show up, with one guest suggesting that such get-togethers be held every fortnight.

Keeping the interest of PBBF members in mind a second GT was held on 3rd May 2011 at Mr. Owais Habib's (PBBF Member) house prior to the dinner. Everyone present enjoyed themselves thoroughly and appreciated the host's efforts.

Third GT was held on 18th of October 2011 at The Sports Bar, Kamameshi in which one of our Belgian delegates Mr. Charles de Landtsheer from Manuchar Company also joined us. This G.T was also very much liked by all. Few of our new members also came and enjoyed meeting with new group of friends in a casual environment.

Fourth GT was held on 3rd January 2012 at Port Grand, where PBBF members enjoyed the celebrations of New Year. All the attendees appreciated the effort of holding GT at Port Grand, a brand new venue with unique vistas of Karachi Port.