

President of Pakistan Mr. Mamnoon Hussain conferred Hilal-i-Pakistan to Director General UNESCO Ms. Irina Bokova

Islamabad, 06 February 2014: President Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain conferred on Thursday 6 February, Pakistan's highest civil award Hilal-i-Pakistan upon Ms. Irina Bokova, Director General, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) at a special meeting held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.



The award was conferred in recognition of Ms. Irina Bokova's outstanding commitment to and support for and promoting Pakistan's cultural heritage and Indus valley civilization and assisting the country during natural disasters. The ceremony was also attended by Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Science and Technology, Baligh- ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Education, Training and Standards in Higher Education and other senior officials.

The President of Pakistan paid rich tribute to UNESCO Pakistan for lending its full support to the government's efforts for promoting education for all, especially girls' education in Pakistan. He assured Ms Bokova that Pakistan would continue to work and strengthen partnership with UNESCO for promotion of education along with protection and promotion of its world heritage sites.

Ms. Irina Bokova, Director General, UNESCO in her meeting with the President Hussain, discussed matters related to various activities and projects being undertaken in Pakistan with the help of UNESCO.

The President extended his gratitude to Director General Irina Bokova for setting up 'Malala Fund' for the promotion of Girl's education under the umbrella of UNESCO and for taking personal interest in arranging a high level advocacy event on Girl's right to education with the Government of Pakistan.