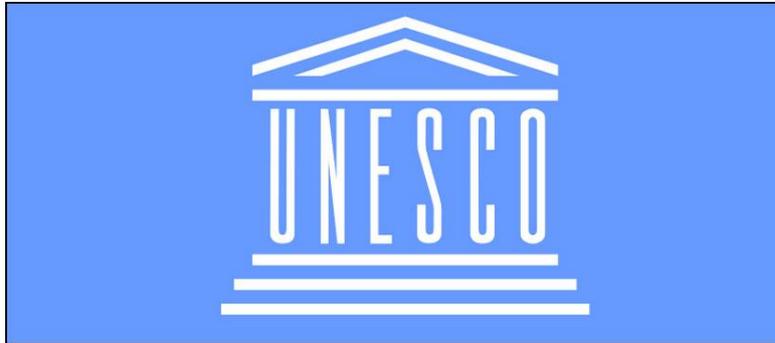


## **Science for a Sustainable Future: UNESCO Islamabad welcomes scientists meeting at the World Science Day**

ISLAMABAD: To raise awareness and encourage students to scientific education and research in order to share ideas among scientists and students, UNESCO Islamabad, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) and the ECO Science



(ECOSF) Foundation jointly organized an scientific meeting on the occasion of World Science Day 2015 in Islamabad under the slogan of this year “Science for sustainable development”, reads a press release from the UNESCO in Islamabad on Wednesday.

In this context, various awareness activities in support of the ECO Science Foundation have also been organized by the Science Caravans PSF nationwide.

Officials and representatives of the Ministry of Science and Technology, PSF, ECOSF, UNESCO and representatives of academic institutions and research centers in Pakistan attended the event.

Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman Pakistan Science Foundation in his words of welcome extended his appreciation to UNESCO for its support and implementation of scientific programs to assist in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (ODS) continues. He said PSF is playing a key role in promoting science education in the country, such as the annual celebration of World Science Day, the spread of scientific knowledge in rural areas through its seven science centers caravans equipped with appliances basic scientists. He said the foundation with its broad mandate, including school education and strengthening of university research programs and academic laboratories have produced many valuable results and PhD and MS.

In her speech, Ms. Vibeke Jensen, Manager / Director of UNESCO Pakistan said that the World Science Day for Peace and Development is an occasion to remember that science should serve humanity as a whole, and they should contribute to providing everyone with a deeper understanding of this planet and its people.

She said that science education and research capacity should be built to enable countries to develop their own solutions to their specific problems. UNESCO provides countries with guidance in developing or revising their policies of innovation (CTI) National Science Technology and and in strengthening national capacities in science education and research. “On this day, let us commit to building a knowledge society for all scientifically literate, with sustainable development as a priority level,” he said.

Mr. Fazal Abbas Maken, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology was the chief guest, said the World Science Day aims to renew national and international commitment to use science and technology for national development and achieving peace through the proper use of their applications.

He said the international scientific cooperation can initiate joint programs for the promotion of science education, scientific research applications and sciences with leading role of UNESCO in the area.

He congratulated UNESCO, and ECO-SF PSF to organize this important event today. He also congratulated the winners of the prize pupils, gathered in Islamabad from across the country. Speaking at the convention, Dr. Manzoor Soomro Chairman, Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Science Foundation, said the World Science Day this year is comparatively important due to the approval by the Assembly recently ODS General of the United Nations and publication of the UNESCO Report 2015 yesterday at the headquarters of UNESCO during the General Conference of UNESCO.

He stressed the rigorous pursuit of the SDG-4 “Quality Education and lifelong learning for all” with the focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and SDG-5 “Gender Equality and Empowerment Women and Girls “.

Pakistan eminent scientists, Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig, HI, SI and IT, and Professor at the National Center for Physics, said the prerequisite for development and prosperity is enormous investment in science and technology that allow us to improve expert human resource development as the future of Pakistan lies in the knowledge-based economy.

Dr. S.T.K. Naeem, he said COMSTECH Consultant in science is the greatest glory of mankind. It is the search for answers to questions about nature.

She said that science is equally important to all countries of the world, emphasizing greater investment in research and development (R & D), which is the key to economic growth.

The institutions should be strengthened and should provide appropriate environment for the improvement of science in the country, he added.

At the end of the event, PSF gold medals, certificates and cash prizes sponsored by PSF and ECOSF were distributed among the winners of Inter-Board Student Competitions, while the Intel ISEF-2015 Asian Science Camp students and researchers featured granted.

**Source:** <http://bixforu.com/index.php/2015/11/11/science-for-a-sustainable-future-unesco-islamabad-welcomes-scientists-meeting-at-the-world-science-day/>