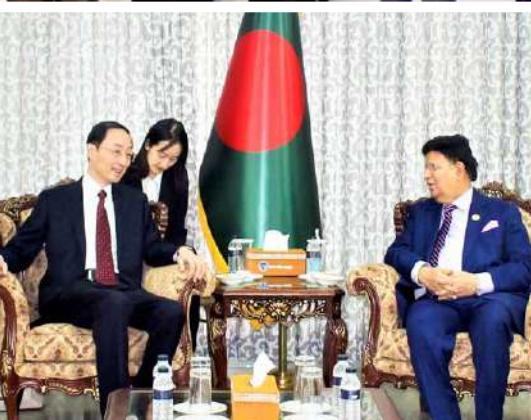




FOREIGN OFFICE BRIEFING NOTES

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

MAY 2023





Hon'ble Prime Minister had interactions with His Majesty King Charles III



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the Commonwealth Leaders' Event at the Commonwealth Secretariat on

5 May 2023 in London. Hon'ble Prime Minister had interactions with His Majesty King Charles III and other Commonwealth leaders.

Following this, she attended the Commonwealth Leaders' closed discussion.

Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the 6th Indian Ocean Conference

Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the 6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC)-2023 on 12 May 2023. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh in association with Indian External Affairs Ministry and India Foundation, an internationally renowned think-tank, affiliated with Ministry of External Affairs of India organized this event from 12 to 13 May 2023.

The theme of the Conference was "Peace, Partnership and Prosperity for a resilient future".

The Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) was first held in 2016 and in the last six years it has emerged as the flagship consultative forum for countries in the region to share views and positions on regional affairs as well as

contemporary geo-political issues.

The Conference was graced by the Hon'ble President of Mauritius and Hon'ble Vice President of the Maldives. There were another 15 Ministerial level dignitaries, 12 high official level participants from different countries and three Heads of International/Regional organizations. Representatives from



as many as 40 countries across the world attended the Conference as panelist, speakers and participants, totaling more than 300 and secured the largest gatherings compared to the previous IOCs. This record number of participants demonstrated the growing importance and relevance of the Indian Ocean region on the global stage as well as emergence of Bangladesh as an important player in the Indian Ocean region.

In her speech, Hon'ble Prime Minister stressed the significance of

oceans and seas, which account for a substantial portion of global trade and transportation. Hon'ble Prime Minister recalled the role of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who recognized the importance of utilizing Bangladesh's maritime resources for development of the country after independence. Highlighting Bangladesh's active involvement in ocean centric discourse, Hon'ble Prime Minister outlined six priority areas for the Indian Ocean Region:

foster "Maritime Diplomacy"; reduce climate vulnerability and the impact of natural disasters; strengthen mutual trust and respect among the countries; strengthen existing mechanisms on maritime safety and security; promote 'culture of peace' and people centric development; and promote open, transparent, rules-based multilateral systems. Maritime Diplomacy and the six points proposed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister drew wide attention of the participating delegates and media.





Minister of Investment and Minister of Economy and Planning, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia jointly called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister

H.E. Eng. Khalid Al Falih, Minister of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and H.E. Faisal

Alibrahim, Minister of Economy and Planning, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia jointly called on the Hon'ble

Prime Minister on the sideline of 3rd Qatar Economic Forum on 23 May 2023.



Hon'ble Prime Minister met with His Highness the Amir of Qatar



Hon'ble Prime Minister met with H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al

Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar on the sidelines of 3rd Qatar Economic

Forum at the Amiri Diwan, Doha on 24 May 2023. During the meeting,



both dignitaries acknowledged the deep bilateral relations between the two countries and discussed the future prospects of relations, especially in

investment and economy. The Amir of Qatar appreciated the contribution of Bangladeshi expatriates in the development of Qatar, especially

during the Covid-19 pandemic. Both dignitaries also wished prosperity of the Muslim Ummah during the meeting.

Hon'ble Prime Minister was interviewed at the main stage event during session four of 3rd Qatar Economic Forum in Doha

Hon'ble Prime Minister was interviewed at the main stage event entitled "In Conversation with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina" during session four of 3rd Qatar Economic Forum in Doha, Qatar on 24 May 2023.



Hon'ble Prime Minister delivered speech before the faculty members and students of Qatar University in Doha



Hon'ble Prime Minister delivered speech before the faculty members

and students of Qatar University in Doha, Qatar on 23 May 2023. In

her speech, Hon'ble Prime Minister described the transformative

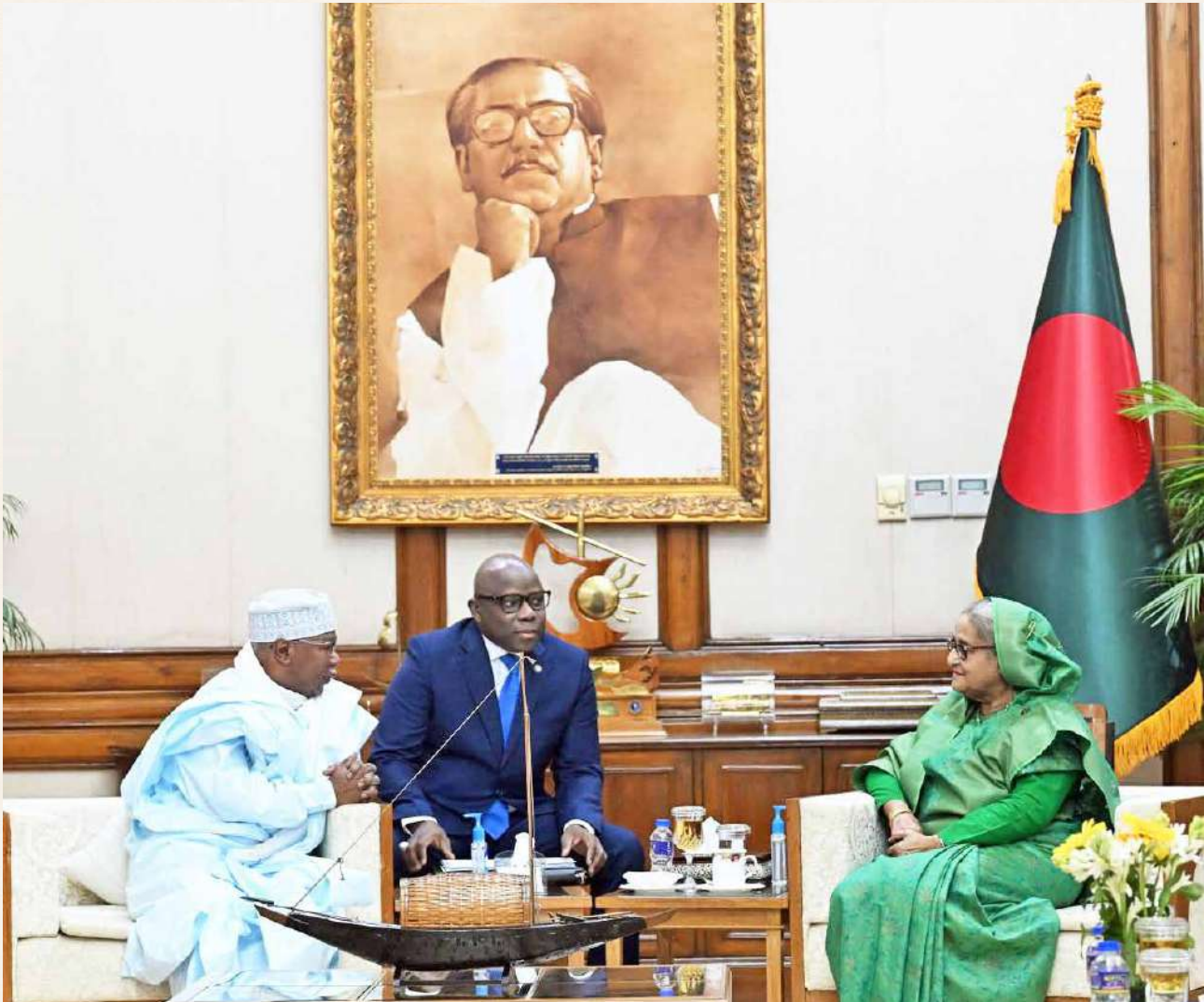


development journey of Bangladesh and her various initiatives for women's empowerment. She also

mentioned that the development of Bangladesh is not just a miracle, rather a collective work of the

people of Bangladesh.

OIC Secretary General called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister



OIC Secretary General H.E. Hissein Brahim Taha paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina at Ganabhaban on 28 May 2023. During the meeting, the Hon'ble Prime Minister reiterated Bangladesh's firm support for the cause of Palestine. Expressing concern about the escalation of violent conflicts worldwide, Hon'ble Prime Minister underscored the

need for Muslim countries to unite under the leadership of the OIC for the greater benefit of the Muslim Ummah. She recalled the invaluable contribution of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to establish international peace, and said that as a strong proponent of peace, she is ready to act as a mediator in any peace process, if requested.

Conveying Bangladesh's deep appreciation of the relentless support and cooperation of the OIC for the Rohingya crisis, particularly OIC's efforts to mobilize funds for the Rohingya case filed by The Gambia in the ICJ, the Hon'ble Prime Minister called for strong commitment from the international community including the OIC to ensure safe, dignified



and sustainable repatriation of the Rohingya people to Myanmar. The OIC Secretary General praised the exemplary leadership of H.E. Sheikh Hasina for hosting forcibly displaced Rohingya people in Bangladesh on humanitarian grounds, and reaffirmed OIC's unwavering resolve to support Rohingya people.

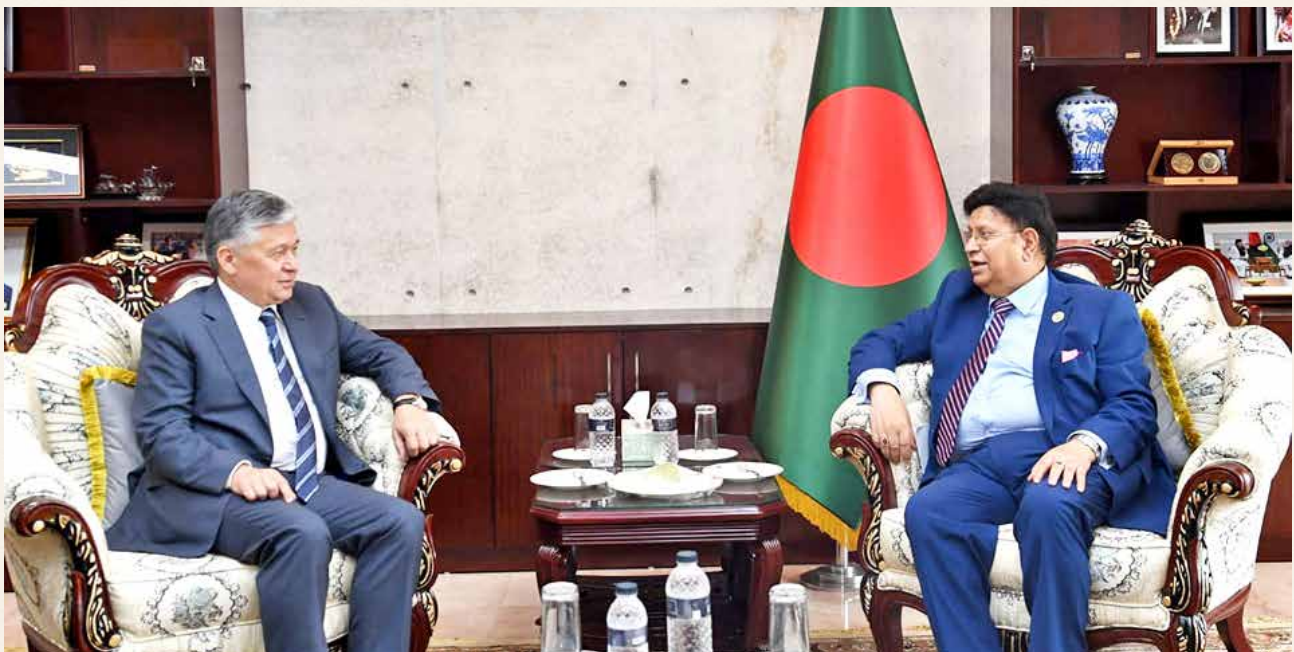
Reiterating Bangladesh's support for transforming Islamic University of Technology (IUT) as a center of excellence in the field of science and technology education, Hon'ble Prime Minister pointed out that a donation of USD 2 million for the

construction of a female dormitory at the IUT campus demonstrate her government's willingness to promote female education. She also stressed the need for a language lab for francophone students including the use of the Government's Language App to ease their study time at the IUT. OIC Secretary General expressed gratitude to the Government of Bangladesh for its continued support to the university's growth and advancement.

The OIC Assistant Secretary General for Science & Technology H.E. Ambassador Askar Mussinov,

Ambassador-at-large H.E. Mohammad Ziauddin, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister M. Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Secretary (Maritime Affairs Unit) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Rear Admiral (retd) Md. Khurshed Alam, BN, Director General (International Organizations) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Wahida Ahmed, and Vice-Chancellor of the IUT Prof. Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam were present at the meeting.

Deputy Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Foreign Minister



Deputy Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan H.E. Aloyev Bakhramzon Zuraboyevich visited Dhaka to attend the 2nd Foreign Office Consultation Meeting on Bilateral Dialogue between Bangladesh and Uzbekistan. He paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister H.E. Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP at the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs on 20 May 2023. Foreign Minister Momen stressed the importance of communication between the two countries and expressed hope that commercial flights between the two countries would resume soon. During the courtesy meeting, discussions were held on the code sharing mechanism

for operating flights between the two countries. It was decided in the meeting that Bangladesh Biman's regular Dhaka-New Delhi flight and Uzbek Air's regular New Delhi-Tashkent flight will be able to travel by code sharing system. Later, considering the demand, it was decided that Dhaka-Tashkent



direct flight will be launched. It is hoped that the Air Services Agreement will be signed between the two countries soon.

Foreign Minister Momen recalled his meeting with the President of Uzbekistan during his visit to Uzbekistan in 2021 and expressed his positive attitude towards the opening of a diplomatic mission of Uzbekistan in Dhaka. Foreign Minister Momen assured that the government of Bangladesh will give all possible measures to open a diplomatic mission. The Uzbek Deputy Foreign Minister referred to the historical ties between Bangladesh and Uzbekistan that date back to the Mughal period. He emphasized on economic diplomacy between the two countries. Besides,

he highly praised the socio-economic development and leadership of Bangladesh.

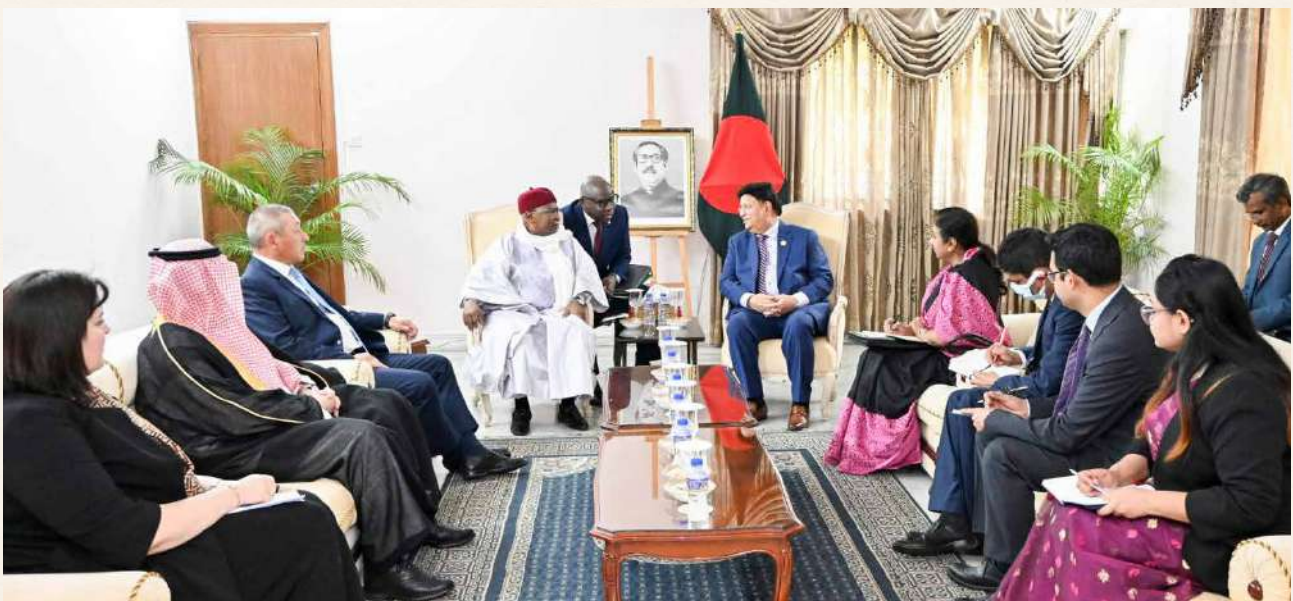
In order to increase trade between Bangladesh and Uzbekistan, the Uzbek Deputy Foreign Minister expressed optimism that if direct communication is established between Bangladesh's Chittagong and Iran's Chabahar port, the cost of transporting goods will be reduced.

Foreign Minister Momen expressed interest in importing cotton from Uzbekistan and Uzbek Deputy Foreign Minister expressed the view that Bangladesh can import cotton from Uzbekistan and export it to other countries through value addition. Foreign Minister Momen expressed interest in setting up a joint venture fertilizer factory

in Uzbekistan. Highlighting the incredible success of Bangladesh in the pharmaceutical industry, he said that Uzbekistan can also participate in this progress of Bangladesh. The Foreign Minister said in the meeting that the pharmaceutical industry has already been established in some African countries with Bangladeshi investment.

The Foreign Minister highlighted the words of Imam Bokhari and said that Imam Bokhari is widely read in Bangladesh and Bangladeshi citizens are interested in visiting Uzbekistan and businessmen are interested in trading in Uzbekistan. Hence, Foreign Minister Momen called for early issuance of visa to Bangladeshi citizens.

OIC Secretary General called on the Hon'ble Foreign Minister



A 07-member delegation led by the OIC Secretary General H.E. Hissein Brahim Taha paid a courtesy call on the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP at the State Guest House, Padma on 28 May 2023. During the meeting,

the Foreign Minister briefed the OIC Secretary General on the steps taken by the Government of Bangladesh, including the arrangements agreed with Myanmar for repatriation of the Rohingya people to Myanmar. The Foreign Minister appreciated

the support of the brotherly OIC Member countries for the Rohingya case filed in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) by The Gambia against Myanmar. Dr. Momen urged the OIC Secretary General to take concerted efforts to resolve



Rohingya crisis as well as garner international support for mobilizing funds for the Rohingya case.

The Foreign Minister expressed great concern about the rising trend of Islamophobia and called for more decisive actions by the OIC to counter Islamophobia. Dr. Momen also reiterated Bangladesh's continued support to the Islamic University of Technology (IUT), as a host country.

The OIC Secretary General

commended the strong leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina for providing shelter to the Rohingya people in Bangladesh on humanitarian grounds. He underscored that the Rohingya issue has been a constant item on the agenda of the OIC and opined that safe, dignified and sustainable repatriation of Rohingya people to Myanmar is the viable solution to this problem.

During his five-day official visit to Bangladesh, the OIC Secretary General visited the Rohingya Camps in Cox's Bazar. He also paid courtesy call on the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh on 28 May 2023. As the Chancellor of the Islamic University of Technology (IUT), OIC Secretary General attended the 35th Convocation of IUT on 30 May 2023.

Hon'ble Foreign Minister graced the "Peacekeepers' Run 2023", as the Chief Guest



Hon'ble Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP graced the "Peacekeepers' Run 2023", as the Chief Guest, on the occasion of the "International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers'-2023" to commemorate the sacrifice and noble service of all the peacekeepers on 29 May 2023. The Peacekeepers' Run and related ceremony were held at Bangladesh Air Force Central Mosque compound premises in Dhaka. Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam MP, Principal Staff Officer (PSO)

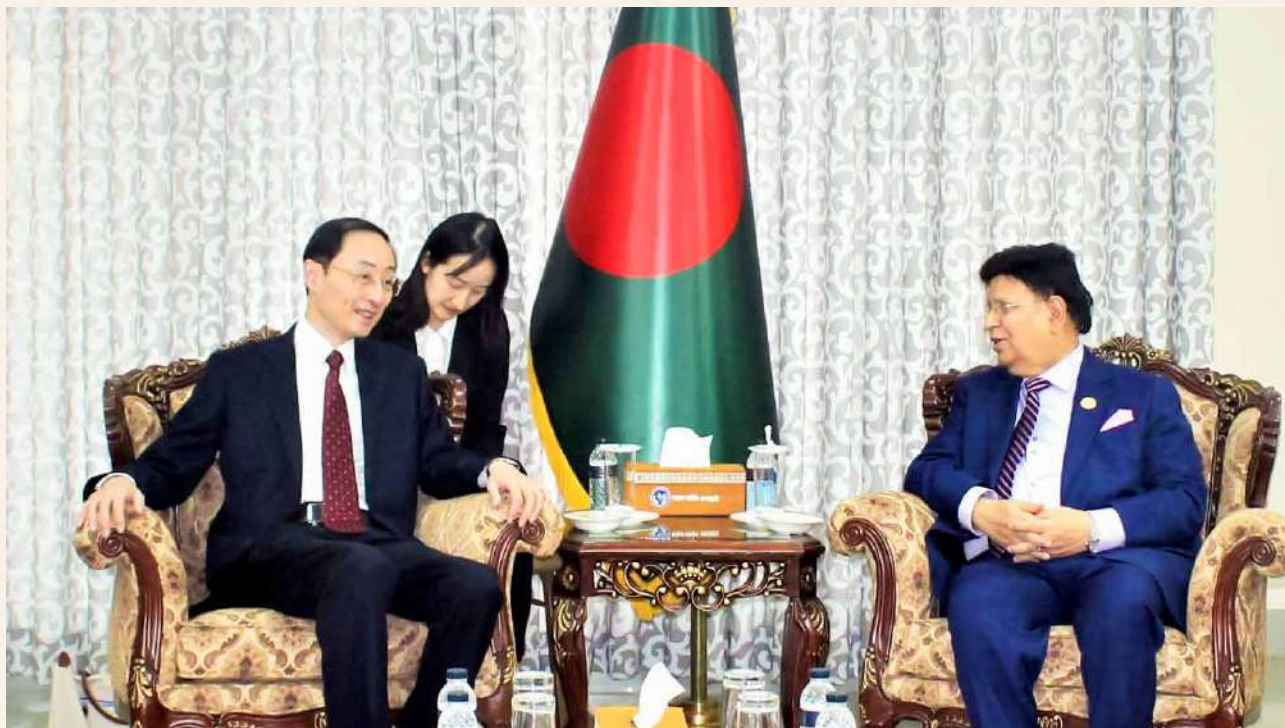
of the Armed Forces Division, Chief of General Staff (CGS) of Bangladesh Army, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh, Acting Foreign Secretary, officials from Bangladesh Armed Forces, Bangladesh Police and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and a number of UN employees, members of Armed Forces and Police, as well as students attended the Peacekeepers' Run at 6:15 am.

Hon'ble Foreign Minister highlighted that Bangladeshi peacekeepers are promoting the "culture of peace"

in the conflict-prone areas, and emerging as the ray of hope for the distressed people and war-torn communities. He expressed his thankfulness to all the current and past peacekeepers for their invaluable contribution to the humanity and expressed hoped that their endeavors would help to achieve meaningful and sustainable peace. The Chief Guest and other dignitaries released pigeons and balloons in commemoration of the Peacekeepers' Day being observed globally.



Vice Foreign Minister of China paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Foreign Minister



The Vice Foreign Minister of China Mr. Sun Weidong highly lauded the remarkable socio-economic transformation of Bangladesh under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Mr. Weidung made these observations during a courtesy call on Foreign Minister H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP at the Foreign Service Academy on 29 May 2023. Dr. Momen highly appreciated the substantial contributions made by China towards the developmental journey of Bangladesh. He profusely admired the excellent bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and expressed optimism that the constructive and collaborative relations would be further strengthened in the days ahead. Dr. Momen congratulated the Chinese Vice Minister for the

successful holding of the bilateral consultations on 27 May 2023 in Dhaka.

Noting the deep cultural, historical and civilization links between the two countries, Foreign Minister Abdul Momen mentioned about the visit of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to China in the 1950s and the book he wrote titled, *The New China as I Saw*.

Sharing his admiration for the magnificent Padma Multipurpose Bridge, the Chinese Vice Foreign Minister mentioned that the structure stands out as a new symbol of the friendship between Bangladesh and China and observed that the two countries could achieve miracles through greater and better synergies. Dr. Momen invited and encouraged a

larger flow of Chinese FDI into Bangladesh for the mutual benefit of both countries.

Dr. Momen recalled with profound appreciation the assistance that China offered during the Covid-19 pandemic and mentioned his brief meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister in Dhaka in January this year. While discussing the facility of DFQF access to 98% Bangladeshi products to China, he hoped that all necessary measures would be taken so that Bangladesh could get optimum benefit out of this arrangement. He also stressed on an expedited implementation of the projects agreed during the last visit of the Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping to Bangladesh.

The Chinese Vice Minister praised Bangladesh's energetic youth population capable of making a



significant change in the society and economy. He referred to the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative of the Chinese President Xi Jinping and hoped that Bangladesh reaped the maximum benefits out of this grand scheme.

The two Ministers reviewed the

ongoing efforts for repatriation of the forcibly displaced Rohingya people back to their homeland in Myanmar smoothly and on an expeditious basis. Foreign Minister Momen thanked the Chinese Government for making sincere efforts for the safe and quick

return of the Rohingya people from Bangladesh. Both of them expressed similar views that the problem needed an urgent solution, because if left unaddressed for any longer, it could potentially evolve as a tangible threat to the regional security and stability.

Hon'ble Foreign Minister attended the Certificate Awarding Ceremony at Foreign Service Academy



Foreign Service Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Short Course on 'Diplomatic Orientation' for the newly appointed Labour Wing-officers-designate to different Bangladesh Missions abroad on 29 May 2023. Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP was the Chief Guest of the ceremony. Acting Foreign Secretary Rear Admiral (Retd.) Md. Khurshed Alam, BN also remained present in the programme.

The Short Course on 'Diplomatic Orientation' held from 14-25 May 2023 at the Foreign Service Academy was participated by eleven officers. Five of them will be joining our different missions in the Middle East (Dubai, Doha, Baghdad,

Beirut), three in Southeast Asia (Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Brunei), and one each in East Asia (Seoul), Africa (Port Louis), and East Europe (Bucharest).

The Rector of the Academy stated that this type of orientation course would not only equip the officers with the necessary skills and knowledge but also provides an invaluable opportunity to us for outreach and collaboration with other Ministries of the government.

The Acting Foreign Secretary praised the Foreign Service Academy and the trainee officers for the successful completion of the short course. Explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Labour-Wing officers, he remarked that in the rapidly evolving global landscape, the role of the Labour Wing is more

crucial than ever. He urged them to conduct an extensive study of their host countries' labour markets and policies and find new windows of opportunities to promote our labour force.

In his remarks, Foreign Minister, Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP expressed the expectation that the guidelines and knowledge that they have acquired in the training will help them safeguard the interest of Bangladesh's expatriate community around the world. Stating the great achievement of Bangladesh of graduating to a middle income country, he remarked that it poses manifold challenges too. He stated that the Labour Wing-officers, therefore, shall try to unlock newer opportunities to cope with these challenges. He urged the officers



to work for enhancing the skills of expatriate workers and to safeguard their interest while at the same time offering all possible assistance and

support to them. Senior officials of the Ministry, distinguished members of the academia and resource persons of the short

course graced the occasion with their presence.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs visited Brussels



▶ With Mr. Stefano SANNINO, Secretary General, EEAS



▶ With EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Mr. Janez Lenarčič



▶ With EU Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson



▶ Meeting between Hon'ble State Minister and EU Commissioner for International Partnerships Ms. Jutta Urpilainen

A four-member delegation led by H.E. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs visited Brussels on 02-05 May 2023, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of establishment of Bangladesh-EU diplomatic relations. The delegation met with the EU Commissioners, members of the European Parliament, high dignitaries of other EU institutions, think tanks and media personalities in Brussels.

The EU commended Bangladesh on its outstanding development

journey. Bangladesh side gratefully acknowledged the role of the EU in the country's development since independence, particularly how the Everything but Arms (EBA) has changed the social fabric of the country for the better. The EU was apprised of steps being taken by the government to prepare for graduation and the much bigger role of the EU envisaged in the future, particularly in the areas of post-LDC trade relations, infrastructure development under EU's Global Gateway initiative,

green transition, talent partnership for skilled migration, human rights development, etc. Bangladesh expressed hope for an early launching of the Partnership Cooperation Agreement which would be an important institutional and legal mechanism to concretise the elevated relations.

Bangladesh expressed appreciation of the EU's political and humanitarian support for the Rohingyas being temporarily sheltered by Bangladesh and sought EU's support for their early repatriation to Myanmar. The



two sides also shared their views on different regional and international issues of mutual interest and concerns, including climate change, Russia-Ukraine conflict, Indo-Pacific, combating human trafficking and migrants smuggling, etc. Hon'ble State Minister engaged

in an interactive conversation on Bangladesh's foreign policy and geopolitical role in the Indo-Pacific region, EU-Bangladesh relations, impact of Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine, global peace, Rohingya crisis, climate change and more at the event titled 'EPC Talks

Geopolitics' at the European Policy Centre in Brussels. The audience, which included members of the diplomatic corps, academia and media, were enlightened by the Talk about Bangladesh and the country's growing role in international peace and development.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs met with the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission in Brussels



Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP held a meeting with the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People and European Trade Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis in Brussels, and discussed trade and investment partnership between Bangladesh and the EU, including EU's new GSP scheme, investments in renewable energy, green transport, etc. sectors in Bangladesh under the EU's Global Gateway initiative, and other bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs hosted a dinner in honor of former Prime Minister of New Zealand

Dinner hosted by Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP in honor of The Rt Hon Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand on 11 May 2023 at State Guest House Padma.





Minister PMO & 2nd Minister for Education & Foreign Affairs of Singapore met Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs



H.E. Dr. Mohamad MALIKI Bin Osman, Hon. Minister, PMO & 2nd Minister for Education & Foreign Affairs of Singapore, met Hon'ble

State Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, on the sideline of the 6th IOC in Dhaka on 12 May 2023. They lauded the

excellent bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Singapore & vowed to strengthen it further in the coming days.

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea called on Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs



H.E. Mr. Lee Jang-keun, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Bangladesh made a farewell call on

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh Md. Shahriar Alam, MP at his office on 17 May

2023. They exchanged views on furthering the bilateral cooperation in the sectors of trade & investment,



skilled labour, connectivity, Indo-Pacific, high-level visits, people to people contact etc.

Ambassador Lee highlighted 4 major milestones that have been achieved during his tenure in Bangladesh-increase of bilateral trade (from USD 1.5 billion to USD 3 billion), ODA (USD 700 million to USD 3 billion), EPS Workers (from 1,500 to

10,000 per year) and FDI (USD 1.4 billion in 2022).

He also expressed his satisfaction for the ongoing Dhaka-Seoul direct flight and the inauguration of the assembling plants of 2 Korean giant companies - Hyundai and Samsung in Bangladesh. Hon'ble State Minister expressed his happiness for the ongoing development activities

between the two countries. He stressed on the exchange of high-level visits to tap the full potential of the existing bilateral relations.

Hon'ble State Minister thanked the Ambassador for his successful tenure in Bangladesh and wished him success for his future assignment.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs inaugurated a special photo exhibition in Dhaka

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP inaugurated a special photo exhibition titled "Roots of Friendship: 50 Years of US-Bangladesh Relations" at EMK Centre, Dhaka on 30 May 2023.



9th Bangladesh-US Partnership Dialogue held in Washington D. C.

The 9th Bangladesh-US Partnership Dialogue was held at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC on 3rd May 2023 where key bilateral and global issues of mutual interest were discussed. Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen and U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Ambassador Victoria Nuland

led their respective delegations.

Foreign Secretary Momen briefed the US side about Prime Minister's visit to Japan and later to Washington D.C. to celebrate the 50 years of partnership between Bangladesh and the World Bank. He also shared the outline of Bangladesh's recently released Indo-Pacific Outlook. Ambassador Nuland noted the

number of areas of convergence between the two countries' respective Indo-Pacific documents. Foreign Secretary Momen also briefed his US counterpart about various measures taken by the Election Commission to pave the way for free and fair elections. The US side appreciated the Bangladesh Prime Minister's expressed commitment to ensure free and fair elections as well as her



openness to engage international election monitors.

The Bangladesh Foreign Secretary shared some of the positive developments on Bangladesh's recent human rights performance. Ambassador Nuland acknowledged

the Bangladesh Government's announcement to review the Digital Security Act by this year. She also emphasized the importance of continuing progress with the labour sector reform in order for attracting enhanced investment from the US. Appreciating the remarkable

generosity of the Government of Bangladesh in hosting the persecuted Rohingya, Ambassador Nuland assured continued support of the USA. The two sides exchanged their views on the climate change related issues and discussed areas of cooperation in this regard.



The Second Foreign Office Consultations between Bangladesh & Viet Nam held in Dhaka

The Second Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) between Bangladesh & Viet Nam was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dhaka on 14 May 2023. Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen led the Bangladesh delegation, while a 09-member Vietnamese delegation was led by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Viet Nam H.E. Mr. Do Hung Viet. The entire gamut of the bilateral relations, including cooperation in the areas of trade & commerce, investment, energy, halal trade, tourism & culture, education, health, defence & security, agriculture, fisheries & livestock, ICT & telecommunication, direct

air link etc. came under discussion. They also exchanged views on issues of mutual interests in the regional & international arena. Both the sides expressed optimism that the FOC, held after a hiatus of almost six years, would contribute significantly to adding further impetus and momentum to the existing bilateral engagements. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the current level of bilateral cooperation and stressed on further deepening the synergies through prudent utilization of the available complementarities. The FOC agreed to explore possibilities of concluding a bilateral FTA in order to add further substance to the steadily increasing bilateral trade

and economic relations between the two regional countries, particularly in context of the LDC graduation of Bangladesh. Highlighting the lucrative incentives and facilities offered by Bangladesh for the Foreign Direct Investment, Foreign Secretary encouraged the Vietnamese business community and entrepreneurs to avail the opportunities, particularly in the Economic Zones of Bangladesh, for mutual benefit. The two sides stressed the importance of maintaining the momentum through regular exchange of high level visits and agreed to organize the Joint Trade Commission Meeting in Dhaka this year. Bangladesh also proposed formation of the Joint Commission



at the Foreign Ministers' level for comprehensive cooperation. Both sides stressed the importance of direct air links for facilitating trade, commerce and investment and for accelerating tourism and people-to-people contacts. Both Dhaka and Hanoi agreed to explore the

possibilities for initiating direct flights at the earliest.

Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen requested Viet Nam to play a more pro-active role bilaterally and within the ASEAN framework for an expeditious repatriation of the

Rohingya people from Bangladesh to their homeland in Myanmar. He also sought an expeditious inclusion of Bangladesh as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN. Bangladesh & Viet Nam are celebrating the Fifty Years of Diplomatic Ties this year.



Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) spoke at an event on the Role and Contribution of Intergovernmental Dialogues in Promoting Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

A dialogue on “The Role and Contribution of Intergovernmental Dialogues in Promoting Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Examples from the Budapest and Colombo Processes” was convened by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Foreign Service Academy on 16 May 2023. Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen spoke at the event. After the dialogue, the visiting Director General of International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) called on the Foreign Secretary.





Bangladesh and the Netherlands held the Fifth Foreign Office Consultations in Dhaka



Bangladesh and the Netherlands held the Fifth Foreign Office Consultations on 21 May 2023 in Dhaka. Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen and Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Paul Huijts led respective delegation at the FOC.

Both sides agreed to further deepen bilateral ties, particularly in the economic field. The two sides also agreed to deepen cooperation in trade and investment, implementation of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, human resources development, food and agriculture, ICT and digital economy, regional and global issues of common interest and concern, including global peace and security, water and climate change,

delta management, SDGs, etc. Bangladesh appreciated the Netherlands for its support in Bangladesh's water resources management, food security, skills development, RMG sectors. Both sides also shared perspectives on increased economic collaboration between the two countries in the post-LDC graduation period. The two sides recognized that entrepreneurs, SMEs and business can engage in mutually gainful collaboration on knowledge – innovation – solutions in wide-ranging areas like water efficiency, digitalization, circularity, energy, climate adaptation, maritime, design thinking, sustainability, and agriculture. The two sides also discussed developments in the region, including the importance of increasing cooperation and

connectivity between the EU and the Indo-Pacific region and opportunities for strengthening Bangladesh – Netherlands co-operation in multilateral fora. The Netherlands expressed its gratitude for Bangladesh's hosting around 1.2 million Rohingyas and recognized the importance of the ongoing international efforts on securing justice and accountability for human rights violations committed in Myanmar. The two sides also expressed their commitment to working with the international community on a safe, sustainable, and voluntary return of the Rohingya to their homeland, Myanmar.

A Joint Statement was issued after the Foreign Office Consultations.



Bangladesh and China held the 12th Foreign Office Consultations in Dhaka



Bangladesh and China held the 12th Foreign Office Consultations at the State Guest House ‘Padma’ in Dhaka on 27 May 2023. Bangladesh delegation was led by Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) while the Chinese delegation was led by Mr. Sun Weidong, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

Vice Minister Sun Weidong mentioned that he is visiting Bangladesh after ten years and is very much impressed to see Bangladesh’s tremendous development achievements carried out by the Government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Both delegations discussed a wide range of issues of mutual interests and cooperation in multilateral fora. The Chinese side reiterated its appreciation to Bangladesh for its continued support to One

China Policy. They recalled the recent high-level political exchanges and meetings that have further deepened the strategic partnership of cooperation. Bangladesh once again thanked China for its support for vaccines to manage the Covid-19 pandemic.

The two sides reviewed the progress of different quality infrastructure projects in Bangladesh and welcomed the upcoming inauguration of mega projects like the Bangabandhu Tunnel under the river Karnaphuli and the Padma Bridge Rail-link. Both sides agreed to further streamline the outstanding issues concerning a few additional project proposals in the power and communication sectors. The two sides also discussed ways to enhance the exports to China by utilizing the Duty and Quota Free (DFQF) access to 98% of the products that has come into effect on 1st September 2022. The Chinese

side expressed particular interest in importing tropical fruits like mango, jackfruit, guava and frozen foods from Bangladesh in compliance with necessary quality specifications. The Bangladesh side requested to include other export items like vegetables, pharmaceuticals, raw hides, foot wares, non-knit apparel etc. in the DFQF coverage to minimize the existing trade imbalance with China.

The Chinese Vice Minister assured of encouraging the Chinese farms to invest in the Chinese Special Economic Zone in Chattogram. They also advised for timely notification of interest with the Chinese Civil Aviation Authority for resuming the Dhaka-Guanzhou direct flight by Biman Bangladesh Airlines. Two sides agreed to launch regular Consular Consultations with a view to addressing visa-related issues, especially for Bangladeshi students. Bangladesh expressed its



interest in working together with China on innovation in digital technologies and biotechnologies. Both sides also showed interest in contributing to the regional connectivity in South and South East Asia under the auspices of the Belt and Road Initiative of China.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the existing defense cooperation and discussed the possibilities of regular staff-level talks and specialized training programs. China offered its support to build capacity for addressing emerging challenges like online gambling and drug trafficking. The two

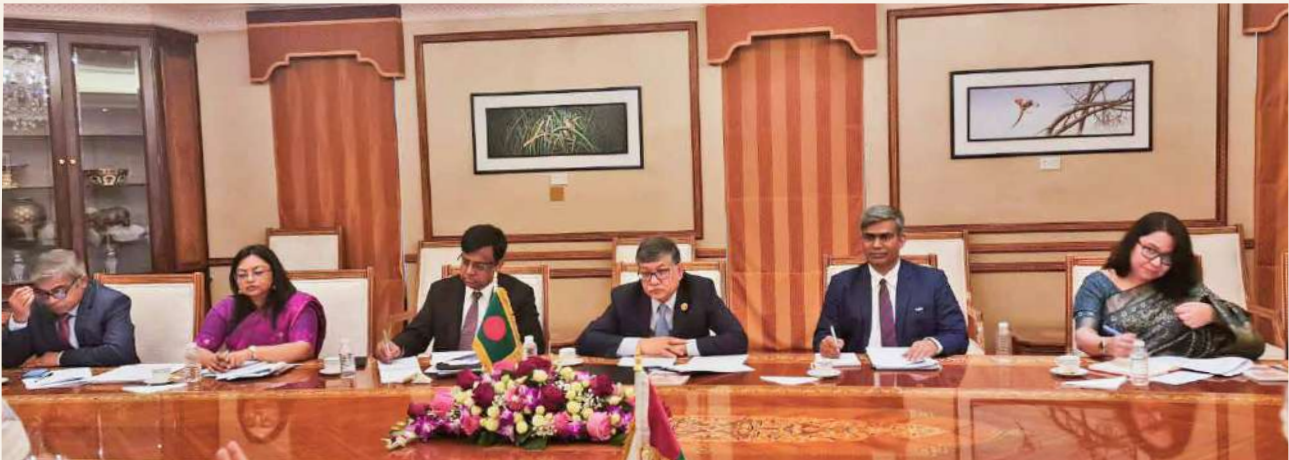
sides agreed in principle to have dedicated dialogue on public security issues. Bangladesh thanked China for sharing meteorological satellite information during natural calamities like cyclone and flood.

They also discussed other multilateral and regional issues including the Rohingya crisis. The Chinese side reiterated to facilitate the early, safe, sustainable and voluntary repatriation of the Rohingyas to Rakhine State from Bangladesh. The Vice Minister mentioned that an early repatriation would be beneficial for Bangladesh, Myanmar and the whole region. The Chinese

side appreciated the initiatives of Bangladesh to arrange the 'Go and See' visit in Myanmar and 'Come and Talk' visit in Bangladesh by the respective delegations of Bangladesh and Myanmar to facilitate the repatriation of the first batch of the Pilot Project.

The Foreign Secretary thanked China for their cooperation and emphasized on Bangladesh's ongoing efforts to arrange continued voluntary and sustainable repatriation engaging the friendly countries, regional and international organizations.

Bangladesh and Oman held the third round of political consultations in Muscat



The third round of political consultations between Bangladesh and the Sultanate of Oman took place at the Omani Foreign Ministry in Muscat on 28 May 2023. The Bangladesh delegation was led by Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, while the Omani side was led by Sheikh Khalifa Alharthy, the Undersecretary for Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The consultations were attended

by Bangladesh's Ambassador to Oman Mr. Md. Nazmul Islam and Director General (West Asia) Mr. Md. Shafiqur Rahman and officials from both foreign ministries.

The delegations reviewed the whole gamut of bilateral relations, covering political exchanges, defence cooperation, trade and economic matters, consular issues, and cooperation in areas such as Manpower, Energy, Agriculture, Education, Health, etc. The

Consultations took note of the need for holding the Joint Technical Committee meeting on Manpower cooperation soon, and underlined the need for deeper engagement in trade and economic fields between the two countries through setting up a Joint Business Chamber between apex trade bodies, initiating port-to-port connectivity, higher interaction and visit among businesses between the two countries. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the regular



consultations and agreed to diversify cooperation in various areas of clean energy, direct shipping, recruitment of healthcare professionals, Information Technology to enhance and consolidate the existing relationship.

There was also exchange of views on cooperation in international platforms and contemporary global issues. Both sides agreed to hold the next round of Consultations at

mutually convenient dates in 2024 in Dhaka. During his visit to Oman, Bangladesh Foreign Secretary also met with Dr. Saleh bin Said bin Salem Masen, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion. He appraised the Undersecretary on the economic development gains in Bangladesh and sought greater trade and investment cooperation from Omani side. Foreign Secretary

invited the Undersecretary to visit Bangladesh with a business delegation. He also met Mr. Nasr bin Amer Al Hosni, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour for Work, to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation in these two key sectors. Both sides expressed optimism about convening the next meeting on Joint Commission on Manpower shortly. There were exchange of views on issues of common interests.

Maritime Affairs Unit organized a training course on 'Law of the Sea' for the government officials

Maritime Affairs Unit organized a training course for the relevant government officials on 'Law of the Sea' on 14-18 May 2023 in Dhaka in collaboration with the Australian High Commission in Dhaka and Australian National Centre for

Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), a centre of expertise within the University of Wollongong. Around thirty (30) government officials attended the training Course. Prior to this, Maritime Affairs Unit also arranged a course

for the students of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University on 'Maritime Regulation & Enforcement' on 8-11 May 2023. Around eighty (80) students from the Maritime University attended the course.



Hon'ble Minister for Information and Broadcasting led the Bangladesh Delegation at the 2nd EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum in Stockholm

H.E. Dr. Hasan Mahmud, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Broadcasting led the Bangladesh Delegation at the 2nd EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum held at

Stockholm on 13 May 2023. On the sidelines of the Indo-Pacific Forum, Hon'ble Minister had bilateral meetings with H.E. Mr. Francisco Andre, State Secretary of Portugal;

H.E. Lord Ahmad, Minister of State for Middle East, South Asia, North Africa and the United Nations of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United



Kingdom; H.E. Ms. Hadja Lahbib, Belgian Foreign Minister and H.E. Mr. Tobias Billstrom, Foreign Minister of Sweden. During his

meeting with the Swedish Foreign Minister, the current transition in bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Sweden from

development to trade partnership was particularly highlighted.



Hon'ble Commerce Minister visited Hungary

Hon'ble Commerce Minister H. E. Tipu Munshi, MP paid an official visit to Hungary from 05-06 May 2023 at the invitation of the Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade H.E. Mr. Péter Szijjártó. The two Ministers discussed a wide range of issues

of mutual interest, in the context of a burgeoning relations between Bangladesh and Hungary, during the bilateral meeting held in the Hungarian Foreign Ministry in Budapest on 05 May 2023. Both expressed their satisfaction over the significant increase of bilateral

trade last year and underscored the need of exploring new avenues to expand bilateral trade further. The Ministers agreed to widen and deepen relations in the fields of trade and investment, including post-graduation facilities, among others.





Embassy Officials and Bangladeshi Community took part in the 5th edition of the Diplomatic Football Tournament in Egypt

A Bangladesh team consisting of the Embassy Officials and Bangladeshi Community in Egypt took part in the 5th edition of the Diplomatic Football Tournament. It was organized by the German Embassy in Cairo at the famous Gezira Sporting Club under the banner 'Uniting the World in Egypt'. A total of 30 teams from different Embassies and International Organizations in

Cairo participated in the tournament divided into 7 groups.

During the opening day of the tournament, Bangladesh Ambassador said that this tournament will bring together people from different countries and nationalities. The football field will provide an opportunity to know each other and celebrate

the universal nature of the sport. The Ambassador also said that our main objective was to highlight the national flag and national anthem of Bangladesh in the international arena. At the same time, this will create a bridge among the foreign Embassies and Bangladesh's image will be brightened to the countries of the world in Egypt.



Bangladesh Embassy in Abu Dhabi inaugurated NID services to expatriates



Bangladesh Embassy, Abu Dhabi would be the first mission to deliver the NID services to expatriates

Bangladeshi in foreign soil. One high-level team from Bangladesh Election Commission headed

by the Director General of NID Wing and another technical team visited UAE in the second half of



May and completed installation of NID service facilities both at the Embassy in Abu Dhabi and the Consulate General in Dubai. They also held an interactive session with the stakeholders to give a broad view about the whole NID process.

Both the missions have started processing the NID application on trial-run basis and would start to deliver the services from 1st July 2023 in full swing. Until now, expatriates Bangladeshis can apply for new NID from UAE; whereas

the correction of NID services would be added later. Delivery of NID from the Embassy was a much sought-after demand from Bangladeshi expatriate community.

Bangladesh Ambassador in China met with Chairman of CIDCA

Bangladesh Ambassador to China Mr. Md. Jashim Uddin, ndc had a meeting with Mr. Luo Zhaohui, Chairman

of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) at the on 10 May 2023 and reviewed progress

of programs/ projects and discussed economic cooperation related issues between Bangladesh and China.



Mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation attended a discussion meeting in Beijing

Bangladesh Ambassador to China Mr. Md. Jashim Uddin, ndc along with an eleven-member delegation led by Mr. Atiqul Islam, Mayor,

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) from Bangladesh attended a discussion meeting on a project “waste to energy” with Mr.

Fang Yanshui, President, China Machinery Engineering Group (CMEC) Group in Beijing on 23 May 2023.





Bangladesh High Commission, Islamabad celebrated the Independence and National Day

Bangladesh High Commission, Islamabad celebrated the 52nd anniversary of the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh with due dignity, solemnity and joy in Pakistan.

This year the Independence and National Day has been celebrated in two phases. The first programme was held on March 26, 2023 at the Chancery while the second programme on 04 May, 2023 at the Hotel Marriott in Islamabad.

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Pakistan Md. Ruhul Alam Siddique and his wife Mrs. Shamshad Ara Khanam hosted a reception on the evening of May 04, 2023 at the local elite Hotel Marriott. More than 400 guests including Federal Ministers, Senators, Members of Parliament,

Speaker of Provincial Assembly and Members of Provincial Assemblies, Senior civil and military officials of the Government of Pakistan, Ambassadors/High Commissioners of different countries, Representatives of international organizations, business leaders, journalists, civil society representatives, media personalities and expatriate Bangladeshis attended the reception. On this occasion, the High Commissioner cut the cake along with the Federal Ministers, Senators, Members of Parliament, Deans of the Diplomatic Corps, Ambassadors and High Commissioners of SAARC countries. The invited guests were entertained with a variety of delicious foods including Bangladeshi cuisines.

At the reception venue, the 'Bangabandhu Corner' was set up

highlighting the glorious history of Bangladesh's independence and portraying the long ways of gradual development. With great interest, the visitors observed the banners, festoons, magazines, books and publications placed at the corner.

In his brief remarks, the High Commissioner highlighted the progress made in the development of Bangladesh during the last 51 years, particularly during the first three and a half-years under the leadership of the greatest Bangalee of all times, the architect of Independent Bangladesh the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and for more than eighteen years under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.





Bangladesh Embassy in Greece organized a public hearing

Bangladesh Embassy in Greece organized a public hearing in the morning of 16 May 2023 in the Embassy premises. Ambassador Ashud Ahmed met the service seekers coming to the Embassy in the morning. Minister (Political), First Secretary (Labour) and

Second Secretary of the Embassy were also present during the public hearings. The service seekers talked about various problems with respect to their passport and other documents. Embassy team chaired by the Ambassador listened to each case and provided them with

necessary suggestions and opinions to solve their problems.

The service seekers expressed their satisfaction for organizing the public hearings and thanked the Embassy to extend all possible support to them.



► Ambassador spoke to the service seekers

Ambassador M Riaz Hamidullah represented Bangladesh in the Fifth Review Conference of OPCW, The Hague



► Ambassador Riaz Hamidullah speaking at the fifth Review Conference of OPCW, 16 May 2023

The 5th Review Conference (RevCon, held every five years) of the Organization for the Prohibition

of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) took place from 15 to 19 May 2023, offering a platform for an intensive

review process that spanned an entire week. Ambassador M Riaz Hamidullah, the Permanent



Representative of Bangladesh to the OPCW delivered the National Statement as an active State Party to the Convention.

More than 800 representatives from OPCW Member States, civil society,

chemical industry and academia joined the weeklong review process. In addition to the core conference, a series of side events complemented the main agenda, providing a more in-depth exploration of specific issues, both technical and policy-

oriented. Previously, Bangladesh has secured the Executive Council membership for the term 2024-2026 through intense negotiations with the 56 Asian Member States.

Embassy of Bangladesh in Manama participated in the annual International Embassies' Bazaar



Bangladesh Embassy in Manama participated in this year's annual International Embassies' Bazaar organized by the Children & Mothers' Welfare Society of Bahrain on 11 May 2023. The Embassy's stall caught the eyes of many prominent female members of

the Bahraini royal family as well as the wives and daughters of foreign diplomats and numerous other fairgoers with diverse Bangladeshi products like clothing, handicrafts, Nakshi Kantha, and various hand-made jute products.

The fair was inaugurated by the

spouse of the Chairman of the National Council for Arts, Shaikha Luluwah bint Khalifa Al Khalifa. Almost every Diplomatic Mission in Bahrain took part in this year's fair. The spouse of the Ambassador, Mrs. Najmun Nahar Habib along with the wives of Embassy officials



managed the Bangladesh stall at the fair, which ran from 10:00 am to 04:00 pm.

The Embassy's stall amassed a large crowd. It was appreciated by all the fairgoers and was easily among the most visited stalls at the fair. The earnings from the stall were donated to the Children & Mothers' Welfare Society to not only help needy Bahraini mothers but to

also further bolster Bangladesh's position in humanitarian diplomacy while promoting the nation's culture and heritage in an international platform.

Ambassador Dr. Md. Nazrul visited the Embassy's stall as well as the stalls of other participating embassies with his spouse, where he met with their heads of missions, their wives, and their officials. He

stated that this fair provided yet another opportunity to promote the culture, heritage, and tradable commodities of Bangladesh at an international fair and expressed his appreciation to the Children & Mothers' Welfare Society for their role in performing various welfare-related activities, services, and fairs for the betterment of needy Bahraini women and children.

TEC de Monterrey University's International Affairs students visited Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City

Bangladesh Ambassador to Mexico Ms. Abida Islam delivered an insightful presentation on Bangladesh's remarkable development journey to a group of 16 visiting students from TEC de Monterrey University's International Affairs

Department. The esteemed presence of Ms. Vania Ramirez, the Director of Political Science and International Affairs, added to the significance of the occasion. The students displayed great enthusiasm in learning about Bangladesh, its rich culture, and

the empowerment of women in the country, as well as gained insights into the Bangladesh government's policies for socio-economic development. The students were treated to a delicious spread of authentic Bangladeshi cuisine following the event.





Spain expands transport infrastructure cooperation with Bangladesh

Bangladesh's bilateral cooperation with Spain in the area of transport infrastructure development gained traction as the Secretary of the Bridges Division Md. Monjur Hossain paid a visit to Madrid on 23-25 May 2023 and accompanied by Bangladesh's Ambassador to Spain Mohammad Sarwar Mahmood, ndc, held a series of meetings with the Spanish infrastructure company TYPSA at its headquarters in Madrid, the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Commerce

and Tourism and the Spanish Institute for Foreign Trade (ICEX), and inspected Calle 30 Tunnel Control Centre in Madrid. Notably, the Bangladesh Bridge Authority has engaged TYPSA to draw up the masterplan and the feasibility studies for the bridges of the Meghna River, on the Shariatpur-Chandpur, Bhola-Lakshmipur and Gajaria-Munshiganj roads, and the inner elevated ring road around Dhaka. In addition to leading the consortium

and managing the whole project, TYPSA is preparing a masterplan which involves transport modelling at the national level, feasibility studies for elevated motorways, traffic studies, structural design, hydrological and hydromorphic studies, the identification, study and prioritization of new transport project investments, the analysis of potential sources of funding and all the economic and financial activities planned.



Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid participated in the International Defence and Security Fair

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid participated in the International Defence and Security Fair FEINDEF held on 17-19 May 2023 in Madrid to further explore the existing defence cooperation between

Bangladesh and Spain. The only fair in Spain in the defence and security sector institutionally supported by the Ministry of Defence, it is positioned as the most important defence and security event held in the country.

Bangladesh's Ambassador to Spain Mohammad Sarwar Mahmood, ndc paid a visit to the exhibition and held substantive discussions with the important stakeholders and CEOs of some prominent companies of Spain.





Bangladesh Embassy in Kathmandu introduced digital payment system for consular services

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Kathmandu introduced digital payment system for consular services on 23 May 2023. Now service seekers can make payments for consular services by QR and POS system at the Embassy.



Bangladesh High Commissioner in Maldives called on Higher Education Minister

Hon'ble High Commissioner SM Abul Kalam Azad met Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education Mr. Ibrahim Hasan in Maldives on May 15, 2023. During the meeting, the Minister requested the High

Commissioner to arrange an exposure visit to Bangladesh for the staff of the Maldives Polytechnic. He also requested to explore the higher education opportunities for the nurses of Maldives. The High

Commissioner assured the Minister to assist in this regard. Minister of State of Ministry Miz Khadija Adam and Counsellor of the Mission Mr. Md Sohel Parvez were present at the meeting.





Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata inaugurated the event 'EK PAATE DUI BANGLA'

The Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata inaugurated the event 'EK PAATE DUI BANGLA' on 13 May 2023 at City Centre II, New Town, Kolkata to portray the cultural confluence of the two Bengals bringing together

the best of culinary creations from Bangladesh and West Bengal under one roof. The event was hosted by 'Patrika', the weekend feature of the Bengali daily Anandabazar Patrika of India and supported by the Bangladesh Deputy High

Commission, Kolkata. The Deputy High Commission presented exquisite Bangladeshi dishes at its stall which was thronged by the food lovers of West Bengal.



Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Karachi called on the Governor of Sindh province



Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Karachi, S. M. Mahbubul Alam called on the Governor Sindh H.E. Mr. Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori at the Sindh Governor's House

in Karachi on 22 May 2023. Governor of Sindh Province very warmly received the Deputy High Commissioner at the Governor House. During the meeting the Deputy High Commissioner S.

M. Mahbubul Alam briefed the Governor of Sindh on various socio-economic achievements in Bangladesh. He mentioned that under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime



Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has become a 'Role Model' of socio-economic development in the world and Bangladesh is currently among the five fastest growing economies in the world, ranking the 35th in terms of GDP. He mentioned that Bangladesh has fulfilled all the criteria for the graduation to developing countries from the LDC status. He also mentioned about the

"Vision-2041" to turn Bangladesh into an upper middle-income country by 2031 and a developed and smart country by 2041 and building a prosperous and climate-resilient delta by 2100.

The Governor of Sindh highly appreciated the impressive socio-economic developments in Bangladesh. He commented that the development

of Bangladesh is very impressive and further commented that other developing country might learn from Bangladesh, which is truly an example to follow. He was encouraged to learn that business delegations are being visiting Bangladesh and attached huge importance to the exchange of more business delegations from both the countries for wider cooperation.

Consulate General of Bangladesh in Hong Kong showcased the rich, vibrant and diverse art and culture of Bangladesh at the Asia World Expo



Consulate General of Bangladesh in Hong Kong showcased the rich, vibrant and diverse art and culture of Bangladesh in the "2nd Belt and Road National Art and Culture Expo 2023" held from 24-27 May 2023 at the Asia World Expo in Hong Kong. The Expo was organized by the Paper Communication Exhibition Services and with the support of twenty countries including Bangladesh, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, Panama, Russia, Hungary, Poland, Cambodia, Zimbabwe, Qatar, Senegal, South Africa, Nigeria, Tanzania, etc.

Ms. Israt Ara, Consul General of Bangladesh was invited to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony

alongwith other guests on 24 May 2023 and also was a guest speaker. In her speech, the Consul General highlighted the rich, vibrant and diverse heritage, art and culture of Bangladesh. Referring to the four Intangible Cultural Heritages of Bangladesh which have been included in the UNESCO's list, she stated that our deep rooted heritage is profoundly reflected in our architecture, literature, dance, drama, music, art & paintings, festivals and so on. She also added that the cultural tradition of our country is a happy blending of many variants and unique in diversity. A short video clip on Bangladesh's archeological attractions, art, paintings, food, dance, music,

festival, etc. was displayed which was appreciated by the audience.

More than 250 renowned art galleries/organizations of Hong Kong and some Consulates based in Hong Kong including Bangladesh installed booths in the Expo where traditional and modern art pieces, paintings of famous international and local artists were displayed. Other than paintings of Bangladeshi artists, Bangladeshi traditional 'Nakshi Kantha', jute products, handicrafts were displayed in Bangladesh booth which attracted many visitors. Guests were provided with tea bags of Bangladesh as a token gift.

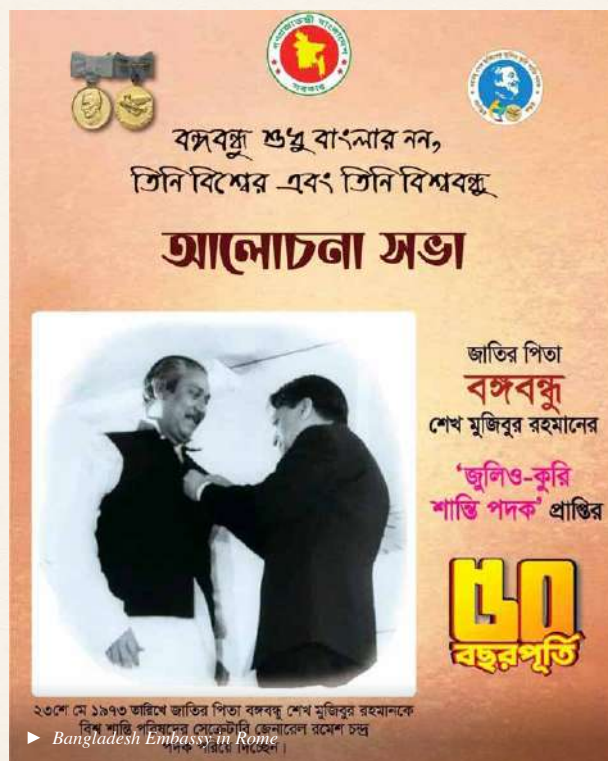


Bangladesh Missions abroad celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the conferment of the Joliot-Curie Peace Medal to the Father of the Nation

Bangladesh Missions abroad celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the conferment of the Joliot-Curie Peace Medal to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with due festivity. The programs included paying floral tribute at the portrait of the Father of the Nation, reading out of the

messages of the Hon'ble President and Hon'ble Prime Minister on this occasion, screening of documentary and discussion meetings. Some Missions included recitation from the Holy Quran, prayers for Bangabandhu and his martyred family members, for the salvation of their souls tragically lost, and

for the long life and success of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Ambassadors and diplomats from other countries, Bangladeshi expatriates, Bangladeshi students, civil society members, all the officers-employees of the mission participated in the programme.



► Bangladesh Embassy in Rome



► Bangladesh Embassy in Beijing



► Bangladesh Embassy in Hanoi



► Bangladesh Embassy in Madrid



► Bangladesh Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan



► Bangladesh High Commission in Maldives



► Bangladesh High Commission in Maldives



► Bangladesh Embassy in Ankara



► Bangladesh Embassy in Ankara



► Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata



► Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata



► Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Karachi



Bangladesh Missions abroad celebrated Pohela Boishakh with great joy and enthusiasm

Bangladesh missions abroad celebrated Pohela Boishakh (Bangla New Year) with great joy and enthusiasm. On this occasion, the Embassy premises were decorated with traditional Boishaki item, special banners and festoons prepared. Cultural program was held when Bangladeshi poems, songs and dances were performed.

The day started with the traditional “Mangal Shobhajatra” a colorful and lively parade with people dressed in traditional attire, carrying colorful masks, banners, and other festive items in the morning. The rich culture and long heritage of Bangladesh were highlighted at the colorful event showcasing traditional pitha

(cake). Ambassadors and diplomats from other countries, Bangladeshi community members, civil society members, friends of Bangladesh and representatives of various cultural and business organizations participated in the festival.



► Bangladesh Embassy in Beijing



► Bangladesh embassy in Vienna



► Bangladesh embassy in Athens



► Bangladesh Embassy in Madrid



► Bangladesh embassy in Mexico City



► Bangladesh embassy in Tehran



► Bangladesh Embassy in Tehran



► Bangladesh embassy in Stockholm



► Consulate General of Bangladesh in Miami



► Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata



► Consulate General of Bangladesh in Hong Kong



► Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Chennai, India



Bangladesh Missions abroad celebrated Rabindra-Nazrul Jayanti

Bangladesh Missions in abroad commemorated the birth anniversaries of Nobel Laureate Poet Rabindranath Tagore and National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam in a befitting manner.



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