

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
**Board of Investment**  
Islamabad  
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**WAIPA APAC IPAS FDI & INVESTMENT CONFERENCE**

**Country Statement**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to address this august assembly jointly organized by the United Nations ESCAP and WAIPA to bring together Investment Promotion Agencies from around the Asia Pacific, to exchange their experiences on promoting FDI for sustainable development and on building their capacity to promote FDI in the digital economy and to address climate change.

Pakistan's strategic location at the crossroads of Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East makes it an important member of the global economic landscape . China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is a flagship enterprise of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has already created spillovers in the energy and infrastructure sectors. The country offers immense investment opportunities in various sectors, including Information Technology, Pharmaceuticals, Food processing and agribusiness, alternative energy and tourism. The Government of Pakistan has been actively promoting foreign investment through various policy measures, including the establishment of Special Economic Zones, tax incentives, and the provision of a conducive environment for investors.

Pakistan is committed to promoting an investment-friendly environment that facilitates the entry of foreign businesses into the country. The government has taken various measures to improve the ease of doing business, such as reducing the time and cost required to start a business, simplifying tax procedures, and streamlining

regulatory processes. The country has also implemented reforms to improve the investment climate, such as liberalizing the foreign investment regime, protecting intellectual property rights, and ensuring transparency and accountability in public procurement processes.

Pakistan is also focusing on developing its human capital to create a skilled workforce that can support its economic development. The government has launched various initiatives to promote education and vocational training, and the country has a large pool of young, educated, and talented individuals who are eager to contribute to the growth of the economy.

Pakistan has a large pool of skilled labor, abundant natural resources, and a growing middle class, making it an ideal location for businesses looking to expand their operations. The country's IT industry, in particular, has been growing rapidly, with the government actively promoting its development through various initiatives.

Furthermore, we appreciate ESCAP's continued to support investment promotion agencies, especially in areas related to gender, digital, and climate FDI. We believe that promoting sustainable investment practices that prioritize social and environmental considerations is critical for long-term growth and development. Pakistan is committed to creating an enabling environment that facilitates investment in these areas and welcomes ESCAP's support in this regard.

In order to further activate Pakistan's investment potential, BOI is working on establishing an entity in partnership with the private sector to be called "Invest Pakistan" that will primarily focus on

- Investment Realisation
- Investment Sustainability

- And a holistic approach to facilitate investors and resolve business disputes

‘Invest Pakistan’ is to be set up with active involvement of the business stakeholders and will be committed to support and facilitate investors through efficient coordination and support of ‘time-sensitive’ investment deals. Pakistan will welcome technical assistance for setting up “Invest Pakistan” as well as capacity building workshops on the topics of “regulatory modernization” and “Digital FDI”. We recognize the importance of building institutional capacity and expertise in investment promotion and are committed to working with our international partners to achieve this.

Pakistan is also committed to promoting sustainable development and has taken various measures to address environmental challenges. The government is investing in renewable energy, improving water management, and promoting sustainable agriculture practices to ensure that economic growth is achieved in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Pakistan is a country that offers immense potential for investment, and despite the post-covid challenges and the havoc wreaked by the recent floods, the country is undergoing rapid changes that will translate into important economic opportunities. We welcome investors from around the world to explore the opportunities that the country has to offer. Our government is committed to creating a conducive environment that supports businesses and fosters economic growth. We look forward to partnering with the international community to achieve our shared goals of inclusive and sustainable development.

Thank you.

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