

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



**Assalam o Alaikum and Good evening,
Honorable Guests, Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen**

**It gives me immense pleasure to greet Honorable
Chief Guest Chairman Port Qasim Authority Mr. Agha
Jan Akhtar**

President FIATA Mr. Babar Badat,

**Guests of honor, Excellency from Consulates,
dignitaries from Ministry of Maritime Affairs,
Consulates, Customs, FPCCI, KCCI, Shipping Lines,
Shipping Agents, Container Terminals, CFS Stations,
Airlines, Stevedores, Civil Aviation Authority and not
but the least, Members of esteemed body of Pakistan
International Freight Forwarders Association.**

**Due to pressing engagement in Islamabad Senator Mir
Hasel Khan Bizenjo, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs is**

not with us tonight.

**Today we are gathered here to celebrate election un-
opposed of Mr. Babar Badat as President of FIATA.
FIATA is the premier world body representing
“International Logistics and Transportation” service
providers from 125 countries.**

**FIATA represents the International Freight Logistics
Industry with Government Authorities and
Organizations across the world like WTO, ICC, IRU,
ICAO, IATA, and have consultative status with many
other UN related bodies.**

**FIATA is also a referral source on International
Regulations governing the logistics industry and
coordinates greater integration between the
industries on global level and promotes adoption of
“International best practices”.**

**It’s a great pride and honor for Pakistan and specially
PIFFA that our Founder Chairman Mr. Babar Badat
has been elected unopposed on the FIATA
Presidency in the 56th FIATA World congress held in
Kuala Lumpur, this October.**

**On this great achievement we all give heartiest
congratulations to Mr. Babar Badat and best wishes
for his tenure, hoping it will lead to enhancement and
betterment of Freight & Logistics business in
Pakistan.**

We all indebted to Mr. Babar Badat who felt visualized the necessity of Freight Forwarders' own Association and succeeded to establish PIFFA in December 2004 and after relentless efforts has become the sole representative body of Freight & Logistics service providers in Pakistan.

In October, 2005 PIFFA registered with FIATA to get global recognition and bridge with the international trade and partners.

Over the period the Association has built strong working relationship with government and private bodies like Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Ports & Shipping, Ministry of Communication, NTTFC, FPCCI, KCCI, Federal Board of Revenue, FIATA, IATA, Sindh Revenue Board, Pakistan Customs, State Bank of Pakistan, Anti-Narcotics Force and other bodies.

PIFFA is founder member of CFCFA (CAREC Federation of Carrier & Freight Forwarders Association) and National Highway Authority and ECOLPAF (ECO Logistics Providers Associations Federation).

From its inception in 2007 PIFFA collaborated with FIATA to conduct a 'Training-of-Trainer' course and to establish Training Institute that offered Diploma in International Freight Forwarding with the aim to enhance capacity-building of member companies.

PIFFA Training Institute is extremely proud it has produced over 400 professional graduates for the Industry. Education is the key to success and with trained professionals only Pakistan can compete with advanced countries. We hope and expect Mr. Babar Badat will assist and facilitate PIFFA for more advance courses from FIATA for our industry and provide best guidelines for our young entrepreneurs.

On this auspicious occasion we wish to register our sincere thanks to all donors and contributors whose generosity enabled to acquire building premises for PIFFA Training Institute and Secretariat Office..... Thank you so much once again.

This occasion also reminds us of our Industry stalwarts like late Muhammad Nadeem Khan Sb, late Capt. Ghulam Mustafa sb, The vibrant personalities of Tariq Mehmood Choudhry Sb, Moin Malik Sb, the Parachas and many others under whose dedicated guidance the Association achieved many milestones in the interest and betterment of freight forwarders.

Allow me to name Mr. Asim Saeed Khan, Mr. Izhar ul Haq Qamar and other team members who worked relentlessly and under whose tenure of Chairmanship appreciable funds were generated to make dream of PIFFA House a reality.

In the wake of implementation of TIR Convention by

Pakistan and far reaching impact of CPEC initiatives on the trade and infrastructure of the country the role of logistics service providers of Pakistan has assumed importance many-folds.

Honorable Senator and distinguished guests; keeping in view ideal location of Pakistan on the world's maritime map, this is now perfect time to create Transshipment facilities at our Ports and Bonded CFS Zones/Villages where our member companies could build their own CFS warehouses similar to ones in Europe, Singapore, Dubai and other countries in the world.

In the end, I would like to request the Honorable Federal Minister and Officials to look into the following long outstanding demands of PIFFA and Logistics Industry:

- It is high time the Ministry of Maritime Affairs push for passage of "CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA ACT" through Parliament to replace outdated "Carriage of Goods Act, 1925" now in force.
- Pakistan Customs' reform initiatives and in particular implementation of "National Single Window" (NSW) is highly appreciated that will go a long way to facilitate and enhance trade.
- However, Member Companies face problems concerning frustrated and unclaimed cargo that need speedy process for re-export, auction or

removal of abandoned cargo to minimize detention and demurrage cost.

- Despite "Freight Forwarding Sectors" notified as "INDUSTRY" by Ministry of Industries & Production way back in 2005, this status has not been accorded and recognized by concerned Ministries and Departments. We earnestly look forward for your support to facilitate and create ease of business of logistics service providers.
- The CPEC initiatives relevant to logistics services at Gwadar Port and elsewhere also need to be elaborated for local participation and investment with due representation of PIFFA. This will motivate logistics service providers to contribute and share in CPEC projects along with Chinese counterparts. To keep pace with time the PIFFA Training Institute will shortly commence 'Chinese language' classes to create ease of business understanding.

Ladies and gentlemen, I on behalf of our Executive Committee and Members am grateful to you for making time for this event and assure that our Members will do utmost for the enhancement of trade and prosperity of Pakistan.

Thank you.