



PLENARY MEETING

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Note by the Secretary-General

**CANDIDACY FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF
THE TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (BDT)**

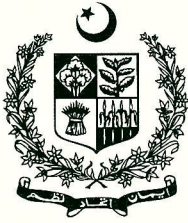
Further to the information published in Document 3, I have the pleasure in transmitting to the Conference, in annex, the candidacy of:

Mrs. Anusha Rahman KHAN (Pakistan)

for the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union.

Houlin ZHAO
Secretary-General

Annex: 1



**Permanent Mission of Pakistan
to the United Nations and
other International Organizations, Geneva**

Permanent Representative

No. Cand/ITU/2022

29 July 2022

My dear Secretary General,

I have the honour to inform that the Government of Pakistan has decided to present candidature of its former Minister of Information Technology and Telecommunication, Mrs. Anusha Rahman Khan, for the post of Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), at the election to be held during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) from 26 October to 14 November 2022 in Bucharest, Romania.

I would be grateful for circulation of Pakistan's candidature to the ITU Member States in line with the General rules on election procedure of the ITU Convention.

Curriculum Vitae of Mrs. Anusha Rahman Khan is enclosed.

Yours Sincerely,

(Khalil Hashmi)

H.E. Mr. Houlin Zhao
Secretary General
International Telecommunication Union
Geneva

RESUME

Mrs. Anusha Rahman Khan (Advocate)

Nationality: Pakistani

email: anusharkhan@gmail.com

Mrs. Anusha Rahman Khan, an Advocate of High Court, nominated as Regional Advisor to Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization, UK, for East and South Asia region in 2018, is a former Minister and a professional with previous association with the ICT sector, served as Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication in Pakistan for a continuous period of (05) years, and a Member Parliament for a continuous period of (10) years (2008-2018). Graduated in Law and secured a Masters in Law from University College London, United Kingdom, specializing in Law and Economics of regulated industries, networks and markets.

EDUCATION:

LL.B. Bachelor of Law. Punjab University, Law College, Lahore, Pakistan.

LL.M. Master in Law, University College London, University of London.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Cornelius, Lane & Mufti, Law Firm, Pakistan. (*Associated from 2018*)

Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization, London, UK. (*nominated in 2018*)

Regional Advisor to the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization Secretary-General for the East and South Asia Region.

Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications, Pakistan. (*2013-2018*)

In a time span of 5 years in office as Information Technology & Telecommunications Minister, initiated a number of policy measures, legislation, projects and programs that have transformed Pakistani ICT markets and landscape to the next level of development.

Spectrum Auctions: Introduction of 3G/4G in Pakistan:

In a time span of 5 years in office as IT & Telecom Minister, initiated a number of policy measures, legislation, projects and programs that have transformed Pakistani ICT markets and landscape to the next level of development. She successfully oversaw 3 rounds of auctions of spectrum for the Next Generation Mobile Services (3G / 4G) in a fair and transparent manner, recognized and appreciated around the world. Resultantly, broadband

RESUME

penetration reached from less than 3% in 2013, reached to 40% by 2018 and now to over 53% today.

Chairperson of Boards of Universal Services Fund and Ignite Companies:

As Chairperson Universal Service Fund Company (USF.Co) and National ICT Research & Development Funds (Ignite), rolled out several projects targeted at bridging the digital divide between urban and rural areas of the country, connecting the unconnected, rapidly enhancing the penetration of broadband and to nurture research culture in Pakistan. As a result of emphasis on sustainable public private partnership under these programs, using the Universal Services Fund, access to telecommunication services is available to around 88% of the population. She set a policy target of population coverage by 2020 of all unconnected villages with a 100 or more population to have access to mobile Broadband services under the revamped "Broadband for sustainable Development" initiative.

Digital and Financial Inclusion projects:

ICT for Girls:

A strong advocate of empowerment of women, girls, and the disadvantaged segments of society including persons with disabilities through the use of ICTs, she spearheaded substantial nationwide initiatives, particularly "ICT for Girls" program. The pilot project for ICT for Girls launched in 2015 targeting 150 Women Empowerment Centers/ Educational institutions across Pakistan, was scaled in 226 Islamabad Girls schools targeting around 120,000 girls per annum getting trained in development of ICT skills and a step towards empowering women and girls through Digital and Financial Inclusion. This was a widely acclaimed project for which was recognized as a "**GEM-TECH 2015 Global Achiever** in 2015 by ITU & UN Women.

"Digiskills", training 1 million youth online over a span of 2 years:

The ICT for Girls program was further scaled to "Digiskills" program in 2017, being undertaken by Ignite company to train one Million youth online in two years with Digital Skills. A vocational training program available free of cost to essentially nurture freelancing market in the Country. The aim was to rank top in the world in freelancing where Pakistan ranked in top 5 with around 200,000/- freelancers working from Pakistan in 2017, today crossing over 2.4 million freelancer essentially due to focused policy measures adopted during her tenure as Minister.

RESUME

National Incubation Centers:

Believing in providing opportunities to young entrepreneurs and talented youth of Pakistan, she accorded special policy focus to development of technology entrepreneurship culture in Pakistan. **National incubation Centers** were established one each in Federal and Provincial Capitals for provisioning of incubation for start-ups and to nurture entrepreneurship. Today these National Incubation Centers stand as hallmarks in the development of entrepreneurship and nurturing start ups of which a large number of girls and women are provided opportunities for growth.

Policy and Legislative measures:

She undertook several policy and legislative initiatives to achieve the vision of knowledge based economy, that included:

Digital Pakistan Policy:

A landmark achievement as Minister is the honor of championing the cause and vision of Digital Pakistan, she spearheaded the very first Digital Pakistan Policy, approved by the Cabinet, giving extensive fiscal and non fiscal incentives to IT companies for the growth of ICT sector.

The basic objective of the Policy takes into account the increasingly transformed role of Information Communications Technology across all sectors of socio-economic development, accelerated digitization and a holistic knowledge-based economy. This policy lays the framework for a digital eco-system with advanced concepts and components for rapid delivery of next-generation digital services, applications and content.

The Policy envisions to accelerate adoption of IoT, FinTech, Artificial Intelligence & Robotics and enable cost-effective introduction of new technologies, including open standards, targeted federal funding, and impactful public-private partnerships, together with actively working to modernize the education curriculum to be in sync with the emerging technologies and align to the requirements of the industry. The policy provides emphasis on promotion of the cloud infrastructure and associated delivery models to be offered across the globe to attract local and international markets through special incentives programs.

Policy focus also emphasizes on capacity building in big data and cloud computing to build requisite skills for effective and efficient delivery of new and improved services. The policy also takes into account opportunities for local entrepreneurs, start ups, and firms to acquire core competencies, experience, credibility to better position them to compete at international

RESUME

level. Adaptation of new technologies and resource allocation on research and innovation is also one of the key focus areas.

Telecommunications Policy:

She spearheaded formulation of Telecom Sector Policy, 2015 to address emerging trends in the sector. Envisioned availability of universal, affordable and quality telecommunication services to the underserved and un-served, provided through open and competitive markets for the benefit of people.

Start-ups package:

In 2017, together with all public and private sector stake holders finalized the historic package for technology Start-ups in the Country which was announced in the 2017-2018 budget.

It was the cumulative effect of all the work done in the sector that the reported Software exports for the first time in the history of Pakistan crossed a \$1Billion mark for the financial year 2017-2018. IT export remittances increased approximately by 151% at CAGR of 20%. The highest growth rate in comparison with all other industries, and IT industry became the top 5 net exporters of the country, and continuously growing.

Legislation:

She took a lead on enactment of cyber crimes law, called "Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016". This was first of its kind legislation enacted in Pakistan to provide rights to citizens online as are available offline, in addition to providing provisions for CERTS, and creating inter alia new offences not enacted elsewhere in substantive laws or otherwise, to protect girls and women online.

Also oversaw the finalization of Draft Data Protection Bill, 2018, now open for consultation and posted also on Ministry of IT& Telecom Website.

Technology Parks:

Believing in building eco-systems for the growth of ICT sector, she extensively worked on Technology Parks for the sector. Work initiated in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi for establishing Technology Parks at a large scale to cater for Industry needs. Dozens of medium scale STPs were established around the country and the work on large scale Technology Parks was initiated.

RESUME

e-commerce:

After the advent of Next Generation Technologies of 3G/4G/LTE new avenues opened in the Country. A very important one being e-commerce. Worked with all relevant stakeholders including State Bank of Pakistan, sector Regulators, Ministry of Commerce etc to modify regulatory and policy frameworks to enable e-commerce.

e-governance:

She pioneered the e-Governance initiative in Pakistan with an objective of increasing overall public administration efficiency, enhancing transparency, improving citizens' access to services and enhancing their participation in democratic governance processes. Ministry of Information Technology was the first Ministry in Pakistan to go paper less.

Membership of Parliamentary and Cabinet Committees:

In addition to being Minister, she was also member of various committees in the Parliament, including Prime Minister Committee on Legal Reforms, Parliamentary Committee on Election Laws, Parliamentary Committee on Accountability Laws, and Cabinet committees of ECC and ECNEC.

Member National Assembly of Pakistan: (2008-2013)

As Member National Assembly of Pakistan, was member of National Assembly Standing Committees of IT& Telecom, Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, and Science & Technology. Elected general secretary of Parliamentary Caucus of Young Parliamentary Forum and Founder member of parliamentary caucus on Anti corruption. Also represented party on the parliamentary committee that finalized the 18th Constitutional Amendment. During that time, also got the opportunity to assist Senior counsels on Party leadership cases in Superior Courts of Pakistan. Member of parliamentary committee on Election Laws and nominated convener of various sub-committees of the National Assembly standing committees formed from time to time.

Corporate Legal Counsel (2004-2007)

As Corporate Legal Counsel for a green field operation of a blue chip telecom company, handled all commercial, property and technical contracts and legal matters related to its functioning and operations. Dealt with the Telecommunication Sector Regulator, PTA, on all regulatory issues and contributed in finalization of regulations related to Mobile Number Portability and framework for MNVOs.

RESUME

Associate Advocate (1992-1995)

Associate Advocate of one of the top firms in the Country, mainly worked on corporate, telecommunications, commercial, banking laws, civil, commercial, corporate and constitutional matters, mergers and acquisitions, drafting of contracts, advising on regulatory and legal issues, and property matters. Also handled the legal and regulatory matters for Mobilink (today Jazz, which started the first GSM cellular mobile service in Pakistan), Citi Bank and Askari Bank.

Associate Advocate (1991-1992)

Embarked on the legal profession with one of the top law firms in the Country and got exposure to litigation, drafting, and assisting the Senior counsel in preparation of cases in the Superior Courts of Pakistan.

Awards and Recognitions:

Pakistan got elected as member of the ITU Council in 2014 and got re-elected in 2018.

Awarded the "**Spectrum for Mobile Broadband Award**" by GSMA in 2015.

For ICT related initiatives have been recognized "**GEM-TECH 2015 Global Achiever**" by ITU & UN Women during GSMA Glomo Awards.

Honor of addressing the United Nations Asembly in December 2015.

In 2017, received the "**Government Leadership Award**" 2017 for flagship policy project "Telecom Policy 2015".

United Nations Broadband Commissioner 2016-2018.

For policy and leadership role in turning around ICT industry and ecosystem, she has been a Speaker on the World Economic Forum, WSIS, ITU, CTO, ICANN, GSMA and other International events, to present the Pakistani ICT case studies.

Chairperson of the Board of Directors of (04) Companies: (2013-2018)

Chairperson of the Board of Directors of four (04) Companies including Universal Services Fund Company, ICT R &D Fund Company (Ignite), Pakistan Software Export Board, Telephone Industries of Pakistan.

Also chaired the Board of National Telecommunications Company.

RESUME

Member of Board of Punjab Educational Endowment Fund Company. (2008-2018)

Languages: Fluent English and Urdu.

Vision Statement Anusha Rahman Khan for Candidature as Director BDT

The very nature of distributed and trans-national technologies delivering the 4th Industrial Revolution, and the need to address the changing needs of global telecommunications development has necessitated a stronger state-industry-development sector nexus, more than ever before. The need for stable cross industry and cross stakeholder partnerships to bring about inclusive information society benefits across the developing and developed world, has amplified the importance of organizations and fora like the ITU and particularly the Telecommunications Development Bureau (BDT) to advance human development objectives. However, the rapid change in technology, the nature of markets, business models and service delivery mechanisms for diverse categories of users, has necessitated the evolution and transformation in the legacy structure, working and hence the leadership of the Bureau. To truly “advance” the objectives the BDT now requires a diverse set of leadership competencies including policy making, regulation, and thought leadership on relevant socio-political and development matters with a particular focus on economic and commercial viability of the initiatives. Most importantly the capability to bring together coalitions and partnerships between a diverse range of inter-agency, government, social, development and industry stakeholders, would be vital for the vibrancy of the Bureau for eventual benefit of ITU stakeholders. With a unique mix of experience in the industry, legal practice, legislature and ultimately as the Pakistan’s Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunications (2013-2018) with cross cutting major achievements, I have a firm belief that I can provide the sort of next generation leadership that the Bureau requires.

Having received my Master’s in Law (LL.M) degree from University College London, UK, specializing in Law and Economics of regulated industries, networks and markets I have had the chance of hands on working with the ICT industry globally which enabled a firm grasp of techno-commercial and legal issues relevant to the industry. The practical experience fashioned my industry relevant approach to the Law and Policy making for the ICT sectors in my later career first as legislator and ultimately as the Federal Minister where I initiated a number of programs that brought Pakistan closer to the international pace of growth in the ICT arena. During my tenure I undertook several policy and legislative initiatives to achieve the vision of Digital Pakistan and a knowledge-based society. During this period Pakistan witnessed the advent of 3G and 4G/LTE technology and several successful rounds of transparent Spectrum auctions to sustain the mobile broadband growth taking the broadband market from around less than 3 million users in 2013 (3%) to more than 70 million in 2018, to 119 million in 2022 (54%). This initiative alone has contributed hugely to the economy to the tune of FDI of around USD 3 Billion and enablement of technical skill development, self-employment through e-commerce & entrepreneurship. The successful frequency spectrum auction policy resulted in Spectrum Policy Award for Pakistan by the GSMA in 2015. I, likewise, spearheaded formulation of a totally revamped Telecom Sector Policy, 2015 to address emerging trends in the sector on both supply and demand side. It also included first ever comprehensive market-based regime for frequency spectrum availability to the telecoms market. The Telecom Policy work was acclaimed by the GSMA with "Government Leadership Award" for the Government of Pakistan in 2017. Due to apt policy interventions initiated during 2013 onwards, and response of the industry to those, IT industry is amongst the top 5 net exporters of the country with the highest net exports in the services industries, rising from less than USD300million in 2012 to USD2.6Billion today. Due to aggregated efforts, IT export remittances increased by 151% at CAGR of 20%, the highest growth

rate in comparison with all other industries, and the highest in the region. It may also be noted that Pakistan is the 3rd most financially attractive location in the world for offshore services (according to A.T. Kearney's Global Services Location Index) and ranks in top 5 in terms of Freelancing. Similarly, I formulated the Digital Pakistan Policy, 2018 which to date is the governing policy document of the Country in digital arena.

My strong belief in doctrine of universal right of the citizen to access the information with due protection of basic rights of citizens both online and offline formed the cornerstone of the first comprehensive Cyber Crime law in the country. The Law was formulated after a landmark broad range consultation with all major local public and private sector stakeholders as well as major global industry players. I also pioneered the development of first ever "Cyber Security Policy" employing customized version of best international practices on this critically important subject which has also been a major work stream of the CTO in the recent past.

Hall mark of my tenure as an ICT leader was the special focus accorded to development of technology entrepreneurship culture in Pakistan. A network of Technology incubators was setup across the country through a unique Public Private collaboration where diverse industry consortia assumed management of these centers and innovation value chain. The model has been immensely successful to highlight the utility of inter-stakeholder working on commercial lines. Similarly, my initiative of building first ever purpose-built National IT Park through collaboration with international development agencies gave me a truly symbiotic experience of channelizing international development assistance for the benefit of the ICT ecosystem in the developing world.

The flagship program for enabling socio economic opportunities for girls, women and persons with disabilities using ICTs, through provision of hard, soft and comprehensive skill development architecture in girls schools and Women Empowerment Centers across the country in collaboration with Microsoft, not only trained tens of thousands of young women across the country providing them with self-employment opportunities, it brought together wider collaboration from international institutions like UN-Women and global technology giants like Facebook and Huawei. In recognition of this initiative and its impact, I was awarded "GEM-TECH 2015", Global Achiever Award by ITU & UN Women.

Besides technology related leadership evident from the various initiatives listed above, on the legislative front, during my 2008-2013 term in National Assembly of Pakistan, I served as the General Secretary of the Young Parliamentary Forum of the National Assembly and was also founding member of the Parliamentary Caucus against Corruption.

I have served as a Commissioner on the "UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development" and my contributions to the Broadband Commission, across all sub tracks of Commission's work and its working groups throughout my tenure, were well recognized. Participation and contributions to E-commerce Work of UNCTAD as well as WSIS Review of the UNGA as well as annual contribution to the WSIS stocktaking fora of ITU have not only been recognized by these bodies, but they have also served the basis of further relevant multi-stakeholder work streams. Similarly, I have been an avid contributor to the Digital economy track events of the World Economic Forum including those held in New York as well as WEF annual event in Davos.

I am proud and humbled, that due to unrelenting, inclusive and all-encompassing efforts of a capable team under my lead, Pakistan stands proud in today's ICT arena marked by rapid proliferation of ICT infrastructure and services. We pledged ourselves and delivered on the implementation of the developmental agenda- in particular, with respect to 'connecting the unconnected', 'digital inclusion' and 'bridging digital gender divide'. I believe that the answer to many of the problems and divides befalling all nations lies in collectively and systematically approaching socio-economic transformation through the power of technology. Now is the time to take the "Meaningful connectivity" slogan of the Bureau to the next level through transnational and trans industry partnerships. To measure our progress in achievement of the lofty goals measurable role of ICTs in achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), can serve as an appropriate metric. The professional strength gained through all the above evidence programs primarily delivered through industry collaboration and multi stakeholder participation as well as capabilities developed through participation and contribution at international fora, lead me to the firm belief that I am fully capable and ready to take the opportunity to lead the BDT into the future as an agile responsive organ of the ITU whereby all the membership of the ITU can benefit from the transformative policy guidance for inclusive and across the board socio-economic benefit of the global citizens.
