



SESAME

Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East

## Opening of SESAME 16 May 2017

### Statement by Mr Muhammad Naeem Head of the Pakistani Delegation



Your Royal Highness Princess Sumaya,  
Dr Khalid Toukan,  
President and Directors of SESAME,  
Directors General of IAEA, CERN, UNESCO,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning and Asalam-o-Alikum.

It is an honour and privilege for me to address this distinguished audience and eminent Council. The Scientific Community in Pakistan has been eagerly waiting the inauguration of SESAME. The launch of SESAME marks the birth of a new community of scholars and scientists, glued together through international cooperation and the thirst for knowledge. Today we are witnessing a new chapter in regional cooperation to enrich the region's scientific research and development. I speak for the whole scientific community of Pakistan which is looking forward to an even stronger scientific connection with the scientific community after SESAME's operation.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay special homage to the visionary thinking of Professor Herwig Schopper, the founding President of the SESAME Council.

I would also congratulate the President of the SESAME Council, Sir Chris Llewellyn Smith, for his enthusiasm and guidance in making this dream of SESAME a reality. Thanks are also due to Dr Khaled Toukan for his devotion and invaluable contribution to the establishment of SESAME. It is a source of inspiration to have in the audience the Director General of CERN, and the Director General of the IAEA. Both these organizations are playing a pivotal role in international cooperation and progress of nuclear science and particle physics.

It would be appropriate to mention the late Nobel laureate Dr Abdus Salam, as he initiated the idea of cooperation among the developing countries in scientific research. Thanks are also due to all previous Chairmen of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission for their contribution towards the establishment of SESAME. We are delighted to learn that two beamlines are fully functional and ready to host

scientific undertakings for researchers. Pakistan would like to extend its full cooperation and commitment to make this project a success. It is an honor that we have participated in the provision of manpower and also supplied SESAME with 32 sextupole magnets through CERN. Scientists, engineers and technicians have also participated in commissioning of the storage ring of SESAME.

SESAME will prove to be a milestone and a beacon that can illuminate the path for similar ventures in the future. Building SESAME marks only the first phase; the ultimate goal is effective utilization of this state-of-the-art facility by all research entities in the region.

Pakistan looks forward to learn and strengthen further collaboration with scientists of the region. The SESAME project shall expand to new avenues like joint research programmes in scientific fields of materials, medical sciences, physics, chemistry, etc.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the SESAME team for successfully completing and operating this landmark accelerator of international standard in the Middle East. I may conclude by thanking the organizers for providing us an opportunity for witnessing this great historic event.

I thank you all.