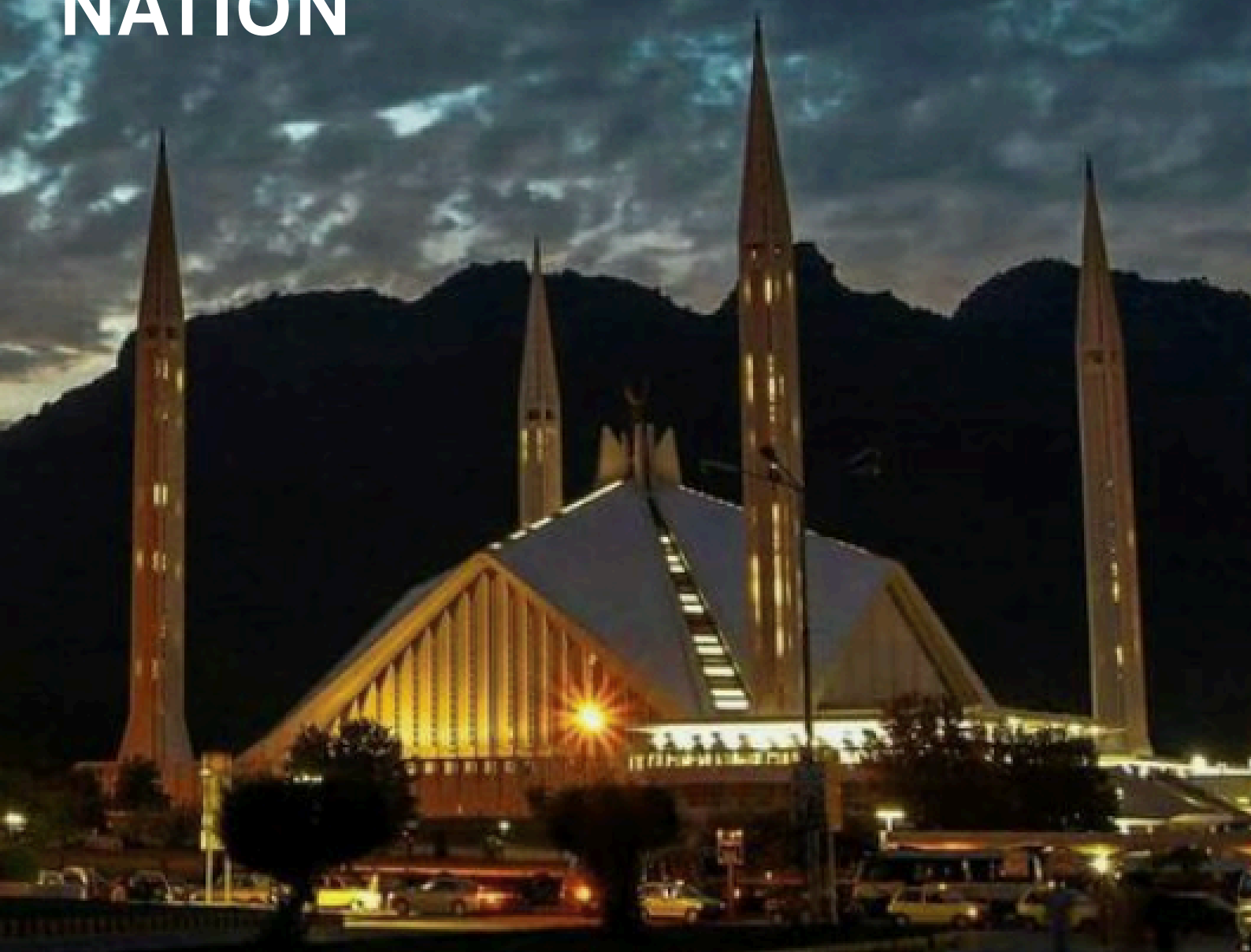


PAKISTAN

**A CONNECTED, INCLUSIVE
AND DIGITALLY EMPOWERED
NATION**



Pakistan ITU Council Seat (2027-2030) Region E



**Ministry of
IT & Telecom**

A Publication of:

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Char Minar Chowrangi
Karachi, Sindh

NOTE FROM SHAZA FATIMA KHAWAJA

Federal Minister IT & Telecom



Digital transformation is the cornerstone of sustainable economic growth, inclusive development, and global competitiveness.

Over the years, the Government of Pakistan has pursued a bold, forward-looking digital agenda, translating strategic vision into measurable progress across connectivity, innovation, and governance.



We have achieved near-universal 4G population coverage, significantly expanding access to underserved and remote areas, while simultaneously strengthening our national fiber optic backbone to ensure resilience, reliability, and scalability of digital infrastructure. We conducted a landmark 5G spectrum auction, positioning the country at the forefront of next-generation connectivity and unlocking new opportunities for innovation, industry, and investment.

Pakistan's digital economy has demonstrated record growth in IT and IT-enabled services. We have been ranked #16 by the Ataraxis Global Outsourcing Index - a credit to our progressive regulatory reforms, business facilitation measures, and vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem.

On the international stage, Pakistan remains steadfast in its commitment towards bridging the global digital divide, ensuring affordable and meaningful connectivity for all, particularly for developing countries.

Driven by strong political commitment at the highest levels, Pakistan seeks to further strengthen its engagement within the International Telecommunication Union.

Our candidature for the ITU Council Seat at Region-E for the term (2027-2030) reflects our resolve to serve as an active, responsible, and influential partner, advancing practical, outcome-oriented solutions for the global community.

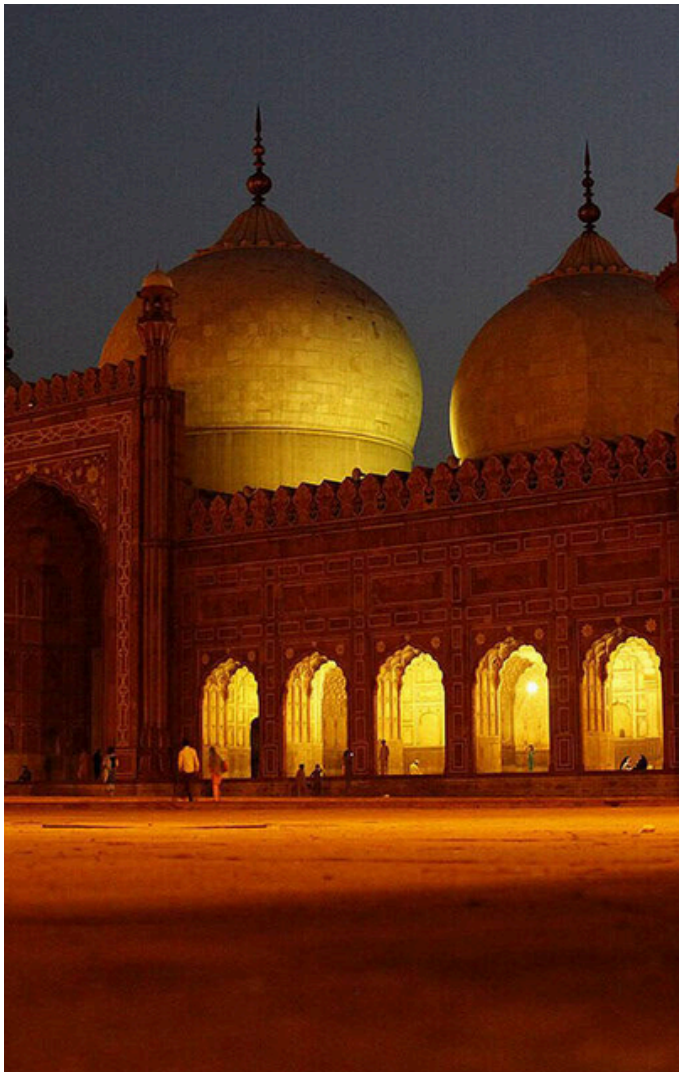
Shaza Fatima Khawaja
Federal Minister IT & Telecom



WHY PAKISTAN?

Pakistan's Positioning for the ITU Council

As the world's fifth most populous country, Pakistan plays a pivotal role as a bridge builder for Region E. Our objective is to transform ITU's strategic resolutions into actionable, measurable outcomes that ensure inclusive digital progress, leaving no nation behind in the evolving digital landscape.



Why Pakistan?

Pakistan uniquely combines extensive institutional experience having served 11 terms on the ITU Council since 1947 with contemporary technological leadership.

We offer pragmatic insights grounded in real world scale and constraints, ensuring that global digital initiatives are practical and achievable for all member states.



Minar-e-Pakistan
Lahore, Punjab

INFRASTRUCTURE & CONNECTIVITY

Robust Infrastructure at Scale

Pakistan operates one of the largest digital markets worldwide, with over 203 million cellular subscribers and a tele density of 81.2%. This is underpinned by a comprehensive high-speed backbone network exceeding 228,000 kilometers of optical fiber infrastructure.



Strategic Connectivity & Submarine Cable Access

Positioned as a critical digital gateway, Pakistan is anchored by six major international submarine cable systems providing a combined capacity of 17.01 Tbps.

This extensive infrastructure underlies resilient global integration and regional digital stability.

Thriving Digital Economy

ICT export remittances reached a record USD 3.8 billion in FY 2024–25, reflecting a 23.7% YOY growth. Pakistan ranks #16 on the global outsourcing index by Ataraxis including a rating of 80/100 in talent score.





Pakistan Monument
Islamabad

GOVERNANCE & ECOSYSTEM



Digital Government Transformation

Through the Digital Nation Pakistan Act, we have driven comprehensive governance reforms. A key milestone is the digital financial revolution, with 136 million mobile wallets facilitating poverty alleviation and financial inclusion across the region.



Innovation Ecosystem Development

The National Incubation Centers (NIC) have catalyzed a thriving startup ecosystem. Notably, NIC Islamabad has been recognized as an ITU Regional Acceleration Centre, providing global mentorship, research and development support, and funding opportunities to scale local innovation.

Human Capital Development

With over 4.87 million training completions via the DigiSkills program, Pakistan is cultivating an extensive, export-ready talent pool. Our emphasis remains on closing the gap between academic output and international industry standards.



Shah Jahan Mosque
Thatta, Sindh

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES

INSPIRE Semiconductor HR Development Programme

A PKR 4.844 billion initiative focused on integrating Pakistan into the global semiconductor value chain by training over 2,200 specialists in Digital IC Design and Verification through regional research clusters.



National Skills Programmes

Structured initiatives connecting thousands of graduates with leading technology firms and public sector projects, enhancing employability through practical, high demand tech experience.

CEGA - Centre of Excellence in Gaming and Animation.

A national initiative to position Pakistan as a global gaming and animation hub, providing training and incubation for 200+ startups, and infrastructure for 10,000+ individuals over five years to build a sustainable creative economy



Trango Towers
Baltoro Glacier, Gilgit Baltistan

FUTURE VISION & ITU ENGAGEMENT

5G and Beyond

Pakistan is advancing a clear roadmap for 5G and 6G deployment, having allocated spectrum and initiated commercial trials. Our strategy prioritizes equitable access to next-generation connectivity for both urban centers and underserved regions.



Contributions to ITU

Pakistan is redefining the architecture of rural development by championing the 'Smart Village' model as a sovereign instrument for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Strategic Agenda for Council Membership

Pakistan will champion the STRIDE initiative, focusing on Resilience, Inclusion, Digital Skills, and Economic Empowerment to transform global digital policy discussions into concrete actions.



Inauguration of Smart Village Sambrial, Sialkot, Pakistan.



Quaid-e-Azam Residency
Ziarat, Balochistan

WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE FOR PAKISTAN ITU COUNCIL CANDIDATURE (2027- 2030) REGION - E?

Pakistan has established itself as a cornerstone of the International Telecommunication Union through its extensive leadership, having served 11 terms on the ITU Council since 1947 and actively shaping global frameworks across standardization, radiocommunication, and development sectors.

The nation serves as a global benchmark for digital identity and e-governance; Pakistan has pioneered one of the world's most advanced biometric systems, providing a scalable model for financial inclusion and trusted digital ecosystems. This technical expertise is complemented by a steadfast commitment to bridging the digital divide, as Pakistan consistently advocates for affordable rural broadband and equitable access to ICTs in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.



“Pakistan brings proven, scalable digital solutions from identity to connectivity combined with a steadfast commitment to inclusive, multilateral digital development.”

Partner with Pakistan

Supporting Pakistan's candidacy represents a strategic investment in a secure, inclusive, and balanced digital future. We stand ready to lead and share replicable, successful models to foster a digital ecosystem that benefits all.

For further information, please contact

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