<u>British High Commissioner celebrates</u> Pakistan's Women Parliamentarians

The British High Commission arranged a forum bringing together eight women parliamentarians — from a range of parties and regions — to discuss and share their stories as political leaders.

The discussion focused around three thematic areas: Gender Inclusivity, Women Leadership and Enabling Environment; and was attended by Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq, Senator Sitara Ayaz, MNA Mehnaz Aziz, MNA Andleeb Abbas, MNA Maleeka Bokhari, MNA Shunila Ruth, MNA Nafisa Shah and MNA Naz Baloch.

The British High Commissioner, Dr Christian Turner, CMG, said:

There is no prosperous future in Pakistan without giving women a voice and choice. I have met many brilliant Pakistani women and I'm impressed by their stories of resilience, hard work and creativity. As the British High Commissioner, I plan to use my time here to promote the UK's commitment to advance gender equality.

I will work to ensure that more women in Pakistan are heard and have voice in decision-making; I will work to get more girls into schools — and support financial inclusion of women, because an equal world is an enabled world.

Note to editors:

The British High Commissioner issued a <u>video message</u> on International Women's Day which included a pledge to not participate on an all-male panels.

For more information

For updates on the British High Commission, please follow our social media channels:

Contact British High Commission Islamabad tel. 0300 500 5306