**Video message from Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Ambassador to China at the launch of BRI Green and Low-carbon Expert Network (GLEN) by BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC)**

**(12 December 2024)**

**Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Vice Minister for Ministry of Ecology and Environment,**

**Mr. Erik Solheim, Vice President of BRI International Green Development Coalition Board,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I begin by thanking BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) for organizing this event and inviting me to share my views at the launch of BRI Green and Low Carbon Emission Network (GLEN).

Today’s event is significant for both its scope and impact. It is a commendable step and tool to counter the changing climate and protect the environment. GLEN also signifies that no nation, no matter how rich, big or powerful, can overcome the climate challenge alone.

This event is also a reminder that collective action is both urgent and critical; by pooling our resources, expertise and innovations to address the threat of climate change meaningfully.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Pakistan and China share a long history of friendship and cooperation, rooted in mutual trust, respect, support and aspirations. As all-weather strategic cooperative partners, our collaboration under the BRI has set new benchmarks for green development. Pakistan joining Green and Low-carbon Emission Network (GLEN) is a testament to our joint commitment to integrating environmental stewardship into our economic endeavors.

At the national level, Pakistan has launched a new development framework that places a premium on Sustainable Energy & Infrastructure; E-Pakistan; Equity & Empowerment; Exports; and finally, Environment & Climate Change. This homegrown framework aligns with BRI and BRIGC.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Last year marked the completion of first decade of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Pakistan and China are now focused on operationalizing its second phase of high quality development where ‘green corridor’ between our two countries remains a key priority. As an illustration, one of the hydro power project i.e. the Karot Hydropower Plant will not only power 5 million homes, it will also cut CO2 emissions by 3.5 million tons per year.

Pakistan is committed to expanding the role of clean energy in our national energy portfolio. As part of our climate action commitments, we have set a target of 60 percent renewable energy in the national energy mix.

Pakistan is also taking steps to integrate its economy with global supply chain for electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing and solar panel production.

The BRI Green and Low-carbon Emission Network (GLEN) offers important opportunities in this context. By fostering collaboration among experts, policymakers and innovators, it will accelerate the transition to clean energy, promote sustainable infrastructure and drive conservation efforts.

I am particularly proud to see Pakistan's active participation in this initiative, both by contributing our expertise and also learning from China’s remarkable progress in green development.

Moving forward, I am confident that the newly established Network would promote green South-South cooperation and help carrying out more “green” projects, including under CPEC framework. Secondly, the Network can strengthen policy exchange and capacity building programmes by equipping policymakers and practitioners with the skills and knowledge needed for low-carbon development. Thirdly, as innovative financing mechanisms are essential to transform our ambitious green goals into reality, this Network can serve as a catalyst for unlocking investments in sustainable and climate smart development.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In closing, I would like to once again commend the Belt and Road Initiative Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) once again for its leadership in advancing this important agenda. Let us seize this opportunity to deepen our cooperation, strengthen our commitments, and inspire the world with our actions.

Thank you.

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