



Dr. Sania Nishtar
Federal Minister
Education and Trainings, Science and
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Islamabad
June 6, 2013

As my term as Caretaker Federal Minister draws to a close, I wanted to express my deepest gratitude to all of you and tell you how honored and humbled I feel to have worked with you these past months in this extraordinary responsibility.

As you all know, I have initiated a new process of Handover Papers for each of the ministries in my portfolios and one on general governance matters. These are designed first and foremost to ensure that all of your hard work is communicated and set up for the successors, hopefully to continue. These were drafted in a spirit of the most sincere respect and appreciation for all you have accomplished together in such a short time and a deep desire to ensure that these efforts are not lost in transition. Through this process, which I hope will become a permanent part of transition governments in our country, we demonstrate a commitment to the responsibility of the office and not to a specific political agenda. In that light, you will note that these are drafted from a position of neutrality and objectivity.

As you read these letters, I hope you recognize the fruits of all of your hard work. There has been tremendous learning, deep self-challenging thinking on wide-ranging policy matters, practical and rigorous attention to tactical and organizational tasks that must be undertaken in order to execute the most effective policies, and critical thinking of the path remaining ahead. I see tremendous opportunity for Pakistan, for our people, and for our country's standing internationally in so many areas. I sincerely hope the courage and commitment you have demonstrated continues.

When I wrote to you upon taking office, I also mentioned how critical integrity, accountability, and transparency are to me. These Handover Papers represent a method of holding ourselves accountable. They also represent a significant opportunity to demonstrate transparency to the Pakistani public and even the broader international community watching as Pakistan transitions into a new post-election phase. The Handover papers will be published shortly on <http://www.sanianishtar.info/handoverpapers.php>

Please let me repeat my words in my welcome letter to all of you. "To be able to serve your country is a sacred responsibility, far more sacred than any act one can do in one's

individual capacity. The Oath of Office as a Federal Minister under the shadow of the *Flag of the Green Crescent and Star* and my solemn swear to bear allegiance to Pakistan is a responsibility I have embraced dearer than life”—and I did so indeed. I shall remember this period with you with the deepest gratitude as I hand over these responsibilities to my successors and leave office with a message inscribed on a wall paper, which you can download from my website www.sanianishtar.info

Pakistan Paindabad!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sania Nishtar', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Dr. Sania Nishtar