

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY NEPRA

September 16, 2019

PRESS RELEASE

Subject: **SAARC TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS OF AFGHANISTAN ON PAKISTAN'S POWER REGULATORY SYSTEM SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FROM 16th – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019**

NEPRA is hosting a five day training program for Professionals of Afghanistan on Pakistan's Power Regulatory regime, on the request of SAARC Energy Center (SEC), Islamabad. The purpose of the program is to exchange knowledge and impart the experience and lessons learnt by Pakistan's regulatory professionals to the Afghan delegates.

2. In this regard, an Inaugural Session was held today at NEPRA Head Office, Attaturk Avenue (East), G-5/1, Islamabad in the honor of Afghan delegates. Honorable Federal Minister for Power Division, Mr. Omar Ayub Khan was the Chief Guest of the event.

3. Chairman NEPRA welcomed the Chief Guest, distinguished guests and the Afghan delegates. The Chairman highlighted the mission and vision of NEPRA and that how NEPRA is contributing and facilitating the power sector to support the growing economy. The Chairman moreover expressed the hope that the Afghan delegates will gain valuable knowledge for discharging their responsibilities as a regulator and that both the nations will continue to exchange knowledge and skills in future. He also shared his future vision for NEPRA. He stressed to the professionals to focus on integrity, accountability, energy, justice and honesty while discharging their responsibilities.

4. This was followed by a brief speech from Mr. Muhammad Naeem Malik, Executive Director SEC who highlighted the role of SAARC Energy Centre and that how SAARC EC will continue to facilitate exchange of knowledge with SAARC member countries. He thanked NEPRA for designing and arranging the training program.

5. The Chief guest, Mr. Omar Ayub Khan appreciated NEPRA for arranging the training session and also appreciated the role of NEPRA in facilitating the power sector. The Minister stressed the need to be proactive especially when technological changes are happening at a fast pace. The Minister also touched upon the developments of the regional market especially SAARC and Central Asian States. Finally, he concluded by lamenting the role played by India w.r.t. Kashmir that it is very egotistical on the part of Prime Minister Modi to crush Kashmir's genuine demand for freedom and that Pakistan stands with Kashmir.