

Message from Dr. Arif Alvi
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

(On the occasion of World Food Day on 16th October, 2018)

I am pleased to learn that the Ministry of National Food Security & Research (NFS&R) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in collaboration with other UN agencies and partner organizations are celebrating the World Food Day to highlight the commitment of all stakeholders for ensuring global food security, alleviate poverty and eradicate hunger. This day provides us an opportunity to renew our obligation to join hands in this regard.

The theme of this year's World Food Day "**Our actions are our future – A Zero Hunger world by 2030 is possible**" reflects the present Government's commitment to revitalizing the economic growth, uplifting agriculture, conserving water to ensure food security, alleviate poverty and reduce hunger. Pakistan has already started mobilizing domestic resources in agriculture sector in collaboration with local and international partners, and is committed to work for the betterment of the farming communities in the country.

By the Grace of Allah and hard work of Pakistani researchers, Pakistan is self-sufficient in food grains and also exporting a food commodities, fruits and vegetables. Nevertheless, there is still a dire need to diversify our agriculture with emphasis on other elements of the food basket and high value agriculture.

I appreciate the efforts and support of the FAO and other UN Agencies and international partners for organizing this event to highlight the importance of this Day. I once again renew the Government's commitment and determination to ensure Food Security for our people and to eradicate the hunger by 2030 in close collaboration of the international community.
