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Media Release

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) officials comprising Mr. M. Zaka Ashraf, Chairman and Mr. Subhan Ahmad, COO, today met Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) members in Dhaka. The PCB officials are on a visit to Bangladesh on invitation of the BCB. The visit coincides with Pakistan team's ongoing tour to Bangladesh. The meeting was scheduled to look at ways of strengthening the partnership between the two Boards. The two Boards agreed to collaborate and work jointly on not only building the partnership but also developing cricket. Both long term and short term strategies were discussed and the two Boards agreed to extend cooperation in a number of fields which broadly are:

1. Assistance in training to Bangladesh for their Academy players to be started. This will benefit players from Bangladesh in improving their skills.
2. Reciprocal tours between "A", Academy and "U-19" teams.
3. Reciprocal tours between women's team of both countries.
4. Partnership for organizing international cricket events in collaboration with other Cricket Boards.

Among other matters the nomination for ICC President was also discussed. As per ICC's rotation policy, it is PCB and BCB's turn to jointly nominate a President. The nominated President will assume office as ICC's Vice President at the end of ICC's Annual Conference in 2012 and will thereafter become ICC President in 2014.

PCB officials briefed the Bangladesh Board members that in October 2011 PCB had endorsed Mr. Mustafa Kamal's nomination as the ICC President and therefore PCB feels that it would be an opportune moment to formally announce this nomination today in the presence of both the Chairmen, and when the Pakistan cricket team is already touring Bangladesh.

Chairman PCB Mr. Zaka Ashraf said "I am happy to be in Bangladesh where I received the warmth from our brotherly nation. It was a very fruitful meeting that we had today with the Bangladesh Board and the steps that we agreed to implement will go a long way in supporting our two nations in becoming strong in cricket. We also today reaffirmed our support for nomination of Mr. Mustafa Kamal for ICC's Presidency."

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Commenting on this announcement Mr. Mustafa Kamal said "It is a matter of pride and a privilege to receive PCB's support on my nomination. I will try to live up to the expectations of not only the people of Bangladesh but for Pakistan as well and also the entire cricketing fraternity. The support that PCB has given me demonstrates the close relations our two Boards enjoy and it is not the first time that PCB has come forward to support us. Who could forget that it was Pakistan that proposed Bangladesh's entry into Test Cricket. We are indebted to them. Pakistani players have played in Bangladesh and have helped our cricketers a lot. We will also try to support Pakistan in any way we can.

"I am also encouraged with the steps that we agreed today which will help in developing and making Bangladesh cricket more stronger. Since the last one year, I have been discussing with some of the Cricket Boards on how to bring back international cricket in Pakistan and to demonstrate that we are genuinely taking steps in this direction my Board today agreed to form a security committee to visit Pakistan in January 2012 to review their security measures so as to ensure proper security arrangements are in place prior to arrival of Bangladesh team in Pakistan. My Board further agreed that Bangladesh cricket team will visit Pakistan in April 2012 as per ICC's Future Tours Programme". Concluding, President BCB said "I hope this way slowly and gradually international cricket will come back to Pakistan".

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