

Ministry of Investment  
**BOARD OF INVESTMENT**  
Media Section  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

**SUBJECT: TASK FORCE ON INVESTORS' PROTECTION ON THE CARDS**

**Islamabad, 26th November, 2008:** Federal Government would set up Task Force on Investors Protection to tap up to \$10 billion annual foreign direct investment potential of the country by removing security related concerns.

Federal Secretary Interior would head the proposed task force and its members would include Foreign Secretary, Federal Secretary Investment Division, Home Secretaries of all four provinces. A Summary for the establishment of the proposed task force has already been sent to the Prime Minister, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani for formal approval.

Federal Minister for Investment, Senator Waqar Ahmed, informed this to the foreign as well as local investors who were invited at a dinner meeting hosted in the honor of representatives of the investment companies at his residence.

Waqar Ahmed Khan said that the foreign investment companies operating in Pakistan have agreed to establish an infrastructure fund with an amount of \$2 billion, which will help to boost the economic activity in the country.

The representatives from investment companies were also informed that the government would ensure fool proof security arrangements for the investors in all parts of the country. The proposed task force would be deliberating on measures that would help protect investors as well as their investment in Pakistan and federal as well as all provincial governments would implement steps approved by the task force.

Due to the security related concerns, potential foreign investors as well as local investors are reluctant to invest in Pakistan and if this situation improves, the country has the potential to attract \$10 billion investment annually.

The Minister said that his Ministry is working on comprehensive investment plan and expects to attract investment from China and Middle Eastern countries. He said that he would encourage foreign investors to come forward to benefit from the investment friendly policies of Pakistan. He said that there is great potential especially in agriculture, livestock, oil and gas exploration and in the power sector. The Minister said that the Ministry of Investment has been established under the mandate to work as facilitator/coordinator and to remove the bottlenecks and ease the official procedure. He said that we are working to create an investor-friendly environment and assured that policies will continue to benefit the investors and the people of Pakistan.

The participants of the meeting expressed their full confidence in the government's investment friendly policies and assured the minister of their full support and said that they are working in their respective countries to bring other investors to Pakistan. The meeting was attended by Khursheed Zafar, Senior Vice President, Arif Habib Group, Kamaluddin Khan, MD Pak-Libya Holding Company, Zafar Iqbal, MD Pak-Oman Investment Company, Istaqbal Mehdi, MD, Pak-Kuwait Investment Company, Ms Ayesha Aziz, MD Pak-Brunei Investment Company, Syed Iqbal Asharaf, Dy MD Pak-China Investment Company and other senior government officials.

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