

PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)
PRESS WING

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ISLAMABAD, JAN 26: President Mamnoon Hussain and President of Indonesia Ir. H. Joko Widodo have agreed to work together for peace in Afghanistan and said that peace in Afghanistan is necessary for the development and progress of the region. Both countries will work together in this regard, they added.

This was agreed between the two leaders in a meeting at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad on Friday. The two Presidents had one on one meeting which was followed by delegation level meeting. Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia Darmin Nasution, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia Retno L.P. Marsudi, Minister for Trade of Indonesia Enggartiasto Lukito, Ambassador of Indonesia, Iwan Suyudhie Amri, while from Pakistani side Minister for Commerce Muhammad Pervaiz Malik, Federal Minister for Interior Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Energy Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari and other senior officials were also present in meeting.

Earlier, President Mamnoon Hussain and First Lady Begum Mahmooda Mamnoon warmly welcomed President of Indonesia Ir. H. Joko Widodo and First Lady of Indonesia Mrs. Iriana Joko Widodo upon their arrival at main entrance of the Aiwan-e-Sadr. On the occasion, children clad in traditional dress presented bouquets to the visiting dignitary.

President Mamnoon Hussain stated that Pakistan and Indonesia have similar views on International issues. He expressed pleasure that both countries have similar viewpoint in this regard and we wish to work together which will yield positive impact. Indonesian President Ir. H. Joko Widodo said that Indonesia thinks that it can play a positive role in the peace process of Afghanistan. He commended that Pakistan has played a very significant role in the peace process of Afghanistan. He also proposed the establishment of a committee of Indonesian, Afghan and Pakistani Ulemas for this purpose. President Mamnoon Hussain also agreed to his proposal.

During the meeting, the two leaders also agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation to further strengthen the defence and trade relations. Both leaders stressed that expanded trade, investment and economic cooperation should be a vital element in their relationship.

President Mamnoon Hussain expressed satisfaction over the progress of defence relations between the two countries. He expressed pleasure that activities under the bilateral Defence Agreement have been started. He hoped that the Joint Committee envisaged under the Agreement will soon be formed and start implementing the provisions of the Agreement. He stated that new initiatives of Army to Army talks, Navy to Navy talks and joint exercises will further boost our cooperation. Both countries can utilize expertise of each other in defence production, he said.

President Mamnoon Hussain highlighted that excellent cooperation exists between Pakistan and Indonesia on international issues. He also thanked the Indonesian President for their support to Pakistan's bid to become Full Dialogue Partner of ASEAN.

President Mamnoon Hussain also hosted a banquet in the honour of the President of Indonesia. On the occasion, Federal Ministers, Parliamentarians, Senior Civil and Defence officers and eminent personalities from different walks of life were also present.
