

**TCDPAP Conference  
Day 3 - March 13, 2009**

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

**Address by Mr. Karamat Ullah Chaudry**

Greetings. It is my honor to be here to present the concluding address as president of TCDPAP after the conference for which even an external examiner like John Boyd has given marks in excess of eighty percent and if we put 10 percent in the last question, it is 90 percent. Thank you Mr. Boyd. Globalization according to a very learned speaker in the conference, is collaboration as well as competition. Sorry for borrowing these words from Mr. Terrywood. But these are very apt because whereas collaboration is a positive thing competition usually isn't. But there is always black and white, and we have to make it grey. But most importantly to overcome the challenge we have to upgrade our skills. And it is the associations, the member associations, country associations, TCDPAP, FIDIC, and ASPAC who have to play very vital role in upgrading the skills of our technical people. And it is very important that the countries and the member associations synergize with each other to improve the skills. And this is really capacity building. Over the past three days, all of us has seen very exciting papers, 32 in all. And we have seen the participation of 16 countries. And I have personally have learned that Nepal has a lot of water but insufficient hydropower. It is like having a lot of food in the fridge and not being able to eat it. And this is the problem we have in my country Pakistan also that we have a lot of water but we allow it flow into the sea and for some reason we just can't make use of it. So, I think it is the biggest challenge for you in Nepal and for us in Pakistan to utilize this water, for god's sake, utilize it and make something to give you cheap energy in the form of hydropower. During this conference as I said day before yesterday, I have seen lots of group discussions going on and consultants talking to each other. There are no borders. We are talking of making joint ventures. We are talking of collaboration and this I think is greatest thing. And even if we are not talking of collaboration and joint venture, the mere fact that we are just sitting and talking as friends is a great thing. Because these days there are not many friends, there are lots of enemies. TCDPAP together with active support of FIDIC and what more support can we expect from FIDIC? We have two presidents sitting in the first row. The president and the future president and we have the president of ASPAC sitting here and what better support can we get. Thank you very much all three of you for being here and making this conference a success. In fact such great enthusiasm in this conference that the next conference is in Vietnam followed by Malaysia and there was a very interesting proposal from another country for 2012 conference. But I said let's wait till next year and we'll fix it. I am very grateful to the organizers, SCAEF, they have done a wonderful job. They have such a galaxy of professionals. I think they have set a precedence. Vietnam must be shivering How are they going to make it better next time? They have set very high standards and I think we all owe them a lot. Mr. Amatya and his team, I know they have put in days and nights and months of very hard labor to make this conference a success, 90% success at least and today or tomorrow when we all leave I am sure Mrs. Amatya and other ladies will be very very happy that we are gone away. I am very grateful to the government of

Nepal. They have participated in this conference like consultants. The Prime Minister was here with two ministers, Physical Planning and Works, and Finance and today we have the minister of Science and Technology. This shows a great support which this organisation and even this conference had from the government of Nepal. And I thank the government of Nepal for this. As we go away tomorrow, we are going away with fondest memories of Nepal ever since 1953 when I was kid I have been hearing of Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing and Mount Everest and looking at the picture of it and yesterday I saw it and thank you very much you made it possible for me and my better half to actually see Mount Everest. It is great feeling and we take with us the memories of this stay here and I thank you all once again for your presence, for your participation and let me assure the Nepal, the government, SCAEF, the people that at least I will be back here next time for holiday.