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## Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

### Message

As we commemorate the 37th SAARC Charter Day, I wish to convey the warm greetings and felicitations of His Majesty The King, people and the Royal Government of Bhutan to the peoples and Governments of the Member States of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

As the world and our region continue to battle the pandemic, I would like to convey the sincere prayers and thoughts of the people of Bhutan for all the precious lives lost to the pandemic. During such trying times, it is encouraging and commendable that the Member States continue to keep the flame of cooperation burning. This spirit of cooperation must continue as it is on this very principle that SAARC was founded by our visionary leaders in 1985.

Bhutan firmly believes that, just like the rest of the world, our region must also look at the pandemic as an opportunity to rebuild ourselves. We have learned immense lessons from the pandemic. It has uncovered our weaknesses and potential, as nations and societies. Today, through the spirit of cooperation, we all must work towards building a resilient and robust system to protect the wellbeing of our people.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to reiterate Bhutan's firm commitment and support to the goals and principles of the SAARC process as enshrined in the Charter. As we commemorate yet another Charter day, Bhutan stands dedicated to working closely with fellow Member States towards fulfilling our common goals and aspirations.

( Dr Lotay Tshering )