

TEXT OF MESSAGE BY HIS EXCELLENCY ABDULLA SHAHID, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

QUOTE:

Male', 08 December 2021

It gives me great pleasure to extend warm greetings and best wishes to the Secretary General of SAARC, the SAARC Secretariat and people of the SAARC region, on the happy occasion of SAARC Charter Day.

Today as we celebrate 37th year of the founding of SAARC, it is important to reflect on the successes and gains achieved by SAARC despite the multifarious challenges. South Asia is a region blessed with great potential and all Member States must renew their commitment to work hand in hand, to reap the benefits of regional cooperation to enhance prosperity and quality of life of South Asian people.

Across the globe, and in the South Asia region, we continue to battle the Covid-19 pandemic. We recognize and commend the contributions of SAARC in bringing Member States together, in pursuing our collective efforts to recover from the social and economic impacts of Covid-19. It is my sincere hope that this spirit of solidarity and commitment is, and will continue to manifest in all areas of cooperation.

As we commemorate this special occasion, let me assure the full support of the Government of Maldives to foster regional cooperation, as enshrined in the SAARC Charter.

Abdulla Shahid Minister of Foreign Affairs Republic of Maldives

UNQUOTE: