
Defense Security Cooperation Agency Hosts Pakistan Security Assistance Working Group

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Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) hosted the 22nd United States Pakistan Security Assistance Working Group (SAWG) and Financial Management Review (FMR) from October 27 to 30, [2010]. Major General Nasir Mahmood, the Secretary, Ministry of Defense Production, and other representatives from the Pakistani services attended the four-day event and met with Beth McCormick, DSCA Deputy Director, and other DSCA personnel.

During the SAWG, delegations from the United States and Pakistan reviewed open action items from previous SAWGs and considered new issues for action. In addition, the two delegations also shared information on matters relevant to the process. This information included but was not limited to the United States Foreign Military Sales process and Pakistan's five-year modernization plan.

The most notable event during the four-day conference was the SAWG plenary session, which was attended by representatives from the United States military and the Department of State, co-chaired by McCormick and Mahmood. Thomas Countryman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs and David Sedney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, each made remarks. Countrymen described the SAWG as "an important forum for bilateral discussions between two partners and allies."

Members of the delegation from both countries felt that the bilateral discussions were very successful. They agreed to continue to work together on the combined goal of delivering and maintaining U.S. origin defense articles and services which support the common security objectives of the U.S. and Pakistan. Pakistan Air Attaché Group Captain Ahmer described the 22nd SAWG as "the best bilateral exchange" that he has attended since arriving in the United States more than two years ago. The 23rd SAWG is scheduled for April 2010 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The government of Pakistan hosted the last SAWG in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.



DSCA Deputy Director and a Pakistani General, and staff.