

Government of Pakistan

Prime Minister's office

Youth affairs wing

25th February 2023

## **ECOTHON 2023 held in Islamabad under the aegis of Prime Minister Youth Program and the UAE's embassy.**

A 10-kilometer marathon was held in Islamabad today under the aegis of Prime Minister's Youth Program and the UAE embassy.

The theme of the race titled ECOTHON 2023 was 'Clean and Healthy Environment'.

A large number of people from all walks of life including ambassadors and high commissioners participated in the race.

Purpose of the marathon was to create awareness among the masses about the negative impacts of climate and change. More than 1000 participants took part in the race.

In an Exclusive talk, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs Shaza Fatima said there is a dire need to create awareness among the masses about the climate change and its negative impacts on human lives.

It was the third consecutive annual run the UAE mission organized in the federal capital. However, this year's run was special as it was organized out of the Diplomatic Enclave and open to the general public.

Local and foreign athletes in large numbers, officials, ambassadors and representatives of the diplomatic community participated in the healthy and eco-friendly 10-km run as all the big and small vehicles were taken off the road and banners with messages of mainstreaming sustainable development and climate resilience were installed along the route.

While talking briefly to media persons before the run, UAE Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi said: "This is the third year we are organizing this marathon in Islamabad, and it is the first time it is taking place outside the Diplomatic Enclave."

“As the Emirates is also hosting the UN Conference of Parties, COP28, the biggest forum discussing various aspects and impacts of climate change later this year in November, the UAE is set to focus on building bridges to advance international efforts to support the Global South and countries that are most vulnerable to climate change such as Pakistan,” the UAE envoy added.

We are in the process of finding practical solutions to ensure energy security while reducing emissions in Pakistan as well as the rest of the world.

He extended gratitude to the Government of Pakistan, Prime Minister’s Youth Programme, the Islamabad District Administration and Gerry’s Visa for coordination and facilitations extended for the successful organization of the event.