

## THIRTY-SEVENTH SAARC CHARTER DAY - 08 DECEMBER 2021

It is an honour to send a message towards the 37<sup>th</sup> SAARC Charter Day to be celebrated on the 08<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The day of each year remarks the adoption of SAARC Charter founded under the sole agreement of the Heads of State or Government of South Asia at the First SAARC Summit held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on the 08<sup>th</sup> December 1985. Consisting of eight pledges to invigorate SAARC Cooperation, it expects 'promoting peace, stability, amity and progress in the region through strict adherence to the principles of the UNITED NATIONS CHARTER and NON-ALIGNMENT, particularly respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, national independence, non-use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and peaceful settlement of all disputes.' The SAARC Cultural Center, one of the Regional Centers located in Sri Lanka is proud to commemorate the Charter Day, being the friendliest and a committed nation to treat the Asian nation with one single smile and courtesy to alleviate the disputes and inequalities with its ever extended hands and soul. Being the 04<sup>th</sup> consecutive Director of the SAARC Cultural Centre, I strongly believe that Culture and its elements have boundless values and significant aspects, and South Asia, being enriched with abundant of cultural affinities representing the commonality of South Asian nation can overcome our challenges through cultural harmony and sovereignty. We are committed to enumerate the humanity through culture and its prestigious morals to coop with such challenges. I wish all the success and sustenance of the SAARC Corporation with all its due recognition!!

Prof. Prashanthi Narangoda  
Director of SAARC Cultural Centre