

### **Ambassador Mustafa Osman Turan**

Ambassador Mustafa Osman Turan joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey in 1992 following his studies in international relations at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara. He completed his Master's degree on European politics in 1996 at the College of Europe in Bruges.

Throughout his career, he worked at the Ministry's departments on the Middle East, NATO and Euro-Atlantic Security and Defence Affairs, Arms Control and Disarmament, Multilateral Economic Affairs. As his assignments abroad, he worked in Italy, Albania, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Austria, Afghanistan and Belgium. Before being appointed as the Ambassador to Bangladesh as of 15.01.2020, he was based in Ankara as the Deputy Director General for Multilateral Economic Affairs.

Ambassador Turan was born in 1969 in İzmit, Turkey and speaks English fluently.

### **Ambassador Tariq Ahmad Karim**

Ambassador Tariq Ahmad Karim is currently Director of the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at the Independent University, Bangladesh. Prior to this he was Senior Fellow in the Vice Chancellor's Office advising on the setting up of a Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at the Independent University, Bangladesh. He has been an advisory consultant for South Asia Regional Integration & Engagement with the World Bank since 2014 until recently.

Ambassador Karim was a career diplomat, having joined the Foreign Service of erstwhile Pakistan in 1967. He has served extensively at home and abroad. Even after having opted for early optional retirement, several years earlier than due to join academia, he was recalled to harness twice to serve the nation, notably as Bangladesh High Commissioner to India (2009-14, (when he enjoyed the personal rank and status of a Minister of State of Bangladesh), and as Ambassador to the United States (2001-2002). His other senior assignments abroad were: Ambassador to Iran with concurrent accreditation to Lebanon (1991-95); High Commissioner to South Africa, with concurrent accreditation to Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, and with consular jurisdiction in Zambia and Zimbabwe (1997-98); Deputy High Commissioner in New Delhi (1984-88), and Deputy Chief of Mission in Beijing (1988-91). He had earlier also served in various capacities in Tehran, Bonn, Bangkok, and London. At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, he was, notably, Director (Personnel) and Director (Middle East & Africa), in the formative years of newly independent Bangladesh's Foreign Ministry (1972-75); he also served as Director General for United Nations and Economic Affairs, with concurrent oversight over Policy Planning & Research wing (1982-84) and as Additional Foreign Secretary for South Asia & SAARC (1995-97). Ambassador Karim was Distinguished International Executive in Residence (1999-2000) at University of Maryland, where among his primary areas of academic interest were: examining state fragility, civil society, democratic transition, human rights and rule of law, general governance issues in South Asia, political Islam, and globalization issues.