



1st Parliament of the world to establish parliamentary oversight mechanisms on the National Development Agenda



DEVWATCH

Parliamentary pursuits for Human Development



NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Activities of the National Parliamentary Task Force and the climate's impact on the SDGs

WE MUST ACT NOW

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER

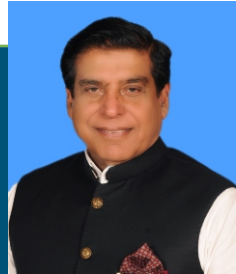


15 LIFE ON LAND



SPEAKERS DESK – HON. RAJA PERVAIZ ASHRAF

Climate change is resulting in poorer health outcomes and will surely impact future generations. This global issue has the potential to take away everything we take for granted. Our water will be dried out. Our crops won't be able to grow because of the increased heat. Our oxygen will be limited as deforestation continues. Most importantly, our future families will have harder and shorter lives. If we don't take instant action against climate change, then this future may become both unrevealing and irreversible. So, think about it like this, although it may seem drastic, by contributing to climate change, you are actively shattering the lives of your future family.



DEPUTY SPEAKERS DESK – HON. ZAHID AKRAM DURRANI

Climate risk is increasing with every passing day. Climate extremes – higher temperatures, more droughts, more severe hurricane damages, earlier and more serious wildfires, and historic cold snaps – are getting more severe and are occurring more often. Now is the time to begin managing climate risks and doing so in a way that will be cost-effective and economically productive.



CONVENERS DESK– HON. ROMINA KHURSHID ALAM

There is no country that is not experiencing the drastic effects of climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions are increasing in Pakistan drastically. Global warming is causing long lasting changes to our climate, which will become irreversible if we do not act quickly. We must act quickly to address these issues.



Convener's Vision

From the desk of Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam,

Convener National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs



The SDGs provide worldwide guidance for addressing the global challenges facing the international community. It is about better protecting the natural foundations of life and our planet everywhere and for everyone, and preserving people's opportunities to live in dignity and prosperity across generations. It can be said that sustainable development brings out stability in the requirements of the environment. It makes the resources available for use for the future generations. Sustainable development is an amazing way to conserve the resources provided by nature.

Pakistan has wholly endorsed the UN Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals and aims to be on rise amongst other successful countries. The priorities of the current Task Force are in line with the SDGs targets and are earnestly working to be on the right track.

We, as Parliamentarians play a key role in bridging society with the Executive. Parliamentarians can play vital roles in their respective constituencies and work for its progression. With the expected climate change adversities and economic repercussions alongside other indicators, SDG-1 (No Poverty) and SDG-2 (No Hunger) indicators are surely to fallout. SDGs are meant to address challenges and the universal need for development that works for all. No doubt, it is an uphill work but we need to join hands, take up the sustainable development agenda and work in harmony towards achieving national development.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SECRETARIAT & THE TASK FORCE



The Task Force

The National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs currently comprises of 38 Parliamentarians. The Task force has been ensuring oversight, effective legislative inputs and meaningful representation in the House.

The SDGS Secretariat

The National Assembly of Pakistan has established a SDGs Secretariat which provides technical assistance to the task force members through evidence based research, data, advocacy outreach and communication

THE SDGS IN THE PARLIAMENT



A CULTURE OF PRODUCTIVITY

SDGS Secretariat

The National Parliamentary task Force on the SDGs has been actively engaging in consultative meetings in order to achieve the SDG indicators and the respected targets. The SDGs Secretariat and the Task Force are looking forward to the implementation of the upcoming projects.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

**CLIMATE CHANGE:
PAKISTAN'S GREAT
CHALLENGE**

SDG 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

**SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

**IMPACT OF CLIMATE
CHANGE ON HEALTH**

**IMPACT OF CLIMATE
CHANGE ON CHILDREN**

ENGAGEMENTS THIS QUARTER

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Environmental Protection

Pakistan's economic growth and development is dependent on the country's environmental resources, particularly with reference to the agriculture and livestock sectors. In order to achieve SDGs Goal-12, Pakistan needs to not only delink the country's economic growth from environmental degradation, but it also needs to promote and incentivize sustainable consumption and production behaviors that discourage excessive resource-consumption. More importantly, the Government of Pakistan acknowledges that in the true spirit of SDG Goal 12, it needs to promote schemes that curtail reliance on toxic materials, and minimize waste-generation and pollution-emission throughout the production-consumption life cycles.

With the long-term vision of supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production, the Government of Pakistan has introduced a ban on polythene bags in Islamabad Capital Territory wherein manufacturers and distributors of polythene plastic bags have been held responsible for mitigating adverse environmental impacts of their products (i.e. plastic bags). Through this regulatory instrument, producers and distributors of plastic bags have been involved in a chain of responsibility wherein they have to take-back their products after its disposal in the environment. The purpose of introducing the scheme is to minimize solid waste, encourage recycling and promote sustainable consumption and production of polyethylene plastic bags. It is envisaged that through this regulatory mechanism, a more circular and less resource-intensive local economy will be promoted.





Pakistan is at a crossroads for a much warmer world, and has been ranked in top ten of the countries most affected by climate change in the past 20 years. Its climate change concerns include increased variability of monsoons and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) in its Northern Parts.



National Action Plan (NAP) on SDG-12 has been developed after extensive input and deliberations of all stakeholders. It marks the culmination of national and provincial level multi stakeholders consultation process. Pakistan is the first country in the world that adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development as its own national development agenda. This epochal decision, attaches special significance to the NAP-SCP as it lays foundation of the roadmap for achieving sustainable development goals.

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure and providing access to basic services, and a better quality of life for all. The implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, adopted at Rio+20 in 2012, is the first target set under SDG12. Recognizing this need, the Government of Pakistan has launched “Green Pakistan” programme to maintain and increase the natural resource capital. The SCP is a powerful decision making tool that plays a key role in climate change, as almost everything we consume and produce affects our water, food and energy security, as it impacts the ecosystems and communities worldwide.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Each year, an estimated one third of all food produced – equivalent to 1.3 billion tonnes worth around \$1 trillion – ends up rotting in the bins of consumers and retailers, or spoiling due to poor transportation and harvesting practices.

If people worldwide switched to energy efficient light bulbs the world would save US\$120 billion annually.

Should the global population reach 9.6 billion by 2050, the equivalent of almost three planets could be required to provide the natural resources needed to sustain current lifestyles.



Did YOU
Know?

**1 Million Plastic
Drinking Bottles
are purchased
every minute**



**5 trillion Single use
plastic bags are thrown
away each year**



CLIMATE'S IMPACT ON CHILDREN

Children are one of the largest and most vulnerable groups at risk from climate change. Pakistan is amongst the 33 countries where children are at “extremely high risk” from the impacts of the climate crisis and ranks 14 out of 163 countries in UNICEF’s children’s climate risk index of 2021. The effects of climate change are projected to be more intense in the immediate and long-term future, suggesting that children of today and subsequent generations will bear the brunt of climate change.

Without concerted action, millions of children will be at increased risk from infectious disease, malnutrition, water scarcity, and disruption to their education. The response to the threat of climate change thus demands a “child-centered” approach.

UNICEF contributes directly to the Government of Pakistan Sustainable Development Goals National Framework, Goal 6 and Goal 13 and supports the Prime Minister’s Programme for ‘Clean Green Pakistan’ to reduce climate change and environmental degradation risks. With the vision to ensuring every child, including adolescents, lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment, UNICEF supports the Government of Pakistan, relevant ministries and departments, and development actors in generating evidence, developing and implementing sector-wide provincial advocacy and communication plans to influence the provincial budgets and financing to prepare for and respond to climate change and other disasters. In addition, UNICEF will address risks due to climate change by building climate-resilient WASH infrastructure and awareness creation and community engagement, mainly by adolescents and young people, on climate change issues in Pakistan.

Climate change is not about a future we won’t live to see. It is about now and about the future for our children. Thereby, urgent action on climate change is needed to ensure that the state of our planet allows children to survive and flourish today and in the future.



JUNE - JULY - AUGUST

SDG 13

SDGS SECRETARIAT



Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam, Convener of the National Parliamentary Taskforce on the SDGs took the initiative of planting trees in Islamabad in collaboration with Capital Development Authority



CLIMATE CHANGE: PAKISTAN'S GREAT CHALLENGE



Climate change is causing devastating effects around the world, with Pakistan being particularly affected. Pakistan is one country which most affected by climate change. In recent decades, the country has faced the deterioration of environmental conditions. From flooding to rising sea levels to melting glaciers in the Himalayas, causing erratic weather patterns and, of course, smog in the Punjab province, the country is steadily deteriorating in climate conditions.

More specifically, Pakistan witnesses floods almost every decade. In 2010, a devastating flood affected about 20 million people across the country. In 2011, the rains wreaked havoc and again in 2020, the country saw mini floods across Pakistan. In 2018, only 1mm was recorded in Sindh monsoon rainfall but in 2019, an unprecedented 323mm in 2019 was recorded. In 2020, the provincial capital of Sindh recorded 345mm of rainfall. Moreover, the heating up of the Arabian Sea from 29 degrees centigrade to 31 degrees centigrade in 2 years has been one of the reasons for such heavy rainfalls. The climate change problem deeply impacts Pakistan economically. A recent report highlights that Pakistan will lose \$4 billion annually because of inability to tackle climate change.

The first and most important step to take is to reduce emissions and stabilize greenhouse gas values. To reduce the source of greenhouse gases, Pakistan must rely on renewable energy instead of coal for power generation. Countries need to work together regionally to strengthen efforts to mitigate climate change. Governments also need to make the most of climate change opportunities, such as longer growing seasons and higher yields. Another important step is that new cities must be developed so that over populated cities do not usurp scarce services such as drainage and solid waste management. This way agricultural land can be saved. Marine and terrestrial biodiversity must be conserved – overfishing raises deep ecological and personal concerns. Islamabad is a model city in this regard. Recently a road out of plastic waste was built. If the project is successful and cost effective, 2,000 tonnes of waste dumped daily in Islamabad and Rawalpindi could be sustainably recycled.

Last but not the least, management at the city level also needs to be promoted to plan for heatwaves, floods and droughts. Improving water availability for the future should be the key concern for local governments.

In summary, global warming is a serious threat to our planet. The world as a whole, and Pakistan in particular, experienced extreme climate impacts. However, the Pakistani government, with its climate change agenda and current climate change mitigation strategies, is steadfast in the face of such disasters. A comprehensive strategy needs to be developed that includes robust action by global organizations, Government agencies and systems. Joint action of the above units leads to effective results. Protecting mother nature requires an era of collective effort.

LIFE BELOW WATER

Hon. MNA Shazia Sobia -

Rising temperatures have resulted in glaciers melting faster than required. Climate change is not only a threat to humanity but all existing species including life below water.



Drastically rising sea level, as a direct consequence of climate change call for immediate action. This will not only negatively influence the aquatic ecosystem but will have direct detrimental effects on people living on the coastal area. What measures can be taken for the survival of Life below water? The primary source of income of the people living near coastal areas is fishing, but due to marine pollution the livelihood, economy and tourism is impacted. Climate change has affected people who depend on fishing as their main source of income. The current situation requires immediate attention from the relevant authorities.

The main concerning thing for humanity is the oxygen we breathe, which is coming half from the oceans, not only essential for humans but for underwater creatures as well. Due to global warming the oceans will get warm and water will not be able to hold much oxygen. The habitats for underwater creatures and humans living nearby coastal areas will be affected. So what will be the goal of humanity at this stage? We must take preventive measures and try to minimize the causes due to which global warming is rising. This will be a big challenge for humanity but our only survival lies in the mitigation of the risks associated with this phenomenon. We therefore, as individuals must endeavor to eliminate the heat trapping gases at domestic & industrial level, due to which our atmosphere is in anguish.

Let's make our sound & sincere efforts to help humanity & all living creatures, who require substantial societal changes whether in the form of complete reshaping of technology or our goals of life individually in society.

14 LIFE BELOW WATER





SUB GROUP ON SDG 14



DEAD ZONES

ARE RISING AT AN ALARMING RATE FROM 400 IN 2008 TO 700 IN 2019

"Dead Zones" are areas of water that lack sufficient oxygen to support marine life



Celebrating World Maritime Day!

Hon. Dr. Shazia Aslam Convener called upon a meeting of her sub-group on #SDG14 .

The SDGs Secretariat gave a detailed presentation on unpacking SDG 14 (life below water) and chalked out a way forward for the sub-group.



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Impact of Climate Change on Health



Climate change is already impacting health in many ways - leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms, and floods, the disruption of food systems, increases in zoonoses, food, water, and vector-borne diseases, and mental health issues. Climate change can lead to increased infections from diseases such as malaria and dengue fever and can have significant impacts. People exposed to higher levels of ground-level ozone are at greater risk of dying prematurely or being admitted to the hospital for respiratory problems. Inhaling fine particles can lead to a broad range of adverse health effects, including lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and cardiovascular disease.



Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250 000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress.

WHO - October 2021



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



AIR QUALITY



The Global Alliance on Health and Pollution estimated in 2019 that 128,000 Pakistanis die annually due to air pollution-related illnesses. ... Pollution and winter weather conditions combine to shroud the city in smog—disrupting flights, causing major road closures, and wreaking havoc on the health of its citizenry.

PM2.5 concentration in Pakistan air is currently 11.8 times above the WHO annual air quality guideline value

Lahore has been ranked at 192 AQI, being the most polluted city in Pakistan.

Pakistan is ranked #2 worldwide for the most polluted country with an AQI of 153.

Pakistan's AQI Over The Years
2018: 73.30
2019: 65.80
2020: 59

According to the Centers for Disease Control, air pollution increases the risk of many preexisting conditions, including diabetes, lung diseases, asthma, heart disease and cancer. On average, a Pakistani's life is reduced by two years due to the impact of pollution, while a Lahore resident's life is reduced by five years.

Real-time Pakistan Most polluted city ranking

#	CITY	US AQI
1	Lahore, Punjab	192
2	Faisalabad, Punjab	172
3	Rawalpindi, Punjab	161
4	Raiwind, Punjab	160
5	Karachi, Sindh	156
6	Bahawalpur, Punjab	121
7	Islamabad, Islamabad	119
8	Abbottabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	111

Engagements this Quarter



15
LIFE
ON LAND



Hon. MNA Romina Khurshid Alam on her 1st day as Convener took a tour around D-chowk & blue area (Islamabad) with the aim to promote SDG 15 (Life on land) and to examine the plantation drive conducted by CDA. She replanted burnt trees along with new ones best suited for a clean & green environment.

In partnership with the Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO), Hon. MNA Romina Khurshid Alam inaugurated the women's journalists room at the National Press Club with the aim to promote Gender Equality, Good Jobs and Economic Growth which promises equal rights and promotes safe and secure working environments of all workers. Future engagements with SSDO are in pipeline.



5
GENDER
EQUALITY



Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam participated in a Seminar arranged by the Sustainable development policy institute (SDPI) on World Environment Day 2022. The Theme of the seminar was SDG 13 – Protect the planet, Climate Action and Clean and Green Pakistan.

Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam held a detailed meeting with Mr. Ammar Masood to discuss possible avenues of collaboration & projects for Persons with Disabilities.



SDG 10 addresses inequalities within and among countries. It calls for nations to reduce inequalities in income as well as those based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status within a country.

Engagements this Quarter

Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam met with Mr. Fawad Muslim from Earthlink to discuss legislative gaps & possible amendments which can be undertaken to promote compliance with the Global Goals. Access to Islamabad street libraries and the presence of SDGs content in them were also discussed.



unicef 
for every child

A detailed meeting was called with UNICEF Pakistan team to discuss on mutual interest and priority areas around child rights, gender mainstreaming, environment, social policy, etc. The main emphasis was laid on the need to draw attention to child-centric areas; out of school, food security, and changing climate.

Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Convener
Romina Khurshid
Alam called a meeting
with IP5, Mustehkam
Parliamaan to discuss
the upcoming
activities & to explore
mutual areas of
interest.

IP5 showed their interest to assist SDGs Secretariat in mainstreaming Global Goals into national legislation & devise a well-coordinated National SDGs Strategy.

Team Signify visited SDGs Secretariat to officially welcome the Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam and conducted a brief introductory meeting to unpack the upcoming activities around partnership for Goals, SDG 16, Peace-building, and Interfaith Harmony. Future activities are in pipeline.



Engagements this Quarter



Ms. Sahiba Shaheen from BARGAD Youth visited SDGs Secretariat and met with the Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam to explore avenues to engage youth in creating awareness & devising community projects for SDGs.

Hon. Convener Romina Alam met with the World Bank team to discuss areas of cooperation around decent work and economic growth targets mainly involving economic inclusion, ensuring an active labor market, social protection coverage, and social insurance.



Engagements this Quarter

Hon. Convener Romina Alam participated in the meeting with the Google Asia Pacific team to discuss the potential of digitalization, bringing digital solutions to the National Assembly of Pakistan, and encouraged going paperless.



The meeting was chaired by the Hon. Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan.



Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam called a meeting with UNDP Pakistan to chalk out mutual areas of interest and priority. She also discussed the SDGs strategic work plan which will be launched soon.



The main aim was to Create Parliamentary engagement and Focus on gender mainstreaming. Future engagements are in pipeline.

Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Convener Romina Alam met with Hon. Chairman Senate, Sadiq Sanjrani to discuss mutual areas of interest. She emphasized on the need to focus on inter-provincial coordination. Hon. Chairman Senate reaffirmed his commitment to the SDGs and Agenda 2030.

Hon. Convener Romina Alam attended the event and gave her remarks as the Chief Guest, regarding the “Financial Inclusion for All” event by CARE Pakistan and Jazz Pakistan.



In her remarks, she highlighted SDG8 which promotes sustained, inclusive & sustainable economic growth, productive employment, & decent work for all.

Engagements this Quarter



Post Budget Analysis through a SDGs Lens



Secretariat SDGs hosted a briefing session on "Post-Budget Analysis through SDGs lens". The Briefing was attended by various members of the Parliament who showed keen interest in the topic. SDGs in Pakistan have been recognized as the National Development Agenda & development stands as the most important component of the federal budget. It is pertinent to hold intellectual and practical engagements allocation & disbursement of funds with SDGs lens." said Hon. Romina Alam, in her opening remarks.

A detailed presentation was given by Mr. Abid Suleri renowned economic expert, he highlighted "the 4Ds of the budget, Debt service, Defence affairs, day-to-day running of civil government & Development grants. He also said that we need to improve our donor coordination framework.

Hon. Mehnaz Akber Aziz highlighted the importance of reviewing the budget through child right lens. She emphasized that 8 of the SDGs are child-centric, hence we should target our fund allocation efficiently surrounding the most vulnerable - children. The briefing was concluded by Hon. Minister of State for Finance Dr. Aisha Ghaus Pasha, she reaffirmed her commitment to achieving the global goals and she emphasized the need to utilize the remaining 8 years more effectively and efficiently.



Engagements this Quarter

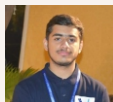


Meeting held with Mr. Malik Ali Imran from club de Madrid regarding providing institutional and technical support on democratic values, inclusive development, global cooperation and promotion of multi-literalism in ensuring achievement of SDGs.

Meeting held with Lead Pakistan on the agenda of localization of the SDGs. Emphasis was put on strong inter-provincial coordination as the 2030 agenda significantly relies on the bottom-up approach.



Our young interns have actively been engaged this quarter in all our activities and initiatives



“

Gaining work experience is critical for increasing your employability, especially as a student, and the SDGs Secretariat, particularly this National Meet on SDGs, assisted me in this. My first two weeks at SDGs Secretariat not only allowed me to grow personally, but it also helped me to gain new skills in basic coordination experience that I did not previously have.

- Shadab Ali Mian

”

Engagements this Quarter

A meeting was held with PAGE Pakistan on future collaborations regarding SDG 3 "Good Health" and SDG 4 "Quality Education". The meeting was chaired by Hon. Convener Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam. Future activities with PAGE Pakistan are in pipeline.



A meeting was held with Dr. Farzana Altaf DG Environmental Protection Agency, Islamabad in order to discuss ways to counter urban flooding and early monsoon warnings.

It was highlighted that high alert has been placed by the MET office with regards to monsoon. It was also decided that we need to focus on water conservation as well as mitigating strategy for urban flooding.

Engagements this Quarter



Team SSDO Pakistan paid a visit to SDGs Secretariat and met Honorable Convener Romina Khurshid Alam. SSDO & SDGs Secretariat are planning to launch awareness campaign on SDGs at all levels to sensitize the local communities. SDGs Secretariat and team SSDO is planning to build an awareness wall in SDGs Secretariat to sensitise Parliamentarians and officials.

Meeting held with M. Ali Kemal, Chief SDGs from Planning Commission Pakistan to promote long-term mutually beneficial partnership in promoting SDGs in Pakistan. It was decided that data pertaining to SDGs is of crucial importance for informed decision making and bringing change at the grass-root level.



Hence, district-wise data should be made available and a sustainable portal shall be established for better monitoring and tracking progress on SDGs.

Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Convener MNA Romina Khurshid Alam attended and participated at the workshop on Implementation of Green Financing Mechanisms in Pakistan hosted by SDPI Pakistan in collaboration with GIZ Pakistan. Hon. Romina Alam attended the conference as guest of honor and delivered her address on prioritizing funding to mitigate drastically changing climate.

Hon. Convener MNA Romina Khurshid Alam called upon a meeting with Tech Valley Pakistan to discuss innovative ways of digitalizing SDGs Secretariat's workspace & providing smooth national connectivity. Usage of Google 's latest tools and technologies were also discussed in the meeting. Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam suggested that tech valley should plan a training session for SDGs Secretariat team and equip them with the latest digital technology.



Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Romina Khurshid Alam called upon a meeting with the Aurat Foundation to discuss the pending activities planned with Sub-Group on SDG 5 and a way forward around implementing SDG 5 - Gender Equality and tracking progress on each target.

Hon. Convener MNA Romina Khurshid Alam called upon a meeting with Nestle Pakistan to discuss their contribution in achieving the SDGs under their CSR program. Further areas of collaboration around SDG 2 - Zero Hunger and SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production were discussed.



Engagements this Quarter



A meeting with Graana and Emarat Developers was held to discuss strategies around SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities. Mandatory green certification of buildings & societies was also discussed.

It was suggested that the building code of Pakistan should be reviewed through an SDG lens and legislators should propose possible amendments.

Hon. Convener MNA Romina Khurshid Alam called upon a meeting with Hon. Ayesha Raza Farooq to appreciate her untiring efforts to eradicate polio from Pakistan.



A detailed meeting was held to discuss the targets of SDG 3 (Good Health and well-being) and being the champion of polio eradication in Pakistan, her assistance was sought to streamline the national targets regarding polio.

Engagements this Quarter

Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam called upon a meeting with Islamabad Capital Territory administration & Capital Development Authority officials to discuss strategy for mitigating urban flooding caused by heavy monsoon rain in Islamabad, adoption of new methods for water conservation were also discussed. A detailed presentation was given by Chairman CDA on the said topic in which he highlighted the establishment of flood relief camps around vulnerable flood-prone areas. He also mentioned the water harvesting and water filtration strategy which CDA is implementing with PCRWR.

The meeting was concluded with the decision that the Deputy Commissioner Islamabad and Member Planning CDA shall approach all cooperative and private housing societies for installation of recharge wells and rain water harvesting projects in their respective societies. The deadline given by the Hon. Convener / Chair for housing societies to share their reports is 10th of July, 2022. It was also suggested that in the next meeting Member Interior, Member WASA, DG Water Management, DG Civic Management and Government officials from PCRWR, RDA (local government) and NDMA shall be invited for a conclusive discussion and decision.



Engagements this Quarter



Hon. Convener Romina Khursheed Alam & Hon. Shahida Akhtr met with Nutrition International team to discuss new projects & legislative interventions to promote ZeroHunger.



Hon. Convener Romina met with the UN Women Pakistan team today to discuss mutual areas of interest in leveraging gender equality and women's empowerment agenda in Pakistan.

Interns placed at the SDGs Secretariat brought new perspectives in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The internship inculcated in me a deeper understanding of how the system works and helped break stereotypes of government departments which instilled greater respect for the profession. The conference I volunteered to help organize taught me the importance of team work. I had to work on and polish my communication skills. That, in itself, was a whole new territory for me. From learning to work with other people, taking their advice whilst voicing my own opinions, to dealing with the media and coordinating with each other, I constantly had to challenge myself. As my experience here at the SDGs comes to an end, I leave with greater appreciation for the efforts the department has put into highlighting the importance of sustainable development and only hope to nurture the skills I have acquired over the course of these 4 weeks.

- Maria Aziz

Provincial Visit to Punjab

The main goal of the provincial visit was to connect with key partners of Punjab in an interactive way to advocate for SDG driven discourse which shall help engage the local community and ensure inclusive partnerships at all levels. The outcomes of the visit included a way forward in devising mechanisms for smooth coordination and overview of SDGs targets implementation. We recognize that addressing the challenges of the SDGs is everybody's responsibility and explicitly call on business, civil society and academic sectors among others to collaborate on the achievement of the SDGs.

In today's global world, experience sharing and communication between us would benefit us all. The objective was to jointly work together on devising ways and means of bringing sustainable prosperity while leaving no one behind.

Provincial Visit to Punjab



Hon. Convener Romina called upon a meeting with team Signify & Human Rights and Minorities affairs dept (Punjab) to discuss the strategy on Inter faith Harmony & how to Inbocalise SDG 16 targets in districts of Punjab.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Hon. Convener/SAPM Romina Khurshid Alam & Hon. Shaza Fatima SAPM visited WASA office & were briefed by Managing Director regarding their urban flooding mitigation policy for Lahore. Rain water harvesting was also discussed along with SDG12 & SDG13. Also paid a visit to their Monsoon Control Room. The matter of urban flooding was discussed and further actions points were chalked down on a federal level

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Provincial Visit to Punjab



Hon. Convener Romina visited PnD Punjab office & called upon a meeting with Chairman to track progress on SDGs targets implementation. Detailed presentation was given by Punjab SDGs Unit regarding the status of Localising SDGs. Hon. Shaza Fatima also attended the meeting.



Hon. Convener Romina & her team met with Hon. Governor of Punjab Mr. Baligh Ur Rehman. Hon. Governor reiterated his commitment to put concerted efforts to achieve SDGs for well being of humanity & assured the delegation to provide every possible assistance to achieve SDGs.

Provincial Visit to Punjab



Hon. Convener Romina called upon a meeting with DG WCL Authority Mr. Kamran Lashari to discuss SDG 11.4 which is "strengthening efforts to protect & safeguard the world's cultural & natural heritage". Pakistan has a rich culture which should be viewed through SDG lens.



Meeting held with Bargad Youth regarding future plans on the SDG Agenda implementation. The SDGs Secretariat plans on initiating activities for youth engagement.

Provincial Visit to Punjab



Hon. Convener Romina called upon a meeting with Pildat to explore avenues of partnerships around SDGs – specifically targeting SDG16 – promoting the rule of law, transparency, accountability, good governance, & non-discrimination at all levels.

Hon. SAPM / Convenor Ms. Romina gave an exclusive interview to Radio Pakistan Punjab, with the agenda to sensitise its listeners regarding Global Goals & to aware them with their roles & responsibilities in achieving SDGs. Each individual has a role to play.



 **SDGS
AWARENESS**

VNR Side Events

Online



Hon. Convener Ms. Romina participated in the side event at the 2022 HLPF. She talked about 'Advancing the Sustainable Development Agenda while Responding to Emerging Challenges.'



Engagements this Quarter



Pakistan Scouts conducted an orientation session on life skills based education at its headquarters in Islamabad. Hon. Convener Romina urged the youth to become part of Pakistan Scouts to increase their abilities and explore opportunities of personal growth.



Provincial Visit to Sindh



Hon. Romina held a meeting with Hon. Syeda Shehla Raza, Prov Minister for Women Development in Karachi. Discussion held around Women Development Act & financial empowerment of women in different districts of Sindh in light of SDG5 targets.

A joint meeting of Secretariat SDGs, Chairman P&D Syed Hasan Naqvi, and the SDGs unit at the Planning Govt Department of Sindh. The SDGs unit of the Planning and Development Department briefed the participants on the progress of SDGs in Sindh.



Meeting with Hon. Murtaza Wahab regarding SDGs implementation & policy reforms. Hon. Convener Romina appreciated the efforts of Sindh Assembly regarding SDGs related legislation. Plans were discussed to initiate a National Consultation regarding SDG related laws.



Provincial Visit to Sindh



"Few individuals significantly alter the course of history. Fewer still modify the map of the world. Hardly anyone can be credited with creating a nation-state. Mohammad Ali Jinnah did all three."



Meeting held at Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Discussion was held on the targets of SDG8. "Economic growth is one of the most powerful drivers of poverty reduction in the world & business is the most reliable engine powering that growth."

Provincial Visit to Sindh



Meeting held with Hon. Nasir Shah, Provincial Minister - regarding localisation of SDGs. Future plans have been made to share best practices regarding SDGs implementation. Localising the SDGs involves the definition, implementation & monitoring of strategies at local level.



Meeting held with Governor Sindh Hon. Agha Siraj Khan Durani regarding SDGs relevant legislation. He offered his full support & cooperation. SDGs Secretariat is looking forward to develop future plans with his office regarding achieving the SDGs 2030 Agenda.

Engagements this Quarter



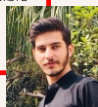
Hon. Convener Romina met with Hon. Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf to discuss the final preparations for our upcoming National Meet on SDGs. Respected Secretary National Assembly Mr. Tahir Hussain & Additional Secretary Mr. Shamoon Hashmi were also present.



“ After about a week of my internship at the SDGs department, I am now much more motivated to study and learn about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) formulated by the United Nations (UN) and their importance in our economy. Furthermore, I want to analyze the problems which are acting as obstacles in the achievement of the SDGs and the possible solutions to those problems.

- **Tashfeen Hameed Pasha**

SDGs are about awareness, understanding and partnerships. The internship program at the SDGs Secretariat provides students the direct exposure of working on the development agenda.





NATIONAL MEET ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2022

#sdgsmeet22

The National Meet on SDGs provided a platform for an in-depth and conclusive discussion on Pakistan's issues, such as urban flooding, environmental degradation, rising poverty, food scarcity, energy difficulties, and inadequate flood control, with an emphasis on the post-COVID-19 situation and with the aim to integrate SDGs into National Policy.





National Meet Agenda



PROGRAMME

Day 1: 27th July 2022

10:00-11:00 AM

Main Hall
Sheesh Mehal,
Serena Hotel

INAUGURAL SESSION

Welcome Remarks by
Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Convener National
Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs

Introductory remarks:
H.E Dr Riina Kionka,
Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan

Mr. Raja Pervaiz Ashraf,
Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan
(TBC)

Key Note: - Mr. Ahsan Iqbal (TBC)

Group photo

11:00-11:15 AM

SETTING THE SCENE:
SDG Implementation in Pakistan

11:15-11:30 AM

Tea Break

11:30 AM-13:00 PM

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSION:

Faisalabad
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session I:
Envisioning inclusive development:
Socio-economic challenges in Pakistan

Quetta
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session II:
Ending hunger and malnutrition

Gilgit
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session III:
Sustainable and Eco-Tourism

13:00-14:00 PM

Lunch and prayer break

14:00-15:30 PM

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Faisalabad
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session I:
Re-Defining Corporate Social Responsibility for
the achievement of SDGs

Quetta
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session II:
Ensuring equitable access to health

Gilgit
Board Room,
Serena Hotel

Session III:
National dialogue on climate change and the
impact of heatwave



PROGRAMME

Day 2: 28th July 2022

09:30 - 11:00 AM

Main Hall
Kehkishaan,
Serena Hotel

SESSION:

Integrating the SDGs into national policy

11:00- 11:15 AM

Tea Break

11:15-12:45 PM

CLOSING PLENARY:
The way forward – Conclusions of the parallel
breakout sessions

Closing remarks by Chief Guest (TBC)

Outcome document:
Presented by
Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam

Group Photo

01:00 PM

Networking Lunch hosted by
Hon. Convener Romina Khurshid Alam

Departure of Guests





National Meet on SDGs

Members of National, Federal and Legislative Assemblies gathered in Islamabad to re-affirm their commitment to the 2030 UN Plan for Sustainable Development Goals and develop a National Framework for their monitoring and implementation. EU Ambassador to Pakistan Dr. Riina Kionka praised the efforts of the SDG Secretariat and National Assembly of Pakistan for organizing the conference, stating that the EU is pleased to join forces with Pakistan to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.





National Meet on SDGs



Addressing the participants as Chief Guest the Hon. Speaker stated that the policy choices, the government makes today will determine its success in building a transition to a sustainable, greener, more inclusive and more resilient tomorrow.

Federal Planning and Development Minister Prof. Ahsan Iqbal stated that the SDGs can only be implemented by localizing their solutions in Pakistan's unique context. SAPM / Convener Romina Khurshid Alam stated that the aim of the National Meet was to bring together stakeholders from all over Pakistan to share ideas, expertise and solutions for taking ambitious action and building partnerships to achieve the SDGs.





National Meet on SDGs



The parallel breakout sessions at the SDGs Meet 2022, covered and deliberated on all cross-cutting topics of SDGs.





National Meet on SDGs



Open discuss session on "Integrating SDGs into National Policy" moderated by Zafarullah Khan. MPs from all assemblies participated. This session gave recommendations on how Parliamentarians can play an important role in ensuring SDGs implementation at all levels.



Addressing the SDGs Meet 2022 as Chief Guest, Hon. Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb stated, the World is moving towards "What's next" with 8 year left to achieve. I think it's time that we start evaluating our performance & prioritize goals which address our immediate issues.





National Meet on SDGs

Convener Romina Khursheed Alam in her closing remarks said - Sustainable development is dependent upon High level political leadership, participation of stakeholders in policy making, decisions based on data & solutions that aim to integrate all dimensions of sustainable development



The National Meet on SDGs was concluded by Members of National, Federal and Legislative Assemblies gathering to re-affirm their commitment to the 2030 UN Plan for Sustainable Development Goals.



Joint Communiqué signed at the National Meet



NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2030

Joint Communiqué

The SDG Task Force of the National Assembly of Pakistan in collaboration with the EU Funded Mustehkam Parlmaan Project, held a two-day National Meet in Islamabad from 27 to 28 July 2022 to review the progress on the implementation of the SDGs agenda in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and emerging challenges in the social, economic, and environmental spheres. Attended by members from the National Assembly and the Senate, as well as the SDG Task Forces of the four Provincial Assemblies and the two Legislative Assemblies of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit Baltistan (GB), along with the Planning & Development Departments of respective governments, experts and academia, the consultation provided an opportunity for reflecting on critical pathways for achieving the SDGs. There was agreement on integrating the SDGs into national policies and plans, inclusive socio-economic development, ending hunger and malnutrition, ensuring equitable access to health, climate change, sustainable eco-tourism, and redefining CSR for achieving SDGs.

Towards the end of the National Meet, there was unanimous agreement on the following policy actions:

- I. The National Meet reiterated Pakistan's commitment to achieving SDGs' targets. It reaffirmed the political will and ownership expressed by the Parliament of Pakistan in the unanimous resolution in February 2016 on adopting the 2030 Agenda as the national development agenda.
- II. The national dialogue called for strong and effective integration of the SDGs at the policy level. Policies, plans, and resource allocations should be aligned with the 2030 Agenda. The consultation highlighted the need for urgently localising the National SDGs Framework at the lowest governance tier, which is the Local Government as articulated in the Constitution of Pakistan.
- III. It noted the challenges in financing SDGs and called for adopting multifaceted approaches, including private financing, for scaling up spending for achieving the targets. The financing flows should be aligned with the 2030 Agenda.
- IV. The roles of parliamentarians and parliamentary institutions are crucial for sensitising their constituents regarding the SDGs, and ensuring adequate budget is allocated for meeting the targets. Therefore, parliamentary oversight through SDGs Task Forces need to be formalized and linked with the respective Planning and Development Departments.
- V. The Meet noted the urgency in addressing the gaps in collecting data regarding the progress on achieving the SDGs - a challenge recognized also in the Pakistan SDGs Status Report 2021. Verifiable data, which is imperative to monitor the progress of the SDGs, would help to strengthen their reporting and evaluation.

VI. The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the need for achieving universal health coverage with more emphasis on preventive healthcare. The Federal, Provincial and Legislative Governments have to commit adequate human and financial resources for meeting the SDG3 targets, including reducing maternal mortality, ending all preventable deaths under 5 years of age, reducing mortality from non-communicable diseases, promoting mental health, and preventing and treating substance abuse.

VII. The Meet recognized that Pakistan is becoming highly vulnerable to climate change, as over the last two decades the country has witnessed natural disasters and high levels of pollution in urban centres. Climate Change has drastically affected Pakistan's major crops. For example, from an exporter, Pakistan has now become a net importer of wheat. This calls for allocating adequate resources for water resource management, energy conservation, reducing greenhouse gas emission, and regulating urban growth. Awareness on Climate Change and environmental degradation needs to be created across the country.

VIII. The Meet highlighted the potential of tourism sector in accelerating progress towards SDGs. Positive outcomes include generation of jobs for durable growth, poverty reduction, and environmental conservation. A dynamic and environmentally friendly tourism sector can help Pakistan transit to an inclusive and resilient economy.

IX. As the SDGs provide greater space for the participation of the private sector, the Meet highlighted the role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in meeting the targets. A national forum should be created on CSR where the private sector can engage with the federal and the provincial governments formally. This would help to institutionalize the role of CSR in supplementing the government's efforts in meeting SDGs.

Signatories



Conference Partners



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Recycling initiative begins at the Parliament!



The Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals, in accordance with its environment-friendly approach, announced the launch of its new 'Waste Management Project'. Through its motives, the project aims to cater to the problems of climate change at grass-root level. The project was inaugurated today by the Honorable Convener of National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, she highlighted the importance of segregating waste to consequently boost the process of recycling and to inevitably alleviate the rising impact of climate change. Stressing upon the significance of taking ownership of our actions, she implored upon all citizens to support the cause by properly disposing off waste. As part of the initiative, color-coded bins were placed all around the Parliament House Building and their use in public places was encouraged. She appreciated the former Taskforce Member Naureen Ibrahim Farooq for her efforts. She also acknowledged the Capital Development Authority, Coca Cola Pakistan, UNDP and other collaborators for their contributions and their continued support to the cause was hoped for.

Recycle with the SDGs Secretariat



What can you do?



How to Recycle

REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE

1. Recycle plastic bags separately

2. Keep paper waste and cardboard clean

3. Turn biodegradable waste into compost

4. Avoid buying plastic bags



**Put waste in the
right place**

**Recycle with the
SDGs Secretariat**



THE GLOBAL GOALS

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