

**MINUTES OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE  
FOR REORGANIZING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
HELD ON 19-03-2020**

The 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Implementation Committee was held on 19-03-2020 at 02:00 p.m. in Institutional Reforms Cell (IRC), the P.M. Office. It was chaired by Dr. Ishrat Husain, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Institutional Reforms and Austerity. The list of the participants is annexed. The agenda of the meeting was as under: -

- i. Request for post of a Technical Advisor by EAD
- ii. Creation of new PAOs in Federal Government: Updates by Finance Division
- iii. Discussion on training institutes in FG
- iv. Discussion on categorization of OEs as 'Constitutional Bodies'

**Agenda item No i: Request for post of a Technical Advisor by EAD**

2. The Committee welcomed Mr Hammad Azhar, the Minister for Economic Affairs Division in the meeting. The Minister after expressing his gratitude stated the underlying rationale for hiring the services of Technical Advisor, revolved around having an in-depth, proper, foolproof and exhaustive vetting of the donors' proposals, well before finalization. He opined that it was not possible to amend, already agreed terms and conditions after signing of the project document. He further stated that project proposals are lengthy and detailed documents containing analysis and data and only specific skillset and experienced hands can decipher and scrutinize such proposal(s). The matter was discussed in detail. The Committee observed that negotiations for external economic assistance/technical assistance from foreign Governments and organizations is the core function of the Division and should be performed by its regular staff. Secondly, the Technical Advisor's job is not to perform such an arduous and laborious job, but render advise to the Minister on the proposals submitted by the Ministry's staff. The Committee further viewed that it is the EAD that negotiates with foreign donors on behalf of the Federal Government. The Minister stated that past practices are quite complex and multiple Divisions have remained involved. During the discussion, the Committee observed that the Economist Group was formed for exactly this kind of specialized work and now this

cadre is not being used optimally. The Chair also explained the underlying idea for the scheme of Technical Advisor in seventeen Ministries/Divisions and the reasons for which EAD was not included. The committee did not agree to the proposal of hiring a Technical Advisor for the EAD in the Minister's office since the Minister himself possessed the needed expertise. It recommended the capacity building of the technical/core staff working in the Division, specifically, the upgradation of Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) of the EAD, for providing desired input.

**Agenda item ii: Creation of new PAOs in Federal Government: Updates by Finance Division**

3. Dr Arshad Mahmood, AFS briefed the Committee on the agenda. He stated that in a typical Federal Division, the Federal Secretary is responsible for policy, administrative and financial supervision. Many Federal Divisions have more than one Principal Accounting Officer(s), to ensure better financial management. For selection of entities to have their own Principal Accounting Officers, following broad criteria was proposed: -

- Size, scale and geographic spread of operations
- Need of Federal funding/grants for sustainability of operations
- Scale of procurements and stretch of transactions (Domestic & International)
- Specificity of operational domain and task specialization
- Appropriate representation before Public Accounts Committee

He further informed that on the basis of above criteria, heads of following entities are proposed to be granted PAO status:

S.No.	Division	Corporation/Body	Operational Strength
1.	Industries & Production	Utility Stores Corporation of Pakistan	13615
2.	Commerce	State life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan	4089
3.	Communications	National Highway Authority (NHA)	1479
4.	Defense Production	Heavy Industries Board, Taxila	4518
5.	Defense Production	Pakistan Aeronautical Complex Board, Kamra	4179

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6.	Defense Production	Pakistan Ordnance Factories board, Wah Cantt	22964
7.	Information & Broadcasting	Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation	2768
8.	Information & Broadcasting	Pakistan Television Corporation Ltd	4022
9.	National Food Security	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council	2280
10.	Water Resources	Water & Power Development Authority	17484
11.	Commerce	Trading Corporation of Pakistan Pvt Ltd	479

The Committee discussed the position of all the entities one by one and desired that the list may be revised/expanded to include other entities which fall within the described criteria and have been omitted to keep the list restricted to 10-11 entities.

**Agenda item iii: Discussion on training institutes in FG**

5. The agenda was deferred

**Agenda item No iv: Discussion on categorization of OEs as ‘Constitutional Bodies’**

6. The representative of the Cabinet Division briefed the Committee on the agenda. He agreed to the concept of classifying the following entities as “Constitutional Bodies”

S. No	Article No	Provision for
1	51	National Assembly
2	59	The Senate
3	153	Council of Common Interest
4	168	Auditor general of Pakistan
5	176	Constitution of Supreme Court
6	213	Chief Election Commission
7		Attorney General
8		Federal Shariat Court

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9		Council of Islamic Ideology
10		Federal Public Service Commission
11		Islamabad High court

## DECISIONS:

- 1) EAD will prepare a draft proposal, to be discussed by the Implementation Committee, for reorganizing its organizational structure to allow for the presence of more specialists and strengthen its Research and Analysis Wing to provide the necessary technical assistance required. The proposal will be discussed by the Committee, once prepared and submitted by EAD.
- 2) EAD will also come up with a proposal for necessary changes in Rules of Business (ROB) so that EAD is given the mandate for reviewing and monitoring all foreign funded projects.
- 3) EAD will also update the Committee about its automation and introduction of E-Governance. In this regard Finance Division will provide support through the SAP based PIFRA program.
- 4) The Committee recommended that EAD may hire the services of consultant from the private sector on honorary basis. Establishment Division will share the modalities of hiring such experts with EAD.
- 5) The Finance Division will expand the list of large organizations to be considered for granting the status of PAOs to their heads, so that all the entities falling within developed criteria should be included.
- 6) The Committee recommended that entities for which provisions are available in the Constitution of Pakistan may be classified in Rules of Business under a new category namely 'Constitutional Bodies'. Exhaustive list of organizations falling in this category will be shared by Law Division. However, indicatively, the following entities will be included in such list:

S. No	Name of Entity	Ministry / Division
1.	National Assembly	Parliamentary Affairs
2.	Senate Secretariat	Parliamentary Affairs

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3.	Attorney General	Ministry of Law & Justice
4.	Council of Common Interest	Ministry of IPC
5.	Auditor General of Pakistan	Ministry of Finance
6.	Supreme Court of Pakistan	Ministry of Law & Justice
7.	Federal Shariat Court	Ministry of Law & Justice
8.	Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan	Parliamentary Affairs
9.	Council of Islamic Ideology	Ministry of Law & Justice
10.	Federal Public Service Commission	Establishment Division
11.	Islamabad High Court	Ministry of Law & Justice

7. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Chair.

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**List of participants of the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Implementation  
Committee held on 19-03-2020**

- i. Dr. Ishrat Husain, Advisor to the PM on Institutional Reforms & Austerity, Islamabad.
- ii. Mr. Muhammad Shehzad Arbab Advisor to the PM on Establishment, Islamabad.
- iii. Mr Hammad Azhar, the Minister for Economic Affairs Division, Islamabad.
- iv. Mr Ghufraan Memon, Additional Secretary, Cabinet Division, Islamabad.
- v. Mr Ahmad Hanif Additional Secretary, Economic Affairs Division, Islamabad.
- vi. Mr. Awais Manzoor Sumra, Additional Secretary, Establishment Division, Islamabad.
- vii. Dr. Arshad Mahmood, Additional Finance Secretary (Exp), Finance Division, Islamabad.
- viii. Mr. Muhammad Umer Aziz, Joint Secretary, M/o Law & Justice, Islamabad.
- ix. Mr. Qamar Zaman, Joint Secretary, Institutional Reforms Cell (IRC).
- x. Ms. Lubna Said Ghias, Deputy Secretary (Coord), Establishment Division, Islamabad.
- xi. The Deputy Secretary, IRC, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad.