



Pakistan International Disputes Weekend 2024 PIDW'24 Declaration

Reviewing, Reflecting and Reviving the Global Disputes Terrain

Ratified on the 12th of May 2024

Whereas it is recognized that for developing the framework of the dispute resolution in Pakistan, support from the honorable courts, the legal fraternity, the legislature, and the public and private sectors, overall, all of the relevant stakeholders, is integral.

And Whereas it is affirmed that through the support from all relevant stakeholders, Pakistan will take the following steps to create a conducive environment for attracting domestic and foreign investment to Pakistan.

And Whereas it is realized that the discussions of Pakistan International Disputes Weekend 2024 succinctly culminates into the Pakistan Declaration 2024, and is declared as follows:

It is therefore unanimously declared and proclaimed that:

1. Local practitioners in Pakistan must be empowered to deal with international investment disputes in the country. The courts must present a welcoming environment for investors to choose Pakistan as a destination for investments.
2. The courts and the state must uphold transparency, accountability and credibility in international arbitration, with a focus on improving awards enforcement for such investment disputes.
3. Mediation is a growing instrument in Pakistan for pre-litigation and during litigation for dispute resolution. Proper rules should be formulated to make best use of mediation for resolution of disputes. Pakistan must also become a signatory to the Singapore Mediation Convention.
4. The judiciary's role is directly linked with economic growth and stability through enforcing the rule of law, enhancing investor confidence through

judicial decisions, addressing frivolous litigation, and advocating ADR promotion to spur economic development. Suggestions shall be formulated for the legislature to address these concerns.

5. The court docket can be decreased by using domestic arbitration progressively besides other forms of ADR, exploring the necessity of separate authorities, emphasizing training for judiciary, promoting institutional arbitration, and building trust in ADR mechanisms.
6. Proactive dispute avoidance can alleviate burdens on courts, specifically Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Boards (DAABs). The integration of dispute avoidance within the court system must be promoted.
7. Pakistan's dispute resolution scheme in energy disputes must be re-navigated by studying international best practices, analyzing global legal frameworks and emerging trends, and creating a conducive environment for power dispute resolution.
8. Industries and corporations are an integral muscle for Pakistan: addressing legal challenges in Pakistan's vital industries is therefore crucial. Promoting collaboration among stakeholders and the dispute resolution domain is the way forward for industrial prosperity in Pakistan.
9. Identifying legal hurdles, advocating for necessary reforms, and suggesting concrete initiatives to establish efficient ADR mechanisms, thereby increasing FDI in Pakistan.
10. Appreciated the launch of Asia Africs Middle East ADR Cooperative Group for enhanced dispute resolution practice in the region.
11. PIDW Reforms and Implementation Committee may be constituted comprising of one member of each High Court for the follow up of the annual declaration with the support of PIDW.

And Whereas it is supported by the permission and participation of the following esteemed members of the Judiciary:

1. Honourable Chief Justice of Pakistan Mr. Justice Tassaduq (Retd.) Hussain Jilani
2. Honourable Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan Mr. Justice (Retd.) Mushir Alam
3. Honourable Chief Justice of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi
4. Honourable Chief Justice of the Chief Court of Gilgit Baltistan Mr. Justice Sardar Muhammad Shamim Khan
5. Honourable Chief Justice of the Chief Court of Gilgit Baltistan Mr. Justice Ali

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6. Honorable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Shafi Siddiqi
7. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Muhammad Junaid Ghaffar
8. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Zulfiqar Ahmad Khan
9. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Yousuf Ali Sayeed
10. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Adnan Iqbal Chaudhry
11. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Sindh Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdur Rahman
12. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Lahore Mr. Justice Jawad Hassan
13. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Lahore Mr. Justice Asim Hafeez
14. Honourable Justice of the High Court of Lahore Mr. Justice (Retd.) Shahid Jamil Khan
15. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Islamabad Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb
16. Honourable Judge of the High Court of Islamabad Mr. Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir
17. Honorable Judge of the High Court of Peshawar Mr. Justice Ijaz Anwar
18. Honourable Justice of the High Court of Peshawar Mr. Justice Syed Muhammad Attique Shah
19. Honourable Justice of the High Court of Peshawar Mr. Justice Shakeel Ahmad
20. Honourable Justice of the High Court of Peshawar Mr. Justice Arshad Ali
21. Honourable Justice of the High Court of Balochistan Mr. Justice Muhammad Ejaz Swati
22. Honourable Justice of the High Court of AJ&K Mr. Justice Syed Shahid Bahar