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Gender Justice Through
Musalihat Anjuman Project NWFP



Pakistan

To

District Coordination Officer,
District D.I.Khan

District Coordination Officer,
District Abbottabad

Additional Inspector General (Operations),
Police Department, Govt. of NWFP

Deputy Secretary,
Social Welfare & Women Development Department,
Govt. of NWFP

September 8, 2005



Subject: - Minutes of the First Provincial Steering Committee Meeting

Please find enclosed minutes of the first provincial Steering Committee of the Gender Justice through Musalihat Anjuman Project held on August 30, 2005 at the Office of Secretary Local Govt. & Rural Development Department Peshawar.

Sincerely

Syed Amir ud Din
DG (D&M) / Project Director

Cc to:

1. Mr. Riaz Akhtar, NPD, GJTMA, Ministry of LG&RD, Islamabad
2. Ms. Faiza Effendi, ARR/Head, Gender Unit, UNDP Islamabad
3. Ms. Rabia Khattak, Program Officer, Gender Unit, UNDP Islamabad
4. Planning Officer III, Local Govt. & Rural Dev. Department, Govt. of NWFP
5. Mr. Hamid Raza Afridi, NPM, GJTMA, Ministry of LG&RD, Islamabad
6. Mr. Irfan Mahmood, Program/Admin Associate, Gender Unit, UNDP Islamabad
7. Mr. Muhammad Fahim, PPM, GJTMA-NWFP, Peshawar
8. P.S to Secretary, Local Govt. & Rural Development Department, Peshawar

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Minutes of the first Provincial Steering Committee meeting of the Gender Justice through Musalihat Anjuman project, held on 30th August 2005 at 1130 hrs

First meeting of the Provincial Steering Committee of the Gender Justice through Musalihat Anjuman Project (GJTMA) was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary Local Government & Rural Development on 30th August 2005 to discuss the following Agenda items:

- Presentation on the project Objectives & Implementation framework to the members of the steering Committee.
- Selection of CSOs for MASS
- Selection of Pilot Districts
- Review of the workplan.

The meeting was attended by

Mr. Baz Muhammad Khattak	Secretary LG&RDD	Chairman
Mr. Khudadad Khan	DCO Dera Ismail Khan	Member
Mr. Malik Saad	AIG Operations Police Department	Member
Syed Amir ud Din Shah	DG (D&M) LG&RDD/PPD/	Secretary PSC
Mr. Attiq Wazir	Deputy Secretary SW&WD	Member
Mr. Muhammad Shafiq	DPO Abbottabad	Representative of DCO Abbottabad
Ms Tahira Yasmin	Planning Officer LG&RDD	
Mr. Hamid Raza Afridi	National Project Manager	Observer
Mr. Irfan Mehmood	Program Associate UNDP	Observer
Mr. Muhammad Fahim	Provincial Project Manager GJTMA	Member

The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran.

The Chairman Provincial Steering Committee/ Secretary Local government, Elections & Rural Development welcomed the participants and asked the Provincial Project Manager (PPM) to start discussions on the meeting agenda

Agenda Item No. 1 (Presentation on the Project)

The PPM making presentation on the project informed that Gender Justice through Musalihat Anjuman Project (GJTMA) which is an outcome of an exercise titled Social Audit Against Women (SAAW) conducted by the Ministry of Women Development through CIET with the goal

"To assist women and other vulnerable sections of society in improving their conditions through safeguarding and promoting their rights and lawful entitlements."

The PPM further informed that the above goal will be achieved by

- Constitution and mobilization of the MAs in all Union Councils in the pilot districts;
- Capacity building of MAs through Provincial level network of Government and CSOs, etc. called Musalihat Anjuman Support Services (MASS) to dispense gender dispensation of justice; &
- Community level advocacy for legal rights of Women and Men's role in ending violence at the community level and
- Build partnerships between judiciary, police and MA for accountable, fair and equitable justice

The different fora and administrative set up at the national, provincial, district and union level were explained to the committee and the role of MASS and MAJA were highlighted. The committee was also informed about the progress made to date and the steps to be taken ahead in the coming quarters.

Discussion and Decision:

After the presentation responding to the to a query of Mr. Malik Saad representative of the police department regarding the existence of Musalihat Jirgas the National Project Manager informed that objective No. 1 of the project stresses on the formation of Musalihat Jirgas to be followed by their capacity building and developing their partnership with police and judiciary and other stakeholders. The Secretary LG also emphasized that efforts be made that strong linkages of these Musalihat Jirgas once formed should be developed and people of good character and integrity are included in the Musalihat Jirgas so that the desired objective are achieved.

Agenda Item No .2 (Selection of CSOs for MASS)

The Provincial Project Manager informed the committee that the project document envisages the formation of a forum called Musalihat Anjuman Support Services (MASS) at the provincial level. This body will be formed by formalizing a consortium of NGOs having demonstrable record in legal rights awareness and social mobilization.

He informed the committee that the following will be the composition of MASS,

- Two members each from three renowned NGOs working at the provincial levels in the following areas:(6)
 - ✓ Women rights
 - ✓ Legal awareness and free legal aid
 - ✓ Social mobilization and capacity building
- One representative of Provincial LG&RDD and Social Welfare/Women Development Departments of the rank of deputy Secretary; (2)
- One member of Musalihat Anjuman from each of the pilot district ; and
- Provincial Project Manager (1); also ex-Officio Secretary of MASS

He informed that the provincial steering Committee has to approve the CSOs for the membership of MASS which is to be notified once this membership is approved. He

further informed that the membership of MASS was also discussed in a meeting with the Director Social Welfare & Women Development and the following names are proposed for the composition of MASS. ✓

- Aurat Foundation ✓
- Khwendo Kor ✓
- Department of Gender Studies, University of Peshawar ✓

Discussion & Decision:

The committee concurred with the proposal and agreed that the following membership for the MASS in NWFP be notified:

1. Two members from Aurat Foundation. ✓
2. Two Representatives from Khwendo Kor.
3. Two members from the Department of Gender Studies.
4. Director Social Welfare & Women Development
5. Planning Officer LG&RDD
6. Provincial Project Manager, GJTMA (Secretary of MASS).

Agenda Item No .3 (Selection of Pilot districts)

The Provincial Project Manager informed the committee that as per the design of the project two districts per province are to be selected as pilot districts and the criteria for the selection of pilot districts is as under:

- Whether or not Insaaf Committees exist
- Whether, Conciliation Courts or other ADR mechanism are already in practice
- Whether any similar form of MA already exists
- The number of reported Gender violence cases
- The number of active human/gender rights NGOs
- Willingness of concerned District Governments for launching the project

In response to a query of the District Coordination Officer D.I Khan the Secretary LG informed the committee that since some of the above information laid down in the criteria is not readily available. Therefore keeping in view the socio culture conditions of the district where the concept of the project will be more acceptable, the presence of human rights activists, NGOs and active female elected representatives, Abbottabad and DIK have been selected as the pilot districts for the implementation of the project activities. ✓

Discussion & Decision:

The Provincial Steering Committee agreed to the selection of Abbottabad and Dera Ismail Khan as pilot districts for the Gender Justice through Musalihat Anjuman Project (GJTMA) in NWFP. ✓

Agenda Item No .4 (Review of the workplan)

The PPM informed the committee that annual workplan amounting to US \$ 66,075 for the year 2005 has been approved at the federal level. The above expenditures are to be made on quarterly basis.

A workplan amounting to US \$ 9456 for the Second Quarter (April to June) was forwarded to the UNDP Country Office and by the end of the Quarter US \$ 8018.09 were utilized. Most of the expenditure in the second quarter was made on the establishment of the office. Workplan for US \$ 28,862 was forwarded for the third quarter (July-September) 2005, total amount has been released and efforts will be made to ensure full utilization of this amount on the activities envisaged in the workplan. The committee was informed that the provincial level project launch and stakeholders workshop has taken place on 29th at Pakistan Academy for Rural Development which was chaired by the Minister Local Government & Rural Development while a similar exercise has been planned in District Abbottabad and DI Khan in September.

The meeting ended with thanks and commitment that efforts will be made to achieve the objectives of the project