



**Standing Committee
on Climate Change**

POST LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY WORKSHOP IN COLLABORATION WITH WFD

28th Feb 2022
Marriott Hotel, Islamabad

Introduction:

The Standing Committee on Climate Change (CCC), driven by its commitment to legislative adaptation and oversight, has embarked on a crucial initiative to enhance its role through the implementation of Post Legislative Scrutiny (PLS). As part of this endeavor, a one-day workshop was organized by the committee to equip its members with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively contribute to the legislative adaptation process. This workshop served as a platform for members to gain a deeper understanding of PLS and its significance in evaluating the effectiveness of existing climate change laws, identifying areas for improvement, and aligning legislative frameworks with sustainable development goals and international commitments. By fostering dialogue and sharing insights, the workshop aimed to strengthen the committee's capacity in overseeing climate change policies and legislation, empowering its members to play a pivotal role in shaping a more resilient and sustainable future for Pakistan.

Objectives:

The one-day introductory workshop for members of the Standing Committee on Climate Change aimed to achieve the following objectives:

1. Introduce the concept of PLS to the CCC members, enhancing their understanding of PLS importance in legislative adaptation for climate change.
2. Conduct PLS of the Pakistan Environmental Protection Act (PEPA) 1997 with WFD, analyzing its effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement.
3. Facilitate experience sharing and foster linkages to promote PLS as a valuable oversight and accountability tool for other committees.

Workshop Summary:

The workshop consisted of two sessions focused on introducing the concept of PLS and providing an update on the progress of conducting PLS of the PEPA, 1997. In the first session, participants were familiarized with the purpose, stakeholders, and process of PLS, emphasizing the need for evidence-based legislation and inclusive participation. The second session discussed the status of the PLS process of PEPA, highlighting the roles and responsibilities of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and identifying areas of progress and challenges in law implementation. The workshop provided valuable insights and updates to the CCC and paved the way for further engagement in PLS initiatives to ensure effective environmental protection and conservation in Pakistan.

Challenges:

- The absence of the Pakistan Environmental Protection Council created a gap in the overall functioning and oversight of the environmental departments.
- The unavailability of information on environmental issues in curricula and the lack of awareness-raising schemes for the public were identified as significant hurdles in achieving sustainability and fostering ownership of any climate change initiative.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was responsible for ensuring information management, data collection on the environmental situation, and coordination at the national and international levels. However, the absence of such a mechanism and concise information and data on air, water, and soil quality created a gap in evidence-based decision making.

Recommendations:

- The CCC recommended taking up the role of the Environmental Protection Council to enhance the oversight and functioning of environmental protection agencies. This step was suggested to address the absence of a council and ensure effective monitoring and coordination.
- Based on the PLS findings, the committee recommended proposing amendments to the PEPA, 1997 to address the implementation challenges faced by the EPA. Strengthening the role of the EPA through legislative improvements would enhance its effectiveness in fulfilling its defined responsibilities.
- The committee emphasized the need for a comprehensive waste regulation framework and legislation to address the import and management of electronic waste and rubber waste. Effective waste collection, segregation, disposal, and recycling mechanisms should be established to ensure environmental sustainability. The committee urged relevant departments to actively implement the provisions of PEPA, 1997 to achieve the objectives outlined in the Act.

Way Forward:

The workshop successfully identified gaps in the functioning of the EPA and the challenges faced by committee members in effectively engaging with the EPA. These identified gaps and challenges were then associated with the performance and achievement of the climate change agenda, particularly in meeting international commitments. As the next step in conducting PLS of PEPA, a consultation meeting with EPA was planned with support of WFD.

Agenda

Post Legislative Scrutiny Workshop Standing Committee on Climate Change

Date: 28th February 2022

Venue: Noor Mahal, Marriott Hotel, Islamabad

28 th February 2022	
Session I	
<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p><i>Ms. Munaza Hassan Hon. Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change</i></p>	06:30 pm – 06:40 pm
<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p><i>Ms. Emma Armshaw Head of Office - Scottish National Party at Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)</i></p>	06:40 pm – 06:50 pm
<p>Conceptualizing Post Legislative Scrutiny (PLS) process</p> <p>Environment Protection Agency (PEPA) Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislative Assessment - Review of Delegated Legislation - Legal Socialization for PEPA <p><i>Mr. Mujtaba Zaidi PLS Expert</i></p>	06:50 pm – 07:30 pm
Q/A Session and interactive session	07:30 pm – 08:15 pm
Dinner	08:15 pm

List of Participants:

S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	MNA Ms. Munaza Hassan	Chairperson CCC
2.	MNA Ms. Rubina Irfan	Member Committee CCC
3.	MNA Ms. Naureen Ibrahim	Member Committee CCC
4.	MNA Ms. Musarrat Asif Khwaja	Member Committee CCC
5.	MNA Engr. Sabir Hussain Kaim Khani	Member Committee CCC
6.	MNA Mr. Kesoo Mal Kheal Das	Member Committee CCC
7.	Mr. Mujtaba Zaidi	PLS Expert
8.	Ms. Sana Naz	Country Rep. (WFD)
9.	Mr. Zeeshan Hussain	Legal Advisor
10.	Mr. Waqar-ul-Shams	Interprovincial Coordinator
11.	Ms. Zeemal Ali	YPF
12.	Ms. Javaria Nisar	YPF

Picture: <https://climatechangePakistan.com/picture/>