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**Minutes of Meeting**

**Dastageer Legal aid Center, Quetta –Taraqee Foundation**

Minutes of the Joint Network meeting held on 19th March, 2015, at Boy scouts Balochistan, Quetta to share the progress update of the Dastageer Legal Aid Center(DLAC)-Taraqee Foundation, Quetta with other Rights Based Organizations (RBOs). The meeting was organized to discuss and develop ways to increase & strengthen the coordination and collaboration among these organizations within the district.

**Background:**

The main purpose of network meeting is endorse a strong referral mechanism and sort-out issues through discussion challenges faced by organizations that are focused on thematic areas of GBV, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities. Suggestions from the organizations on how to overcome those issues. We may also motivate the organization to refer the communities they work in towards legal aid center to increase relevant legal aid beneficiaries The agenda point with a Charter on Justice includes the idea where a document/ statement in writing may be developed by the consent of all Rights Based Organizations in the district who want to actively work on access to justice programmed.

**Participants of the Meeting:**

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| S-No. | Name | Organization |
|  | Mr. Majid Qureshi | Youth Organization |
|  | Mr. Waheed Zaman | SCD Organization |
|  | Ms. Qamar- u - Nisa | Baluchistan Bar Association |
|  | Mr.Juma Baloch | Hunnar Organization |
|  | MS. Aziza Khilji | Quetta Bar Association |
|  | Mr.Mr Rafiullah | Youth Organization Baluchistan |
|  | ADV Jalila Haider | ABA/BBA |
|  | MS. Shahida Munner | Taraqee Foundation |
|  | Mr.Sunil Saleem | ACTS Organization |
|  | MR.Syed Khalil Ahmed | DLAC Quetta |
|  | MR. Razzaq Baloch | Taraqee Foundation |
|  | Mr. Raza Ali | Insaf Network Pakistan |
|  | Mr. Tanveer Aslam | Animation Community Transformation Society |

**Agenda of the Meeting:**

Following agenda items were discussed in the meeting:

**Agenda Item 1:** Progress Update by DLAC

**Agenda Item 2:** Improve/ increase coordination among Rights Based Organizations in District on Access to Justice Project

**Agenda Item 3:** Strengthening Referral Mechanism

**Agenda Item 4:** Issues/ Challenges of organizations working on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Minorities and GBV and suggestions to overcome them

**Agenda Item 5:** Charter of Justice for Protecting Rights

**Agenda Item 6:** Action Points for future meetings

**Proceedings/Key Discussion Points:**

**Agenda Item 1:** Progress Update by DLAC

1. DLAC Coordinator started the Joint Networking Meeting with welcoming the participants and explaining the agenda and purpose of the meeting.
2. After the introduction of the participants a formal presentation on DLAC’s scope, services, and progress was given by the Center Coordinator.

**Agenda items 2-5:**

1. While appreciating the project, DLAC and the services offered, participants suggested to include more districts from Baluchistan under the Access to Justice program mainly Jafarabad and Naseerabad because these districts are facing great human right violations.
2. On a query that there are other helplines and centers available working on human rights and legal aid support such as Sehar and Madadgar, therefore what additional services are provided by DLAC, the coordinator explained that DLAC has been created with a holistic vision. It is not simply helpline or legal aid, rather it includes various response services under one roof such as Legal Aid, Psychosocial Support, Legal Assistance, and Referral Services.
3. The participants suggested to improve the referral mechanism. It was further advised the DLAC team to visit different related program offices and also invite them to its Center for strengthening coordination and generate understanding and visibility.
4. The organizations pointed out that the visibility of the center is very low. Neither the organizations nor the communities have any knowledge of the center and its activities on ground. It was suggested to improve the awareness of communities and to conduct awareness sessions through CBOs or Institutions working for project targeted groups.
5. On the point of creating a network and justice cluster of the district, the participants recommended to strengthen the existing networks instead of creating new ones as the issue of sustainability arises with new groups. DLAC needs to be a part of these existing forums and the organizations can request nominations from such forums.
6. Representatives from Law fraternity agreed to support program and justice forum.
7. The organizations supported the idea of charter of justice, however suggested to bring people on the forum initially to ensure acceptability and true representation.
8. Participants (Civil Society Organizations, Activist, Lawyers and Human Right Defenders) ensured their complete committment for the cause.

**Action Points:**

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| Action(s) Required | Responsibility |
| To develop a mailing list of all organizations/ institutions present in the current meeting to keep all stakeholders together and connected for future concerns. | DLAC, Quetta |
| Increase visibility of the center through distribution of IEC material, awareness seminars, radio programmes etc | DLAC, Quetta |
| Invite other organizations of the district at the center | DLAC, Quetta |

Meeting ended with vote of thanks.