



Pakistan

Water and Power Development Authority

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No. GM(C&M)W/ 370/09

General Manager (C&M) Water
Projects Directorate
521-Wapda House, Lahore.

Dated: 05-01-2025

- General Manager (HRM), WAPDA, Wapda House, Lahore.
- General Manager (Finance) Power, WAPDA, Lahore
- General Manager (Hydro) Planning, WAPDA, Lahore
- DG (IWASRI), CMTL Building, Lahor

Overall TORs
For TOR 4 & 5
For TOR 6 & 7
For TOR 8

Subject: TASK FORCE ON INTERNATIONAL WATER SECURITY

Kindly find enclosed herewith letter received from Assistant Chief-I (Water Resources), Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Govt. of Pakistan, Islamabad No. 2(24)WR/PC/2024 dated 02.01.2026, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

It is requested to furnish PowerPoint presentation (2 slides per TOR) pertaining to relevant agenda (as mentioned above) and furnish by today positively for perusal of Member (Water) and Chairman WAPDA, please.

DA as above:


Director (Projects)
for General Manager (C&M) Water

CC:

- APS to GM (C&M) Water, Wapda House, Lahore

Priority



No.2(24)WR/PC/2024

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES



Islamabad, the 02nd January , 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: TASK FORCE ON NATIONAL WATER SECURITY

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Notification of even No. dated 31-12-2025 wherein, the subject task force was notified (Notification enclosed).

2. In pursuance, the 1st meeting of the Task Force is scheduled to be held on 09-01-2026 at 11:30 AM in the Committee Room, 3rd Floor, P-Block, Pak Secretariat Islamabad. The meeting will be co-chaired by the Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives; and Minister for Water Resources.

3. All the members of the Task Force are requested to attend the meeting personally. For online participation, Mr. Gulshad Afridi, APS, may be approached at his cell No. 0333-9400902.

Encl: As above

Engr Ishtiaq Alam
Assistant Chief-I (Water Resources)

Mian Muhammad Mueen Wattoo
Federal Minister
Ministry of Water Resources, 6 Ataturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad.,
Islamabad

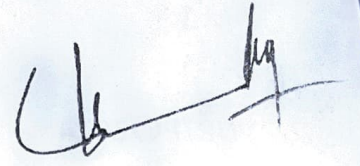
Awais Manzoor Sumra
Secretary Planning
Planning Commission,
Islamabad

Syed Ali Murtaza
Secretary (MOWR)
Ministry of Water Resources, 6 Ataturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad.,
Islamabad

Syed Zafar Ali Shah
Secretary Maritime Affairs

- 1- Ahmad Sultan Butt, SA to Minister, PC, Islamabad
- 2- Gohram Khan, Section Officer (Admin-I), PC, Islamabad
- 3- Muhammad Aish, Senior Private Secretary to Secretary, PC, Islamabad
- 4- Ashfaq ur Rehman, Joint Director-Ops (Strengthening of MOPD&R in IT), PC,

Islamabad



Engr Ishtiaq Alam
Assistant Chief-I (Water Resources)

Lt. Gen. Muhammad Saeed (Retd.)
Chairman WAPDA
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Kohsar Block, 8th Floor Constitution Avenue, Islamabad,
Islamabad

Aisha Humera Ch
Secretary Climate Change
LG and RD Complex, Sector G-5/2,
Islamabad

Waqas Anwar
Member (Infrastructure)
Planning Commission,
Islamabad

Chief Secretary
Civil Secretariat Government of Punjab Lahore
Government of Punjab,

Chief Secretary Government of Sindh

Karachi,

Chief Secretary
Civil Secretariat Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

Chief Secretary Govt of Balochistan Quetta

Syed Mehar Ali Shah
Commissioner (PCIW)
G10/4 EoBI building Islamabad,
Islamabad

Ather Hameed
Chairman (CEA/CFRC)
G-5/1 attaturk road Ministry of water resources Islamabad,
Islamabad

Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik
Chairman NDMA
Prime Minister's Office, 2nd Floor, Sector G-5-1 Constitution Avenue, Islamabad,
Islamabad

Amjad Saeed
Chairman

Lt. Gen. Muhammad Saeed (Retd.)
Chairman WAPDA
02 January, 2026, 04:04:40 PM

Immediate



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES

No.2(24)WR/PC/2025

Islamabad, the 31st December , 2025

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of the approval of the Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, the Task Force on National Water Security is hereby constituted with the following composition and Terms of Reference:

Composition

1. Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives.....**Chairman**
2. Federal Minister for Water Resources.....**Co-Chairman**
3. Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives
4. Secretary, Ministry of Maritime Affairs
5. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources
6. Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change
7. Chief Secretaries of Provincial Governments
8. Member (I&RC), Planning Commission, Islamabad
9. Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters
10. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Punjab
11. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh
12. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Balochistan
13. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
14. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Gilgit-Baltistan
15. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
16. Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
17. Chief Engineering Advisor / Chairman, Federal Flood Commission
18. Chairman, Indus River System Authority (IRSA)
19. Chairman, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR)
20. Chairman, Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA)
21. Country Representative, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
22. Chief Water Resources.....**Secretary**

Terms of Reference (ToRs)

The Task Force shall perform functions as outlined in the approved concept (Copy Enclosed) including but not limited to:

1. To discuss and propose actions on trans-boundary water issues with special focus on Indian Move of Indus Water Treaty 1960 abeyance including Afghanistan and the E-Flows for trans-boundary waters with and recommendations for short, medium and long-term plans.
2. To discuss water sector targets set down under National Water Policy 2018 fully aligned with 5Es, and *Uraan* Pakistan for accounting, allocation, and utilization for all sources of water i.e. surface and groundwater, springs, lakes and glaciers for fresh water in line with demand and supply of all three sectors agriculture, domestic and industrial based upon IWRM approach.
3. To take review of implementation status of all National and Provincial Water Policies (NPWPs) from stakeholders at federal and provincial divisions and departments, if found necessary committee may propose certain changes keeping in view the present scenario.

TASK FORCE
ON
NATIONAL WATER SECURITY
Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives
(Water Resources Section, Planning Commission)
Tentative Period 06 months

Background

Pakistan is an agro-based country with 240 million people as of today, in 1947 it was just 30 million people. It had faced multiple issues as of economic, social, infrastructure development, management of natural resources, technology advancement due to reasons of disproportionate division of resources at the time of independence. Pakistan is fertile land region specially in Punjab and Sindh provinces. The water distribution was based on malafide intentions by India. The inter dominion accord was signed between two country on 20th December 1947, subsequently the was withdrawn by Indian government by stopping waters at Ferozepur headworks on River Sutlej and Madhupur headworks on Ravi river flowing into Pakistan, on 30th March 1948. Indus Water Treaty (IWT) was signed through good efforts of World Bank after 12 years of dialogue journey between two countries on 19th September 1960 with Indus Basin Development Fund Agreement (IBDF) for Indus Basin Settlement Plan for which Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Unites States of America generously contributed grant-in-add in million dollars in order to maintain peace and sustainable development in the region. In result, Pakistan constructed 3 reservoirs with live storage capacity of 18 MAF to meet water needs now reduced to 13.44 MAF, 12 inter link canal with 143,000 cusecs capacity and remodeling of canals and syphon structures. The irrigation network of 46 canals to supply water to 47 million acres of land to meet food requirement at present.

IWT 1960 in Abeyance by India

India, unilaterally abeyance Indus Water Treaty on 23rd April, 2025 after attacks in Pahalgam area of Indian occupied Kashmir, which is extreme height of violation of International law and treaties. By doing so, Pakistan will face sever water crises as most of the river basin area falls in Indian areas, as Indus River alone has 39 % area in India which brings more than 90 MAF of waters and Ravi, Sutlej and Beas have historic discharge of 33 MAF which was given to India under Treaty.

Key Facts & Figures

- Per Capita Water Availability: ~850 m³/capita/year (1951: ~5,600 m³/capita/year). Any country below 1700 m³/capita/year is identified a water-stressed, and below 1000 m³/capita/year as water-scarce country. Less than 500 m³/capita/year means absolute water scarcity.
- Major Water Source: Indus River System — contributes over 90% of surface water
- Storage Capacity: Only 30 days of annual flow (India: ~170 days; US: ~900 days)
- Cumulative storage capacity of three large reservoirs is 13.316 MAF (Tarbela 5.728, Mangla 7.277, Chashma 0.311 MAF)
- Current storage (23rd April, 2025): Tarbela 0.557 MAF, Mangla 0.866 MAF, Chashma 0.135 MAF, Total 1.558 MAF.
- Irrigation Dependency: ~93% of water used in agriculture, with ~40% efficiency
- Groundwater Stress: Over-extraction and arsenic contamination in parts of Punjab. Brackish ground water and arsenic presence in Sindh.

Demand vs. Availability

- Total Renewable Water Resources: ~200 MAF/year (138.4 MAF surface water, 50 MAF/year ground water, around 8 MAF/year rainfall)

- Agricultural Water Requirement: ~180 MAF/year (around 94% of total water usage)
- Domestic Water Requirement: ~10.4 MAF/year (expected to double by 2030)
- Industrial Water Requirement: ~ 1.6 MAF/year (Industrial growth will lead it higher)
- Groundwater Usage: Contributes 50-60% of irrigation needs; being overdrawn in many sub-basins
- Water Storage as % of Annual Flows: Less than 10% (compared to world average of ~40%)
- Water Losses in Conveyance and Application: Estimated at 40-50% due to canal seepage and flood irrigation
- Projected Water Demand by 2030: Exceeds 222 MAF/year, creating a national deficit
- Urban Demand-Supply Gap (e.g., Karachi): Demand ~1,200 MGD; Supply ~650 MGD

Major Challenges

- Trans-boundary Tensions: India-Pakistan disputes under the Indus Waters Treaty (1960)
- Meeting the targets of National Water Policy and Uraan Pakistan aligned with 5Es
- Water accounting, allocation and accountability
- Rapid population growth significantly affecting per capita water availability
- Urbanization pushing the existing resources into constraints and multiplying need of infrastructure development.
- Implementation of Water Polices at National and Provincial levels
- Monitoring of Value for Money in the water sector of Pakistan
- Water cess collection and its utilizations
- Climate Change Impacts: Erratic monsoons, shrinking glaciers, and increased droughts/floods
- Groundwater over exploitation and its recharge mechanism through different sources
- Poor Governance & Policy Gaps: Weak coordination and overlapping mandates
- Urban Water Crises: Supply deficits and unregulated tankers in cities like Karachi and Lahore
- Pollution and Wastewater: Over 70% of surface water polluted, only 1% of wastewater treated

Institutional and Legal Framework at Present

- Key Policies Documents: National Water Policy (2018), Uraan Pakistan, Provincial Water Policies/Action Plans, Provincial Irrigation Acts & Groundwater Regulations, PDNA, 5Es, SDGs
- Key Implementation Agencies: Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Indus River System Authority (IRSA), Pakistan Commission for Indus Water, WAPDA, Provincial Irrigation Departments, Pakistan Council for Research in Water Resources

Keeping in view, the international scenario, regional abeyance of water treaty 1960, and domestic water crisis Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives has taken the task to frame a robust strategy to work on above challenges in the water sector of Pakistan.

Committee of Task Force on National Water Security of Pakistan

The composition of the committee for the task force is proposed as under

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Federal Minister for PD&SI | Chairman |
| 2. Federal Minister for Water Resources | Co-Chairman |
| 3. Secretary, MoPD&SI, Islamabad | |
| 4. Secretary, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Islamabad. | |
| 5. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources | |
| 6. Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad | |
| 7. Chief Secretaries, Provincial Governments | |
| 8. Member (I&RC), Planning Commission, Islamabad | |
| 9. Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Water, Islamabad. | |
| 10. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of Punjab | |
| 11. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of Sindh | |
| 12. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of Balochistan | |
| 13. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa | |
| 14. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of GB | |

15. Secretary, Irrigation Departments, Government of AJ&K
16. Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority, Islamabad
17. Chief Engineering Advisor/ Chairman, Federal Flood Commission, Islamabad
18. Chairman Indus River System Authority, Islamabad
19. Chairman, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources, Islamabad
20. Chairman, Water and Power Development Authority, WAPDA house, Lahore.
21. Country Representative, International Water Management Institute, Lahore
22. Chief Water Resources

Secretary

The Task Force will perform activities in the light of following proposed ToRs to develop proposals, measures, actions, models, and frameworks for National Water Security:

1. To discuss and propose actions on transboundary water issues with special focus on Indian Move of Indus Water Treaty 1960 abeyance including Afghanistan and the E-Flows for transboundary waters with and recommendations for short, medium and long-term plans.
2. To discuss water sector targets set down under National Water Policy 2018 fully aligned with 5Es, and Uraan Pakistan for accounting, allocation, and utilization for all sources of water i.e surface and groundwaters, springs, lakes and glaciers for fresh water in line with demand and supply of all three sectors agriculture, domestic and industrial based upon IWRM approach .
3. To take review of implementation status of all National and Provincial Water Policies (NPWPs) from stakeholders at federal and provincial divisions and departments, if found necessary committee may propose certain changes keeping in view the present scenario.
4. To discuss and direct for establishing guidelines for the Integrated Blue Economy Framework (I-BEF) focusing on the sustainable use of ocean and water resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of water ecosystems.
5. To discuss about Water Sector Financial Model (WSFM) to meet the financial requirements of projects in which donors and PSDP funding should be addressed as per financial phasing of PC-I for timely completion of the project to get desired targets.
6. To discuss secured water utilization for hydropower development of small scale in upper Indus Basin as run of river projects to meet energy requirement for local economic growth and gridding up with national economic prosperity.
7. To discuss water storage schemes at provincial level for hill torrents waters as more than 8 MAF wasted in 2022, rainfall water collection in plains areas, and desert of Pakistan.
8. To develop comprehensive National Groundwater Regulatory Framework (NGRF) for sustainable use of freshwater aquifer considering groundwater recharge water balance.
9. To discuss and propose actions for the studies of Glacier Retreat in HKH Region due to global warming and climate change for Water Security including GLOF quantum, melting behavior and its Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies in Pakistan.
10. To discuss and propose actions for assessment of Urban water demand, supply and wastewater management including rainwater harvesting techniques, sponge city approach, and the treatment of wastewater for drinking, agriculture, industrial and other purposes.
11. To assess the institutional capacities in various water sector organizations and to recommend capacity development and institutional strengthening model considering global best Models.
12. To develop strategy to engage academia, researchers and students in developing Water Sector plans policies and mega projects for value addition.
13. Water Security Task Force Implementation workshops will be conducted by P&D boards and departments in close coordination with Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives in all provinces, each province will share schedule for it.
14. Comprehensive report will be prepared by Water Resources Section MoPD&SI for "Task Force on National Water Security of Pakistan".
