

WAFAQI MOHTASIB (OMBUDSMAN)'S SECRETARIAT
ISLAMABAD

Islamabad, the, 20th December, 2017

NOTIFICATION

No. 6(34)WMS/Coord,2017. In exercise of powers vested under Article 20 of the Establishment of the Office of Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman) Order, 1983 (President's Order No.1 of 1983), the following Members of the National Committee on Children are hereby appointed as Honorary 'Commissioner for Children': -

Commissioners for Children

1. Senator Dr. S.M. Zafar,
Former Chairman of Human Rights Society of Pakistan, Federal Minister for Law and Justice and President Supreme Court Bar Association .
2. Ms. Shaheen Attiq-ur- Rehman,
Vice Chairperson, Bunyad Foundation and former Minister Social Welfare, Punjab.
3. Mr. Zia Ahmed Awan,
Founder of Madadgaar National Helpline, Karachi.
4. Ms. Raheela Hameed Durrani,
Speaker, Balochistan Assembly.
5. Ms. Shama Parveen Magsi,
Former Minister for Information Technology
& Provincial Coordination and Law & Parliamentary Affairs, Balochistan.
6. Mr. Justice (R) Manzoor Hussain Gillani,
Chief Justice (R) of the Supreme Court of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.
7. Dr. Begum Jan,
Chairman, Tribal Women Welfare Association (TWWA) and Member Human Rights Commission of Pakistan.
8. Ms. Nasreen Farooque Ayub,
Former Chief Child Commissioner, Provincial Ombudsman, Punjab.

9. Dr. Farzana Bari,
Former Chairperson, Center of Excellence in Gender Studies,
Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad and Human Rights Activist.
10. Ms. Samar Minallah Khan,
Anthropologist, Documentarian, Filmmaker & Human Rights Activist.
11. Senator Rubina Khalid,
Senator,
Senate of Pakistan.
12. Commissioner for Children & Focal Person
Syeda Viqar-un-nisa Hashmi,
Attorney / Consultant, President of Viqar Society for Socio Economic & Legal
Aid (VIQUAR SSEDLA).

Terms of Reference for the ‘Commissioner for Children’

1. **Mandate and Responsibility:** The mandate of the Commissioner for Children would be to promote and protect the rights of children. He or she shall be vested with the authority, as vested in the Federal Ombudsman (under the President’s Order 1 of 1983). This includes *inter alia* the powers to summon and enforce the attendance of any person including the concerned duty bearer and examine him under oath, and to compel him to produce necessary document.

The Commissioners for Children are empowered to take *suo moto* action on children issues, with the prior written approval of the Federal Ombudsman of Pakistan. They may also award compensation to any complainant who has suffered unduly on account of acts of omission and commission.

2. **Status:** The position of Commissioner for Children shall be Honorary in nature and regulated under the President’s Order 1 of 1983.
3. **Territorial Jurisdiction:** The Commissioner for Children shall have nation-wide jurisdiction. Nevertheless, the preferred place for conducting hearing by

the Commissioner shall be the place where he /she is based and is closer to the door-step of the complainant / aggrieved child(ren).

- 4. Modus Operandi:** The Commissioners shall work through their Committees. The Grievance Commissioners / officials of regional Offices shall facilitate arrangement including *inter alia*, fixing hearings **depending upon the number of complaints received**, and issuing notices and all necessary secretarial work.

- 4.1. Joint Hearing: **The Commissioner for Children will hear the cases jointly with the members of their respective Committee.**

There will be no joint hearing of the Federal and Provincial Commissioners in Sindh and Punjab. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Children shall conduct the cases in close coordination and consultation with the Provincial Grievance Commissioner.

- 4.2. Approval of Concerned Mohtasib: All the findings/decisions of the Committees shall be subject to the vetting and approval of the concerned Mohtasib.

- 4.3. Reporting: The Commissioner for Children would report to the Honourable Wafaqi Mohtasib through the National Commissioner for Children. While the Provincial Commissioners will report to their concerned Provincial Mohtasib.

- 4.4. Complaints Receiving - The Commissioner for Children may receive the complaints by or on behalf of the children and forward that to the Federal Ombudsman Secretariat or its Regional Office or the Focal Person for scrutiny and processing.

- 5. Coordination, Monitoring & Trouble shooting:** The Focal Person shall ensure smooth functioning of the Commissioners for Children as per directions of the Honourable Wafaqi Mohtasib. The key responsibilities include

coordination with all the Commissioners for Children and relevant Advisors, periodical meetings with them to discuss the progress and bottle-necks, analyze the performance and report to the Wafaqi Mohtasib through the National Commissioner for Children for necessary action.

The Focal Person may also be contacted by the Commissioners for Children in case of any problem in exercise of their functions.

- 6. Logistical Support:** The logistical arrangements for the Commissioners for Children in respect of conducting out station hearings of complaint and visiting the relevant places such as prison, place of incident, etc., shall be facilitated by the Grievance Commissioners of the concerned region.

(Aijaz Hussain Lone)
Director General (Coord)

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Copy to:-

1. The Secretary to the President of Pakistan.
2. The Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad.
3. All Members of the National Committee on Children.
4. All Wafaqi Mohtasibs.
5. All Provincial Mohtasibs.
6. The Mohtasib, Azad Jammu & Kashmir.
7. The Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights Govt. Of Pakistan, Islamabad.
8. All Senior Advisors/Advisors/Associate Advisors/Consultants, WMS Head Office Islamabad.
9. All Regional Head, Wafaqi Mohtasib secretariat.
10. P.S to HWM, Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat, Islamabad.
11. S.P.S to Secretary, Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat, Islamabad.
12. D.G (Admn), WMS, Islamabad.
13. Notification File.