

Pakistan is a country ranked 147th of 187 countries by Human Development Index thus working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is more than a matter of human rights than just policy. Government of Pakistan and all the Provincial Governments are striving to meet Sustainable Development Indicators by engaging all stakeholders through SDG units which are being setup. It is going to provide overall strategic coordination and oversight of the agenda.

## Background

The Civil Society, Community Based Organizations and citizens of Pakistan are social groups which are affected by all public, social decisions and actions. These social groups want the Federal and Provincial governments to realize this fact. Moreover, the Civil Society, CBOs and citizens of Pakistan appreciate efforts taken by them for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the end of 2030. HANDS Pakistan started obtaining public opinion and feedback on the "Sustainable Development Goals 2030" from 5000 rural and urban organizations of 45 districts, 3 months ago. Ultimately on 4th February-2019 the Civil Society and HANDS 5000 partner Community Based Organizations from all over Pakistan participated in the "National Community Convention", at HANDS Institute of Development Studies / Provincial Disaster Risk Management Centre (PDRMC) Karachi.

## **Proceeding:**

The event was enthusiastically participated by the Civil Society Representatives, HANDS CBO's members of more than 5000 CBOs across the country and all of the speeches, theatre performances, role plays, discussions and provincial voices were led by them. Other civil society organizations also shared their views on various aspects of development of Pakistan and issues.

## **Outcome:**

All deliberations have culminated into a declaration called "Karachi Declaration" which is a reaction and analytical recommendation in the context of sustainable development under "SDGs 2030". This declaration has highlighted the rights of the public and ways to protect these rights. The declaration demanded from Federal and Provincial Governments to ensure citizen rights in the implementation of SDGs 2030. Resolution also demands from the Federal and Provincial governments to incorporate recommendation in their policy documents in best interest of the citizens of Pakistan and demand immediate execution to achieve the targets of SDGs 2030.

## Karachi Declaration for 2030 Pakistan

The Karachi Declaration 2019 demands from Federal and Provincial Governments to incorporate following rights into SDGs 2030 documents:

- 1. Basic Human Rights: Access to basic amenities and services e.g adequate food, clothes, shelter, health care, education, water and sanitation.
- 2. Right to Protection: Peaceful environment, Protection of life, property, dignity and also protection of disabled, vulnerable and marginalized people and groups.
- 3. Right to Information: Right to have access to information to make informed decision and safeguard against dishonest or misleading advertising and marketing.
- 4. Right to Elect Democratic Local Government: The right to elect the local representatives of local democratic institutions; freedom to engage in electoral democratic process and involve in decision making and development projects.
- 5. Freedom of Expression: To have citizens voice in the making decision of government policies and in the execution of these policies and strategies.
- 6. Right to Justice: The right to have easy, timely and affordable access to justice and receive fair settlement of just claims including compensation for losses.
- 7. Right to Healthy Environment: To live and work in an environment that is not hazardous to the wellbeing of present and future generations.

Karachi Resolution and The Roles and Responsibilities of the people of Pakistan:

1. Access to Correct Information- Citizens must be aware about their rights and means of provision and being able to raise their voice.

- 2. Participation and Engagement- Citizens must be able to participate democratically in the development agenda at all levels.
- 3. Social Responsibility Citizens must act with social responsibility, with concern and sensitivity to the impact of their actions on other citizens, in particular, in relation to disadvantaged groups.
- 4. Environmental responsibility Keeping Environmental sensitivity in view, citizens must be involved in environmental protection policies and actions to ensure the wellbeing in present and future life.
- 5. Solidarity The best and most effective action is through cooperative efforts through the formation of Citizen Groups who together can have the strength and influence to prevent anti-religious linguistic and sectoral conflict.

National Community Convention declaration demands from Federal, Provincial governments, International Organizations, UN agencies, funding partners, community based organizations and the Citizens of Pakistan to follow the recommendation of National Community Convention -NCC 2019 to achieve the targets of SDGs 2030. They should provide the equal opportunities to every citizen to play their part in achieving the SDGs.

Karachi declaration further demands from the federal and provincial governments to sustain the local government body system, improve law and order situation, provide health care, education, shelter, and livelihood sources and adequate food for all segments of the society.

The declaration also mentions the necessity to involve the marginalized and people living below poverty line in national mainstream to solve their problems.

The Civil Society Organizations of Pakistan are committed to follow the implementation of SDGs 2030 by Federal and Provincial Governments and they confirm to organize National Community Convention and publish watch 2030 report every year.



Chief Minister Sindh address on occasion



Provincial voice by community



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