

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF PWIARA HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 08TH SEPTEMBER, 2018 AT ITS REGISTERED OFFICE # 2 ABDULLAH PLAZA, FIRST FLOOR 5-COMMERCIAL AREA, MODEL TOWN, LAHORE.

Present:

1. Mr. Javed Iqbal Bhatti, Chairman.
2. Mr. Muhammad Asif Sheikh, Vice Chairman.
3. Mr. Waseem Yousaf, Member, Executive Committee
4. Mr. Asif Sarwar, Member, Executive Committee
5. Mr. Aamir Rehman, Member, Executive Committee
6. Mr. Muhammad Shafiq, Member Executive Committee
7. Mr. M. Aslam Kamyana, Secretary General

The Chairman extended warm welcome to the Hon'able Members, who have come to participate in the meeting. The meeting started with recitation from the Holy Quran. Mr. Waseem Yousaf very kindly recited the Holy Verses.

1. **To apprise the Hon'able Members about the meeting held on 30.08.2018 at the Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad to discuss 800 containers of Plastic Scrap lying at Karachi Ports and the policy matters regarding import of Plastic Scrap/ Waste.**

The first item on the Agenda related to discussion about the meeting held on 30.08.2018 at the Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad to discuss 800 containers of Plastic Scrap lying at Karachi Ports and the policy matters regarding import of Plastic Scrap / Waste.

The Chairman apprized the Hon'able House that Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad convened a meeting of all the Stakeholders on 30.08.2018 under the Chairmanship of Director General, Trade Policy to discuss about the 800 containers of Plastic Waste / Scrap, which were lying at Karachi Ports as pointed out Federal Tax Ombudsman and which, according to FTO contained hazardous / contaminated wastes. The Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) has recommended that suitable action may be taken for the safe disposal of the waste.

A delegation of PWIARA comprising of the following attended the meeting:-

- a. Mr. Muhammad Asif Sheikh, Vice Chairman.
- b. Mr. Aamir Rehamn, Member, E.C.
- c. Mr. Asif Sarwar, Member E.C.
- d. Mr. M. Aslam Kamyana, Secretary General.

The meeting was also participated by Representatives from Ministry of Commerce, beside the DG, TP, Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad, Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Islamabad, EPA, Islamabad, Sindh, and Punjab..

The Director General, TP, briefed the meeting about the background of the matter and the urgency to arrive at a certain definite conclusion to address the issues; that the Commerce Division was ready to revisit the policy. Secretary (Tariff-1), FBR informed the meeting of the number of consignments held by the Custom Authorities since 2009 and totaled up to 800.

The Director General TP, informed the meeting that relevant provisions in the Import Policy Order, primarily dealt with three aspects (a) the HS codes under which the Plastic Waste / Scrap was being imported. The DG, TP stated that there is no need to further elaborate the HS Code as the existing classification given in the IPO 2016, broadly defines Plastic Scrap / Waste under four different heads and is sufficient to serve the purpose. The representatives of Customs also stated that there was no ambiguity in the HS codes related to the Plastic Waste / Scrap (b) the eligibility of importers i.e. only those importers who had the recycling facilities certified to be safe by EPAs. In this respect PWIARA informed about the EPAs official indifferences towards plight of the industry in getting Environmental Approval of Plastic Scrap Recycling facilities and Annual Environmental Audit Reports. On the enquiry by the DG, TP to carry out the required inspection, EPA Karachi acknowledged that EPAs all over Pakistan had no capacity to evaluate the recycling facilities. (c) The Pre-shipment inspection by a company listed in Appendix H of IPO 2016. The Representative of EPA, Islamabad stated that the certificate issued by the PSI mentioned that it was found to be safe on 'Visual Inspection' whereas it should mentioned that it was found to be safe after scientific analysis. Pwiara mentioned that it was the responsibility of the exporting country that if the material was shipped to Pakistan which was found to be 'hazardous' then the same could be shipped back to the exporting country at their expense as per Basel Convention.

The meeting agreed upon on the following:-

1. There is no need to further elaborate the HS code related to Plastic Waste / Scrap.
2. The Ministry of Climate Change shall develop the procedure after consultation with Stakeholders and Provincial EPAs and recommend to

Ministry of Commerce, the amendments, if needed in the Import Policy Order 2016.

3. FBR will recommend procedure to dispose of 800 containers of Plastic Scrap / Waste lying at ports.

The Hon'able House appreciated efforts of PWIARA in pursuing the matter of import of Plastic Scrap / Waste vigorously at the Ministry of Commerce and getting the problems / issues faced by Importers / Recyclers resolved.

Since there was no objection from any Hon'able Member present, Mr Asif Sarwar proposed, Mr. Waseem Yousaf seconded and the motion stood approved.

2. To discuss line of action in dealing with EPA, Punjab

The second point on the Agenda of the meeting related to discuss and take line of action in dealing with Environmental Protection Agencies (EPAs), particularly Punjab where the Members of the Association were faced with numerous problems in getting mandatory Environmental Approval of Plastic Scrap Recycling Facilities and Annual Environmental Audit Reports. The Chairman further informed the Hon'able House that a letter dated 26.06.2018 issued by Mr. Zia Ul Islam of National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad after his visit to Thailand has created problems to the Importers / Recyclers of Plastic Scrap / Waste.

The Chairman further informed that the matter was taken through various letters, with the Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad for holding of meeting with PWIARA. The Chairman informed that in response to our requests in this regard, the Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad has intimated holding of a meeting on 11.09.2018 with PWIARA and EPAs.

The Chairman also informed the Hon'able House that in order to settle the issues / problems of our Members in dealing with EPA, Punjab, a request has been sent to DG, EPA, Punjab on 03.09.2018 for a meeting in resolving these issues and hoped that a positive response is expected from the DG, EPA, Punjab. The Hon'able House appreciated efforts of PWIARA in this regard and asked for its regular follow up.

Since there was no objection from any Hon'able Member, Mr. M. Shafiq proposed, Aamir Rehman seconded and the motion stood approved.

3 To review present election scenario of Association Election 2018-2019

The third item on the Agenda of the meeting related to review the process of Association election for the year 2018-2019 currently in progress. The Chairman informed the Hon'able House that the election process of the Association for the year 2018-2019 is going as per schedule announced in terms of Rule 14 and 18 of Trade Organizations Rules, 2013. The Hon'able House felt satisfied in this regard.

Since there was no objection from any Hon'able Members, Mr Muhammad Asif Sheikh proposed, Mr. Asif Sarwar seconded and the motion stood approved.

4. To adopt measures for fund raising of Association to meet its day to day running expenses.

The fourth item on the Agenda of the meeting related to discussion regarding raising of funds for the Association. The Chairman informed the Hon'able House that PWIARA is facing financial problems in meeting its day to day expenses, as such requested all the Hon'able Members for their support in this regard. Mr. Muhammad Asif Sheikh requested that the Executive Committee Members to extend donations to the Association beside getting their Membership renewed by paying requisite renewal fee. The Hon'able House discussed in great depth and finally arrived at a decision that all the Executive Committee Members to please give donation of Rs. 5,000.- every month to financially help the Association, to which Hon;able House unanimously agreed.

Since there was no objection from any Hon'able Members, Mr. Muhammad Shafiq proposed, Mr. Muhammad Asif Sheikh seconded and the motion stood approved.

5. To deliberate about the Agenda of Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association scheduled to be held on Saturday, the 29th Sept. 2018

The fifth item on the Agenda of the meeting related to deliberate about the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting (AGM), scheduled to be held on 29th September, 2018. The Chairman informed the Hon'able House about the AGM Agenda, as follows:

1. To consider and approve audited Annual Accounts of the Association for the year 2017-2018 as prepared by Association's External Auditors (M/s Malik & Company, Chartered Accountants, Lahore).

2. To Appoint Auditors of the Association for the year 2018-2019.
3. To adopt Plan of Activities and Annual Performance Review in terms of Rule 23 (1) & Rule 23 (2) of Trade Organizations Rules, 2013.
4. To declare, in terms of Rule 18 (19) of the Trade Organizations Rules 2013, final result of election of Executive Committee and Office Bearers of the Association for the year 2018-2019.

All the Hon'able Members present in the meeting, took part in the deliberation of holding of the AGM and finally hoped that it shall be held in a very befitting manner.

Since there was no objection from any Hon'able Member, Mr. Asif Sarwar proposed, Mr. Muhammad Shafiq seconded and the motion stood approved.

6. **Any other point with the permission of the Chair.**

The Chairman informed the Hon'able House that in the Jang Sunday Magazine – 29th July – 04th August, 2018 an article appeared wherein it was mentioned that hazardous Plastic Scrap was being imported into Pakistan. To counter this impression created by the Article, PWIARA has contacted the management of Jang Sunday Magazine and sent Association version on the subject in Urdu for publication on 18.08.2018. The Chairman was hopeful that Association version shall be published in due course of time. The Hon'able House was of the view, PWIARA to continue acting likewise to counter negative impression created in the mind of the public about the Plastic Scrap / Waste.

Since there was no other point for discussion, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**POLYMER WASTE EXPORTERS
And Recyclers Association**
Secretary General