



# PAKISTAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

(REGISTERED WITH THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN)

## Minutes of Meeting

A meeting was held regarding issue of Grant of NOCs to the organizers of programs on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2015 at 3.30 P.M. in the office of the Commissioner, Karachi Division, Club Road, Karachi presided by the Commissioner Karachi attended by following:

1. Mr. Shaoib Ahmad Siddiqui, Commissioner Karachi
2. Mr. Shahzeb Shaikh, Assistant Commissioner (GEN)
3. Mr. Saleem Rajput, Deputy Commissioner – District South, Karachi
4. Additional Commissioner Karachi II
5. Mr. Mansoor Ahmed Shaikh, Director Information Dept., Government of Sindh
6. Mr. Zulfiqar Ali, Secretary Information Department, Government of Sindh
7. Mr. Sibtain Bukhari, Deputy Director, Excise & Taxation Sindh
8. Mr. Nadeem Zafar Siddiqi, Executive Director, Arts Council of Pakistan
9. Mr. Ali Abbas Mirza, Director Marketing, National Academy of Performing Art (NAPA)
10. Mr. Shujaat Ali, Administrator, NAPA

### Hotel Industry Representatives:

11. Ms. Fouzia Azhar, Secretary General, Pakistan Hotels Association
12. Mr. Adnan Ahmed Saeed, Director Finance, Pearl-Continental Hotel Karachi
13. Mr. Khurram Awan, Executive Assistant Manager, Movenpick Hotel Karachi
14. Mr. Iqbal Mahmood, Executive Assistant Manager, Karachi Marriott Hotel
15. Mr. Santosh Hari, Corporate Director Admin, Avari Hotels Limited
16. Mr. Rahim Qurbanali, Finance Controller, Avari Towers Karachi
17. Shaikh Khalid Ahmed, Executive Manager Sales, Regent Plaza Hotel
18. Mr. Mohammad Saad, Senior Sales Manager, Regent Plaza Hotel
19. Mr. Imdad Hussain, Food & Beverage Manager, Hotel Mehran
20. Mr. Kazmi Jabri, R&D Manager, Hotel Mehran

1) This meeting was consequent to the meeting held on the subject on April 03, 2014, whereby the same issue was discussed in details. In the said meeting, the Commissioner Karachi advised the Director Information Sindh that the contents of Dramatic Performance Act, 187/1984 may be conveyed to the stakeholders for smooth follow up in future and stressed upon the representatives of hotels and other organizers to get NOCs from Information & Archive Department as well as Excise & Taxation Department. Director Information assured the participants / organizers that Information Department



would issue the NOCs to the organizers of the event through a one-window operation so that NOC is granted within limited possible time of one day.

2) Meeting started with recitation of versus of Holy Quran and after introduction of participants, Commissioner Karachi and Director Information Sindh invited stakeholders to discuss / come forward with proposed suggestions for acquiescence of Act. Representatives from NAPA and Arts Council informed that they are still paying fee for NOC Challan from Town Office, as Information Department is not issuing NOC without provision of this document. **Commissioner Karachi informed members that Town Management system is not prevailing currently, hence there is no need to approach any Town Office for this purpose and NOC would only be issued from the Information Department of Sindh** upon payment of their prescribed fee, which is Rs. 2,000/-, 3,000/- and 5,000/- . He also advised Information Department to make sure that organizers are not being asked for Town Office NOC Challan.

3. The representative of Movenpick Hotel enquired about the definition of programs, which require NOC as hotels are being asked to get NOC for all private programs including gatherings, weddings, seminars and business meetings. Whereas Dramatic Performance Act, 187/1984 clearly defines that only those programs, which are held on the basis of ticket sale, are to be taken as commercial program eligible for NOCs. At this point, Commissioner Karachi very kindly intervened and requested Director Information to take legal opinion from law department about eligibility of programs requiring NOCs held on a public place. But in general, it was agreed by all that NOC is required only for those programs, which are being held on commercial basis against sale of tickets.

Based on above discussions, following points were unanimously agreed for implementation:

- a. NOCs would only be issued from Information Department Sindh against their prescribed challan of Rs. 5,000/-, 3,000/- and 2,000/- slab for bounded programs. Organizers do not need to produce any other NOC from Town Office due to this system not existing in Sindh Province.
- b. Organizers would also pay Entertainment Tax at Excise Department Sindh, which also needs clarification for payment structure.
- c. After getting NOC, organizers would approach to District Deputy Commissioners offices, who would arrange security provision for their programs and **No fee is required to be paid at this stage.**
- d. The Commissioner Karachi, Director Information, and Deputy Commissioner South assured participants that above mutually agreed procedures would be adopted and implemented in its true spirit and hoteliers assured to respect the legal requirements of Information Department, Government of Sindh for compliance purpose. Hotel managements are already abiding the provisions of law while acquiring NOC in spite of critical procedures of various departments involved for issuance of NOCs.

The meeting concluded on implementation of above agreed points, ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

*Fauzia*

Fouzia Azhar  
Secretary General  
Pakistan Hotels Association

