



(A Standing Committee established by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan)

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2004

**MINUTES OF 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF  
THE NATIONAL TRADE AND TRANSPORT FACILITATION COMMITTEE (NTTFC)  
10:30 Hours 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2004  
FPCCI Conference Room, Federation House, Karachi**

The meeting was chaired by Syed Irtiqah Ahmed Zaidi, Economic Consultant, Ministry of Commerce and the Project Director, Trade and Transport Facilitation Project. List of the participants is attached.

The meeting commenced with recitation from the Holy Quran.

Before taking on the items on the Agenda the Chairman invited Mr. Osamu Mizui, Director General, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Karachi Office to make a brief presentation on the proposal of JETRO. Mr. Mizui explained that JETRO has been deeply involved in the projects for industrial capacity building by providing consultancy support to the Government of Pakistan. A proposal to establish Special Export Zone Textile City in the eastern industrial zone of Port Qasim has already been accepted and incorporated in the Trade Policy 2003-04. A joint stock company "Pakistan Textile City Ltd." is being incorporated to implement the project. JETRO has also proposed a project "Comprehensive Development of Port Qasim Area".

The Chairman thanked Mr. Mizui for the presentation.

**ITEM 1.  
REVIEW OF TPR MEETING DECISIONS**

**a. Business Reengineering and Composition of Working Group on Documents and Standards**

The Executive Secretary, NTTFC reported that the industry leaders identified during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tripartite Review meeting of the Trade and Transport Facilitation Project (TTFP) on 23 December 2003 had been written letters to nominated knowledgeable persons from their organizations to the Working Group on Documents and Standards.

Mr. Will Keenan, Chief Technical Advisor, UNCTAD informed that discussion were being held with several consulting firms to carry out a business process improvement exercise. It was intended that a few important products will be identified and studied. Results of study will be presented to the Working Group on Documents and Standards for review and recommendations.

**Decision**

The study may be expedited.

**b. Progress on Transport Legislation**

Barrister Zahid Jamil, UNCTAD Legal Consultant, reported that the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, Carriage of Goods by Sea (Supplementary Provisions) Act to replace the Bills of Lading Act 1968 and the Carriage by Air Act had been finalized and submitted to the concerned ministries/organizations. The Carriage of Goods by Road Act had been finalized for review by the stakeholders prior to its submission to the Ministry of Communications. It had been agreed with Pakistan Railways that instead of introducing new Carriage of Goods by Rail Act suitable amendments in the relevant sections of Pakistan Railways Act may be proposed. The draft of Multimodal Transport of Goods Act has been sent to UNCTAD Legal Department in Geneva for review.

Capt Bashir Vistro, Director (P&A), Port & Shipping Wing, Ministry of Communications informed that the draft Carriage of Goods by Sea and the Carriage of Goods by Sea (Supplementary Provisions) Act had been sent to the Law Division for vetting.

Mr. Mohammad Bhatti, Corporate Manager (Legal) Civil Aviation Authority said that the Carriage by Air Act was being processed for submission to the Ministry of Defence. He confirmed that action was also being taken regarding ratifying the Montreal Convention.

Mrs. Nasreen Haque, Chief Operating Superintendent, Pakistan Railways stated that the proposed draft Carriage of Goods by Rail Act was neither fully in keeping with the Uniform Rules of CIM under the COTIF Convention nor in harmony with Pakistan Railways Act. It had therefore been agreed to make suitable amendments in the relevant Sections of the Pakistan Railways Act, which would be applicable to domestic carriage only. Amongst the bordering countries only Iran had ratified the COTIF Convention. Application of CIM Uniform Rules could be considered when Pakistan Railways operates regular service to Iran.

There was a lively discussion relating to the delays in enactment of legislations in Pakistan and, rules of business. The need for creating a fast track situation was emphasized.

#### **Decision**

Finalization of various draft Acts may be expedite and all the organizations and departments should endorse a copy of their forwarding letters to the controlling ministry and the Law Division to the Executive Secretary, NTTFC and the Economic Consultant, Ministry of Commerce so that the Ministry of Commerce may follow up the matter with the concerned Ministry and the Law Division.

#### **c. Marine Insurance Act**

Executive Secretary, NTTFC informed that subsequent to the decision of the TPR meeting to revisit the issue of having a Marine Insurance Act of Pakistan a meeting chaired by the Joint Secretary (Insurance), Ministry of Commerce had been held. The issues involved were discussed in the meeting. A Technical Committee has been constituted to examine the matter in detail and submit its report.

#### **Decision**

Report of the Technical Committee may be expedited.

#### **d. Substitution of the State Bank of Pakistan "Form E" with the Customs "Goods Declaration"**

The Executive Secretary, NTTFC reported that the issues involved in substitution of the "Form E" with the "Goods Declaration" had been discussed in a recent meeting with the SBP, Customs and PRAL officials and a committee had been constituted to report on the specific procedural requirements to be met. The matter will be further discussed in the forthcoming meeting of the Banking Working Group so that the committee is able to finalize its report expeditiously.

The matters relating to the Form E and the need for its elimination were discussed at length. The safeguards provided by the Form E, need for amendment in the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, the problems associated with foreign exchange remittances by the ship agents, and the need for permitting independent L/C for freight were highlighted. It was stressed that the procedures needed to be simplified.

#### **Decision**

Report of the committee formed by SBP may be expedited and appropriate follow up action taken to expedite elimination of Form E.

**e. Establishment of Trade Point**

Mr. Will Keenan reported that following the concern expressed by SMEDA regarding the feasibility of proceeding with the Lahore Trade Point the matter had been referred to the World Trade Point Federation (WTPF), Geneva. In case the Trade Point concept could be integrated with other trade information activities of SMEDA the Trade Point proposal will move ahead; otherwise it will have to be dropped.

**Decision**

Follow-up by the UNCTAD CTA with the WTPF may be expedited to enable a definite decision in the matter.

**f. Strengthening of NTTFC**

Mr. Will Keenan reported that the Project was covering the cost of salary of one of its National Consultants who had been posted with NTTFC Secretariat as its Deputy Secretary. Refurbishment of the office space for the NTTFC Secretariat had also been arranged. In many countries where there is a national trade facilitation body, the Government supports most of the secretariat operating costs. It is unlikely that the Pakistan Shippers Council' will be able to provide sufficient funding for the NTTFC Secretariat to function effectively.

**Decision**

The proposal for providing the funds for the expenses of NTTFC Secretariat may be taken up with the EDF Board. NTTFC Secretariat will prepare a comprehensive request for consideration of MoC.

**g. Electronic Documents Exchange (EDEX) Pilot Project**

Mr. Humayun Zafar, Pakistan Revenue Automation (Pvt) Ltd. (PRAL), made a presentation explaining the Electronic Document Exchange, a pilot project under TTFP, whereby a registered client, such as Customs Clearing Agent, would be able to file his document, i.e. Goods Declaration, electronically through internet for electronic processing by Pakistan Customs. He pointed out that electronic filing would result in convenience, security, proof of filing, faster processing time, reduced interaction, accuracy and development of a reliable data warehouse.

**Decision**

The Committee endorsed the TTFP EDEX pilot project and expressed its willingness to cooperate with PRAL.

**h. Logistics Security related activities**

Capt. Irfan Naqvi, UNCTAD Consultant on Logistics Security, gave a presentation on various international schemes for logistic security such as CSI, C-TPAT, WCO ACI Guidelines, EU Guidelines and ISPS Code and explained the actions being taken against these schemes. He informed that the Ports and Shipping Wing of the Ministry of Communications had already initiated action for implementation of ISPS Code, which was due to come in force on 1 July 2004. Pakistan Customs were attending to WCO Guidelines and CSI requirements in collaboration with NLC, who had been authorized to acquire 3 container-scanning machines. UNCTAD had already held two awareness seminars at Karachi and further such seminars had been organized in the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the major commercial cities of Pakistan.

**Decision**

The awareness seminars by UNCTAD may be conducted as planned. Considering the action already taken by the Ports and Shipping Wing, Ministry of Communications regarding implementation of ISPS Code it was not necessary to carry out the security audits at two Karachi Port Trust Terminals as agreed during the TPR-3 meeting.

## **ITEM 2.**

### **PROPOSALS FROM MEMBERS OF NTTFC**

#### **a. ICC Pakistan proposal regarding organizing an implementation workshop for ATA Carnet (Istanbul Convention) and TIR Convention**

The Chairman informed that a meeting to be chaired by the Secretary Commerce will be held in the Ministry of Commerce on 17 March 2004 to discuss the progress on the implementation of ATA Carnet and TIR Convention. ICC Pakistan and PIFFC have been invited to attend the meeting.

#### **Decision**

Appropriate follow up action may be taken on the basis of the decision taken in the meeting to be chaired by the Secretary Commerce.

#### **b. Proposal of Karachi Port Trust**

Cmdr. Hussain Bin Khamis, DGM (Operations), KPT raised the issue of accumulated auctionable cargo, especially old Afghan cargo, clogging the storage space of Karachi Port and asked for a practicable procedure to be worked out for disposal of this cargo. He also pointed out the need for:

- i. Computerization of import general manifest,
- ii. Regular sharing of data/information with customs, and
- iii. Uniform procedure for clearance of consignments from different posts/landing stations.

The points raised by him, especially those relating to auction of accumulated Afghan cargo were discussed in detail. Capt. Bashir Vistro informed that the matter had already been taken up by the Ports and Shipping Wing, Ministry of Communications.

#### **Decision**

KPT may provide the Executive Secretary, NTTFC a comprehensive paper with detailed proposals regarding each item so that the matters may be taken up by the NTTFC with a comprehensive perspective and pursued through the Ministry of Commerce for appropriate action.

#### **c. Proposal of Pakistan Shippers Council regarding exorbitant charges of shipping lines/agents**

Mr. A Rasheed Janmohammad stated that the shipping lines/agents had started levying exorbitant charges before issuing the delivery order to the consignees. It had not been possible to resolve the matter through the existing channels. The issue should be taken by the NTTFC to find a solution.

Various related issues such as the role of principal shipping lines and their agents, the role of PIFFC Consolidation Committee, need for an authority to control the charges, registration of shipping agents with the Director General, Ports and Shipping and implications of WTO regime prohibiting protective measures were discussed at length.

#### **Decision**

The Chairman, Pakistan Shippers' Council should prepare a comprehensive paper to be presented in the next meeting of NTTFC for consideration.

#### **d. Proposals of Port Qasim Authority**

Mr. Abdullah Laghari, DGM (Operations), PQA stated that action had already been initiated internally against some of the items mentioned in their proposal. However, PQA would like to receive assistance from NTTFC in respect of strategic marketing and inter-port cooperation.

#### **Decision**

PQA should submit a comprehensive paper explaining its proposal and the type of assistance required from the NTTFC.

- e. **Presentation by Pakistan Railways on implementation of RailTracker module of UNCTAD's Advanced Cargo Information System (ACIS)**  
Deferred at the request of Pakistan Railways.
- f. **Presentation of Custom's Guideline by CBR**  
Deferred as the presenter from CBR was unable to attend this meeting.

**ITEM 3.  
ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. **Standard Trading Conditions of PIFFC**  
Mr. Babar Badat, Director PIFFC, informed that the Standard Trading Conditions of PIFFC had been submitted to the President FPCCI for his approval before implementation

**Decision**

President FPCCI may expedite approval of the Standard Trading Conditions of PIFFC.

- b. **Date for the next meeting of NTTFC**  
Next meeting of NTTFC will be scheduled in the second half of June 2004.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 13.30 hours with thanks to the Chair and the participants.



Javaid Mansoor  
Executive Secretary

**Circulation List:**

1	Syed Irtiqa Ahmed Zaidi, Economic Consultant, Ministry of Commerce
2	Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Vice Chairman, Export Promotion Bureau
3	Malik Saeed M. Khan, Member, Planning Commission
4	Mr. Mumtaz Malik, Joint Secretary (External Finance), Ministry of Finance
5	Mr. Athar Mahmood, DG (Economic Coordination), Ministry of Foreign Affairs
6	Mrs. Nasreen Haque, Chief Operating Superintendent, Pakistan Railways
7	Capt. Bashir A. Vistro, Director (P&A), Port & Shipping Wing, Ministry of Communications
8	Mr. Junaid Sophie, GM (Commercial), Pakistan International Airlines
9	Capt. Aftab Siddiqui, GM (Commercial), Pakistan National Shipping Corporation
10	Mr. Ijaz Majeed, GM, SMEDA
11	Mr. Shehryar Khan, Joint Technological Advisor, Ministry of Science & Technology
12	Mr. Riaz Ahmed Tata, President, FPCCI
13	Engineer M. A. Jabbar, Vice President, FPCCI
14	Mr. A.Rasheed Janmohammad, Chairman, Pakistan Shippers Council, FPCCI
15	Rear Admiral (R) S.H. Khalid, Vice Chairman, Pakistan Ships' Agents Association
16	Mr. Islam Saleem, Chairman, Security Packers
17	Mr. Babar Badat, Director, Pakistan International Freight Forwarders Council
18	Mr. Tariq M. Rangoonwala, Chairman, International Chamber of Commerce Pakistan
19	Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Sheikh, Chairman, Faisalabad Dry Port Trust, rep. Dry Port Opts.
20	Chairman, Insurance Association of Pakistan
21	Mr. M. Moonis, Chairman, All Pakistan Shipping Association
22	Cdre. Hussain Bin Khamis, Dy. GM (Ops), Karachi Port Trust
23	Mr. Abdullah Laghari, Dy. GM (Cargo Ops.), Port Qasim Authority
24	Mr. Siraj A. Khan, Regional Manager, Ministry of Information & Technology
25	Syed Samar Hasnain, Joint Director, State Bank of Pakistan
26	Mr. Raies Ahmed, Assistant Director, State Bank of Pakistan
27	Mr. Mr. Mohammad Bhatti, Corporate Manager (Legal), Civil Aviation Authority
28	Mr. Tafseer A. Khan, Dy. Director, Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA)
29	Cdr. Mehmood Sharif, Manager (MIS), Karachi Port Trust
30	Major Tahir Ashraf Humayun, DAD C&T, National Logistic Cell
31	Mr. Muhammad Saeed Asad, Asst. Collector Customs, Port Qasim, Pakistan Customs
32	Mr. Sajid Mansoor, Deputy Chief, NTRC Ministry of Communications
33	Mr. Tajamul Hussain Nisar, Manager Marketing, PHDEB
34	Capt. Kh. Imran Manzoor, A.M.(Insurance), Pakistan National Shipping Corporation
35	Chairman, Karachi Goods Carrier Association
36	Mr. M. Siddiq, AVP, Karachi Customs Goods Agents Group
37	Mr. Amer Z. Durrani, Task Manager, TTFP, World Bank
38	Mr. Will Keenan, Chief Technical Advisor, UNCTAD
39	Capt. Irfan Naqvi, Logistics Security Consultant, UNCTAD
40	Barrister Zahid Jamil, Legal Consultant, UNCTAD
41	Mr. Humayun Zafar, Sr. Project Manager, PRAL
42	Mr. Burhan Akhlaq, Deputy Secretary, NTTFC

## 5<sup>th</sup> National Trade & Transport Facilitation Committee Meeting ATTENDANCE SHEET

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Telephone / Fax/ Email
1	Syed Irtiqah Ahmed Zaidi	Economic Consultant / Project Director	Ministry of Commerce / TTFP	051-920 1796 051-920 3024
2	Engg. M.A. Jabbar	Vice President	Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI)	- -
3	Mr. A.Rasheed Janmohammad	Chairman	Pakistan Shippers Council (PSC)	021-241 2265-66 021-241 6791
4	Mr. Athar Mahmood	Director General (Economic Coordination)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	051-920 1944
5	Mrs. Nasreen Haque	Chief Operating Superintendent	Pakistan Railways	042-9201741
6	Capt. Bashir A. Vistro	Director (P&A)	Ports & Shipping Wing M.o.Communications	021-9204197
7	Mr. Junaid Sophie	GM Industry Affairs	Pakistan International Airlines	021-457 95238
8	Capt. Aftab Siddiqui	GM (Commercial)	Pakistan National Shipping Corporation	021-920 4051
9	Mr. Ijaz Majeed	GM	SMEDA	111-111-456 imajeed@smeda.org.pk
10	Rear Admiral (R) S.H. Khalid	Vice Chairman	Pakistan Ships' Agents Association (PSAA)	021-589 8864
11	Mr. Islam Salim	Chairman	Security Packers	021-586 2305 021-587 4197
12	Mr. Babar Badat	Managing Director / Director	Transfreight / PIFFC	021-231 5034-6 021-231 4841-2
13	Mr. Tariq M. Rangoonwala	Chairman	ICC-Pakistan	021-231 1453 021-231 0630
14	Cdre. Hussain Bin Khamis	Dy. GM (Ops)	Karachi Port Trust	021-921 4361
15	Mr. Abdullah Laghari	Dy. GM (Cargo Ops.)	Port Qasim Authority	021-920 4289
16	Mr. Siraj A. Khan	Regional Manager	Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB) /MOITT	021-921 7381 021-921 7382 0300-822 8540
17	Syed Samar Hasnain	Joint Director	State Bank of Pakistan	021-244 503978 samar.husnain@sbp.org.pk
18	Mr. Raies Ahmed	Assistant Director	State Bank of Pakistan	021-244 503983 rais.ahmed@sbp.org.pk
19	Mr. Mohammad Bhatti	C.M. Legal	Civil Aviation Authority	021-924 8573

20	Mr. Tafseer A. Khan	Dy. Director	Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority	021-921 5377
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Telephone / Fax/ Email</b>
21	Cdr. Mehmood Sharif	Manager (MIS)	Karachi Port Trust	021-921 4679
22	Mr. Muhammad Saeed Asad	Asst. Collector Customs	Pakistan Customs	021-473 0072
23	Mr. Sajid Mansoor	Deputy Chief	NTRC M/O Communication	051-925 7195
24	Mr. Tajamul Hussain Nisar	Manager Marketing	Pakistan Horticulture Development & Export Board	021-923 2172-3 021-923 0174
25	Major Tahir Ashraf Humayun	DAD C&T	National Logistic Cell	021-285 0393
26	Capt. Kh. Imran Manzoor	A.M. (Insurance)	Pakistan National Shipping Corporation	021-9204052
27	Mr. M. Siddiq	AVP	Karachi Customs Agents Group	021-231 0898
28	Mr. Osamn Mizui	DG	JETRO-Karachi	021-568 6843
29	Ms. Noriko Sato	JETRO Expert	JETRO-Karachi	021-568 6843
30	Syed Sardar Ali	Consultant	Sardar & Sardar	042-573 3386
31	Mr. Will Keenan	Chief Technical Advisor	UNCTAD	051-227 3247
32	Capt. Irfan Naqvi	Logistic Security Consultant	UNCTAD	021-582 2872
33	Barrister Zahid Jamil	Legal Consultant	UNCTAD	021-565 5025 zahid@jamilandjamil.com
34	Mr. Humayun Zafar	Sr. Project Manager	PRAL	051-922 1196
35	Mr. Javaid Mansoor	Executive Secretary	NTTFC	021-582 1814 nttfc@cyber.net.pk
36	Mr. Burhan Akhlaq	Deputy Secretary	NTTFC	0300-2118626