



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY AND RESEARCH

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No.F.NO.1-1/2025-PER/EW-NFSR

Islamabad, the 25<sup>th</sup> April , 2025

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE TO PROPOSE A NATIONAL AGRICULTURE INNOVATION AND GROWTH ACTION PLAN**

The subject meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in the Committee room, Ministry of National Food Security and Research. The Minister for National Food Security and Research chaired the meeting. The list of participants is annexed.

2. Minister, NFS&R started the meeting by reciting holy verses from the Quran and welcomed all participants. He set the context of the committee and working groups, as the constitution of this committee was decided in a meeting of the Prime Minister with young scientists arranged by Mr. Mosharraf Zaidi CEO Tabadlab. Secretary M/o NFS&R briefly described the ToRs of this committee. The purpose of this committee is to review the recommendations made by working groups and then finalize them to present to the Prime Minister. The timeline for the final recommendations from these working groups is two weeks. He further added that today's meeting is to review the progress of these working groups and their collaboration in order to finalize the recommendations.

Secretary M/o NFS&R asked Mr. Mosharaff Zaidi to brief the house regarding progress. Mr Mosharraf thanked the house and said that Mr. Hannan Consultant from Tabadlab will provide a summary on work done by groups so far. He further suggested that all working groups' final draft recommendations should be presented in a single meeting so that the overlapping and synergies can be identified. The Minister for NFS&R added that the Ministry has already developed a roadmap, but the Prime Minister wanted young scientists and professionals from private sector to engage in this activity, so a better outcome can be achieved.

In this regard, recommendations from working groups and already developed roadmap will be aligned and a final draft of recommendations will be presented to the Prime Minister in two weeks. Secretary clarified that the roadmap also includes the livestock and fisheries sector, but these working groups will only work on agricultural crops in the first phase. Mr. Hannan added that segregation of activities is essential to have a clear roadmap, such as, a high level approach for every recommendation, clear steps to roll out the recommendations, timelines for implementation and then execution and monitoring of the steps taken. The Minister of NFS&R agreed with Mr. Hannan.

Secretary M/o NFS&R asked the conveners of the working groups to update the house about work they have done so far on their respective areas. The response from all conveners is as follows:

**Mr. Tabbish Mahmood** (Tech, IT & Data in Agriculture) stated that same template and work plan is agreed among working groups and the first draft is almost 80% complete and will be finalized by Monday. He also informed the house about co-opting other members as well. Mr.

Hannan added that all working groups are taking expert opinion in their respective areas and then breaking down the stages of implementation. Minister NFS&R agreed and said Prime Minister is also interested in the implementation of recommendations of working groups.

**Mr. Ahmed Umair** (Farmer Capability & Agri Research) stated that almost 80% of the work is completed and will be finalized by the coming Monday. They have also co-opted 5 members and now their group is of 9 members. The finalized draft of recommendations will be discussed with other groups so a coherent draft can be presented to the Prime Minister.

**Mr. Farhan Tahir** (Agri Infrastructure & Mechanization) informed the house that their draft is 65-70% completed and they have also co-opted some experts. Minister NFSR appreciated the group's efforts to complete the work by Monday.

**Mr. Kashif Thanvi** (Access to Finance for Agriculture) said his group is working on the same template and will finalize the draft after meeting with Ministry of Finance's representative in their group as he is out of country for spring meetings. Main focus of this group is on crops and livestock financing is also being taken care of. The minister asked Mr. Kashif to communicate with CEO Bank of Punjab as they have worked on collateral free loans to small farmers as well as to interact with ZTBL as an efficient stakeholder in agri-finance.

**Mr. Zeeshan Hasib Baig** (Legal & Regulatory Framework for Agriculture Growth) informed that their work is also 80% done and after getting input from different stakeholders regarding seed, fertilizer and crop protection, they will finalize the draft by Monday.

**Dr. Muhammad Abubakr** (Agriculture Sector Acceleration) emphasized the importance of soil and land quality. He further said that they are working in four main areas i.e., Sustainable Agriculture, Irrigation Modernization, Farmer's incentives and Environment. Minister showed concern as food security is a challenge and asked to suggest a mechanism for wheat for which price has crashed. He further stated that taxes should be rationalized.

Mr. Rashid Mahmood, Chairman FBR, stated that the Coordination Committee was initially constituted to develop a comprehensive implementation plan, including detailed and tangible costing. This includes the apportionment of costs and identification of the entities responsible for bearing those costs. It was emphasized that the public sector will provide subsidies, the modality of which is yet to be determined—whether through direct financial support or by enabling private sector participation via the formulation and enactment of supportive laws and regulations.

Another objective is for each thematic area to undertake quantification exercises and develop actionable plans. These plans shall then be reviewed by the respective working groups to assess their feasibility and determine whether they are implementable within the given resources and institutional frameworks. We need sequencing of the reforms and segregate what can not be done?

The Secretary clarified that the purpose of this meeting is to review the progress of working groups and ensure there is no overlap in their tasks. Mr. Rashid added that each group should operate on the principle of exclusivity. The house agreed that future meetings of the Coordination Committee will focus on the feasibility and costing of the implementation of recommendations.

Mr. Rashid further noted that the analysis should consist of detailed steps. For example, in the case of mechanization, the process should begin with identifying the crop wise

mechanization gap, followed by determining the reasons for these gaps. Subsequently, a year-wise implementation plan along with cost estimates should be developed. Responsibilities would then be divided between the public and private sectors, followed by the formulation of a financing strategy.

The Secretary advised all groups to share their progress with one another to ensure harmonization of efforts. Mr. Hannan stated that a complete and comprehensive presentation will not be ready by Monday or Tuesday, as the overall analysis requires time due to the need for proper vetting and harmonization among individual working groups. Once compiled, it will also require review and consultation with conveners, and later input from subject-matter experts.

He further noted that while Mr. Rashid's point regarding focusing on one crop type is valid, a high-level approach can be adopted initially, which can then be refined during implementation. Considerations such as costs, return on investment, and policy impacts across a broader spectrum will also be important. At the current stage, achieving detailed cost estimates within the two-week timeline is unrealistic, given the complexity of the analysis, which must be comprehensive before it is presented to the Prime Minister.

The Secretary MNFS&R highlighted that time is a constraint, as the time for federal budget is approaching. Major interventions—particularly in areas of support, taxation, and other reforms—need to be incorporated into the budget.

**The Minister MNFS&R directed that a high-level presentation should be made available by Tuesday or Wednesday**, as per convenience. The Secretary reiterated that while the working process is on track, diving into the micro-level reforms will require more time. For now, the analysis should remain broad-based and the presentation should reflect that scope.

Mr. Javed Saleem Qureshi gave a presentation, to which the Minister MNFS&R responded that it should be shared with the conveners of the working groups. The Minister also emphasized that a cultural and mindset shift is needed in crop production. He cited China as a key example of agricultural transformation and shared that coordination with China is underway to support PARC in transforming agricultural production practices. Secretary MNFS&R directed that presentation of Mr. Qureshi be shared with working groups and in case of need for further guidance he may be contacted by the working groups.

The Chair concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks.

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## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

### **In Person**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	Mr. Waseem Ajmal	Secretary	M/o NFS&R
2.	Dr. Haroon Sarwar Awan	Economic Consultant/Cotton Commissioner	M/o NFS&R
3.	Mr. Hannan Ikram	Consultant	Tabadlab
4.	Mr. Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti	President	ZTBL

5.	Mr. Javed Saleem Qureshi	CEO	Four Brothers
6.	Daniyal Javed Qureshi		Four Brothers
7.	Dr. Rao Asif		
8.	Dr. Sabir Afridi		
9.	Dr. Waqar Yasin	CEO	LIMS
10.	Dr. Muhammad AbuBakar Zia	Agronomist	LIMS
11.	Syed Mazhar H. Rizvi	GIS	LIMS

### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

#### **Via Zoom**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	Mr. Rashid Mehmood	Chairman	Federal Board of Revenue
2.		Member Customs	Federal Board of Revenue
3.	Mr. Arif Goheer	Executive Director	Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coord.
4.	Mr. Mosharraf Zaidi	CEO	Tabadlab
5.	Mr. Tabbish Mahmood		Sygenta
6.	Mr. Ahmed Umair	CEO	Vital Agri Nutrients
7.	Mr. Farhan Tahir		Haji Sons Group
8.	Mr. Kashif Thanvi	Investment Director	Acumen
9.	Mr. Zeeshan Hasib Baig		Sygenta
10.	Dr. Muhammad Abubakr	Associate Professor	LUMS
11.	Dr. Asif Ali	Chairman	National Seed Development and Regulatory Authority (NSDRA)
12.	Mr. Faizan Qureshi		

**Dr. Haroon Sarwar Awan**  
**Economic Consultant**

Administration (Wing),  
Dr. Syed Tauqir Hussain Shah  
Advisor to Prime Minister  
Islamabad,  
Islamabad

Information Technology (Wing),  
Rashid Mahmood  
Secretary Revenue Div/Chairman FBR

Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad,  
Islamabad

China (Wing),  
Ahad khan Cheema  
Federal Minister For EAD  
EAD, C-Block Pak Secreteriat,  
Islamabad

Administration (Wing),  
Musadik Masood Malik  
Federal Minister  
LG and RD Complex, Sector G-5/2,  
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Shagufta Yasmin  
Monitoring Officer-VI  
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