



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 09<sup>th</sup> May , 2025

## **OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING (5TH) OF COORDINATION COMMITTEE TO PROPOSE A NATIONAL AGRICULTURE INNOVATION AND GROWTH ACTION PLAN**

The subject meeting builds on the progress and deliberations of previous sessions. Fifth meeting was held on 7th May 2025 and chaired by the Minister for National Food Security and Research (NFS&R) in the Committee Room of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research. The list of participants is annexed.

The Minister for NFS&R welcomed all participants. As decided in the previous meeting, a final draft of recommendations—comprising inputs from both the Ministry and the working groups—was to be presented. The Minister invited Mr. Hannan, Consultant at Tabadlab, to present their final work. Mr. Hannan began by outlining the thematic areas in which these initiatives will be implemented: crops, livestock, and fisheries. He stated that a total of 35 initiatives had been finalized after integrating the Ministry's and the working groups' proposals—27 in crops, 5 in livestock, and 3 in fisheries.

Mr. Mosharraf Zaidi noted that these numbers may increase following consultations with provincial stakeholders. On the subject of mechanization, the Secretary NFS&R cited the example of a laser land-leveling machine scheme supported by a subsidy from the Punjab government. Mr. Akmal Siddique added that the subsidy was only offered in the initial years when the technology was introduced in the country. He emphasized the need to replace combine harvesters and stated that, under their proposed business model, machines would be provided to service providers instead of farmers, making them scale-neutral.

Mr. Hamid, Additional Secretary-III at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), suggested that the key intervention in mechanization would be the import of machinery. He recommended that identifying machinery by HS codes would make the process more effective. The Minister responded that this information had already been included in the detailed documentation. Dr. Shahzad, Secretary of Customs at FBR, informed the house that the 5th Schedule already provides reduced tariff rates for agricultural machinery. In response, the Minister asked the committee to share the relevant HS codes with FBR to verify whether they are covered under the exemption SRO. Dr. Zahoor from LUMS added that a feasibility cost estimate should be included, specifying what the farmer will ultimately pay after adopting mechanized equipment and improved storage. Mr. Akmal confirmed that such an analysis had been completed, and per-acre costs for farmers using imported machinery had been calculated.

Mr. Mosharraf emphasized that, following consultations with the provinces, the final recommendations would be integrated into a consolidated implementation plan aligned with the five major pillars of the strategy. Under the "Access to Finance" pillar, the Minister suggested that commercial banks should also be encouraged to offer collateral-free loans to the agriculture

sector. Mr. Ahmed Umair recommended establishing a price control mechanism in the agriculture market and noted that trade in agricultural commodities is largely open, except for staple foods such as wheat and sugar. He also suggested amending certain laws that currently hinder private sector investment. In the "Legal and Regulatory Framework" pillar, the committee discussed the export of non-subsidized agricultural inputs—such as phosphorus, sulfur, potash, and calcium fertilizers—which currently receive no government support.

In the livestock sub-sector, the Secretary NFS&R highlighted that the primary areas needing improvement are animal diseases and breeding practices. The Minister suggested incentivizing farmers by registering livestock farms with provincial governments. Farms maintaining a feasible number of animals could export any production exceeding a defined threshold.

The house agreed to share the compiled work with all committee members. Any additional input from members will be incorporated into the final document. Upon completion, the finalized recommendations will be presented to the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

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### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

#### **In Person**

<b>Sr. #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	Rana Tanveer Hussain	Minister	M/o NFS&R
2.	Mr. Waseem Ajmal	Secretary	M/o NFS&R
3.	Mr. Sajid Mehmood Qazi	Additional Secretary-I	M/o NFS&R
4.	Dr. Akmal Siddique	Technical Advisor	M/o NFS&R
5.	Dr. Haroon Sarwar Awan	Economic Consultant	M/o NFS&R
6.	Dr. Samina	Senior Associate	PMO
7.	Dr. S. Murtaza Hassan Andrabi	AHC	Livestock wing, M/o NFS&R
9.	Mr. Hannan Ikram	Consultant	Tabadlab
10.	Mr. Faizan Qureshi	Analyst	Tabadlab

#### **Online**

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1.	Mr. Hamid Ali	Additional Secretary-III	PMO
2.	Mr. Saad Hayat Tamman		PMO
3.	Dr. Asif Ali Khan	Chairman	NASDRA
4.	Dr. Shahzad Khan	Secretary Tariff-I	FBR
5.	Mr. Ali Adnan Zaidi	Chief Tax Operations	FBR
6.	Mr. Mosharraf Zaidi	CEO	Tabadlab
7.	Mr. Ahmed Umair	CEO	Vital Agri Nutrients
8.	Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan	Professor	LUMS

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