



PILDAT Legislative Capability-building Programme
Briefing Session for Parliamentarians

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

June 23, 2003
Hotel Marriott, Islamabad

SESSION REPORT



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Report of the Briefing Session

The Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development And Transparency – PILDAT, under its Legislative Capability-building Programme, held a Briefing Session for parliamentarians on the topic of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper on June 23, 2003 at Hotel Marriott, Islamabad. The briefing session was partly supported by the World Bank.

PILDAT Briefing Session on PRSP was arranged to raise the awareness of legislators about the PRSP process, and to give them relevant information so they can contribute more significantly in its development and monitoring. The main objective of the session was to enable Parliamentarians to review the upcoming final PRSP with the aim of ensuring that it represents the interests of their constituents.

The briefing session was attended by fifty three (53) parliamentarians, both Senators and Members of the National Assembly. A profile of participants, complete with their party, gender and provincial break up is included in this report.

The briefing session was divided into three sub-sessions. The first session provided an analysis of Poverty in Pakistan. The second session provided a broad overview of the PRSP process from the World Bank Perspective, and information on Pakistan's DRAFT PRSP, its development and prominent features. In the third section, various experts gave their input about the DRAFT PRSP, which included critical analyses of the PRSP ideology as well as the Draft PRSP. The session had nine speakers/resource persons including the Country Director Pakistan of the World Bank, former Minister of Finance, Additional Secretary Finance, Director of Pakistan Institute of Development Economists and prominent economists and consultants. The session was also attended by Mr Raza Hayat Harraj, Minister of State Minister for Law, Justice and Human Rights; Parliamentary Affairs; Information Technology and Telecommunications, Mr. Daniyal Aziz, Chairman National Reconstruction Bureau and Senator S M Zaffar, chairman PILDAT board of Advisors and prominent constitutional lawyer.

The briefing session was extremely interactive where the participants shared their views on various aspects of Poverty reduction. It was evident that these Parliamentarians wanted to learn about the PRSP and wanted greater involvement in its development and monitoring. Although the debate became fairly intense at a few occasions, there was overall continuity and order in the session. Due to the interest of participants, each Q&A/Comments section during all sessions had to be extended to accommodate views/questions of participants.

One of the major issues discussed by the participants was the lack of involvement of parliamentarians in the process of developing the PRSP. They questioned the government representatives about having been left out of the process. The Ministry of Finance responded by saying that the Draft PRSP was included in the budget documents presented to the Parliamentarians. The participants insisted that they should have been part of the entire development process.

There was unanimous agreement that the final PRSP should be presented to the Parliament for approval. A feedback form was distributed amongst the participants, and all the participants indicated that a special standing committee on Poverty Reduction should be formed in the National Assembly and Senate. The participants also expressed their gratitude for the opportunity of learning about the crucial issue of Poverty reduction. They felt that the material provided to them through the Dossier and in the shape of the Briefing Paper would be especially useful in helping them acquire a greater understanding of PRSP and prepare them for debate in the Parliament.

Appendix A: Programme

ITEM	Subject/ Topic/Activity	TIME	Chief Guest/ Speaker/ Resource Person
1	Registration of participants	10:00 to 10:30 am	-
2	<p>Inaugural Session (Session 1):</p> <p>Session Chair: Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Former Minister of Finance</p> <p>Welcome Remarks and Introduction to the Briefing Session</p> <p>Inaugural speech</p> <p>State of Poverty in Pakistan: <i>Overview and Trends:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall state of Poverty in Pakistan, its historical trends & current Scenario. Basic factors influencing Poverty in Pakistan. Comparison of Poverty with other countries Why poverty is number 1 problem of Pakistan? <p>Presentation:</p> <p>Q & A/ Discussion</p>	<p>10:30 to 10:45 am</p> <p>10:45 to 11:00 am</p> <p>11:00 - 11:30 am</p> <p>11:30 am - 12:15 pm</p>	<p>Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob Executive Director PILDAT</p> <p>Mr. Sartaj Aziz Former Minister of Finance</p> <p>Dr. A. R. Kamal Director, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics-PIDE</p>
3	Tea Break	12:15 to 12:45 pm	
4	<p>Session 2:</p> <p>Session Chair: Mr. Muhammad Raza Hayat Harraj Minister of State for Law, Justice and Human Rights; Parliamentary Affairs; Information Technology and Telecommunications</p> <p>Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of PRSP The prominent features of Pakistan PRSP and its significance for the social and economic development of Pakistan <p>Presentations (20 Minutes each):</p> <p>Q & A/ Discussion:</p> <p>Speech by Session Chair</p>	<p>12:45 - 1:25 pm</p> <p>1:30 - 2:15 pm</p> <p>2:15 to 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Mr. John W. Wall, Country Director, Pakistan, World Bank</p> <p>Mr Ismail Qureshi Additional Secretary Finance Government of Pakistan</p>
5	Lunch and Zohr Prayer Break	2:30 to 3:15 pm	

6	<p>Session 3:</p> <p>Session Chair: Mr. Daniyal Aziz Chairman, National Reconstruction Bureau</p> <p>Commentary and Analysis of Pakistan's PRSP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Analysis of Draft PRSP • Areas requiring strengthening • Recommendations to Government <p>Presentations (20 minutes each):</p> <p>Q & A/ Discussion</p> <p>Concluding Remarks by Session Chair</p>		<p>Mr Akbar Zaidi Economist</p> <p>Dr. Faisal Bari Associate Prof. of Economics, LUMS</p> <p>Mr Aasim Sajjad Researcher and Columnist</p> <p>Ms Shagufta Alizai Consultant</p> <p>Lt Col (R) Alam Zeb Director General, NIPA, Peshawar</p>
7	Tea & End of the Seminar	06:30 – 07:00 pm	

Appendix B: List of Participants

Senators

Sr. No.	Name	Party	Province
1	Amanullah Kamrani	JWP	Balochistan
2	Gulshan Saeed	PML(Q)	Punjab
3	Haji Liaqat Ali Bangulzai	MMAP	NWFP
4	Kouser Firdous	MMAP	NWFP
5	Mohim Khan Baluch	BNP(A)	Balochistan
6	Nighat Agha	PML(Q)	Punjab
7	S M Zaffar	PML(Q)	Punjab
8	Sanaullah Baloch	BNP(M)	Balochistan
9	Tanvir Khalid	PML(Q)	Sindh

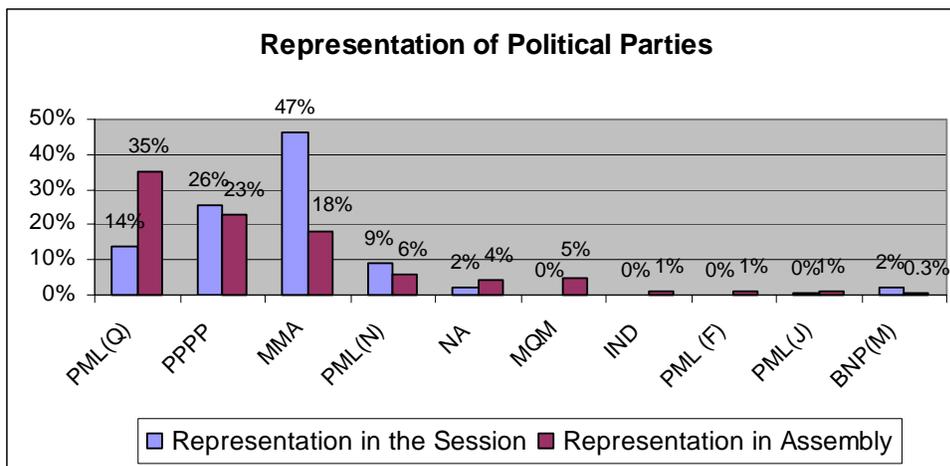
Members of National Assembly

Sr. No.	Name	Party	Province
1	Abdul Akbar Chitrali	MMAP	NWFP
2	Abdul Rauf Mengal	BNP(M)	Balochistan
3	Ahmed Ghafoor	MMAP	NWFP
4	Amjad Ali Warraich	PML(J)	Punjab
5	Asad Ullah	MMAP	NWFP
6	Asadullah Bhutto	MMAP	Sindh
7	Asiya Nasir	MMAP	Balochistan
8	Azra Fazal	PPPP	Sindh
9	Bilqees Saif	MMAP	Balochistan
10	Ch. Imran Ullah	PPPP	Punjab
11	Daniyal Aziz	PML(Q)	Punjab
12	Donya Aziz	PML(Q)	Punjab
13	Farid Ahmed Piracha	MMAP	Punjab
14	Farida Ahmed	MMAP	Sindh
15	Fauzia Habib	PPPP	Punjab
16	Fayyazur Rehman	MMAP	NWFP
17	Fazal-Karim	PML(N)	Punjab
18	Fazle-Subhan	MMAP	NWFP
19	Firdous Ashiq Awan	PML(Q)	Punjab
20	Ghulam Bibi Bhurwana	PML(Q)	Punjab
21	Gul-e-Farkhanda	NA	Sindh
22	Inayat Begum	MMAP	NWFP
23	Kaniz Ayesha	MMAP	Sindh
24	Khalida Moshin Qureshi	PPPP	Punjab
25	Kirshen Bheel	PML(N)	Sindh
26	Mamoona Hashmi	PML(N)	Punjab
27	Maulana Ata-ur Rehman	MMAP	NWFP
28	Mian Jalil Sharaqpuri	PML(N)	Punjab
29	Mian Mohammad Aslam	MMAP	Federal Capital
30	Naseem Akhter Chaudhry	PPPP	Punjab
31	Nayyer Sultana	MMAP	NWFP
32	Raza Hayat Harraj	PML(Q)	Punjab
33	Razia Aziz	MMAP	NWFP
34	Riffat Javaid Kahlon	PML(Q)	Punjab
35	Rubina Saadat Qaimkhanani	PPPP	Sindh
36	Samia Raheel Qazi	MMAP	Punjab
37	Shabir Ahmed	MMAP	NWFP
38	Shah Abdul Aziz	MMAP	NWFP
39	Shah Mehmood Qureshi	PPPP	Punjab
40	Shahida Akhtar Ali	MMAP	NWFP
41	Shamshad Sattar Bachiani	PPPP	Sindh
42	Sherry Rehman	PPPP	Sindh
43	Syed Naveed Qamar	PPPP	Sindh
44	Tasneem Ahmed Qureshi	PPPP	Punjab

Appendix C: Profile of Participants

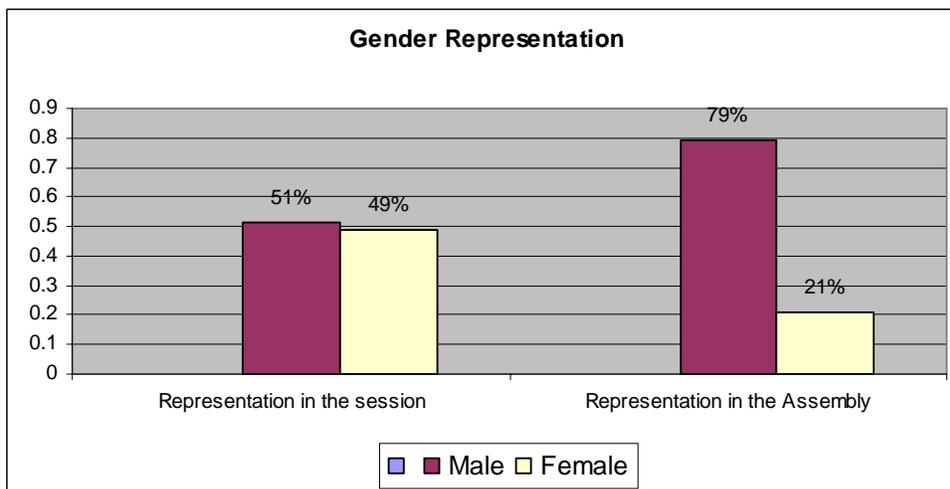
Representation of Political Parties

Party	Representation in the Session	Representation in Assembly
PML(Q)	14%	35%
PPPP	26%	23%
MMA	47%	18%
PML(N)	9%	6%
NA	2%	4%
MQM	0%	5%
IND	0%	1%
PML (F)	0%	1%
PML(J)	0%	1%
BNP(M)	2%	0.3%



Gender Wise Representation

Gender	Representation in the Session	Representation in Assembly
Male	51%	79%
Female	49%	21%



Province Wise Representation

Province	Representation in the Session	Representation in Assembly
Punjab	42%	54%
Sindh	23%	22%
Balochistan	5%	5%
NWFP	28%	13%
Federal	2%	1%

