



MEMORANDUM OF ACTIONS

National Level

We, The Elected Local Representatives and Officials, National and Provincial Associations of Local Governments, Development Partners and Civil Society Organizations are gathered at the Webinar on “Local Government Efforts to Respond COVID-19 Outbreak in Pakistan”.

Recognising the work done by the local governments (elected representatives and officials) in COVID 19 crises and considering that actions need to be undertaken to ensure strong democratic local governance through effective local governments and the associations for emergency response and SDGs implementation in Pakistan; we

1. **URGE** federal government to realise and acknowledge the need to engage Local Governments are the forefront respond COVID-19 and are well-aware of the needs/ priorities the communities. Hence, the federal government institutions, especially National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) should immediately take local governments representative on-board in COVID response and relief activities.
2. **ENCOURAGE** Local Government and Local Government Associations in the provinces for public awareness campaigns with regards to prevention of COVID-19 spread.
3. **SEEK** support of Local Governments for the social and safety nets and programmes like Ehsaas Programme and especially engage women councillors to ensure access of women in need from the communities to the country safety net programs. Federal Government should engage local governments in public awareness campaigns with regards to prevention of spread of COVID-19.
4. **CALL ON** Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms and other relevant federal ministries to recognize the vital due role of local government institutes and



ensure their participation and required authority to achieve SDGs and the targets. As more than 65% Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) fall in the ambit of local and regional government.

5. **CALL ON** the Parliament of Pakistan for constitutional reform to introduced and include a chapter on local government, defining principles, characteristics, powers and election process as well their role for achievements of SDGs and targets at local level. Article 144 A of the constitution of Pakistan only covers.
6. **CALL ON** Inter-Provincial Coordination Ministry and Council of Common Interest to play its due constitutional role to direct provinces to develop harmonized local government laws and to ensure continuity of the system by holding election within 90 days of expiration of the local government system.
7. **Call ON** Election Commission of Pakistan to direct its provincial offices to complete the delimitation and electoral roll processes and in consultation with provincial government, announce the local government election schedule for the Provinces.
8. **URGE** Federal Government through Attorney General office to concede the petition filed by Local Government representative to the Supreme Court of Pakistan, challenging the pre-mature termination of local government in Punjab Province.