



Event Report

Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms

(August 07 2023-Serena Hotel, Quetta)



Compiled and submitted by:

Shafqat Aziz-Senior Communications Specialist-Trainer



Background:

The Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms, held in Quetta on August 7, 2023, marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to advance menstrual hygiene management and promote gender equality in Pakistan. Menstrual hygiene management has emerged as a critical aspect of women's health and well-being, yet it often faces challenges stemming from social taboos, lack of access, and financial barriers, including taxes on menstrual products.

Importance of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in Pakistan:

In Pakistan, like in many parts of the world, menstrual hygiene management remains an important but often overlooked aspect of women's health. Access to safe and hygienic menstrual products, as well as proper education about menstruation, is crucial for the overall well-being and dignity of women and girls. However, several factors, including societal norms, economic constraints, and inadequate awareness, have led to a lack of proper MHM practices.

The Impact of Period Tax:

One of the notable challenges in this context is the imposition of taxes on menstrual products, often referred to as the "period tax." These taxes contribute to making menstrual products less affordable and accessible, particularly for marginalized communities. The financial burden created by such taxes can disproportionately affect women and girls who already face economic challenges.

Collaborative Efforts:

Recognizing the urgency of addressing these challenges, the MHM Working Group (MHMWG) Balochistan, UNICEF, and Qatar Charity, jointly organized the Policy Dialogue on MHM Tax Reforms. This event brought together a diverse range of stakeholders including policymakers, experts, advocates, and community members to collectively address the multifaceted issues surrounding menstrual hygiene management and explore innovative solutions.

Event's Objectives:

The primary goal of the policy dialogue was to highlight the importance of comprehensive menstrual hygiene management measures and advocate for transformative tax reforms that can positively impact women's health and well-being. By removing or reducing taxes on menstrual products, the aim was to alleviate the financial burden on women and families, while also fostering a conducive environment for open discussions about menstruation.



Key Themes and Discussions:

The event commenced with enlightening speeches from esteemed speakers who emphasized the significance of menstrual hygiene management in achieving gender equality and social progress. These initial remarks set the tone for engaging panel discussions and workshops that followed. Participants delved into critical topics such as affordability, accessibility, stigma reduction, education, and the intersectionality of MHM with various aspects of development.

The panelists from diverse technical backgrounds were including Federal Board of Revenue, Health, Education, Population, and Women Development departments, media and civil society were engaged in discussions on various challenges related to menstrual hygiene management, including affordability, accessibility, and the stigma surrounding menstrual products. The role of tax reforms in addressing these challenges was a central focus. The policy dialogue also recognized the intersectionality of MHM with education, health, and women's empowerment, acknowledging its pivotal contribution to sustainable development.

In her opening remarks during the Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms, Dr. Tahira Kamal, the Chairperson of the MHM Working Group (MHMWG) in Balochistan, shed light on the pervasive challenges faced by the province in the domain of menstrual hygiene management. With a focus on both the obstacles and the collaborative efforts undertaken to address them, Dr. Kamal provided a comprehensive overview of the situation.

Dr. Kamal began by underscoring the unique challenges that Balochistan faces in terms of menstrual hygiene management. The province, characterized by its diverse and often remote communities, has encountered significant barriers in ensuring proper menstrual hygiene practices among its women and girls. Economic constraints, limited access to resources and education, cultural taboos, and insufficient awareness have collectively contributed to a situation where many individuals are denied their right to dignified menstrual health.

Dr Kamal went on to highlight the concerted efforts that have been undertaken to address these challenges. She acknowledged the support extended by various organizations including UNICEF, GIZ (German Corporation for International Cooperation), Qatar Charity, and other members of the MHMWG. Through these collaborative partnerships, significant strides have been made in raising awareness and empowering communities to confront the issues surrounding menstrual hygiene.

Ms Mahjabeen Sheeran, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Chief Minister of Balochistan, drew attention to the significant economic implications of reforms related to menstrual hygiene management. Her insights shed light on how these reforms could not only improve the lives of



women and families but also contribute to broader economic growth and prosperity within the region.

She underscored the financial challenges faced by women and families in Balochistan due to the existing taxes on menstrual products. She highlighted how these taxes contribute to making these essential items less affordable, disproportionately affecting women from marginalized communities. By drawing attention to this aspect, Ms Sheeran conveyed a deeper understanding of the day-to-day struggles that many women and families endure to ensure access to necessary menstrual products.

In a poignant address during the Policy Dialogue, Dr M Amiri Hamayun, the Chief Field Office of Balochistan for UNICEF, articulated a profound perspective on the significance of menstrual hygiene management. Dr Hamayun's remarks not only shed light on the multi-faceted nature of this issue but also demonstrated UNICEF's unwavering commitment to fostering positive change in Balochistan through collaborative efforts and policy reforms.

His address was the recognition of tax reforms as a potential catalyst for achieving gender equality and social progress. He positioned these reforms as a collaborative endeavor, echoing the sentiments of a united effort by stakeholders, communities, and policymakers to create an environment that empowers women and girls. Highlighting UNICEF's commitment to the cause, Dr Hamayun affirmed the organization's dedication to supporting MHMWG Balochistan for the policy dialogue and the broader campaign for menstrual hygiene rights. Through his words, he communicated UNICEF's intention to be an enduring partner in the journey towards a more equal, informed, and dignified society in Balochistan.

Former Speaker of the Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Rahila Durrani, emphasized the vital role of awareness in MHM advocacy. Breaking taboos surrounding menstruation and providing proper education about hygiene were identified as essential. Tax reforms were seen as a means to facilitate better access to information and resources.

Yasmin Lehri, a senior parliamentarian representing the National party, emphasized the imperative of raising awareness as a means to confront the issue of stigma and prevailing social attitudes. She underlined the significance of shedding light on the challenges associated with menstrual hygiene management, thus initiating a broader dialogue on the matter.

Similarly, Shama Ishaq, another senior parliamentarian articulated that tax reforms possess the potential to act as a catalyst in dismantling the entrenched societal taboos that surround menstruation. By creating an enabling environment through these reforms, Shama Ishaq



expressed her belief that society can be encouraged to foster open conversations and embrace inclusivity, ultimately transforming the discourse on menstrual health.

Mr Rahmatullah, the Commissioner of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) in Quetta, shared his valuable insights during the policy dialogue. He proposed the idea of a subsequent mutual consultation, focusing on the technical aspects. This consultation would explore methods to categorize MHM products separately from luxury items, thereby facilitating a reduction in taxation.

Mr Abdul Wahid Shakir Baloch, Director Education, informed the participants that the government will consider the proposal that MHM should be included in the Cluster Budget of the Education Department, Ms Zulaikha Buledi, Additional Director, and Education, highlighted the importance of collaborated efforts for the promotion of MHM.

Ms Kiran Qazi, WASH Officer UNICEF, presented an overview of the menstrual health and hygiene tax reforms in Pakistan while Ms Erum Adnan, representing Santex, provided an analysis of the impact of taxes on the affordability and accessibility of MHM products.

The panelists including Abdullah Khan, Secretary Population, Mr Sikandar Shah, Secretary WDD, Dr Farooq Azam, Irfan Awan, Dr Atta-ur-Reham, Mr Jasbir Singh, Director General Health Noor Muhammad Qazi, Mir Rehmat Salah, former Minister for Health, Senior Journalist Shahzada Zulfiqar, Ejaz-ur-Rehan from Qatar Charity, and representatives from various line departments stressed the significance of a regular media campaign to highlight the issue of menstrual hygiene management. They acknowledged that consistent media engagement and awareness programs can play a pivotal role in breaking the silence and destigmatizing menstruation. Such efforts are essential to raise public consciousness and garner support for MHM tax reforms.

The panelists reiterated their commitment to a sustained media campaign, advocating for increased media coverage and public discussions on menstrual hygiene management. They stressed that by leveraging the power of media, they aim to create a society that is more informed, empathetic, and supportive of women's menstrual health needs.

The Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms concluded with a call to action, urging policymakers to take decisive steps in implementing comprehensive tax reforms that support menstrual hygiene management and the rights of women and girls. The event's outcomes will be compiled into a comprehensive report, shared with relevant authorities, and disseminated among stakeholders to facilitate evidence-based decision-making.



Recommendations

The Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms, held in Quetta on August 7, 2023, not only highlighted the urgent need for comprehensive MHM measures but also emphasized the role of continued dialogue, stakeholder engagement, and sustained media campaigns to drive change and advocate for MHM rights. Drawing inspiration from the insights shared by esteemed speakers and panelists, the following recommendations are put forth:

Continued Dialogue Process:

The event's success lay in its role as a catalyst for continued dialogue. Stakeholders should commit to regular meetings and discussions, ensuring that the momentum created during the policy dialogue is maintained. By fostering an ongoing exchange of ideas, strategies, and updates, a collaborative environment can be sustained to address MHM challenges effectively.

Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement:

Stakeholders from diverse sectors, including policymakers, experts, advocates, and representatives from line departments, should collaborate more closely. This collaboration should extend beyond formal events to encompass workshops, brainstorming sessions, and task forces. Engaging a broad spectrum of voices enriches the dialogue and helps craft holistic solutions.

Sustained Media Campaign:

The power of media in creating awareness and driving change cannot be underestimated. Stakeholders should unite in launching and sustaining a consistent media campaign that highlights the importance of MHM. This campaign should challenge taboos, promote open conversations, and spread accurate information about menstrual hygiene, eroding stigma and fostering societal acceptance.

Likewise, by highlighting success stories, showcasing community testimonials, and showcasing the benefits of MHM tax reforms, media engagement can compel decision makers to take swift and affirmative action.



Multi-Format

Information

Dissemination:

Stakeholders should focus on creating simplified Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials that cater to diverse audiences. These materials, ranging from pamphlets to infographics and videos, should communicate the importance of MHM, the rationale behind tax reforms, and the positive impact on women's health and economic empowerment.

Elevating MHM Awareness in Educational Institutions:

Collaborative efforts should be directed towards integrating MHM awareness programs into educational curricula. By fostering understanding and acceptance from a young age, the cycle of stigma can be broken, and positive attitudes towards menstrual health can be cultivated.

Catalyzing Advocacy through Collaborative Research:

Collaborative research efforts should be undertaken to provide robust data and evidence that supports the call for tax reforms and MHM measures. This research can be instrumental in engaging with policymakers and substantiating the case for reform with concrete facts and figures.

Promoting Equitable Taxation for Menstrual Hygiene Products:

Subsequent mutual consultation between the stakeholders, especially with FBR should be held to deliberate on technical nuances. This consultation should be aimed to explore effective methods of categorizing menstrual hygiene products distinctly from luxury items within the taxation framework. By doing so, it can pave the way for an equitable taxation system that ensures affordability and accessibility to these essential products.

Amplifying Grassroots Engagement:

Stakeholders should work in close collaboration with grassroots organizations, community leaders, and local influencers. Engaging at the grassroots level ensures that awareness and advocacy efforts are tailored to the specific needs and cultural contexts of different communities.

Incorporating MHM into Health and Education Policies:

Collaborative advocacy should focus on integrating MHM considerations into broader health and education policies. By embedding MHM as a priority within existing frameworks, lasting change can be realized through institutional support and funding.

Ensuring Accountability:



Stakeholders should establish mechanisms to monitor the progress of policy implementation. Regular reviews and assessments should be conducted to ensure that the proposed tax reforms and MHM measures are being effectively executed and that the desired impact is being achieved.

Enhancing MHM Awareness through Standardized IEC Materials

In light of the Policy Dialogue's discussions, it is imperative to urgently standardize all existing Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials while concurrently developing new, relevant resources. This harmonization will ensure consistent and accurate messaging across platforms, reaching diverse audiences effectively. By expediting the creation of comprehensive and user-friendly materials, this initiative will play a pivotal role in dismantling stigma, promoting open conversations, and fostering informed choices regarding menstrual health.

Building Strategic Partnerships:

Collaborative efforts should extend to forging strategic partnerships with influential organizations, institutions, and individuals. By pooling resources and expertise, a more comprehensive and impactful advocacy campaign can be launched.

Long-Term Advocacy Strategy:

The event's outcomes, compiled into a comprehensive report, should serve as the foundation for a long-term advocacy strategy. This strategy should outline clear goals, milestones, and methods for sustained engagement with decision makers and stakeholders, ensuring that the momentum generated from the policy dialogue translates into lasting change.

These recommendations align with the spirit of the Policy Dialogue on MHM Tax Reforms and serve as a roadmap for continued engagement, awareness building, and policy advocacy. By working collaboratively and adopting a multi-faceted approach, stakeholders can pave the way for improved menstrual hygiene management, gender equality, and women's empowerment in the region.



Annex-1

Media Coverage:



(Some glimpses of

coverage)

media



Daily Balochistan Express

Quetta

Speakers at Policy Dialogue suggest measures to ensure gender equality

By *The Reporter*

QUETTA: In a mammoth event aimed at advancing menstrual hygiene management and promoting gender equality, a Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms was held in Quetta, last organized by UNICEF, Qatar Charity, and MHM Working Group (MHMWG) Balochistan. The event brought together policymakers, experts, advocates, and stakeholders to address critical issues related to MHM and propose transformative tax reforms that can positively impact women's health and well-being. The policy dialogue successfully highlighted the urgent need for comprehensive MHM measures, ensuring a brighter future for all women and girls in the region.

The event commenced with an insightful sharing of views by the event's speakers, followed by panel discussions and engaging workshops that fostered a collaborative atmosphere to explore innovative solutions including advocacy and awareness campaigns. Participants discussed challenges related to affordability, accessibility, and stigma surrounding menstrual products, while delving into the role of tax reforms in addressing these issues. The policy dialogue also focused on the interconnectedness of MHM with education, health, and

women's empowerment, recognizing its integral contribution to sustainable development.

Dr. M. Anam Hanayza, Chief Field Office, Balochistan, UNICEF, emphasized the importance of menstrual hygiene management in empowering women, stating, "Menstrual hygiene is not just a matter of health but also of dignity. By making tax reforms that make menstrual products more affordable. Thus, we need work jointly to improve the situation of MHM as a step towards gender equality and social progress, especially in Balochistan."

Ms. Malqeesha Sheeran, Parliamentary Secretary to Chief Minister, Balochistan highlighted the economic implications of MHM tax reforms, saying, "By removing or reducing taxes on menstrual products, we can ease the financial burden on women and families, fostering economic growth and prosperity in our communities."

Former Speaker Balochistan Assembly Mr. Bahula Durran brought attention to the crucial role of awareness in MHM advocacy, stating, "Breaking the taboos around menstruation and ensuring proper education about hygiene are essential. The reforms can help pave the way for better access to information and resources."

Dr. Sakina Kamal, Chairperson

MHMWG, Balochistan further highlighted MHM related challenges in the province and informed the participants that with the support by UNICEF, GO, Qatar Charity and other members of the Working Group, consultations have been initiated on the issues and lobbying efforts with parliamentarians are yielding positive results.

Senior parliamentarian Yasmin Lehr, and Shama Ishaq representing National party, said that we need to raise awareness to address the issue of stigma and social stigmatization, stating, They added further that "The reforms can act as a catalyst in dismantling societal biases surrounding menstruation. By creating an enabling environment, we can promote open conversations and inclusivity."

Mr. Falak Naz expressed their gratitude, stating, "We are delighted with the overwhelming response and commitment shown by all participants during this dialogue. Together, we can drive the change needed to create an inclusive society where menstrual hygiene is not a barrier but a stepping stone towards empowerment."

The panelists including Abdullah Khan, Dr. Farooq Anam, Irfan Awan, Dr. Ahsan-Ul-Rahman, Jaffer Singh, Director General Health Near Muhammad Qazi, Senior Journalist Shahzad Zafiqur, Khaw

ar Rehman from Qatar Charity, and representatives from various line departments stressed the significance of a regular media campaign to highlight the issue of menstrual hygiene management. They acknowledged that consistent media engagement and awareness programs can play a pivotal role in breaking the silence and destigmatizing menstruation. Such efforts are essential to raise public consciousness and garner support for MHM tax reforms.

The Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms concluded with a call to action, urging policymakers to take decisive steps in implementing comprehensive tax reforms that support menstrual hygiene management and the rights of women and girls. The event's outcomes will be compiled into a comprehensive report, shared with relevant authorities, and disseminated among stakeholders to facilitate evidence-based decision-making. The panelists reiterated their commitment to a sustained media campaign, advocating for increased media coverage and public discourse on menstrual hygiene management. They stressed that by leveraging the power of media, they aim to create a society that is more informed, empathetic, and supportive of women's menstrual health needs.



The First English Daily of Balochistan

Balochistan Times

Founded by Syed Fasih Iqbal in 1976

Speakers for open discussion on MHM, its products

Staff Report

QUETTA: Political and social leaders and members of the assembly have said that tax reforms are needed to ensure access to products needed for women and girls' health in Pakistan. To achieve this goal, everyone must continue the struggle.

In order to ensure the welfare of millions of women and girls, there is a need to work together with the government as well as all the stakeholders.

Speaker of the Provincial Assembly Mah Jabeen Sheeran, Dr. Tahira Kamal, Raheela Durrani, Dr. Shama Ishaq, Yasmin Lehri and others expressed these views in the policy dialogue held jointly by Pakistan, Qatar Charity and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Working Group Balochistan.

On this occasion, Member Provincial Assembly Mah Jabeen Sheeran said that the problems faced by women regarding MHM are well understood and the Parliament will continue to raise my voice for discount or complete elimination of taxes on all products, including in every forum.

Former Speaker Balochistan Assembly Raheela Hameed Durrani said that dialogue is the basis for solving any problem and fortunately our efforts to highlight the importance of this issue have started bearing fruit. However, now we all have to continue our efforts in the same way to achieve the goals.

Dr. Tahira Kamal, chairperson of MHM Working Group Balochistan, said that during the last few years, remarkable progress has been made regarding MHM, and now in Balochistan, this topic is

being discussed seriously at every level.

She said that tax reforms are a very necessary step to make MHM products accessible to women and girls of all sections. Current and former members of the Provincial Assembly Raheela Hamid Durani, Dr. Shama Ishaq, Yasmin Lehri conducted the workshop. While highlighting the different aspects of the subject, they clarified how the lack of discussion on menstrual issues and poor access to hygiene products for women and girls hinders their social and economic development.

Senior Journalist Shahzoda Zulfikar emphasizing the need to continue collaboration in terms of training efforts, he said that the general awareness of MHM can be improved through concerted efforts of all concerned sectors.





پاکستان میں خواتین کی حفظانِ صحت کیلئے درکار مصنوعات کی رسائی یقینی بنائی جائے، ماہِ جمین شیران
حفظانِ صحت سے متعلق مسائل پر معاشرے میں آگاہی سمیت پالیسیوں کی بھی ضرورت ہے

کوئٹہ (این این آئی) رکن صوبائی اسمبلی ہے کہ پاکستان میں خواتین اور لڑکیوں کی حفظانِ
صحت کے لئے درکار مصنوعات کی سب تک
رسائی کے رہنماؤں اور میڈیا کے نمائندوں نے کہا | باکتابتِ رسائی (بقیہ نمبر 23 صفحہ نمبر 7 پر)

یعنی بنانے کے لئے ٹیکس اصلاحات وقت کی اہم ضرورت ہے اس ضمن میں تمام سٹیک ہولڈرز جن میں حکومت، متعلقہ حکومتی اداروں، مختلف شعبوں کے ماہرین اور سول سوسائٹی کو مل کر کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے تاکہ وفاقی اور صوبائی سطح پر ان اہم اصلاحات کو یقینی بناتے ہوئے لاکھوں خواتین اور لڑکیوں کی فلاح و بہبود کو یقینی بنایا جاسکے۔ ممتاز پارلیمنٹری ماہر جبین شیران، سائیکہالوجی بلوچستان اسمبلی راجیلہ درانی ایم ایچ ایم ورکنگ گروپ بلوچستان کی چیئر پرسن ڈاکٹر طاہرہ کمال، سائیکہالوجی صوبائی اسمبلی ڈاکٹر شمع اسحاق، یاسین اہڑی، سینئر صحافی شہزادہ ذوالفقار، عبداللہ خان، رحمت اللہ نور محمد قاضی، ڈاکٹر فائق اعظم، عرفان اعوان، ڈاکٹر عطاء ارمان، جسیر سنگھ اور دیگر نے یو سیف پاکستان، قطر چیریٹی اور ایم ایچ ایم ورکنگ گروپ، بلوچستان کے شریک سے منعقد ہونے والے پالیسی ڈائیلاگ میں کی تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کی۔ یو سیف بلوچستان کے چیف فیلڈ آفس ڈاکٹر محمد امیری ہاچوں نے اس موقع پر کہا کہ خواتین اور لڑکیوں کے حفظانِ صحت سے متعلق مسائل پر معاشرے میں آگاہی عام کرنے کے علاوہ ایسی پالیسیوں کی ضرورت ہے جو مشرول پالیسیں جنمیت (ایم ایچ ایم) مصنوعات کی آسان دستیابی کو یقینی بنائیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یو سیف ایسی تمام کوششوں کی بھرپور حمایت کرتا ہے جن کی بدولت ہم خواتین اور لڑکیوں کی فلاح و بہبود کے لئے پالیسیاں اور ضروری ٹیکس اصلاحات کا مقصد حاصل کر سکیں۔ ممتاز پارلیمنٹری ماہر جبین شیران نے کہا کہ ایک عوامی نمائندہ ہونے کے ناطے وہ ایم ایچ ایم کے حوالے سے خواتین کے مسائل سے پوری طرح آگاہ ہیں اور پارلیمنٹ سمیت ہر فورم پر وہ ایم ایچ ایم مصنوعات پر ٹیکسوں میں رعایت یا مکمل خاتمے کے لئے لڑا رہا ہے۔



حفظانِ صحت مصنوعات کیلئے ٹیکس اصلاحات ناگزیر، یو سی سیف

مکملتی اداروں مختلف شعبوں کے ماہرین اور سول سوسائٹی کو مل کر کام کی ضرورت

کوئٹہ (انٹرفیو) پاکستان میں خواتین اور بچوں کی صحت کیلئے روکا، مصلحت مند کام کی سبب تک باکلات، دوائی، کھانے پینے کی مصنوعات کی اہم ضرورت ہے، تمام اسٹیٹ اور نجی شعبوں کی حکومت، مختلف مکتوبی اداروں مختلف شعبوں کے ماہرین اور سول سوسائٹی کو مل کر کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے، گزشتہ روز یو سی سیف پاکستان دفتر نے ملی اور ایچ ایچ ڈی کے سربراہان کو پاکستان کے شہریوں سے پائلی ایڈیٹنگ میں مہم کو پورا کرنے اور مختلف مکتوبی اداروں سے تعلق رکھنے والے تمام سول سوسائٹی کے سرکردہ رہنماؤں اور میڈیا کے ماہرین سمیت معاشرے کے مختلف طبقوں سے تعلق رکھنے والے خواتین کی ذمہ داریاں سنبھالنے اور

یو سی سیف پاکستان کے چیف لیڈ آفس ڈاکٹر محمد امجد علی نے کہا کہ خواتین ہر لڑکیوں کے حفظانِ صحت سے تعلق رکھنے والے مسائل پر معاشرے میں آگہی عام کرنے کے علاوہ ایسی پالیسیوں کی ضرورت ہے جو شعور اور مہم جوئی کے ذریعے مصلحت مند مصنوعات کی آسان دستیابی کو یقینی بنائیں، یو سی سیف ایسی پالیسیوں کی ضرورت ہے جن کی بدولت خواتین اور لڑکیوں کی صحت اور بہبود کی پالیسیاں اور ضروری ٹیکس اصلاحات کا مفہوم حاصل کر سکیں، ماہرین اور سول سوسائٹی کے ساتھ ساتھ حکومتوں کے ساتھ ساتھ خواتین کے مسائل سے پہلی طرح آگاہی اور مصلحت مند مصنوعات کی ذمہ داریاں سنبھالنے اور





خواتین کے حفظانِ صحت کے

مسائل پر پالیسی ڈائلاگ

لاہور (سٹاف رپورٹر) پاکستان میں خواتین اور لڑکیوں کے حفظانِ صحت کے مسائل پر منعقدہ پالیسی ڈائلاگ سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے مقررین نے کہا پاکستان میں خواتین اور لڑکیوں کی حفظانِ صحت کے لئے درکار مصنوعات کی سب تک باکفایت رسائی یقینی بنانے کے لئے ٹیکس اصلاحات وقت کی اہم ضرورت ہے۔ یو ایس ایف پاکستان، قطر چیریٹی اور ایم ایچ ایم ورکنگ گروپ بلوچستان کے اشتراک سے پالیسی ڈائلاگ میں اراکین پارلیمنٹ، متعلقہ اداروں کے حکام اور دیگر نے شرکت کی۔



Online Insertions:

APP

<https://www.app.com.pk/domestic/speakers-at-policy-dialogue-on-mhm-tax-reforms-suggest-measures-to-ensure-gender-equality/>

Urdu Point

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/speakers-at-policy-dialogue-on-mhm-tax-refor-1735494.html>

Balochistan 24

<https://www.balochistan24.com/07/08/2023/82364/>



Annex-2

Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Tax Reforms *Let's Break the Silence*

Hotel Serena, Quetta

A G E N D A

7 AUG, 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	AIM / EXPECTED OUTCOMES	LEAD
09:30 am – 10:00 am	<i>Arrival</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Registration</i> • <i>Recitation from Holy Quran</i> 	
10:00a m – 10:10 am	<i>Welcome</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Welcome to participants and objectives of Tax reforms policy dialogue</i> 	<i>Dr Tahira Kamal, Chair, MHMWG Balochistan</i>
10:10 am – 10: 20 am	<i>key issues and challenges</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MHH related challenges in Balochistan and the existing efforts to address this taboo social issue at community level</i> 	<i>Ms Zulaika Buledi, Co- Chair MHM</i>
10:20 am – 10:30 am	<i>MHM-National & Regional Context</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation on Menstrual health and hygiene tax reforms</i> 	<i>Ms Kiran Qazi WASH Officer UNICEF ISB</i>
10:30 am – 10:40 am	<i>Making MHM products accessible to all</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation by Sentax as Analysis of the impact of taxes on the affordability and accessibility of MHM products and Overview of any existing tax policies on exemptions</i> 	<i>Ms Erum Adnan Santex</i>
10:40 am –	<i>Panel Discussions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Need of Advocacy and Policy Recommendations, media and other stakeholders engagement</i> 	<i>Ms Shahana Tabassum</i>
10:40 am – 12:00 pm	<i>Q&A</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Questions to Technical & policy makers panellists</i> 	



12:00am			
12:20 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions to decision maker Parliamentarian panellists 	
12:20 pm – 12:30 pm	FBR's Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHM and the Prospects for the Tax Reforms 	<p>Mr Rahmat ullah khan Durrani, Commissioner Income Tax</p> <p>-FBR</p>
12:30 pm – 12:35 pm	Keynote address	<p><i>Mobilizing Support and Building Alliances and Strategies for building alliances with relevant organizations, NGOs, and advocacy groups and the need of Exploration of partnership opportunities with policymakers, influencers, and the private sector</i></p>	<p>Ms Mahjabeen Sheeran MPA</p>
12:35 pm – 12:40 pm	Vote of Thanks/Closing Remarks	<p><i>With Expression of gratitude to the participants for their contributions and Encouragement for continued collaboration and commitment to advancing tax reforms on MHM products.</i></p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
12:40 pm – 1: 00 pm	Group photo & Pledges		
1:00 pm	Lunch		



Annex-3

The Participants

Registration
Policy Dialogue on Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Tax Reforms
 Serena Hotel Quetta (9:30am - 1:1:30pm)
 August 7th, 2023

S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
1	Yasmin Lehari	Ex-MPA MPA	National Party Politics	03005277296	yasminlehari@gmail.com	
2	Muehtiar	Social Worker Specialist	Social	0345830013	cmahgani@gmail.com	
3	Student Azra	Comm	Communication	0300-511306	shubutazra31@gmail.com	
4	Dr. Farooq Azam Khan	Team Lead Chemistry	Chemistry Int.	0301827224	farooqjan2007@yahoo.com	
5	DR. WANNA KHALIL	Div. Director	Health	0331-8342812	lubsiddiquead@gmail.com	
6	Saima Javaid	GENDER SPECIALIST	TKF	03337811997	saimaharoon1998@outlook.com	
7	Gulnaz Bugti & Shehryar Raza	Student		0300 3025925	gul.6464@beaonline.edu.pk	
8	Sister Doreen Epitawela	Principal	Don Bosco Learning Center	03060676956	depitawela@gmail.com	
9	Feroz Sanawil	Senior IT Developer	BMSIP	0331-7580755	arab4me@gmail.com	
10	Jahanzaib	IT Developer	BMSIP	03323341254	jahanzaibmay1982@gmail.com	
11	Dr. Ziviyah Sheikh	Director, Health	D-WASA	0321-8149357	ziviyah@yahoo.com	



S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
12	Zulekha Khatun	Adm. Director	Education	03343321101		
13	Falak Miaz	WASH officer	WASH	03459126707		
14	Shazia Nasir	Education Officer	UNICEF	03218021405		
15	Skumaila Khan	Unicef Program Unit	Unicef	0332-2074080	s.khan@unicef.org	
16	Zahida Jamali	Garbage specialist	UNICEF	03337828434	zjamali@unicef.org	
17	Shakiba	WASH officer		03005965672	msjan@unicef.org	
18	Aysha Sheeshan	Deputy Commissioner	FBR	0331834924	ayshasheeshan@gmail.com	
19	Rahmatullah Durani	Community	FBR	0332-711159		
20	BAKHT ZAMINA	CASE Manager officer	WESS	0333-7132944	bakht.zamina@wess.org.pk	
21	DR KHALID QAMRAN	DIRECTOR PH	HEALTH	0331789665	khaliqmiq@qthc.com	
22	Hiba Gul	Deputy Director	Social welfare	03365666359	hibaguldurani88@gmail.com	
23	Nazish Khan	IRP	NGO	03158116345	nazishkhan@hr.org.pk	



S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
24	ERUM ADNAN SADAN	Chairman	SANTEX Minorities	0317-2333185		
25	UASBIR G. SIKH	Social Community	Registration	03245556570	baba9799@gmail.com	
26	MUHAMMAD	IC-2	Film	03344760290		
27	DR. SABA	Image PHS	PWD	0334-4561097	drsaba_tariq@hotmail.com	
28	DR. ANWAR MAJID	Director Tech	PHS	03428052720	maheer.majid@gmail.com	
29	Nageebullah	Program manager	ESP (unicef/psd)	03337795292	Edu4.ESP@gmail.com	
30	A. bulbulah	Secy PWD	Population	03337003317		
31	Eduro Zafar	Mesq Co-PS	Mesq Co-PS	03471147153	e2uffardmesq.org.pk	
32	Fauzia Shuk	Chairman	ICSEA	03337805423	fauzia.shuk@fcdh.ac.uk	
33	Wamid Shuk Pactech	Director	Schools	03322889473		
34	Sabisa Khan	Lawyer	En- complaints	03368166401		
35	Dr. Atta ul Haq	Pol. Dir.	Mosjid	0300/9583937	ah_atta_1952@yahoo.com	



S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
36	Kiran Qazi	WASH Officer	UNICEF	0300-5615016	kqazi@unicef.org	
37	Ejaz Khalil	Project Manager	Qatar Charity	0300-5650999	erehman@qcharity.org	
38	Nida Balool	Monitoring & Evaluation Officer	Qatar Charity	0333-8328017	nbalool@qcharity.org	
39	Dr. Sabira Baluch	CLMO	Dept. of Health	03340022677	bsabirah@qcharity.org	
40	Katana Yoz	E.D	ASAS-PK Nawabshah	23455448311	asaspk@yahoo.com	
41	Rubina Hameed	MHM Officer	ESP	03361851114	rubinahameed@gmail.com	
42	Shadia Anis	Prevention Officer	IRE	0333-8328017	shadia.anis@nrcue.org	
43	Gul Rukh	WPE Manager	IRC	0300-9303220	gul.rukh@vesca.org	
44	Dr. Kalab	Principal	PWD	03003849119	dr.kalab.lalji@gmail.com	
45	Dr. Farhan Ali	MD RTI	SCSPEB		society@scspeb.org	
46	M. Atam	M&E	SCSPEB	03077279421	do	
47	Dr. Shauq	CC mem	ON P	03337867902	-	



S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
48	Donia	AO	Education	0333-7882985	Donia.Zahoor@gandhi	
49	Rahila Nurran					
50	Rabia	TA	GIZ			
51	Amit Ali Balach	Ps to Ms	Health	03362548239	AmirYar7580@gmail.com	
52	DR. Aslam	Dr	FJ	0337045762	Aslam-0598	
53	Syed Saigamand	Dr	M.D.	03333511487		
54	Sana Durani	Champion	EVAL-G	0337-7942169		
55	Faiz Barch	DPM/OC	Health	035773462		
56	Jamil Khilish	Patrolman	Patrol			
57	Kamran	PS II	PNV	03009384752		
58	Wali Barch	patifinda	NGO	03003831115	Patifinda.org Wali.Muhammad@	
59	Shahzad Zulfikar	Journalist	Rel-TV	03009380176	shahzadzulfikar79@gmail.com	



S.NO.	Name	Designation	Department	Contact #	Email	Signatures
60	Quatulan Khalid	School Head	Beaconhear	0321-6150573	quatulan.khalid@bh.edu.pk	
61	Prof Uzma Sohail	Mod Epi	Health	03013752075	uzma@afidico	
62	Rehmat Selaho	ex minister	Health	03333330784	gmail.com	
63	Jan Balidi	fallimur	comin			
64	Dr Yalig	chive	MM	03337804619	-	
65	Zuwozar	Director	WASP	0321548257	-	
66	Nelo Far	Profeser	SBL	03228154967	-	
67	Shahang	PC	MM	0309587872	-	
68	Shajrat Noiz	Mod	esment	0305113580	-	
69	Bibi Jan	Receptist	BMSF	03003885562	-	
70	Aslan	Advocate	Hq Court			
71						