



June 21, 2024

TL2024/0621/1D

Mr. Sarfraz Bugti,
Chief Minister Balochistan
CM House, Quetta

Subject: Enactment of Whistleblower Protection Law at the Provincial Level in line with Pakistan's Commitment under Article 8.4 and 13.2 of UNCAC

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan would like to draw your attention towards a delay in the enactment of Whistleblower Protection Act at the federal level in Pakistan. For the progress of integrity and eliminating corruption from the country and fostering an environment where citizens can report misconduct without fear of retaliation, effective whistleblower protection law is essential.

The Government of Pakistan ratified United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2007. Article 8.4 and 13.2 of UNCAC mandate governments to implement legal measures that protect whistleblowers, as quoted below.

UNCAC Article 8. Codes of conduct for public officials (4): Each State Party shall also consider, in accordance with the fundamental principles of its domestic law, establishing measures and systems to facilitate the reporting by public officials of acts of corruption to appropriate authorities, when such acts come to their notice in the performance of their functions.

UNCAC Article 13. Participation of society (2): Each State Party shall take appropriate measures to ensure that the relevant anti-corruption bodies referred to in this Convention are known to the public and shall provide access to such bodies, where appropriate, for the reporting, including anonymously, of any incidents that may be considered to constitute an offence established in accordance with this Convention.

It is also important to emphasize that the passage of whistleblower protection legislation in matters of public interest also aligns perfectly with the mandate of the incumbent government that aspires to empower people by giving them a voice in shaping policies. In this regard, TI Pakistan has prepared a draft proposal on Whistle Blower Protection law, based on the best practices globally (Annex-A). In the past, TI Pakistan has advocated with the federal and provincial governments for the enactment of Right to Information laws which are now in place at the federal and provincial levels.

TI Pakistan requests the honorable Chief Minister to issue directives for the enactment of provincial law regarding the reporting and protection of whistle-blowers, which includes adequate reporting mechanisms and protective measures, in line with the UNCAC requirements.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across-the-board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve Zero tolerance against corruption.

With Regards,

Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar
Trustee/Legal Advisor
Transparency International Pakistan

Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to:

1. Registrar, High Court of Balochistan, Quetta