

# *Report*

## **Study Visit**

# **Pakistani Parliamentarians & Intellectuals on Democratic Oversight on Defence and National Security in the UK**

**July 03-05, 2012  
London, UK**

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PILDAT is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit indigenous research and training institution with the mission to strengthen democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

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## Study Visit to UK on Democratic Oversight on Defence and National Security

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### Foreword

PILDAT facilitated a **Study Visit of Pakistani Parliamentarians and Intellectuals to United Kingdom** from **July 03-05, 2012**. The theme of the Study Visit was **Democratic Oversight on Defence and National Security in the UK**.

A delegation comprising senior members of the Senate and National Assembly of Pakistan, representatives of political parties and members of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations joined the Study Visit.

This report carries a detailed overview of Pakistan delegation's interactions in the UK.

A Twitter account of various meetings during the visit can be seen at <https://twitter.com/#!/PILDAT> while details on facebook can be accessed at <http://www.facebook.com/PILDAT>.

### Acknowledgements

The Study Visit was facilitated by PILDAT with support from the **British High Commission, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK** while the **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association-UK Branch** partnered with **PILDAT** to put together the programme.

### Disclaimer

PILDAT Team has made every effort to an accurate description of meetings and interactions. Any omission, therefore, is not deliberate.

Islamabad  
August 2012



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### Executive Summary

A Pakistan delegation comprising senior Parliamentary leaders and representatives of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations concluded 3 days of interactions with UK Govt. Ministers, Parliamentary committee chairs, MPs, UK party representatives, intellectuals and think tanks representatives. The Study Visit was held from July 3-5, 2012.

Study visit to UK has been centred around National Security and the role of Parliament and Political Parties in influencing and scrutinizing the strategies. The 10-member delegation that visited UK from July 3-5, 2012 included **Senator Ishaq Dar**, Leader of the Opposition in Senate, **Senator Raza Rabbani**, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security, **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence, **Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan**, MNA, **Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi**, MNA, Deputy Parliamentary Leader MQM, **Dr. Arif Alvi**, Secretary General, PTI, **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Former Minister for Defence, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rahman Shami**, Editor in Chief Daily Pakistan, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President, PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director, PILDAT.

The senior delegation very ably articulated Pakistan's perspective, concerns and issues on the planned exit of the US/NATO forces from Afghanistan in 2014 and its impact for Afghanistan and Pakistan in conversations with the senior ministers, Parliamentary leaders and opinion makers in the UK. The Group highlighted that security, political and economic future balance of the region must be carefully planned for with deep engagement of Pakistan. Pakistan's changing dynamics as a vibrant, most democratic and freest Muslim democracy in the world with its independent media, assertive judiciary, and vital civil society /citizens groups must be kept in view while recognising that Pakistan is positioning itself for the post-2014 realities of the region.

It was underlined that Pakistan is the biggest stakeholder on the issue of post-2014 Afghanistan, hosting 2.5 million refugees, having suffered and sacrificed the most after 9/11 with over 40,000 loss of lives of civilians and soldiers, hence the Afghan reconciliation process requires Pakistan's proactive participation, and its interests are in a stable, united and peaceful Afghanistan.

In the context of a changing Pakistan, where multiple power centres are equally important, the newly acquired role of Parliament, particularly the Parliamentary Committee on National Security, was emphasised given its lead role in presenting new policy guidelines on issues pertaining to security and foreign policy.

All through the visit, the delegation, which included representatives from 5 political parties, spoke on issues focusing on a national approach, above party lines.

The visit combined avenues of mutual learning and engagement between the Pakistan delegation and the UK Government, Parliament, political parties and think tanks on the institutional arrangements for national security in the UK and the changing role of Parliament and democratic government in Pakistan in defining national security priorities of Pakistan.

On the first day of the visit, the delegates held interactions with **Mr. James Brokenshire**, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Crime and Security, Home Office, **Rt. Hon. James Arbuthnot**, MP, chair and members of the Defence Committee of the House of Commons, **Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett**, MP chair and members of the Joint Committee of UK Parliament on National Security Strategy, **Mr. Alex Neil**, Senior Research Fellow RUSI on Pakistan and NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit, **Mr. Gerald Howarth**, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence and **Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Bruce**, MP, Chair and members of International Development Select Committee.

The second day began with a candid conversation with the Labour party on the role it has played in reviewing UK National Strategy and the role of Labour in formulation of policies on national security. The delegation was joined by **Rt. Hon. John Spellar**, Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, **Mr. Russell Brown**, Shadow Minister for Defence and **Ms. Jo Greening**.

Pakistan delegation engaged deeply with the chair and members of the Intelligence and Security Committee and its remit in overseeing Intelligence agencies of the UK. **Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Rifkind**, chair, was joined by **Rt. Hon. George Howarth**, MP,



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**Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears**, MP, and **Rt. Hon. Paul Goggins**, MP in sharing with the delegation the evolving remit of the committee which is moving towards being a Parliamentary committee changing its current status. The committee will also, once the legislation under consideration is passed by the Parliament, be able to look at operations of the UK intelligence agencies.

**Baroness Sayeeda Warsi**, cabinet minister, and **Mr. Andrew Stephenson**, MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Pakistan joined the Pakistan delegation at a lunch interaction on Pak-UK relations and how Parliamentary ties can strengthen these further. Members of the Pakistan group including **Mr. Eric Ollenshaw**, MP, **Ms. Yasmeen Qureshi**, MP and **Lord Ahmed of Rotherham** also joined the interaction.

**Ms. Shabana Mahmood**, young British MP of Pakistan origin and Shadow Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills, discussed in detail with the delegation role of the community cohesion in relation to National Security.

The delegation called on the Home Secretary, **Rt. Hon. Theresa May**, to discuss the role of interior security to national security and raised questions relating to Pak-UK cooperation on capacity building of LEAs and intelligence sharing.

UK National Security Advisor **Sir Kim Darroch** and Deputy National Security Advisor **Mr. Julian Miller** engaged with the Pakistan delegation on the role of National Security Council, its composition and how it has been able to bring together elements of national security to reach important decisions in weekly meetings.

**Rt. Hon. David Miliband**, MP spoke to the Pakistan delegation on the role of cross-party cooperation on national security.

The delegation was briefed in the most eloquent manner on the Parliamentary and judicial enquiry of the phone hacking scandal in the UK by **Mr. John Whittingdale**, MP, chair of Culture, Media and Sports Select Committee.

Third and final day of the study visit began with the delegation in conversation with the UK Minister for Middle East and South Asia **Mr. Alistair Burt**, MP on UK strategy for 2014 exit from Afghanistan and how the FCO contributes to National Security strategy and implementation.

**Prof. Anatol Lieven**, academic and celebrated author of the book Pakistan: A Hard Country engaged in a candid discussion with the Pakistan delegation on promise of Pakistan and what it can do to encounter some of the security, economic and political challenges.

Geo security in a globalized world was the topic of the Group's discussion with **Mr. Neil Crompton**, Director for South Asia and Afghanistan at the FCO followed by a candid conversation at the **International Institute for Strategic Studies** on international perspectives on 2014 exit of ISAF/NATO forces from Afghanistan.

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### Background and Introduction

Pakistan's political history is marked by the expanded role of the military in non professional fields involving coups, direct and indirect military rule, increased involvement in the economic and business activities and influence-paddling from the sidelines. This state of affairs continues to cause serious strains in civil-military relations in Pakistan.

PILDAT ([www.pildat.org](http://www.pildat.org)) has been working on the issues of civil-military relations and national security since 2004. It has developed and disseminated a respectable body of work to various stakeholders. Its dialogue process on civil-military relations has provided thought-leadership on these issues and has worked to broaden public discourse on the need for a constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan.

In this pre-election phase in Pakistan and onwards, PILDAT is engaging with national political parties of Pakistan on identifying major issues in civil-military relations and democratic control of defence. The engagement, through various forums, is to achieve a level of clarity on issues relating to Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan and understand the process and policy options to address these issues effectively by political parties.

The objective behind the Study Visit to UK has been to understand how Political Parties and Parliament contribute to the National Security Strategy in UK.

The Study Visit was designed to focus on the internal structures and ethos of UK political parties and how they develop their positions on national security issues in the UK. The visit included interactions with Parliamentary party structures within the UK House of Commons as well as the broader party structures. Interaction with the Defence Committee of the House of Commons and the UK Intelligence and Security Committee were also part of the agenda of the Study Visit. How UK's newly established National Security Council architecture functions was another area of interest and focus of the Study Visit.

The Study Visit was made possible through generous support and coordination by the CPA-UK branch. The visit was part of PILDAT project titled Dialogue on Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan for which it has sought and received financial support from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK through the British High Commission, Islamabad.



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(Left to Right) Senator Raza Rabbani, Rt. Hon. James Arbuthnot, MP, Senator Ishaq Dar, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed and Mrs. Madeleine Moon, MP, discussing Parliamentary oversight on defence in UK and Pakistan

## Meetings and Interactions

### Meeting with Mr. James Brokenshire, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Crime and Security, Home Office

Welcoming the Pakistan delegation to the Home Office, UK, Mr. Brokenshire presented an overview of the role of Home Office in relation to national security in the UK. He said that UK's National Security Strategy outlines ranking of relevant threats to the UK. The responses by various entities of the UK Government, including the Home Office, are also guided the UK National Security Strategy. He highlighted that the National Security Council is a prime body chaired by the Prime Minister that guides the overall policy.

Discussing the rapid review of the existing anti-terrorism law of the UK by the sitting government and introduction of the Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures Act 2011, Mr. Brokenshire said that there has always been a raging debate inside the UK on protecting civil liberties while preventing terrorism. To find a middle ground between anti terrorism measures and civil liberties, the UK Parliament has constituted the post of independent reviewer. The Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation is an independent person, appointed by the Home Secretary and by the Treasury for a renewable three-year term and tasked with reporting to the UK Parliament on the operation of counter-terrorism law in the UK. The current Reviewer is David Anderson Q.C.

Mr. Brokenshire also highlighted that due to the review, the preventive detention period has been reduced from 90 days to 14 days only.

He also said that based on the review, police powers to

stop and search have been curtailed after publication of statistics that despite stopping hundreds of thousands of persons, no prosecution ever took place. He said that the Government is very keen on ensuring transparency on use of powers.

Discussing Parliamentary oversight, he said that a Parliamentary select committee oversees the department and takes evidence and issues public reports leading to media scrutiny. Committees also undertake pre-legislative scrutiny of legislation.

In responding to a question on statistics on illegal immigrants to UK, Mr. Brokenshire said that highest number of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers, around 400 a month, come from Pakistan.

### Meeting with Chair and Members of the Defence Committee of the House of Commons

**Rt. Hon. James Arbuthnot**, MP, Chair of the Defence Committee of the House of Commons was joined by **Mr. John Glen**, MP, **Mr. Dai Havard**, MP, **Mrs. Madeleine Moon**, MP, and **Mr. Bob Stewart**, MP in meeting the Pakistan delegation and discussing the work and remit of the UK Defence Committee.

Chairman of the Defence Committee informed the Pakistan delegation that much like Pakistan's Standing Committees of the National Assembly, the Select Committee on Defence is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the UK Defence Ministry and its associated public bodies. The Committee's powers include principally to send for persons, papers and records, to appoint specialist advisers, to establish a sub-committee, and to meet and

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PILDAT delegation in interaction with the Chair and members of the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on National Security Strategy

report from time to time.<sup>1</sup> The Committee also chooses its own subjects of inquiry. When the Committee has chosen an inquiry it normally issues a press notice outlining the main themes of inquiry and inviting interested parties to submit written evidence. It may also identify possible witnesses and issue specific invitations to them to submit written evidence.

Discussing the outcome of the Strategic Defence and Security Review by the UK Government, the Chair informed the delegation that the Committee is looking at the Government's decision to cut UK defence spending by 8%.

Discussing the Committee's relationship with the Ministry of Defence, the Chair said that it is a rather difficult relationship, much like Parliament's relationship with the executive elsewhere. The Military is determined to share only good news with the Committee while politicians, the elected executive, believe in sharing no news at all.

He also informed that the Committee does not take any party-political decisions on issues under consideration and all decisions are arrived at by a consensus.

The Defence Committee mostly holds public hearings and officials have to be thoroughly prepared to appear before the Committee. The Committee has an advisory role on policies and its advice and recommendations are not binding on the Government.

Pakistan delegation also engaged with the Committee on issues surrounding 2014 exit of US from Afghanistan and prospects of regional security. The chair and members of

the Parliamentary Committee on National Security also invited the Commons Defence Committee to visit Pakistan.

### Meeting with Chair and members of the Joint Committee of UK Parliament on National Security Strategy

**Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett**, MP, chair of the Joint Committee of UK Parliament on National Security Strategy greeted the Pakistan delegation alongside other members of the Committee.

Providing an overview of the role and functions of the committee, she said that Joint Committee is a Committee of both Houses of UK Parliament established to consider the UK National Security Strategy. The Committee brings together 22 members of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, including the chairs of the relevant Commons departmental select committees to consider the National Security Strategy. All members of the committee have served in senior ministerial positions.

She informed the delegates that UK Government published the latest National Security Strategy ***Strong Britain in an Age of Uncertainty: The National Security Strategy*** in October 2010, alongside the ***Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR)***. While the Strategy is to remain in place until 2015, however the National Security Risk Assessment is to be updated every two years. The first update is due in late 2012. The Government has also promised an annual implementation report on the SDSR and NSS, the first of these was titled ***The Strategic Defence and Security Review: First Annual Report*** and was published in December 2011.<sup>2</sup>

1. Further details on the Commons Defence Committee can be accessed by visiting UK Parliament website at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-archive/defence-committee/>
2. Please see details of the remit and work of the Committee at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/joint-select/national-security-strategy/>

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As part of its remit, the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy (JCNSS) scrutinizes the structures for Government decision-making on National Security, particularly the role of the National Security Council and the National Security Adviser. The Committee has also conducted a series of evidence sessions with Secretaries of State who sit on the NSC. The stress between individual liberty and national security also remains an issue of scrutiny by the JCNSS in its review.

Based on its scrutiny the JCNSS publishes reports. The Chair informed the delegation that the Committee has so far published two reports *The First review of the National Security Strategy 2010*, and a short report *Planning for the next National Security Strategy: comments on the Government response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2010-12* accompanying the Government response to the first report. She said that the committee is working on has highlighted concerns about Government response to March 2012 report.

Discussing Committee, Ms. Beckett said that when the Labour Government produced a national security strategy in March 2008, one of the priorities identified in the NSS was consulting on a joint Parliamentary National Security Committee to help monitor the implementation and development of this strategy. It is a developing process in the Government and the Parliament.

The Chair of the Pakistan Parliamentary Committee on National Security promised to share with Ms. Beckett a copy of the PCNS report on Foreign Policy and the report on NATO Supply Lines.

### **Meeting with Mr. Alex Neil, Senior Research Fellow RUSI on Pakistan and NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit**

Providing an overview on Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, Mr. Alex Neil, Senior Research Fellow RUSI, said that RUSI is governed by an Act of UK Parliament and its origins can be traced back to 1831. It is since considered a prime platform for debates in the field of defence and Security in the UK. RUSI also has overseas branches in Qatar and the United States. Mr. Neil shared that RUSI has collaborated with the National Defence University (NDU), Pakistan and among Pakistani speakers, Gen. Pervez Musharraf has spoken at the RUSI soon after his retirement from the Pakistan Army. The RUSI has a total staff of 50 with half devoted to research. Its funding comes from its 5000 membership and grants from foundations. It does not have a core funding. The RUSI also receives UK Government's funding.

In his opening remarks on NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit, Mr. Neil said that the 2014 exit is a signal of defeat by NATO/ISAF in Afghanistan. Withdrawal, however, does not mean that there would not be a sizable presence of US forces in Afghanistan after withdrawal and CIA may take a more predominant role post-withdrawal. It is not clear what constitutes a successful end to engagement in Afghanistan.

He believed that Pakistan must de-hyphenate US and UK in dealing with Afghanistan. He also said that Pakistan must tackle the challenge of religious extremism and prevent radicalisation of the youth by un-regulating madressahs



(Left to Right) Mr. Alex Neil, Senior Research Fellow RUSI, Senator Ishaq Dar and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed discussing Pakistan and NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit



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(Left to Right) Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan, MNA, Mr. Gerald Howarth MP, Minister for International Security Strategy, Senator Ishaq Dar and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed

and educating the youth of Pakistan. Positive and economically beneficial relations can be built by building cross-border economic zones with Afghanistan. Pakistan must also find a solution to its squabbling on Durand line with Afghanistan. Dewatering inside Pakistan is another challenge he believed Pakistan must tackle.

### Meeting with Mr. Gerald Howarth, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence

In a meeting of the Pakistan delegation with Mr. Gerald Howarth MP, Minister for International Security Strategy, he said that Pakistan has one of the finest defence corps in the world. UK continues to witness the quality of Pakistan's Army Officers who come for training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst where all Officers in the British Army are trained to take on the responsibilities of leading soldiers. Pakistani officers in training at Sandhurst have earned Sword of Honour 7 times in the history.

Discussing UK's role in Afghanistan, Mr. Gerald Howarth MP said that UK hopes Afghanistan is a functional

democracy in the near future. He laid special emphasis on Pakistan's importance in the region and in finding a solution in Afghanistan.

### Meeting with Chair and members of International Development Select Committee

Sir Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Bruce, MP, chair was joined by Mr. Chris White, MP, member of the International Development Select Committee in meeting with the Pakistan delegation.

Introducing the role and functions of the Committee, the chair said that the International Development Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Department for International Development and its associated public bodies. The Committee also takes an interest in the policies and procedures of the multilateral agencies and non-government organisations to which DFID contributes.<sup>3</sup>

Sir Bruce also shared that the committee has just returned



(Left to Right) Sir Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Bruce, MP, chair of the International Development Select Committee with Senator Ishaq Dar and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed

3. Please see further details of the International Development Select Committee at: <http://www.parliament.uk/indcom/>

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from Afghanistan and is planning to visit Pakistan, recipient of largest amount of UK aid in the world, in November 2012. The committee is interested in learning about the impact of UK aid in Pakistan, said the members.

The two sides discussed the UK's aid priorities in Pakistan especially in the field of education, law enforcement and climate change, among others. Pakistan delegation appreciated both the UK aid to Pakistan as well as the maturity with which the UK aid is used inside Pakistan.

### Conversation with the Labour Party

Pakistan delegation engaged in a conversation with the representatives of the Labour Party on the role it has played in reviewing UK National Strategy and the role of Labour party in formulation of policies on national security. **Rt. Hon. John Spellar**, MP, Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, **Mr. Russell Brown**, MP, Shadow Minister for Defence and **Ms. Jo Greening**, an official from the Labour Party, joined the Pakistan delegation in the interaction.

Explaining the party's review of UK Government's National Security Strategy, Rt. Hon. John Spellar, MP, said that the Labour party has held roundtable sessions with academics on developing party's response. The party feels that too much emphasis has been placed by the Government on certain aspects while others have been left out.

Explaining the process of Parliamentary funding for Her Majesty's opposition, Rt. Hon. John Spellar said that there is a system of allocating "Short Money" to opposition

parties for parliamentary duties in the UK Parliament. The concept of funding to support opposition parties was introduced in 1975. Short Money is made available to all opposition parties in the House of Commons that secured either two seats or one seat and more than 150,000 votes at the previous General Election. Under this scheme, funding is provided under three components:

1. Funding to assist an opposition party in carrying out its Parliamentary business
2. Funding for the opposition parties' travel and associated expenses
3. Funding for the running costs of the Leader of the Opposition's office<sup>4</sup>

Short Money general funds are largely spent on research support for front-bench spokesmen, assistance in the Whips' offices and staff for the Leader of the Opposition. In essence, therefore, Parliament pays for the team of researchers attached to Shadow Ministers to carry out research and review of policies.

### Interaction with Chair and Members of the Intelligence and Security Committee

Pakistan delegation called on the chair and members of the UK's Intelligence and Security Committee and discussed in detail the committee's remit, challenges and developments in overseeing UK's intelligence agencies.

**Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Rifkind**, chair, was joined by committee members including **Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears**, MP, **Rt. Hon. Paul Goggins**, MP, **Rt. Hon. George Howarth**, MP, and **Dr. Julian Lewis**, MP in interacting with the delegation.



(Left to Right) Senator Raza Rabbani, Rt. Hon. John Spellar, MP, Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Russell Brown, MP, Shadow Minister for Defence, Senator Ishaq Dar, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed and Ms. Jo Greening of the Labour Party, UK

4. For further details on current levels of "Short money" allocated to opposition parties for parliamentary duties, and a brief history of the scheme, a Note on "Short Money" can be accessed at the UK Parliament website at: <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons/lib/research/briefings/snpc-01663.pdf>



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(Left to Right) Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan, MNA, Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, Dr. Arif Alvi, Mr. Shahid Hamid, Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi, MNA and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at an interaction during the Study Visit

In his opening remarks, Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Rifkind said that the Intelligence and Security Committee (ISC) was established by the Intelligence Services Act 1994 to examine the policy, administration and expenditure of the Security Service, Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), and the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ). The Committee has developed its oversight remit, with the Government's agreement, to include examination of intelligence-related elements of the Cabinet Office including: the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC); the Assessments Staff; and the Intelligence, Security and Resilience Group. The Committee also takes evidence from the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS), part of the Ministry of Defence (MOD), which assists the Committee in respect of work within the Committee's remit.

The chair informed the delegation that the ISC's statutory remit covers the administration, policy and finances of the intelligence and security Agencies. The Committee does not investigate individual complaints about the Agencies, which is the responsibility of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

The Prime Minister appoints the ISC Members after considering nominations from Parliament and consulting with the Leader of the Opposition. The Committee reports directly to the Prime Minister, and through him to Parliament, by the publication of the Committee's reports. However, the full versions of the Committee's reports, including sensitive material, are submitted to the Prime

Minister but, when published, sensitive material that would damage national security is blanked out or redacted. This is indicated by \*\*\* in the text.

Even though ISC's members are Parliamentarians, the ISC is not a Committee of the UK Parliament. He emphasised that while the Committee sends its reports to the Prime Minister, he cannot change the facts in them and reports are published exactly as the Committee has written them. The Government traditionally produces a Government Response to the Committee's reports which is usually published on the same day. The Committee's annual reports are the subject of debates in both Houses of Parliament.

Unlike Parliamentarians who are part of other committees of the Parliament, ISC members are subject to Section 1(1)(b) of the Official Secrets Act 1989 and have access to highly classified material in carrying out their duties. The Committee takes evidence from Cabinet Ministers and senior officials – all of which is used to formulate its reports.<sup>5</sup>

The Chair said that in the last 15 years, relations between the Parliament and Intelligence have transformed. Therefore, after reaching a consensus amongst parties, a Government bill has been introduced in the House of Lords in May 2012 titled the **Justice and Security Bill**<sup>6</sup> which seeks to make the ISC more Parliamentary in nature. The ISC, therefore, has an evolving remit and is moving towards being a Parliamentary committee. The committee

5. For further details on the Intelligence and Security Committee (ISC), please see its website at: <http://isc.independent.gov.uk/>

6. Complete text of the Justice and Security Bill can be accessed at: [http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0027/lbill\\_2012-20130027\\_en\\_1.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0027/lbill_2012-20130027_en_1.htm) while its progress can be accessed at: <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/justiceandsecurity.html>

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will also, once the legislation under consideration is passed by the Parliament, be able to look at operations of the UK intelligence agencies.

The Chair also clarified that even though the existing law governing the remit of the ISC does not require the ISC to oversee the operational work of the Intelligence Agencies, it does not prohibit the ISC from looking into operational aspects either. In fact, he said, the Committee frequently needs to consider operations in order to fully understand aspects of policy. Examples of the ISC considering operational matters include the Committee's Review of the Intelligence on the London Terrorist Attacks on 7 July 2005 (published in 2009) and the report on Rendition (published in 2007).

Discussing why the Committee requires to redact its reports, Sir Rifkind said that intelligence and security Agencies request the redaction of sensitive material in the reports which, if published, would damage their work. However, the Committee considers these requests for redaction in considerable detail and the Agencies must demonstrate clearly how publication of the material in question would be damaging before the Committee agrees to redact it. The Committee aims to ensure that only the bare minimum of text is redacted from its reports and believes it is important that Parliament and the public should be able to see where material has been redacted, rather than keeping this secret. This means that the published versions of the Committee's reports are the same as the one sent to the Prime Minister: there is no separate 'secret' report. He also highlighted that even though under the existing legislation the Prime Minister has the power to redact material without the Committee's consent, making a statement to that effect when he lays the reports before Parliament, to date, this has never happened.

The delegation was informed that the Committee's clerk and staff are civil servants and not from the Parliament. The staff is security-cleared and seconded from various Government departments (although, by convention, not from the Agencies) who act independently on behalf of the Committee. The Committee has been hosted by the Cabinet Office since it was established but it is operationally independent and the Cabinet Office has no control over the Committee's data, records, staff or procedures. The Committee also has a General Investigator - a former senior police officer - who is tasked by the Committee to investigate and report on specific

areas of the Intelligence Agencies' work. The Committee can also call upon independent legal advice from Treasury Solicitors and financial expertise from the National Audit Office.

In response to a question whether intelligence agencies have ever withheld information from the Committee, the Chair said that under the Intelligence Services Act 1994 the Agencies are required to disclose information to the Committee in order to discharge their statutory functions properly. There are provisions allowing the Agencies, in rare circumstances, to refuse to disclose certain "sensitive" information. However, to date no request for information made to the Agencies by the ISC has been denied on these grounds.

Answering what would be his advice for setting up a Parliamentary oversight on intelligence elsewhere, Sir Rifkind said that winning and maintaining trust of intelligence agencies is very important irrespective of what the law says. Seniority of members is important also, he said, highlighting that since its formation, there has never been any 'leak' from the ISC with regard to information provided by the intelligence services. The intelligence community in UK understands that while it has to answer to the ISC, there is a relationship based on mutual trust in which agencies have come to rely on the ISC's support in justified cases.

### **Lunch Meeting with Chair and Members of All Party Parliamentary Group on Pakistan**

**Baroness Sayeeda Warsi**, cabinet minister, and **Mr. Andrew Stephenson**, MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Pakistan joined the Pakistan delegation at a lunch interaction on Pak-UK relations and how Parliamentary ties can strengthen these further. Members of the Pakistan group including **Mr. Eric Ollenshaw**, MP, **Ms. Yasmeen Qureshi**, MP and **Lord Ahmed of Rotherham** also joined the interaction.

### **Role of Community Cohesion in relation to National Security**

**Ms. Shabana Mahmood**, young British MP of Pakistan origin and Shadow Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills, discussed in detail with the delegation role of the community cohesion in relation to National Security.

**Meeting with Rt. Hon. Theresa May, Home Secretary**

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Ms. Shabana Mahmood, young British MP of Pakistan origin and Shadow Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills, in conversation with the Pakistan delegation at the CPA room, UK Parliament

#### and Minister for Women and Equalities

The Pakistan delegation called on the Home Secretary, **Rt. Hon. Theresa May**, MP, to discuss the role of interior security to national security and raised questions relating to Pak-UK cooperation on capacity building of LEAs and intelligence sharing.

The Home Secretary discussed in detail the developments in the anti-terrorism laws of the UK, especially the change brought about by the current Government in response to concerns on civil liberties. Tracing the developments in the UK Terrorism laws, she said that following the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US, the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 was put into place in UK in December 2001. The Act, however, was widely criticized and consequently, a new law was put in place in 2005 called the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 (PTA) introducing a system of control orders to manage the risk posed by the suspected terrorists. After the current Government came into power, it conducted a “rapid review” of “key counter-terrorism and security powers” in July 2010, and released its findings in January 2011. As a result, The Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures Act has been put in place. She highlighted that due to the review, the preventive detention period has been reduced from 90 days to 14 days only.

Answering the delegates' questions about managing the tension between effective terrorism law and a respect for human rights, the Home Secretary also shared that the UK Parliament has constituted the post of Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, appointed by the Home Secretary and by the Treasury for a renewable three-year term, tasked with reporting to the UK Parliament on the

operation of counter-terrorism law in the UK.

In response to a request by the Pakistan delegation for more information on UK counter terrorism legislation and the role of the Independent Reviewer, the Home Secretary graciously agreed to provide more information and assistance through the British High Commission, Islamabad.

The Home Secretary also answered questions on the UK Equality Strategy<sup>7</sup> highlighting that equality is at the heart of the current Coalition Government. She said that in these difficult economic times, equality is even more important to ensure that UK benefits from the talents of everyone. She said that the Equality Strategy is built on two principles of equality: 'equal treatment' and 'equal opportunity.' The



Home Secretary, Rt. Hon. Theresa May, MP receiving a memento from Senator Ishaq Dar, Leader of the Opposition, Senate of Pakistan

7. Complete text of UK Equality Strategy can be accessed at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/equalities/equality-strategy-publications/equality-strategy/equality-strategy?view=Binary>

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A Group Photo of Pakistan delegation with the UK National Security Advisor, Sir Kim Darroch, 6th from left, after an interaction on the system of National Security Council in the UK

Government also introduced its legislative foundation, in the form of the UK Equality Act 2010 which applies broadly to Great Britain. The strategy sets the framework for how equality will be a fundamental part of the government's programmes across the UK. The Government also periodically publishes a 'Progress Report' on the implementation of the strategy.

### Interaction with the UK National Security Advisor

**Sir Kim Darroch**, UK's National Security Advisor and **Mr. Julian Miller**, Deputy National Security Advisor, engaged with the Pakistan delegation on the role of the UK's National Security Council, its composition and how it has been able to bring together elements of national security to reach important decisions in weekly meetings.

Explaining the setting up of the National Security Council in UK, he said that the current UK Government established the National Security Council in May 2010 to coordinate and integrate at the highest level the work of the foreign, defence, home, energy and international development departments, and all other arms of government contributing to national security. The NSC, since then, has become the main forum for collective discussion of the Government's objectives for national security and about how best to deliver these in the current financial climate. He said that a key purpose of the Council is to ensure that Ministers consider national security in the round and in a strategic way. The Council meets weekly and is chaired by Prime Minister David Cameron.

In October 2010, the UK Government published its **Strategic Defence and Security Review: Securing**

**Britain in an Age of Uncertainty**<sup>8</sup> which sets out how we will deliver the priorities identified in the **National Security Strategy**<sup>9</sup> formulated by the NSC.

Explaining the structure of the NSC, the National Security Advisor said that there are currently three ministerial sub-committees of the Council:

1. to consider Threats, Hazards, Resilience and Contingencies including a restricted group to consider intelligence matters
2. to consider Nuclear Deterrence and Security and
3. the UK's relationship with emerging international powers

Their remit is to examine more specific national security areas in which a range of relevant Departments participate.

Additionally there are associated cross-Government senior official groups that support and inform these ministerial level structures. Principal amongst these is the Permanent Secretaries Group chaired by the National Security Adviser. The National Security Adviser also acts as secretary to the NSC.

The National Security Council is chaired by the Prime Minister. The Deputy PM is the Deputy Chair of the Council. The NSC members include the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Foreign Secretary, the Defence Secretary, the Home Secretary, the Secretary of State for the Department for International Development, the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, the Minister for Government Policy. Other Cabinet Ministers attend as required (i.e. depending on

8. Complete Text can be obtained at: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/strategic-defence-security-review.pdf>

9. Complete text of the UK National Security Strategy can be obtained at: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/national-security-strategy.pdf>

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(Left to Right) Senator Raza Rabbani, Rt. Hon. David Miliband, MP, former Foreign Secretary, UK, Senator Ishaq Dar and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed

what the Council is discussing). Similarly the Chief of the Defence Staff, Heads of Intelligence Agencies also attend when required.

The NSC meets weekly with a one hour meeting on the average. The National Security Advisor chairs the preparation committee meeting a week before the NSC meeting. Two deputies serve under the National Security Advisor, one dealing with foreign policy and the other on defence. The NSC has a team of about 190 persons divided in 5 groups.

He also shared that two Parliamentary committees deal with the work of the NSC namely the Joint Committee of UK Parliament on National Security Strategy and the Intelligence and Security Committee.

Discussing the NSC Sir Darroch said that it has proved to be a very effective mechanism of follow up on key cabinet decisions. He also termed the NSC a very successful experience in the UK.

Discussing what works in the UK model of NSC, Sir Darroch said that Prime Minister's personal involvement in the NSC has played an important role in making NSC an effective body. Despite all the pressures, the Prime Minister has continued to insist holding regular meetings of NSC. Coupled with wide ministerial representation, the NSC has become a very effective forum. Giving an example of the work of the NSC, especially in dealing with a crisis, he said that a Libya sub group was created in the NSC which met 62 times during the crisis. Initially a lot of time was taken up by review of the National Security Strategy but since then the NSC has focussed more on domestic issues so that foreign issues do not unnecessarily dominate the agenda. He also mentioned that

NSC has a regular outreach to think tanks, academia and business community.

#### **Meeting with Rt. Hon. David Miliband, MP, former Foreign Secretary, UK**

Pakistan delegation met with Rt. Hon. David Miliband, MP, who spoke to the Pakistan delegation on the role of cross-party cooperation on national security.

#### **Briefing on Parliamentary and Judicial Enquiry of the UK Phone Hacking Scandal**

The Pakistan delegation was briefed in the most eloquent manner on the Parliamentary and judicial enquiry of the phone hacking scandal in the UK by **Mr. John Whittingdale**, MP, chair of Culture, Media and Sports Select Committee.

Mr. Whittingdale informed the delegation that following the News International phone hacking scandal, UK Prime Minister David Cameron announced a two-part inquiry investigating the role of the press and police in the phone-hacking scandal, on July 13, 2011. Lord Justice Leveson was appointed as Chairman of the Inquiry. Known as the ***Leveson Inquiry in the Culture, Practice and Ethics of the Press*** the on-going inquiry has been established under the Inquiries Act 2005 and has the power to summon witnesses. It will make recommendations on the future of press regulation and governance consistent with maintaining freedom of the press and ensuring the highest ethical and professional standards. He said that at the heart of this inquiry, there is one simple question: "who guards the guardians?"<sup>10</sup>

#### **Meeting with UK Minister for Middle East and South Asia Mr. Alistair Burt, MP**

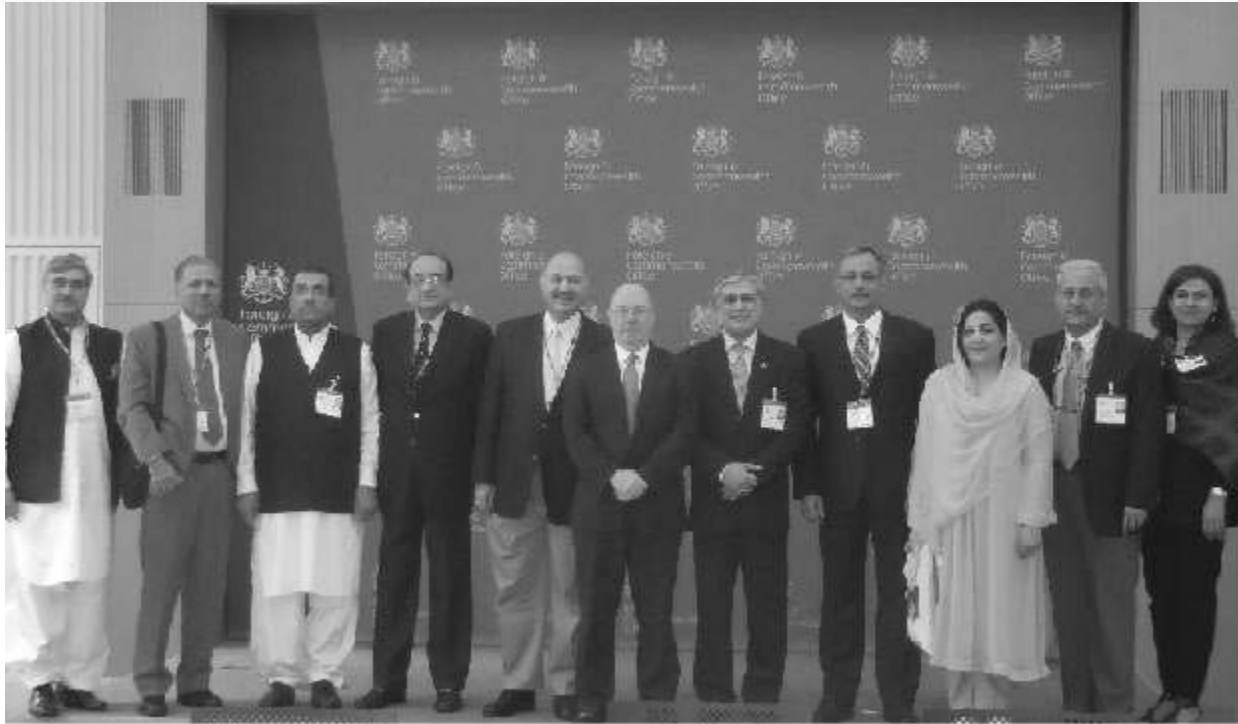
10. For further details on the Leveson Inquiry, please visit <http://www.levesoninquiry.org.uk/>



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(Left to Right) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Dr. Arif Alvi, Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Mr. Alistair Burt, MP, Senator Ishaq Dar, Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi, MNA, Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan, MNA, Senator Raza Rabbani and Ms. Aasiya Riaz

Pakistan delegation called on the UK Minister for Middle East and South Asia **Mr. Alistair Burt**, MP on UK strategy for 2014 exit from Afghanistan and how the FCO contributes to National Security strategy and implementation.

### Conversation with Prof. Anatol Lieven

Prof. Anatol Lieven, academic and celebrated author of the book ***Pakistan: A Hard Country*** engaged in a candid discussion with the Pakistan delegation on promise of Pakistan and what it can do to encounter some of the security, economic and political challenges.

### Geo security in a Globalized World

Pakistan delegation also met with **Mr. Neil Crompton**, Director for South Asia and Afghanistan at the FCO and shared Pakistan's perspective on regional security.

### Roundtable at the International Institute for Strategic Studies

**Mr. Rahul Roy Chaudhury**, Senior Fellow for South Asia IISS, **Mr. Nigel Inkster**, CMG, Director of Transnational Threats and Political Risk IISS and **Brigadier Ben Barry**, Senior Fellow for Land Warfare IISS, among others, joined the Pakistan delegation in a roundtable discussion focussing on perspectives on 2014 exit of ISAF/NATO forces from Afghanistan. Issues relating to the problem of Taliban, perspectives of Pakistan and India in dealing with Afghanistan were discussed at the roundtable.

Pakistani delegates put forward Pakistan's perspective on the 2014 exit of ISAF/NATO forces from Afghanistan. They also highlighted that the World must understand the three new realities of a changing Pakistan that are evident through the dynamism and vigour of a free media, and independent Judiciary, and an active civil society.



# APPENDICES



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## Study Visit to UK on Democratic Oversight on Defence and National Security

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### Appendix A

#### Study Visit of Pakistan Delegation on National Security to United Kingdom July 3-5, 2012

#### Programme

<b>Monday July 2, 2012</b>	
1900	Planning Meeting of the Group Lobby, Hotel DoubleTree by Hilton London - Westminster 30 John Islip Street, London SW1P 4DD
<b>Tuesday July 3 Parliament &amp; National Security</b>	
0830	Meeting with <b>James Brokenshire MP</b> , Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Crime, Security, Home Office
0925	<i>Assemble in hotel lobby and depart by coach for the CPA Room, Houses of Parliament</i>
0945	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Andrew Tuggey DL, Director CPA UK
1000	<b>Scrutinising Defence; Parliaments Role in Oversight of Defence Services</b> Scrutiny role of the Defence Committee; Current inquiry on future of Afghanistan; Maintaining defensive and offensive capabilities in an economic downturn Members of the Defence Committee
1100	<i>Coffee</i>
1130	<b>Role of the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy</b> Oversight of the Government's decision-making on National Security; Managing and adapting to the changing face of security, from energy shortages to cyber terrorism. <b>Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett MP, Chair</b>
1300	<i>Lunch with Members</i>
1400	<i>Pakistan &amp; NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit</i> <i>RUSI Representative</i>
1530	<i>Tea</i>
1530	<b>Meeting with Mr. Gerald Howarth MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (International Security Strategy), Ministry of Defence</b> Impact of conflict on national security, the symbiosis of foreign and domestic security; Defence Diplomacy and the role of international defence related institutions; Expanding networks and strengthening security
1600	<b>Development Assistance and Security of States; Meeting with Chair and Members of the International Development Select Committee</b> Aid and International Development Programmes as key tools in reducing threats to international and national security; Strengthening and stabilising governance structures to reduce conflict; Education as a key mechanism in the fight against terrorism; Rising threats to food and water security  Rt Hon. Sir Malcolm Bruce MP, <i>Chair</i>
1700	<i>Meeting with Home Office Representative</i>
1800	<i>Depart by coach for hotel</i>
	<i>Free evening</i>

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<b>Wednesday July 4 Politics And National Security</b>	
	<i>Breakfast in hotel</i>
0910	<i>Assemble in hotel lobby and depart by coach for the CPA Room, Houses of Parliament</i>
0930	<b>Politics &amp; National Security</b> Party politics and national security; Cooperation across party boundaries on national security; Role of Labour HQ in formulation policy on national security Mr John Spellar MP, <i>Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office</i> Jo Greening, <i>The Labour Party</i>
1030	<i>Coffee</i>
1040	<i>Transfer by coach to 35 Great Smith Street</i>
1100	<b>Meeting with Chair &amp; Members of the Intelligence &amp; Security Committee</b> Role and structure of the Intelligence and Security Committee; Process of maintaining an independent judiciary and safeguarding intelligence materials; Coordination between intelligence agencies in UK and Pakistan; Encouraging and ensuring cross border cooperation and intelligence sharing; Establishment of a Joint Committee on Intelligence in Pakistan Rt. Hon. Sir Malcolm Rifkind MP, <i>Chair</i> , Rt. Hon. George Howarth MP, Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears, MP, Rt. Hon. Paul Goggins MP, Dr Julian Lewis MP, Lord Lothian
1200	<i>Transfer by coach to CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i>
1245	<b>Working Lunch with Members of the Pakistan APPG</b> , CPA Room Lord Ahmed; Andrew Stephenson MP; Eric Ollerenshaw OBE; Yasmin Qureshi MP; Madeleine Moon MP
1400	<i>Community Engagement; Strengthening National Security</i>
1515	<i>Transfer by coach to Room 104, 70 Whitehall, Cabinet Office</i>
1530	<b>Meeting with Sir Kim Darroch, National Security Adviser and Mr Julian Miller, Deputy National Security Adviser</b> Role of National Security Adviser and National Security Secretariat; Work of National Security Council in centralising the work of Government Departments in relation to National Security
1645	<i>Return by coach to the CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i>
1700	<b>Meeting with Rt Hon. David Miliband MP</b> Encouraging cross party cooperation on national security; Future of Pakistan-UK relations
1730	<b>Meeting with John Whittingdale OBE, Chair of Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee</b> Role of the media in holding the Executive to account; Leveson enquiry
1830	<i>Depart by coach for hotel</i>
	<i>Free evening</i>

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<b>Thursday July 5 Civil-Military Relations &amp; Cross-Border Cooperation</b>	
	<i>Breakfast in hotel</i>
0855	<i>Assemble in hotel lobby and depart by coach for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office</i>
0915	<b>UK –Pakistan Relations &amp; National Security</b> Role of the Foreign Office in contributing to the National Security Strategy; Utilising Instruments of National Power - Role of Embassies and High Commissions Mr Alistair Burt, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
1000	<i>Transfer to the CPA Room, Westminster Hall on foot</i> <i>Coffee</i>
1030	<b>Meeting with Professor Anatol Lieven, Department of War Studies, Kings College London</b> Civil-military relations and role of robust media, independent Judiciary and vocal civil society in contributing towards democracy in Pakistan
1130	<i>Watch proceedings of the House of Commons and House of Lords</i>
1245	<i>Lunch in the CPA Room</i>
1345	<i>Transfer to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on foot</i>
1400	<b>Geo-security in a Globalised World; Role of the Foreign Office</b> Collective Security; Expanding alliances across borders and with international institutions; Future of Afghanistan Post-2014; repercussions for Pakistan and UK Mr Neil Crompton, Director for South Asia and Afghanistan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office
1530	<i>Transfer to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), 13–15 Arundel Street WC2R 3DX</i>
1600	<b>Civil-Military Relations and National Security in Pakistan</b> Strengthening civil-military relations; Relationship between government, private and public sectors in ensuring and shaping national security; Prevention of conflict through collaboration - relations with UK and US Mr Rahul Roy-Chaudhury , Senior Fellow for South Asia , IISS
1700	<i>Depart by coach for hotel</i> <i>Free evening</i>

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### Appendix B

#### List of Pakistan Delegation

No.	Name	Political Affiliation
1.	<b>Senator Ishaq Dar</b> Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Pakistan; Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security (Punjab, PML-N)	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)
2.	<b>Senator Raza Rabbani</b> Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security (Sindh, PPPP)	Pakistan Peoples Party – Parliamentarian (PPPP)
3.	<b>Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed</b> Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production, Secretary General PML; Former Federal Minister; Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security (Islamabad Capital Territory, PML)	Pakistan Muslim League (PML)
4.	<b>Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan</b> , MNA, Member Central Working Committee PML-N (NA 288, Women Punjab- XVI, PMLN)	PML-N
5.	<b>Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi</b> , MNA Deputy Parliamentary Leader MQM; Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security (NA-253, Karachi XV, Sindh, MQM)	Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM)
6.	<b>Dr. Arif Alvi</b> General Secretary PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
7.	<b>Mr. Shahid Hamid</b> Senior Advocate Supreme Court; former Governor Punjab; former Defence Minister; Member PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations	None
8.	<b>Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami</b> Senior Journalist; Member PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations	None
9.	<b>Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob</b> President PILDAT	None
10.	<b>Aasiya Riaz</b> Joint Director PILDAT	None

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### Profiles of Delegates



#### **Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar**

Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Pakistan  
Punjab, PML-N

A leading financial-cum-economic expert, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar holds the important portfolio of the Leader of the Opposition, Senate of Pakistan. A senior leader of Pakistan Muslim League (N) from Punjab, Senator Dar bears an impressive profile detailing an unprecedented track record finely bedecked and evenly interspersed with illustrious achievements and services on various fronts of human endeavour. From his enviable educational record to professional acumen, and from his peerless political career to holding various important portfolios, Senator Dar stands out par excellence, and is widely recognized as a technocrat-politician. His commitment to national interests, democracy, rule of law, profession, and humanitarian pursuits, combined with impeccable knowledge of finance, economy, trade and industry, has resulted in numerous accolades and achievements during his career.

On the academic front, Senator Dar has had renowned institutions among his alma maters, including Government College (now Government College University), Lahore, and Hailey College of Commerce, University of the Punjab, Lahore (1966-69). He was awarded two Gold Medals and a Roll of Honour for First position in B. Com. (Hons.) at the University of Punjab.

Senator Dar's professional acumen and remarkable understanding of complex financial, economic, social, trade, investment and industrial issues are his forte, which not only earned him wide acknowledgment, but also helped him earn his spurs as a thorough professional. He has 42 years of professional experience in audit profession, financial advisory, management consultancy, business, commerce and industry, both in private and public sectors, in Pakistan and abroad.

Making a career start as a Trainee Chartered Accountant with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) in 1970, he became an Associate Member (ACA) of ICAEW in 1974, and of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) in 1975.

His post-qualification professional experience earned him Fellowship (FCA) of ICAEW in 1980 and of ICAP in 1984. Subsequently, he also became a Fellow Member (FPA) of the Institute of Public Finance Accountants of Pakistan. Currently, Senator Dar has been bestowed Life Membership of ICAEW in January 2012. After having worked as Director Finance of a British Textiles Group in London during 1974-76, Senator Dar accepted an offer in 1976 of the Government of Libya, and joined as Senior Auditor in the Auditor General Department at Tripoli.

On returning to Pakistan in December 1977, he became National Partner in a Chartered Accountants firm, having offices at Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi, dealing with Tax, Corporate and Financial Management, Audit and Consultancy matters of the clients, including public sector and public-listed companies. In 1980, he became Financial Advisor to a multinational construction company having operations in Pakistan, Libya, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. From 1989 till 1997 (except when a Minister), Senator Dar acted as Chairman/Chief Executive and/or Director of a Non-Banking Financial Institution (Public-Listed) in Pakistan.

From February 2002 till March 2008, he acted as Financial Advisor to a Member of the Ruling Family of the United Arab Emirates. In addition, he has also served till date as Director of World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Islamic Development Bank. Senator Dar has been a Parliamentarian in the last 20 years, currently serving fifth term as Member Parliament. He was elected Member National Assembly twice (1993-96 and 1997-99), and, subsequently, for three consecutive terms, he has

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been elected Senator and appointed as Parliamentary Leader of PML (N) in the Senate. His current term as Senator expires in March 2018. He held first public office (1992 – 1993) as Minister of State/Chief Executive of Pakistan Investment Board (PIB). He served as Federal Minister for Commerce & Investment (1997–1999). He was twice Federal Minister for Finance, Economic Affairs, Revenue and Statistics (1998-99 and 2008).

Senator Dar Served as Convener (Punjab Government's Committee), National Finance Commission (NFC). He is also Member of the Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms, which finalized 18th, 19th and 20th Constitutional Amendments. He is also a Member of the Parliamentary Committee on the Judges Appointment in the Superior Courts as well as Parliamentary Committee on National Security. In Senate, Senator Dar has held the important portfolio of Chairman, Standing Committee on Industries and Production, in addition to working as Member of a few Standing Committees, including Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Planning and Development, Commerce and Investment.

He is also a Member of Senate Finance Committee, Executive Committee of Senate Employees Welfare Fund and Board of Governors, Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS). In recognition of his Parliamentary services, the Government of Pakistan conferred on him Nishan-e-Imtiaz (the highest civil award for Pakistani nationals) in 2011.

Senator Dar's engagements on the political front go a long way back. Since late 1980s, he has been a Member of the Central Executive Committee of PML-N. He has also been President, International Affairs, PML (N), since 2002.

He is a former President of Lahore Chambers of Commerce and Industry and former Vice-President/Council Member of ICAP. Currently, he is Chairman of Board of Governors, University of Health Sciences, Punjab, which has been ranked Number 2 among top medical universities in Pakistan by the Higher Education Commission.

Senator Dar's praiseworthy contributions to the social sector are rooted in his humanitarian and philanthropic zeal and commitment, which is the driving force behind the two charitable trusts that he heads and runs in the name of Hajveri Trust and Hajveri Foundation. While the former is widely known as a shelter home for over 100 orphans, who are being provided complete boarding, lodging and educational facilities for the last many years; the latter institution has been actively involved in arranging pool marriages of destitute couples, helping needy students through scholarships and financial assistance, and providing medical assistance to non-affording patients requiring dialysis and other medical treatment.

Senator Dar also holds the unique distinction of being the biggest individual donor who provided assistance to the victims of the cataclysmic earthquake that devastated the northern areas of Pakistan in 2005, and also to those Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) affected by the ravaging flash floods that swept through the country in 2010 and 2011.



#### **Senator Mian Raza Rabbani**

Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security  
Sindh, PPPP

Mian Raza Rabbani is the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on National Security. He is a Senator politically affiliated with the Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian (PPPP) from the Sindh province. He has also very ably led the Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms in the current Parliament which has culminated in the proposals behind the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bills. He also chaired the 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Implementation Commission. He has served as Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination. Raza Rabbani was born in Lahore on July 23, 1953. After his early education at the Habib Public School Karachi, he joined the University of Karachi where he got his B.A. and LLB degrees. Mian Raza Rabbani pioneered the National Organization of the Progressive Students and was its founder Chairman from 1971-1974.

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During previous Parliamentary tenures, Mian Raza Rabbani has served as Advisor to the Prime Minister on Inter-Provincial Coordination (March 2010-Feb 2011); Leader of the House, Senate of Pakistan (March 2008-March 2009); Leader of the Opposition, Senate of Pakistan (Jan 2005-March 2006) (June 2006-March 2008); Member, Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs (1996-1999); Member, Senate Standing Committee on Law & Justice (1996-1999); Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting (1996-1999); Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Senate of Pakistan (1996-1999); Federal Minister of State for Law and Justice (1994-1996); Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Sports and Culture (1993-1994) and Advisor to the Chief Minister Sindh for Co-operative (1988-1990).



#### **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**

Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production  
Islamabad Capital Territory, PML

Elected un-opposed as a Senator for his second term on February 21, 2012, Mushahid Hussain Sayed is Secretary General of the Pakistan Muslim League (PML). On June 4, 2012, Senator Mushahid Hussain was elected as Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production for a 3-year term.

He has been a Cabinet Minister, a journalist, a university teacher and a political analyst. In 1982, at age 29, he became the youngest Editor of a major national newspaper in Pakistan, The Muslim, an independent, English daily published from Islamabad. In his capacity as a journalist, he wrote extensively on civil-military relations. Prior to that, he served on the faculty of the Pakistan Administrative Staff College as Member, Directing Staff, training new Foreign Service officers.

He has served as an Information Minister from 1997 to 1999 and also Leader of Pakistan's delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva in 1993. After October 12, 1999, he was held without any charges as a political prisoner for 440 days, including a period in solitary imprisonment. The world's leading human rights organization, the Amnesty International, declared him a 'Prisoner of Conscience' making him the first Pakistani to be so honoured for the year 2000.

He was elected co-chairman of the NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) Media Conference of 100 countries, held in New Delhi in December 1983 and, starting 1989, he was the first Pakistani journalist to have a syndicated column in the Indian media, writing regularly in the 'The Times of India', 'The Hindustan Times' and 'The Telegraph'. As Editor of The Muslim, he organised the first Track II dialogue between Pakistan and India in Islamabad in April 1984. His columns have been published in leading international newspapers including The New York Times and The Washington Post.

Mushahid Hussain Sayed is the author of three books. He is member, board of governors of Islamabad Policy Research Institute, a leading think-tank, which he founded in 1998. He is Pakistan's Representative to the 12-member Commission of Eminent Persons formed to reform and restructure the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC). He is also founder and Chairman Of the Pakistan-China Institute, a private, independent think-tank devoted to fostering regional cooperation based on expanding the bilateral bond between the two neighbours.

Mushahid Hussain is also the Secretary General of the Centrist Asia Pacific Democrats International (CAPDI). On January 27, 2006, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Achievement by the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines, and in December 2010, he received an Honorary Doctorate from the Royal Academy of Cambodia. In the 2008 Presidential Elections in Pakistan, he was the PML candidate for the office of the President.

He has been the Chairman of the Foreign Relations, Kashmir Affairs and Northern Areas Committee of the Senate in his previous tenure. He has also been member of the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production. He chaired the Parliamentary Subcommittee on Balochistan, whose report was unanimously adopted in 2005.



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He has been a guest lecturer at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, the Harvard University, the MIT, the Middle East Institute, the US Institute of Peace, the Stimson Centre, the Oxford University, the Cambridge University and the Georgetown University's Centre for Christian-Muslim Understanding. Since 1978, Mushahid Hussain has been lecturing regularly at leading military training institutions in Pakistan including the National Defence University, the Command & Staff College, the Naval War College, the School of Military Intelligence, as well as the GHQ.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed has penned down an exclusive paper for PILDAT that is published and available under the PILDAT banner titled **Parliamentary Oversight of Security Sector in Pakistan** <http://www.pildat.org/Publications/publication/CMR/PILDATBPParliamentaryOversightoftheSecuritySectorinPakistanOctober2010.pdf> October 2010, focusing on civil-military relations.

**Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan, MNA**



Member Central Working Committee PML-N

Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan, an Advocate and MNA, is Member of Central Working Committee of Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz). She is member of National Assembly Standing Committees on Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs; Information Technology & Telecommunication, Science & Technology, and sub-committee reviewing Electoral Laws. She also assisted the Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms. Anusha is General Secretary of the Young Parliamentary Forum of the National Assembly, and is also founding member of the Parliamentary Caucus against Corruption.

Within her political party, she is currently serving as Secretary Organisation to the President, a member of PML-N Manifesto Committee, Election Committee and Legal Committee. Anusha is on the Board of Punjab Education Endowment Fund and Government Fatima Jinnah College for Women, Lahore. Her previous positions in the Party include Central Vice President of the PML-N's Lawyer's Wing, and Deputy Convener, PML-N, Legal and Anti Rigging Wing. During Elections 2008, she co-authored an election publication: Corrupt and Illegal Practices - A New Paradigm of Blatant Violations.

Anusha graduated in Law in 1992 and secured a Master in Law from the University College London, United Kingdom, specializing in Law and Economics of regulated industries, networks and markets. Her legal practice has been in constitutional, corporate and telecommunication law, and has also worked as in-house Corporate Legal Counsel for a multinational mobile telecommunication operator in Pakistan. Anusha has extensively travelled for both leisure and work and represented Pakistan on international fora. Anusha is a regular writer in the national newspapers.

**Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi, MNA**



Deputy Parliamentary Leader Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM)  
NA-253, Karachi XV, Sindh, MQM

Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi was born on February 2, 1969 in Karachi. He is politically affiliated with MQM. He was elected MNA in 2002 and again in 2008 from Karachi. He is Deputy Parliamentary leader of MQM in the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly. He is an



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Engineering Management Consultant by profession. He completed his MSc. Degree in Applied Chemistry in 1992 from the University of Karachi and MSc. Chemical Engineering in 1998 from University of Detroit USA. He is also qualified as lead Auditor for ISO9000 and Lead Auditor for ISO 14000 and has attended a wide range of Management Training. Presently, he has membership with Parliamentary Committee for National Security, Public Accounts Committee, National Assembly Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Standing Committee on Rules of procedure & Privileges. Being a member of the Parliament, Mr. Rizvi has co-authored several important bills such as The Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act, 2010, The Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010 and The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 2009 etc.

#### **Dr. Arif Alvi**



Secretary General Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

Dr. Arif Alvi is currently serving as Secretary General of the PTI. He was born in Karachi on August 29, 1949 and is a dentist by profession. He has worked in Jamaat-e-Islami as well. He has helped write the party constitution of the PTI. He was part of the team which has written the past two manifestos of PTI. Alvi received his BDS (Dentistry) from the University of Punjab. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Prosthodontics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and Master of Science in Orthodontics from the University of the Pacific, San Francisco, USA. He was the founding Editor in Chief of the Journal of Pakistan Dental Association. His articles are frequently published in newspapers, and he writes on a broad range of subjects including a major work on Christian Muslim Harmony. Dr. Alvi has spoken in his professional capacity as well as a politician in conferences and seminars throughout the world. He was recently invited by the Communist Party of China to Beijing in November 2011 for high level discussions on Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation. In 2008 he met many Congressmen and Senators to discuss Pakistan US relationship. Dr. Alvi has been a frequent guest in hundreds of talk shows in Pakistan and has expounded the cause of democracy, health, education, equality of women, independence of the judiciary, transparency, anti-terrorism and equal opportunities for all irrespective of race color religion or creed. About 200 of these talk shows can be seen at <http://www.insaf.pk/Media/Videos/tabid/62/articleType/CategoryView/categoryId/73/Dr-Arif-Alvi.aspx>

#### **Mr. Shahid Hamid**



Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Pakistan  
Member PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations

Mr. Shahid Hamid is practicing law as a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. He obtained his B. A. (Hons) and M. A. Economics degrees from the University of Cambridge UK. He is Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple London. He joined the Civil Service of Pakistan in 1964. During his career as a Civil Servant from 1964 to 1978 he held various posts including Additional Finance Secretary Punjab, Secretary to Chief Minister Punjab and the Director-General, Lahore Development Authority. Simultaneously with practice of law since 1978 he has served on the Central Board of the State Bank of Pakistan, the Syndicate of the Punjab University and the Board of Governors of Government College, Lahore. Mr. Shahid Hamid was Federal Minister for Defence, Establishment and Law from November 1996 to February 1997 and the Governor of the Punjab Province from March 1997 to August 1999. In his capacity as Governor Mr. Shahid Hamid was the Chancellor of all public sector universities in the Punjab. Mr. Shahid Hamid is associated with a number of charitable

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foundations and think tanks. Mr. Shahid Hamid has been a distinguished member of the PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations since 2005-2006. He has authored many papers under the PILDAT banner some of which include the following:

- i. **Briefing Paper: Impact of the 18th Constitutional Amendment on Federation-Provinces Relations** (July 2010) that can be accessed at:  
<http://www.pildat.org/Publications/publication/PAP/Impact%20of%20the%2018th%20Constitutional%20Amendment%20on%20Federal%20Provinces%20Relations%20-%20Briefing%20Paper.pdf>
- ii. **Comparative Study of the Roles and Responsibilities of Ministries of Defence in India and Pakistan** (March 2010) that can be accessed at:  
<http://www.pildat.org/Publications/publication/CMR/RolesandResponsibilitiesOfMinistriesOfDefenceInIndiaAndPakistan210310.pdf>
- iii. **Background Paper: The Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package-An Analysis** (December 2009) that can be accessed at:  
<http://www.pildat.org/Publications/publication/balochistanconflict/PILDAT%20Balochistan%20Package%20Analysis%20101209.pdf>
- iv. **Background Paper: Rule of Law and Democracy in Pakistan: The Road to the Future: Issues in Balochistan, FATA and the Civil-Military Equation in Pakistan** (June 2008) that can be accessed at:  
<http://www.pildat.org/Publications/publication/CMR/RuleOfLawAndDemocracyInPakistanIssuesInBalochistanFATAandCivilMilitaryEquationInPakistan.pdf>

#### Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami



Senior Journalist & TV Anchor  
Member PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations

Mr. Muib-ur-Rahman Shami graduated from the University of Punjab in 1964-1965 and studied law at Karachi. His journalistic career spans over more than 45 years. He remained at loggerheads with the government after the fall of Dhaka. The Martial law Court sentenced him to one-year rigorous imprisonment and fined him Rs. 300,000. He refused to accept the legitimacy of the Martial Law Court and submitted a written statement declaring it unconstitutional and illegitimate. It is still regarded as one of the hallmarks of the struggle for Press Freedom in Pakistan. Another famous case related to an absurd charge of stealing a car jack. Declarations of his publications were cancelled and their copies confiscated. He was denied fresh declaration. He had to borrow declarations from other publishers to sustain his struggle. Laws were amended to prevent him from even doing that. He remained adamant and refused to bow. He established his own publishing house in 1974. He also cemented his reputation as one of the imminent columnists of Urdu Journalism. His columns acquired wide readership for their style and wit blended with an unflinching commitment to the sanctity of the printed word. He was awarded Tamgha-e-Imtiaz by the President of Pakistan in 1993. He became Chief Editor of the daily Pakistan, one of the largest national Urdu newspapers, in 1999. Mr. Mujib-ur-Rahman Shami actively participated in the professional newspaper organizations throughout his journalistic career. He remained President of the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editor (CPNE) and was elected its Secretary General a number of times. He was also elected President of All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), the sole representative body of publishers in Pakistan, and President of the South Asia Free Media Association (SAFMA), Pakistan Chapter. Currently, he appears regularly in a current-affair analysis programme (Nuqta-e-Nazar) on Dunya TV.

#### Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob

President PILDAT

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The founder President of PILDAT, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob has over 25 years experience in senior management and advisory positions and over 10 years experience in design, planning and implementation of projects in the field of Parliamentary development, strengthening democratic institutions, democratisation, political discourse, election monitoring and dialogues for reconciliation. Mr. Mehboob is considered an authority on political, legislative and electoral affairs of the country. Mr. Mehboob's focus has been on strengthening democracy and democratic institutions and providing thought leadership on crucial issues that affect democracy and political growth in the country. Mr. Mehboob has carved and spearheaded a non-partisan political research initiative from the platform of PILDAT and has facilitated the formation of Dialogue, Research and Policy Groups on areas such as Civil-Military Relations, Centre-Province Relations, Relations between the Muslim World and the West and Electoral Reforms, etc. Of special significance has been PILDAT's initiative of Dialogue process on Civil-Military Relations. Working to establish a constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan is a first initiative of its kind in Pakistan by PILDAT and remains one of its continuing areas of focus over the years. Mr. Mehboob has authored and edited more than 100 Briefing Papers, Background Papers and Case Studies relating to Parliamentary Budget Process, Parliamentary Committees, Legislative Strengthening, Electoral Systems, Parliamentary Strengthening and Democracy Watch programmes, etc. Mr. Mehboob is regularly invited by national and international media for analysis and commentaries in addition to national and international conferences.

Mr. Mehboob holds a B.Sc. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Engineering & Technology Lahore, Pakistan. As an engineer, he has served outside Pakistan in the Middle East and USA. As a student activist, Mr. Mehboob was elected as President, Engineering University Students Union from 1971-1972 and also served as Chairman, Lahore Students Council in 1972. Mr. Mehboob was born on October 28, 1952.

### **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**

Joint Director, PILDAT



Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director of PILDAT, coordinates various research projects within PILDAT and manages PILDAT's projects and activities as PILDAT's co-director. She has over 10 years' experience of working in the field of research, management and analysis. She has been working in the areas of democratic and legislative strengthening; research on political and public policy issues; civil-military relations; dialogues between the Muslim World and the West and Electoral Process, etc.

Trained in the field of media and political communication at the London School of Economics, UK, Aasiya has worked with the mainstream press and electronic media in Pakistan as well. She was also a Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy, USA where she worked on US Think Tanks and the subject of Civil-Military Relations. Aasiya also graduated from the Stanford University, USA Course on Democracy, Development and Rule of Law in August 2007. She regularly appears on national and international media for political analysis and commentaries.

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### Appendix C

#### About PILDAT

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency – PILDAT ([www.pildat.org](http://www.pildat.org)) is an independent and non-partisan Pakistani research and training institution, a political think tank, committed to strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

PILDAT is a premier research organization of Pakistan focusing on democracy, governance and public policy analysis. Founded in 2001, the organisation focuses on producing objective, research-based analyses on policies especially under review by the Parliament and the Executive. PILDAT analysis and research is aimed at providing innovative, practical recommendations and options to policy makers and to inform the public debate through media.

PILDAT conducts independent research on a variety of issues under the broad framework of democratic strengthening, political and institutional reform, legislative strengthening, political-economy, civil-military relations, federation-provinces relations, women and youth in politics, etc. PILDAT has been focusing on promoting a fact-based discourse, as opposed to prevalent emotive discourse, on national issues through working alongside media to inform and broaden public debate on national issues.

PILDAT especially focuses on Parliament and plays an important role in bringing expertise, balance and informed debate on legislative and policy choices. Since the institute guards its independence and non-partisan approach very carefully, and its research agenda and analyses are rooted in open-minded inquiry reflecting diverse points of view, it has developed a unique convening power that brings together diverse political spheres and voices from across the country on important national and global issues affecting Pakistan.

Completing the first decade of its contributions in Pakistan, PILDAT has held over 300 capacity-building and issue-based briefings for Parliament and Provincial Assemblies. It has also prepared over 350 research analyses in the shape of briefing/background papers, case studies and legislative and policy briefs on public policy and legislative issues. PILDAT assists key Parliamentary Committees in the discharge of their responsibilities of oversight and scrutiny of the Executive through capacity building and background research. PILDAT also provides forums for comparative political and parliamentary learning through regional/international conferences and organizing study visits to other Parliaments and global institutions.

On the transparency and accountability front, PILDAT carries out annual performance review of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies. Annual State of Democracy reports of PILDAT are widely quoted by national and international media, global think tanks and institutes looking at Pakistan. PILDAT report on Quality of Democracy in Pakistan presents a periodic assessment of state and society using global indicators and framework for international comparison.

Devoting to providing well-considered policy options, PILDAT facilitates formation of policy groups for research and dialogue on issues including Civil-Military Relations, Electoral Reforms, Relations between Muslims and Western World, Centre-Province Relations, etc.

Recognising the value and challenge of youthful demographics of Pakistan, PILDAT launched the project of Youth Parliament Pakistan in 2007 to train a representative cross-section of young Pakistanis in values of engagement through reasoned dialogue, the use of researched facts beyond simple perceptions, the ability of tolerance of others views, a deeper understanding of Pakistan itself, its various regional issues and perceptions and to inculcate culture and values of democracy in youth to prepare them for future leadership roles.

Developing an increasingly global audience, PILDAT has hosted many national and international conferences, workshops and forums involving national, regional and international leaders, Parliamentarians, subject specialists and policy experts.

PILDAT's focus on improving Pakistan's regional relations and regional security in South Asia have led us to institute

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Parliamentarians Dialogues between Afghanistan and Pakistan since 2008 and dialogues between Indian and Pakistani Parliamentarians focussed on resolving issues that impact the relationship between the neighbouring countries.

Further details about PILDAT's work can be obtained from its website: [www.pildat.org](http://www.pildat.org)

### Focus on Civil-Military Relations

Recognizing the importance of civil-military relations for the future of democracy in Pakistan, PILDAT established a dialogue process in 2004 on reviewing civil-military relations and exploring the prospects of improving them with the objective of promoting constitutionalism and democracy. The basic objective of the dialogue process has been to enable the civil and the military to understand each other's perspectives and to address the contentious issues that cause strains in civil-military relations and hinder consensus-building, democratization, stability and security.

Major initiatives under this focus have been:

- i. Setting up of an eminent Group on Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan that studies issues, lobbies for reforms with civil and military actors, helps lead media understanding and enlarge public discourse on civil-military relations. The Group includes politically involved and influential members of civil and military elite including official spokesperson of the Armed Forces of Pakistan in an observer capacity and recently-retired military officials, defence and security analysts, scholars and academicians, parliamentarians, leaders of leading political parties, journalists and members of civil society organisations who are within the mainstream of Pakistani society.  
In July 2006, as an important milestone of the dialogue process, the participants of the dialogue jointly addressed a letter to the President of Pakistan, Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Heads of Political Parties in Parliament urging all leaders to conduct a dialogue for peace and conciliation. The letter received intense media spotlight, both nationally and internationally, that resulted in setting a favourable climate of public opinion towards the need for conciliation cooperation and dialogue in addressing civil-military relations in Pakistan.
- ii. Continuing dialogue process on understanding and improving Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan
- iii. Research on Civil-Military Relations and Democratic Control of Defence Sector; PILDAT has produced and disseminated nearly 50 papers, case studies, Issue Papers, Briefing Papers, Policy Papers and Reports on issues relating to civil-military relations in Pakistan
- iv. Examining country cases of political processes, policies, strategies and measures, experience and endeavours with regard to challenges and prospects of establishing democratic oversight of Defence sector. PILDAT has studied, prepared and widely disseminated comparative case studies from countries such as India, Turkey, UK, Indonesia, UK, South Korea, South Africa, Chile, etc.
- v. Capacity building of Parliamentary Committees on Defence and National Security on effective civilian and democratic control of defence sector, especially by focussing on reviewing defence budget
- vi. Steps to enhance understanding of media and public on issues of civil-military relations and initiate and enlarge public discourse on these
- vii. International Conference of Civil-Military Relations involving Pakistan's Parliament, Political Parties, Military leaders alongside experts from India, Indonesia, Turkey, US, UK and Switzerland

The key impact of PILDAT focus on civil-military relations has been that as a result of its consistent efforts, it has helped open up the media and public sphere to openly discuss various aspects of civil-military relations in Pakistan, which has largely remained a taboo area. PILDAT's independent research and discourse and its dissemination to key political actors in Parliament and in political ranks within parties has also helped these actors to better understand issues and work towards reforms. A favourable public opinion and media atmosphere created largely through this initiative has created a conducive environment for initiatives by political class for reforms. PILDAT has developed and made available a vast and respectable body of knowledge on the issue through regional and international comparative perspectives and studies. Its capacity building of Parliamentary Committees on Defence has helped assist committees to demand rights such as review of defence budget in greater detail. PILDAT's non-partisan, independent and national approach has helped involve military into the deliberations on sensitive issue of civil military relations; a military spokesperson now joins PILDAT's Civil-Military Dialogue sittings in an observer capacity.



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