

## Mr. Abrar Ahmad, President KCCI meets Dr. Zafar Sherwani at launch of 'PRO-GOLE' Project



Mr. Abrar Ahmad, President Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry met with Dr. Zafar Sherwani, Director KCDR at the launch of the UNDP-SMEDA 'Pro-Gole' Project on Saturday 31 December 2011. Hina Imtiaz Longi, Coordinator Projects, New World Concepts and Communication Consultant to KCDR was also present.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) is an autonomous institution of public interest. It enjoys singular distinction of being the premier Chamber of the country, representing the mainstream of economic activities by virtue of its location in industrial and commercial hub of the country. It was formed in 1959 and is also affiliated with the FPCCI.

Dr. Zafar Sherwani invited Mr. Abrar Ahmad to visit KCDR. He also explained that the KCCI President is a member of the Board of Governors at KCDR.

Mr. Abrar Ahmad appreciated KCDR's efforts in helping the business community in resolving commercial disputes and showed keen interest in the workings of KCDR as an organization.

Meanwhile, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) launched the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) funded, 'Pro-Poor Governance for Legal Empowerment of the Poor (Pro-Gole) project for small and marginalized businesses' in Sindh.

Mr. Zulfikar Thaver, Director SMEDA, while expanding on the need for access to legal services for marginalized and small business persons lauded KCDR for promoting alternate routes of disputes resolution (ADR) in Karachi.

Mr. Sultan Tiwana, General Manager, SMEDA and member of Board of Governors, KCDR also emphasized on the need for ADR services such as

## Corporate Governance in Pakistan and need for mediation as an ADR tool

Ms. Arjumand Shah, Consultant Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance met with Ms. Hina Imtiaz Longi, Communication Consultant KCDR to discuss the benefits of resolving disputes through mediation. The Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance (PICG) is a not-for-profit company, charged with promoting good corporate governance practices in Pakistan. PICG is involved in training and education, creating awareness, undertaking research, publishing guidelines and other resource material. It provides a forum for discussion on corporate governance. Founder members include Institute of Business Administration, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan, Karachi Stocks Exchange, State Bank of Pakistan and many more.

Ms. Hina informed that with more than 1.35 million cases pending in the courts, the need for a dispute resolution tool that is quick and inexpensive is the need of the hour. Mediation also allows parties flexibility with complete control over the decision making process.

Ms. Arjumand expressed her satisfaction with mediation for quick resolution of business disputes and inquired about the process of mediation conducted at KCDR. She also showed keen interest in discussing the process of mediation and business dispute resolution in Pakistan.

## President KCDR attends media launch for 'International Women Leaders Summit'

Justice (R) Saeeduzzaman Siddiqui, President KCDR and former Chief Justice of Pakistan, was invited to participate at the media launch of 'International Women Leaders Summit', part of the Women in Business Conference (WIBCON) series organized by Pakistan Society for Training and Development (PSTD).

PSTD is a non-profit and non-governmental organization, committed to the promotion of professional Human Resource Development through organizing training programmes and conferences.

Justice Siddiqui interacted with the PSTD Board of Governors including Mr. Kanwar Saeed, Engro, Ms. Fariha Salahuddin, Glaxo Smithkline and Mr. Vaqar Khan, PSO.



## Pakistan Banks Association meets with KCDR and IFC team

Pakistan Banks Association (PBA) Credit and Risk Committee headed by Mr. Kalim ur Rehman, President JS Bank met with Dr. Zafar Sherwani, Director KCDR; Ms. Saima Zuberi, Associate Operations Officer, IFC and Ms. Yasmin Hyder, CEO New World Concepts and Communication Consultant KCDR. The presentation was coordinated by Mr. Masood Raza, Secretary PBA.

Pakistan Banks Association represents the Pakistan Banking Industry. Established in 1953, its main objective is to coordinate the efforts of the banking industry, and to share a common vision of progress and development with its members. PBA Membership is institutionalized and is available only to the Banks operating in Pakistan. Currently there are 46 members, categorized into 6 groups. Its governing body is an Executive Committee (EC) comprising of 14 members, represented by the Chief Executives of the respective member institutions.

Yasmin Hyder introduced the team members and the objectives for the meeting. Dr. Zafar Sherwani spoke on the opportunities that mediation could provide for the banking industry. Quick resolution of business and commercial disputes results in lower costs. The mediation process is impartial and confidential while being flexible as well. Ms. Saima Zuberi reiterated IFC's support in setting up KCDR and explained the IFC ADR Program and its success in the region. Copy of the SBP Circular encouraging the resolution of disputes through mediation was also circulated among the representatives of major banks.

Mr. Kalim ur Rehman and the PBA committee appreciated the presentation made by the KCDR and IFC team. He showed interest in the concept of mediation for the banking industry. However, he also highlighted the constraints banks experienced due to willful defaults.

## KCDR Marketing Committee meets

The Marketing, Membership and Fundraising Committee held a meeting on Saturday 21 January headed by Mr. Majyd Aziz, Member Board of Governors KCDR and former President Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI).

The committee included Mian Abrar Ahmad President (KCCI) and Dr. Zafar Sherwani Director KCDR. Mr. Sohail Khoja Master Trainer KCDR, Ms. Nelofar Hameed Master Trainer KCDR, Ms. Saima Zuberi Associate Operations Officer IFC and Yasmin Hyder, CEO New World Concepts and Communication Strategy Consultant KCDR attended as guests.

Yasmin Hyder informed the committee that several corporates had been informed regarding the effectiveness of mediation and KCDR's role in resolving commercial disputes. It was decided by the committee

that further awareness raising activities should be carried out within the corporate sector.

Mr. Aziz informed Mian Abrar that the KCDR and KCCI had signed a MoU in 2009 which remained under utilized. Mian Abrar appreciated this knowledge and agreed to assist KCDR by requesting KCCI members and Chairmen of industrial zones to provide web links between their websites and that of KCDR. Creating awareness regarding the general public through TV talk shows was also discussed.

Mian Abrar was also keen to explore the possibility of appointing a focal person at KCCI for KCDR interventions. Mian Abrar expressed his resolve to include mediation in his communication at all forums for awareness building.

## Ms. Nausheen Ahmad, Master Trainer and Mediator invited to discuss 'Success of Women in Public and Private Sectors' at the International Women Leaders Summit

Ms. Nausheen Ahmad, Master Trainer and Mediator at KCDR was invited to be part of a panel discussion at the International Women Leaders Summit on 25 January 2012 at Karachi Marriott.

The conference was organized by Pakistan Society for Training and Development and New World Concepts. PSTD is a non-profit organization and non-governmental organization, committed to the promotion of professional Human Resource Development through organizing training programmes and conferences. NWC is a marketing and management consultancy based in Karachi, servicing both the private and public sectors, profit and non-profit and communication strategy consultant KCDR. The panel discussion revolved around the 'Success of Women in Public and Private Sectors' and featured Ms. Nausheen Ahmad Master Trainer and Mediator KCDR, Mrs. Nasreen Haque the 1st woman chairperson of Karachi Port Trust and Ms. Yasmeen Lari the first female architect of Pakistan and CEO Heritage Foundation.

Ms. Nausheen Ahmad detailed that women form one third of the civil judiciary, which is an encouraging sign. However gender bias still exists when women go to courts or the police. Changes are required as policies should be introduced to lessen this bias. Women must be persistent and organized to face all kinds of challenges.



## Mr. Fuad Hashimi, Director Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance meets with KCDR and IFC team



Mr. Fuad Hashimi, Director Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance (PICG) met with Dr. Zafar Sherwani Director KCDR, Ms. Saima Zuberi Associate Operations Officer, IFC and Yasmin Hyder, CEO New World Concepts and Communication Strategy Consultant KCDR.

The Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance (PICG) is a not-for-profit company charged with promoting good corporate governance practices in Pakistan.

Yasmin Hyder introduced the agenda for the meeting to build communication and synergies between KCDR and PICG as both institutions are targeting corporate sector with their services.

Saima Zuberi highlighted importance of ADR for corporate governance and the inclusion of ADR in the corporate governance toolkit developed by IFC.

Dr. Zafar Sherwani introduced KCDR and its functionings including mediation services for resolving commercial disputes and training services for

corporates and professionals. He detailed the need for resolving commercial disputes through mediation as it offers financial savings while being a quicker process as well.

Mr. Hashimi appreciated mediation as a concept and showed keen interest for future collaboration between PICG and KCDR. He also expressed a desire for holding an awareness session for PICG members on mediation services offered by KCDR and requested Saima Zuberi to explore options for funding such an event.

Mr. Hashimi also underlined that PICG is also building its advisory services which may be expanded to include ADR. He cautioned that both PICG and KCDR should avoid conflict of interests and work together to build complementary offerings for the corporate sector.

Dr. Zafar proposed a joint venture between PICG and KCDR on training for the Directors under Corporate Governance Leadership Skills (CGLS) - Director Education Program.

## KCDR team attends International Women Leaders Summit

Dr. Zafar Sherwani Director KCDR, Ms. Bisma Kayani Mediator KCDR and Ms. Ayesha Sarfaraz Master trainer and Mediator KCDR attended the International Women Leaders Summit on Wednesday 25 January 2012.

The International Women Leaders Summit was organized by the Pakistan Society for Training and Development (PSTD) and New World Concepts (NWC). PSTD is a non-profit organization and non-governmental organization, committed to the promotion of professional Human Resource Development through organizing training programmes and conferences. NWC is a marketing and management consultancy based in Karachi, servicing both the private and public sectors, profit and non-profit and communication strategy consultant KCDR.

The driving force of this conference was to make women professionals draw inspiration from global leaders to overcome

stereotypical challenges to personal and professional growth. Ms. Rokia Afzal Rahman - former minister Bangladesh government was the keynote speaker. Other speakers included Dr. Sema Suvarioglu - CEO Pusula Group Turkey, Oscar nominee Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy etcetera.

