



Government of Pakistan
PAKISTAN TELECOMMUNICATION AUTHORITY
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<http://www.pta.gov.pk>

No. PTA/CVD/CC/1/2020

10 March, 2020

Mr. Jeff Paine
Managing Director
Asia Internet Coalition (AIC)

I am writing to you in response to your letter addressed to the Excellency Mr. Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, dated 15th February 2020, conveying AIC's concerns over The Citizens Protection (Against Online Harm) Rules 2020. Government of Pakistan and Pakistan Telecom Authority (PTA) is a strong proponent of Digital Pakistan and freedom of expression over the Internet. We are fully cognizant of the critical role played by Technology Companies in promoting digital economy and freedom of expression. I am sure you are aware that in order to assuage concerns expressed by AIC and other segments of society over the subject Rules, Prime Minister of Pakistan has directed to constitute a Consultation Committee to undertake open and broad-based consultation with all stakeholders. Accordingly, the implementation of the Rules has been suspended and consultation / review process initiated.

In this context, on behalf of the Consultation Committee, I would like to formally invite AIC and its members for the consultation process. The Consultation Committee looks forward to a meeting on a mutually convenient date, preferably in week beginning 16th March 2020, to deliberate on the valuable input offered by AIC to reach upon some

mutually beneficial solution. Although, a face to face meeting is preferred, in case of any travel related issues, the option of doing video conference meeting can be considered. Mr. Nisar Ahmed, DG CVD, PTA would be the focal person to coordinate further details. He can be reached at mobile +923335659989 or via email at nisar@pta.gov.pk

(Amir Azeem Bajwa)
Chairman, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority
& Convener of the Consultation Committee

Copy to:

1. Dr. Shireen M. Mizari
Federal Minister for Human Rights
2. Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Federal Secretary, Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication
3. Mr. Eazaz Aslam Dar, Additional Secretary, MoITT
4. Ms. Tania Airdus, Member of Strategic Reforms Implementation Unit, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad
5. Barrister Ali Zafar, Chairman ILF Pakistan
6. Dr. Arslan Khalid, Focal Person to the Prime Minister on Digital Media, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad