



Ms. Debashree Mukherjee
Designated Representative
Secretary, Department of Water Resources
River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Government of India

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BY E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

Mr. Mansoor Usman Awan
Designated Representative
Attorney General
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Mr. Raja Naeem Akbar
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13 August 2025

RE: PCA CASE NO. 2023-14 – INDUS WATERS TREATY NEUTRAL EXPERT PROCEEDINGS (INDIA V. PAKISTAN)

Dear Ms. Mukherjee,
Dear Mr. Awan,
Dear Mr. Akbar,

I write on behalf of the Neutral Expert in the above-referenced matter.

The Neutral Expert refers to India's letter dated 28 July 2025, in which India restates its "firm position that all of the Treaty's provisions are inoperative for the present" and indicates that it "will not be in a position to move forward with or participate in the Neutral Expert proceedings."

The Neutral Expert also refers to Pakistan's reply letter dated 28 July 2025, in which Pakistan (i) "requests, expressly and formally, that the Fourth Meeting goes ahead, regardless of India's withdrawal, on all or some of the scheduled hearing dates of 17–22 November 2025, for purposes of scrutinising Pakistan's Counter-Memorial, its response to India's case, and any other developments that may appropriately warrant discussion"; and (ii) indicates that, "[i]n the interim, Pakistan will give careful consideration to whether to formally request the Neutral Expert to reach a determination on the basis of the Parties' first round written submissions and First Site Visit alone—materials that Pakistan considers will fully enable the Neutral Expert to reach necessary conclusions and make appropriate determinations."

The Neutral Expert further refers to India's letter dated 13 August 2025, in which India reiterates its position to not "move forward with, or participate in, the Neutral Expert process, since the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 is in abeyance and all its provisions are inoperative."

Having regard to this recent correspondence, and recalling his decision, communicated by letter dated 17 June 2025, that India has not provided sufficient grounds to justify the suspension of these proceedings, the Neutral Expert further confirms that the Work Programme remains in place and, in particular, that the dates of 17–22 November 2025 remain reserved for the Fourth Meeting. While the Neutral Expert takes note of India's decision not to move forward with or participate in these proceedings, he wishes to emphasize that it remains open to India to rejoin the proceedings should its position change.

That said, the Neutral Expert hereby informs the Parties that, in the light of India's decision, no further preparations for the Second Site Visit will be made at this time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Evgeniya Goriatcheva
Senior Legal Counsel

cc: *For India:*

Mr. M. Anand Prakash, Joint Secretary (Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran Division), Ministry of External Affairs (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Darpan Talwar, Commissioner (Indus), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Mr. Harish Salve, KC and Senior Advocate (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

For Pakistan:

Mr. Syed Ali Murtaza, Federal Secretary to the Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Water Resources (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Mr. Syed Muhammad Mehar Ali Shah, Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters, Ministry of Water Resources (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Mr. Khalid Mahmood, General Manager, Water and Agriculture Division, National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAK) (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Mr. Zohair Waheed, Office of the Attorney General for Pakistan
(by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Ms. Fatima A. Malik, Office of the Attorney General for Pakistan
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Mr. Stephen Fietta (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Ms. Laura Rees-Evans (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Ms. Miglena Angelova (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Mr. Abdullah Tariq (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Ms. Charlotte Westbrook (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Ms. Megan Rippin (by e-mail: [REDACTED])

Neutral Expert and Technical Assistant:

Mr. Michel Lino, Neutral Expert (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Mr. Luc Deroo, Technical Assistant to the Neutral Expert (by e-mail: [REDACTED])