



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

BY E-MAIL:

Mr. Mansoor Usman Awan
Designated Representative
Attorney General
Office of the Attorney-General

BY E-MAIL:

Mr. Raja Naeem Akbar
Deputy Designated Representative
Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice

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5 November 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.

1. Pakistan's Request for a Determination and Next Procedural Steps

The Neutral Expert acknowledges receipt of Pakistan's letter dated 27 October 2025, in which Pakistan renews its request of 1 October 2025 that:

the Neutral Expert directs that he will now move forward expeditiously and as a matter of urgency to reach a determination on the basis of the Parties' first round written submissions and First Site Visit alone, with the consequence that any putative re-engagement by India in the Neutral Expert proceedings in due course would take place on the basis of a revised Work Programme that would be calibrated to a determination based on the Parties' first round written submissions and First Site Visit alone.

The Neutral Expert recalls that in his letter of 20 October 2025, he vacated the dates set in the Work Programme for India's Reply and Pakistan's Rejoinder and directed that any further changes to the Work Programme that may be warranted due to India's non-participation will be discussed at the end of the Fourth Meeting.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Neutral Expert confirms his intention to proceed expeditiously and, in the event of India's continued non-participation, to reach a determination without requiring the filing of second round written submissions (*i.e.*, the Reply and Rejoinder) or any further site visits. That said, the Neutral Expert will consider appropriate next steps after the Fourth Meeting and consultation with the Parties, which may include further oral or written submissions in connection with the transcript of the Fourth Meeting or any questions that the Neutral Expert may have.

Should India decide to rejoin the proceedings at a future point in time, the Neutral Expert will consult the Parties with respect to appropriate amendments to the Work Programme, having regard to the stage of the proceedings and considerations of fairness and effectiveness, including in the light of the RHEP construction schedule, as addressed in the Neutral Expert's letter dated 11 April 2025.

2. Agenda for the Fourth Meeting

The Neutral Expert acknowledges receipt of Pakistan's letter dated 31 October 2025 indicating that it has no comments on the draft agenda for the Fourth Meeting circulated on 20 October 2025.

The Neutral Expert also notes that India has not provided any comments on the draft agenda by the deadline of 31 October 2025 or otherwise.

Following from this, the Neutral Expert directs that the Fourth Meeting shall proceed on the basis of the agenda circulated on 20 October 2025. A finalized version is enclosed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

* * *

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,


Evgeniya Goriatcheva
Senior Legal Counsel

[REDACTED]

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 (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Mr. Syed Shahroz Bakhtyar, Office of the Minister of Law and Justice, Pakistan (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Sir Daniel Bethlehem KC (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Prof. Attila Tanzi (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Prof. Philippa Webb (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
Dr. Cameron Miles (by e-mail: [REDACTED])
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])

**PCA CASE NO. 2023-14****INDUS WATERS TREATY NEUTRAL EXPERT PROCEEDINGS
(INDIA V. PAKISTAN)****Fourth Meeting with the Parties**
Vienna, 17 – 21 November 2025

AGENDA

Note: While no dedicated time windows are allocated below to the Neutral Expert's questions, questions may be put by the Neutral Expert to the Parties at any time. The entire schedule is subject to adjustment during the Fourth Meeting.

Day 1 – Monday, 17 November 2025

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|---------------------------------|--|
| <i>9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.:</i> | Welcoming Remarks and any Housekeeping Matters |
| <i>9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan (including any Opening Statement by Pakistan's Designated Representative) |
| <i>10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.:</i> | Break |
| <i>10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan |
| <i>12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.:</i> | Lunch Break |
| <i>1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan |

End of Day 1***Day 2 – Tuesday, 18 November 2025***

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|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan |
| <i>10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.:</i> | Break |
| <i>10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan |
| <i>12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.:</i> | Lunch Break |
| <i>1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.:</i> | Submission by Pakistan |

End of Day 2

Day 3 – Wednesday, 19 November 2025

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.: Submission by Pakistan

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.: Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.: Submission by Pakistan

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.: Lunch Break

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Submission by Pakistan

End of Day 3

Day 4 – Thursday, 20 November 2025

Fallow Day

End of Day 4

Day 5 – Friday, 21 November 2025

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.: Replies by Pakistan to Neutral Expert Questions

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.: Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.: Replies by Pakistan to Neutral Expert Questions

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.: Lunch Break

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.: Replies by Pakistan to Neutral Expert Questions

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.: Discussion of Next Steps and any Housekeeping Matters

End of Day 5