



PAKISTAN COUNCIL OF
ARCHITECTS AND TOWN PLANNERS

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE PAKISTAN COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTS AND TOWN PLANNERS (PCATP), HELD ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020 VIA ZOOM.

In accordance with the notice, the Extra Ordinary General Meeting of the Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners was held at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday, December 19, 2020 via zoom under the chairmanship of Ar./Plnr. Kalim Ahmad Siddiqui.

A list of members of the Council who attended the proceedings of the Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on 19th December 2020, is attached as Annexure A.

The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by playing of National Anthem. Chairman Ar./ Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui welcomed all of the town planners and architects. He mentioned that this meeting was called as the consequence of the AGM meeting which was held on August 22, 2020. As per AGM 2020 decision on Agenda item 07, three topics, i) Firm Registration ii) CPD Document iii) Architect Licensing Exam, were deferred for further deliberation.

In this regard it may be noted that the firm registration, CPD Program and Architects Licensing Examination (prior called as Architect Competency Examination) were approved and adopted by PCATP at the following AGMs;

1. Firm Registration was approved on June 25, 2014 under the chairmanship of Ar. Sikandar Hayat Khan. Under Sections 8 (d), 8 (c) and 8 (g) of PCATP Ordinance IX of 1983 through Gazette Notification, the Council offered firms registration to firms already performing Architectural/Town Planning works in the meaning as laid down in the Ordinance. Hence, firm registration was included in Bye laws amended in 2018 under the chairmanship of Ar. Asad I.A. Khan and was approved in AGM held in April, 2018.
2. CPD – Pilot program was approved in August 2016 under the chairmanship of Ar. Sikandar Hayat Khan. The decision was made under Resolution No.07 from AGM 2016 minutes: "The house unanimously approved the need for the CPD program and desired that further details should be worked out for approval of the Council and, its implementation."
3. In the AGM held in April 2018, the Architects Licensing Examination was approved. He further mentioned, that the responsibility of the current Executive Committee was to come up with its mode of implementation and procedural aspects. Therefore, the current PCATP Executive Committee took up these topics and examined them from the point of view of its implementation. In this regard a Professional Development Board was constituted with the Vice Chairman Architecture as its head. Two important topics earlier approved by the PCATP AGM were entrusted to the PDB to look after the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and the Architects Licensing Examination (ALE) system. Both the documents were



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discussed at length and deliberated at Executive Committee meetings of PCATP. The final document was uploaded on the PCATP website and also distributed to all the PCATP registered members well before the AGM which was held in August 22 this year.

However, the AGM-2020 on the request of PCATP Chairman, agreed to defer the presentation on the above three topics for a more detailed study since various reservation and comments were expressed by the members before and during the AGM. Consequently, a notice for EGM for November 07, 2020 was given out for the presentation of three draft documents on October 22, 2020. However, a lot of members were of the view that they needed more time to study and review the said documents. So in the best interest of the members, PCATP decided to postpone the said EGM until further notice.

The postponement notice was sent out on November 04, 2020 to all members. Thereafter PCATP received favorable comments and valid response from our membership on documents shared with the registered membership through our email on October 22, 2020. In this regard PCATP is also thankful to the following members who have communicated their comments, suggestions in writing, as well as verbally to Registrar and to myself on these topics as follows;

1. Ar. Yadullah Haider
2. Ar. Ejaz Ahed
3. Ar. Ahmad Parvez Mirza
4. Ar. Arif Belgaumi
5. Ar. Kifayat Hussain
6. Ar. Azhar M. Sualehi
7. Ar. Saad Mahmood
8. Ar. Naveed Zaheer
9. Ar. Khadija Jamal
10. Ar. Sheema Aamir
11. Ar. Yasmeen Abad Maan
12. Dr. Anis Siddiqui
13. Plnr. Muhammad Saleem Baluch and some young architects



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Comments and suggestion from the above members were carefully studied and after holding discussions with notable contributors to the documents, a final document is being placed before this EGM for their approval.

Chairman PCATP, Ar./PInr. Kalim A. Siddiqui then opened the floor for question-and-answer session expecting that everyone has read all the documents in detail. He further mentioned that the questions can be asked in the chat box where each member is requested to mention their registration number while asking the questions. The questions will be answered progressively by the Executive Committee members.

The Registrar, on the behalf of the attendees, requested the Chairman to let all the attendees see the participants.

1. AGENDA ITEM NO.1 REGISTRATION OF FIRMS

1.1 Chairman requested Registrar to read out Bye law 120, as a lot of questions raised are related to it. The Registrar read out Bye law 120 to everyone.

1.2 Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi, mentioned that he was expecting this meeting to be more interactive. He further mentioned that he has already sent his queries via email to Registrar PCATP regarding Bye law 120. He believed that the additional amendment in the Bye law 120 is an unnecessary addition, as the managing director is at the administrative position. He suggested to rather make it binding for the head of the entity/ head of the department to be registered architect or a town planner, as the managing director can belong to any profession.

1.3 Chairman agreed with Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi and supported his suggestion. Prof. Dr. Samra M. Khan seconded the point of view of Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi.

1.4 Ar. Atif Osmani enquired that, if today we are changing our Bye laws regarding firm registration, then why a year back we stopped the registration of Engineering/Town Planning firms? Second, he considered that PCATP has a very wrong attitude towards registration of the firms as PCATP firm registration Bye laws are more biased towards registering and facilitating NESPAK and does not care about other firms. In majority of architectural firms in the world, the management is run by the architects, then why the managing director should be deprived of the shares? Third, he believed that in such a meeting where it is getting difficult to communicate, questions are not answered promptly.

1.5 Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi objected to Ar. Atif Osmani point of view by saying that it is not the whole of NESPAK that is registered with PCATP, it is rather only the architectural and town planning divisions of the NESPAK that are being registered with PCATP. It is the NESPAK that is providing a lot of employment opportunities to the town planners and architects of this country.



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1.6 Ar. Zulfiqar Ali requested to refrain from arguing with each other, rather give an opportunity to the Chairman so that he can satisfy the concerns. Cross arguments will not help us to achieve what we have targeted.

1.7 Ar. Atif Osmani mentioned that why this Bye law only favors the public sector organizations but not the engineering firms which have architectural divisions, this behavior creates disparity in the system.

1.8 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui explained that this Bye law was approved a long time ago and was written, keeping in mind the public sector organizations which include universities consultancy departments and other firms beside NESPAK. The Bye law did not talk about the division of shares of any kind and the status of either architects/town planners who are working as employees in that firm. We have therefore, added that the division of such public sector organizations, whether town planning or architecture should possess majority of our professionals and the division should be headed by a registered member of PCATP.

1.9 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui explained that for private firms, it is very clear in the Bye laws that architecture or town planning firms are registered with the PCATP and the engineering firms are registered with PEC. Talking about the background, he further elucidated that under the chairmanship of Ar. Asad I. A Khan, it was decided that the PEC would be requested to entertain Architectural Engineering Firms and in reciprocal we will entertain registration requests for Engineering Architectural Firms. After a year, when it was not reciprocated by PEC, the registration of engineering firms was discontinued. If an engineering firm wishes to carry any architectural work, then it has to make a separate architectural division that has to fulfil the clauses laid down in our Bye laws.

1.10 Ar. Naveed Zaheer stated he expected amendments would be presented one by one along with their significance and then comments would be entertained. He further believed that with these changes in place, multi-disciplinary facet of firms will be compromised, as the firm can only be registered in a single category. He viewed these changes as a way of keeping away those foreign multinational firms that offer multiple services under one roof. These changes will only facilitate large public sector organization, like NESPAK but these changes will be stifling and counterproductive to the industry. As a regulatory body, it is the responsibility of PCATP to offer a level field to play for all firms. He further added that this amendment would weaken his own firm that not only operates in Pakistan but also works outside Pakistan. While not supporting the changes, he mentioned he was disappointed as he expected PCATP to specially design any committee which can take recommendations and deliberate upon the changes.

1.11 Ar. Aqeel Kapadia supported Ar. Naveed Zaheer recommendation. He further explained that the firm he works at is one of the biggest private sector firm that stands in competition



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with NESPAK, when it comes to taking projects but it is not possible for such a bigger firm to split its shares for registration in such a way as laid down in the proposed Bye laws. He believed that with such shareholding criterion, we are limiting our profession by not accommodating the Architectural Engineering firms. He mentioned that keeping in mind the financial position architects have in the firms, it seems unbelievable that architects would be able to acquire the required shares in such a big firm earning huge revenue. He further brought to the attention that many international firms have their shares floating in public even which help such firms to grow. By not registering with PCATP, our firm will definitely face the setback as such multi-disciplinary firms will not be able to take on good projects. Having such amendments in place, we are creating a gap which will harm the architectural industry. He requested Chairman PCATP and his team to rethink regarding the firm registration criterion.

1.12 Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary, Vice Chairman (Architecture) PCATP, stated that PCATP is only concerned with the architects and town planners, not with any other professionals. PCATP will and can work out to accommodate the architectural/ town planning divisions of the multi-disciplinary firms by changing the ownership criteria in such divisions. Further he emphasized that PCATP will not be regulating large engineering firms apart from their architectural/ town planning division. He lastly requested all such large multi-disciplinary engineering architectural firms to approach PEC and convince them on the understanding that was put before them a year ago. PCATP's main concern is to benefit its own membership.

1.13 Ar. Ahmed Mukhtar supported Vice Chairman (Architecture) point of view as he mentioned that PEC does not consider registering the architectural engineering firms with them unless more than 60 percent shares belongs to the engineers. He believed that PEC should also act flexible towards registering the Architectural Engineering firms as reciprocity is necessary. He further encouraged and appreciated the category system as this will be very helpful for architects, especially young architects to get hands on experience in the professional field.

1.14 Plnr. Muhammad Saleem Baluch was of the opinion that the Council should only be registering the town planning and architectural firms because in a firm not only engineers are involved but many other professionals as well. If we start entertaining engineering firms, then other professionals will also put forward their demand for registration.

1.15 Ar. Aamir Uddin Sultan supported the stance taken by Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary as he believed that many architects in Pakistan are pushed back by other professionals and the registration of AE firms should only be considered on the basis of reciprocity. He further enquired about the licensing exam, asking whether does he have to appear in the licensing exam as he wishes to open up a firm in Pakistan?



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1.16 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui responded that if you are registered and practicing architecture before December 2019, then you don't need to appear for Architecture Licensing Exam.

1.17 Ar. Usman Sami brought attention towards the letter he has sent to PCATP recently highlighting concerns collectively. He firmly believes that PCATP is responsible for registering the architects, accrediting architectural institutions but it should not be concerned with giving architects license to practice.

1.18 Chairman PCATP Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui responded that PCATP would have been able to respond only if the letter was sent earlier. He further explained that in various parts of the world, from America to Europe, the architects are not allowed to sign the documents and building plans unless they possess a license to practice. Registering with PCATP, means that the title of architects is conferred upon you and confirms that you have the required qualifications. In order to practice abroad, one has to have experience and license. Our categories of firm registration are designed in the order of experience that a firm gain in the professional field. He further stated that we have been trying to persuade PPRA to listen to us and make their rules more architect-friendly as they are very engineering specific as of now.

1.19 Ar. Sami Ullah Khan requested PCATP and PEC to be flexible in the aspect of registering Architectural Engineering firms. Chairman PCATP completely agrees with him and said that PEC also has to act more flexible so that our architects could be accommodated.

1.20 Ar. Ali Zafar Qazi applauded the efforts that are being put into working on all these documents but he suggested to make this EGM more inclusive so that everyone could have made their point in writing. He further requested to form a committee in which the recommendations made by everyone could be accommodated. He suggested to consider the bulk of the architectural businesses on the ground, not every firm is structured as NESPAK. The merit of the firm lies with the expertise of the principal architects it has, the firm should not be restricted from registering on the basis of the staff it has. As the firm grows, the staff increases in size automatically. The basis on which a firm is registered should be more focused on the experience of the focal and principal architects it has, rather than on the capacity and size. The criteria will deteriorate the quality of architectural firms. He suggested to form a committee which can address all these issues and recommendations.

1.21 Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui recalled that all the members of the PCATP were not invited once but thrice to send their recommendations and suggestions in writing to Registrar PCATP. He further stated that PCATP has not received any of your recommendations in writing and the points raised by you can be debated over for days. He mentioned that he has been pleased with those members who have participated in full spirit by submitting their



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recommendations on time and further helped us in shaping and crystallizing those points. For this EGM, we had expected everyone to have read the documents in detail so that we can proceed further by giving it a final shape. He further elucidated that in the big engineering firms, the architects are not given the opportunity to succeed vertically and are outclassed. The CPD, licensing system and the firm registration criteria are designed with an aim of differentiating the quacks from the professionals, to create a nursing ground for our young architects and planners, to help our architects and planners to climb the vertical ladder and most importantly to prevent them from being overshadowed by other professionals.

1.22 Ar. Kabeer Malik appreciated the attempt of organizing EGM by creating a platform where both senior and junior architects can be at one place but he recommended arranging the EGM in a way where the members could sit and discuss things face to face which might clarify many points. His main concern was regarding the architects and town planners who belong to rural areas, who do not have the opportunity to grow and execute big projects. He emphasized that the architects who wish to open up firms in rural backward regions should be allowed to categorize their firms in higher categories considering the experience they have gained over the years. He was of the opinion that everyone should be given equal opportunity when it comes to firm registration.

1.23 Ar. Arif Belgaumi was of the view that there should be a wider and inclusive dialogue on these agenda items before the EGM and a wider cross section of professionals should become part of these meetings. He recalled that he had been part of the recent meetings held and found himself the most vocal of all the participants. He believed that the multi-disciplinary firms also employ professionals other than engineers and architects and PCATP should only be involved in registering the architects or town planners. He stated that many of his comments are addressed in the revised document. He believes that limiting ownership to the majority of architects will be a real problem for the architects and firms to grow which will ultimately affect the employment opportunities for young architects. He further said that if the requirement for staffing has been removed as indicated in the last revision, then the architects should not be required to apply for renewal of registration every year. He further emphasized that the doors of firm registration should not be closed, the firm registration should be restored until the Bye laws are finalized.

1.24 Chairman PCATP Ar./PInr. Kalim A. Siddiqui responded that PCATP has never suspended the registration of architectural firms, only the registration of those firms were suspended who were Architectural Engineering firms. Further, he explained the discussions over these topics have been going since August and the ones who have responded, their concerns have been addressed and accommodated. The members were welcomed to send their suggestions in writing but few responded. We have to go systematically and for that the members should have responded on time so that their concerns were addressed timely.



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- 1.25 Ar. Farhatullah Qureshi requested to conduct EGM physically in cities so that wider participation could be entertained. He further stated that PCATP should make its own Bye laws, rather than looking at what our neighboring or advanced countries are doing.
- 1.26 Prof. Dr. Samra M. Khan said that we should not be talking against PCATP, we can say wrong to a policy but we should not say wrong about the institution.
- 1.27 Ar. Farhatullah Qureshi said that he was among the founding members of PCATP, why would he say anything wrong to PCATP. He emphasized that the demands of those young architects who have recently protested should be heard.
- 1.28 Plnr. Umar Farooq mentioned that there should be two planners and one architect instead of one planner and two architects in the Board of Assessors for the town planning firms. He further mentioned that he is totally against this categorization criterion: the scrutiny regarding the turnover, staff requirements and the projects details should not become the basis of categorization. Thirdly, he mentioned that his firm is registered with PEC and as per their requirement where 51 percent of ownership should belong to the engineers, how could possibly a big planning firm like ours be able to get registered with PCATP, keeping in view the revised Bye laws. The new ownership criteria will prevent many big multi-disciplinary firms to get registered and grow.
- 1.29 Ar. Hassan Sarmad Toosy was of the view that the Bye laws should be amended after the election because then, the new changes should be mentioned in the new manifesto as many professionals have already suffered a lot due to these sudden changes. He further emphasized that there should be a level field ground for everyone. He was of the view that licensing is a good step but any step should not be favoring only a section of the members.
- 1.30 Plnr. Shafaat Nawaz was of the view that PCATP needs to make a cell to continuously share updated information, rules, Bye laws, amendments, policies, etc. pertinent to our profession. This information should then periodically be shared to registered members or put on the website.
- 1.31 Chairman PCATP Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui responded that the updated information is continuously shared on the website, and all these revised drafts were sent to the participating members right from the draft made in EGM held in August.
- 1.32 Registrar PCATP requested Chairman to wrap up this firm registration as there are already many firm registration requests that have been put on hold until the amended Bye laws are made. As the quorum is complete, we should come up with any proceedings either by taking a vote or responding in the chat session.
- 1.33 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui observed that the only problem lies where multi-disciplinary firms' registration is concerned. Chairman explained that in his view the



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categorization of firms is necessary because many development agencies in Pakistan have their own categorization, so introducing the standard categorization will make things easier and sorted out in a better way. The requirements for firm categorization are already simplified and narrowed down to only number of years of experience, NTN and a bank account in the name of the firm.

1.34 Chairman PCATP requested members to vote in the chat. He further requested Registrar to put the voting statement in the chat section.

1.35 Plnr. Khurram Farid was of the view that the voting should be taken place and instead of being stalemate, everyone should cooperate so that we can move on.

1.36 The Registrar informed Chairman PCATP that members are continuously objecting on the way the voting is conducted. They do not feel that it is the right way and place to vote.

1.37 The Registrar read out all the names of the participants, both architects and town planners on the requests of some participants.

1.38 The Chairman responded that we will make a proper voting regime for voting. He further informed the members that soon polls will appear on the screen and the members are requested to vote. The members will respond, 'Yes', if they agree to the amendments made and 'No' in case they do not agree with the amendments. The question will be mentioned in the poll. First question will be asked in relation to section 3 and 4 of item 115 of firm registration, second question will be posed in relation to item 120 which also includes the recent amendment as proposed by Mr. Arif Changezi and the third question posed will be about the categorization of the firms.

1.39 The Registrar read out the amendments to the attendees.

1.40 Plnr. Khurram Farid, Vice Chairman Town Planning suggested breaking first question into two parts, each for one section as they both ask different things. Chairman PCATP agreed.

1.41 The Registrar announced that some of the members want to vote via email to which Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary, Vice Chairman Architecture disagreed and suggested to vote at one place so that it becomes easier in compiling the data.

1.42 Prof. Dr. Samra M. Khan appreciated the arrangements that have been arranged for voting in this virtual EGM.

1.43 Chairman Kalim A. Siddiqui gave ten minutes to all the members for voting. After everyone had voted, he shared the results. He informed the participants that for the first question related to section 3 item number 115 of firm registration, 68 percent of the members have voted yes and 32 percent have voted no. For second question about section 4 of item



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115 of firm registration, 72 percent have voted, yes and 29 percent have voted no. For third question, which was about item 120 in firm registration, 68 percent members have voted for yes and the remaining 32 have voted no. For fourth question which is about firm categorization, 62 percent members have voted for yes and 38 percent have voted no.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2A Continuous Professional Development For Architects

2.1 Chairman PCATP informed all the members again that PCATP has not received any recommendations regarding CPD document so the amendments done are all based on what has been discussed among the committees at PCATP. He further mentioned that if someone has any comments, he/she can take the mike and contribute.

2.2 Ar. Raza Ahsan commented that voting should be conducted after assuring the acceptability and validity of this CPD document. He was further of the view that as the CEO of a smaller firm, the firm should not be registered on the basis of the strength of the staff, rather than on the portfolio and the experience of the principal architect. He further commented that for CPD, the PCATP should have a proper documentation where the attendance, participation and CPD points be properly revealed in case for trials.

2.3 Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui responded that his comments will be catered and looked upon. Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary also added that PCATP will have the complete records of all the programs which are being run and organized by itself under CPD but there are many ways to earn CPD points on your own, such as writing some relevant paper, publishing a paper in any recognized conference or journal, etc, for such events, PCATP may ask about any documentary proofs before giving any CPD points. Furthermore, the whole process is going to be very feasible and accessible soon as PCATP is soon going to launch a mobile application where the attendance, points, events and everything related to CPD will be posted.

2.4 Ar. Shazia Qureshi questioned about the CPD events which have been taken place till date, she asked whether those points will be accommodated?

2.5 Vice Chairman Architecture replied that CPD points that have been recorded will not be wasted, they will definitely be considered once CPD program is in implementation. Nonetheless, if more than required CPD points are earned in a year, they can be carried on further and will remain valid for two years.

2.6 Ar. Sikandar Hayat Khan enquired if there is any committee that scrutinizes and ensures that the programs selected for CPD are up to a certain standard. Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary, Vice Chairman (Ar.) responded that CPD programs are managed under the supervision of Professional Development Board of PCATP that makes sure that CPD programs are up to the mark. Further he informed that after every CPD program, the attendees will be able to rate



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the program as well which will help PCATP arranging the programs which will be more purposeful.

2.7 Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi asked whether the institutions recently running and arranging seminars and events, can register their programs as CPD programs. As recently, the institutions are not included as CPD partners yet. Chairman PCATP agreed to include the educational institutions as CPD partners.

2.8 Ar. Asia Jabeen expressed her concern by addressing the CPD events that are jointly arranged by IAP and PCATP in which a member who wants to attain the CPD points is refused by IAP to get registered for the event. She was of the view that all the registered architects should have equal opportunity to attend the events in which PCATP is involved. On further clarification, she mentioned that she has been removed from IAP membership for over four years due to which she cannot be part of many events even if she wishes to.

2.9 Chairman PCATP Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui requested IAP to kindly take this case under consideration.

2.10 Ar. Ali Zafar Qazi asked Ar. Amir N. Chaudhary if the members of the Professional Development Board are elected or nominated and the tenure for which the membership remains. Chairman PCATP requested Ar. Ali Zafar Qazi to kindly remain on the agenda. Vice Chairman (Ar.) informed that all the details regarding the formation of Professional Development Board is available in CPD document available on PCATP's website.

2.11 Ar. Usman Sami said that he had sent a written reply to PCATP where he talked about in relevance to ARB. He was of the view that our mission is in sync with ARB which says that maintaining compliance also include active engagement in practice, he should be awarded if not all, some points if he is teaching architecture. According to him, this aspect is missing from the CPD document.

2.12 Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui replied that CPD document is a comprehensive one which covers all the aspects. Teaching is not counted as an extra activity, rather it is something that is your routine work, so in order to earn CPD points, one has to involve in architectural activities other than the regular architectural work one does, such as writing or publishing any architectural related research paper or attending seminars and events.

2.13 Ar. Ahsan Waheed asked if CPD programs are hosted by any other party, other than PCATP, would the members need to get registered with the host party in order to attend the events. And secondly, has this EGM been awarded any CPD points, as it is in clash with the current NED program happening which has already been awarded CPD points?

2.14 Vice Chairman (Architecture) replied that if you are a part of any private organization or any educational institutions and a part of its executive committee, you will be awarded the



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CPD points. Any organization can apply to PCATP for their partnership in CPD programs. He further stated that there will be many CPD events which can occur at the same time, as it also happens in countries like Sri Lanka where multiple CPD programs are being run at the same time. Attending this EGM has not been awarded with any CPD points. The EGM was planned to happen but got late due to the discussions over the agenda items.

2.15 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui recommended proposing the resolution and get CPD approved in this EGM. The Registrar suggested to go for voting in this case to which Chairman PCATP viewed no need for voting.

Resolution No.1

Architectural CPD Program was approved by in the EGM. The confirmation resolution was proposed by Ar. Umar Saeed and seconded by Ar. Sikandar Hayat Khan.

AGENDA NO. 2B Continuous Professional Development For Town Planners

2.16 Chairman PCATP Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui informed the members that the proposal for CPD for town planners was put forward by Vice Chairman Town Planning and some members in the last AGM. The town planning executive committee members have already submitted the proposal and are of the view point that it should be run as a pilot survey first. He further welcomed the town planning members in its experimental phase and mentioned that the document has already been shared among the members, the recommendations are welcomed.

2.17 Vice Chairman (Town Planning) Plnr. Khurram Farid, while talking about its importance mentioned that a CPD document is equally essential to the town planners as well, as it will help the town planners to keep updated with the new town planning techniques and evolving ideas. He further thanked Prof. Dr. Obaidullah Nadeem who has contributed in the making of its document. He told the members that the CPD will not become a limiting factor in the registration renewal rather it will help the town planners chisel their skills. He requested Prof. Dr. Obaidullah Nadeem to further elaborate this document.

2.18 Prof. Dr. Obaidullah Nadeem firstly thanked Chairman PCATP and Vice Chairman (Town Planning) for the acknowledgement. He mentioned that the document is prepared resulting from the demand put forward by town planners in the last meeting and it was realized that there is a need for such a program. He mentioned that categories are developed having formal education, experience, individual activities, development activities, and even home based



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activities as CPD activities. He further stated that 1 CPD point is awarded to a town planner who works for 400 hours, which approximates to two months and 0.5 point will also be awarded for a 2 months' internship. All the training, local and developmental organizations are authorized to participate in the CPD upon prior approval from PCATP. A professional development board will be developed which will be responsible to look after the programs and take care of CPD point allotment. The professional development board will be chaired by Town Planning Vice Chairman, two nominated town planning members from the PCATP Executive Committee, one member from the academia and one member having 10 or more years of experience in the relevant field. He invited the members for any suggestions or comments.

2.19 Plnr. Muhammad Saleem Baloch recommended defining a clear criterion for the categories given at the end of the document. The conditions upon which a category is upgraded are ambiguous and required to be more organized. Prof. Dr. Obaidullah Nadeem responded as acquiring CPD points is non-mandatory at this age, we have left it open-ended. Once the culture of CPD is inculcated and the professionals understand its importance, minimum scores for the categories will be defined.

2.20 Ar. Fazal Subhan was of the view that the subject of environmental design should be included in CPD programs so that we can combat global climatic challenges. He believes that for promoting green architecture, the subject of environment should be given importance. Chairman PCATP supported the idea.

2.21 Chairman PCATP added that all firms, either architecture or town planning will be awarded CPD points if they employ young graduates in their firm.

Resolution No.2

Town Planning CPD program was agreed to run in pilot mode. Plnr. Dr. Haroon Siddique proposed the resolution and it was seconded by Plnr. Muhammad Yaseen, Plnr. Dr. Mujahid Hussain, Plnr. Mutahir Mehmood Awan and Plnr. Syeda Sanie Zahra Naqvi.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 ARCHITECTS LICENSING EXAMINATION

3.1 Chairman Ar./Plnr. Kalim A. Siddiqui informed all the members that this document was prepared in August and presented in AGM, after that it was further improved and changed. The revised documents have already been sent to all the members.



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3.2 Ar. Usman Sami enquired if registering with PCATP equals attaining architectural license and if an architectural program is already accredited by PCATP, then why is there a need to reappear in another examination after graduation?

3.3 Chairman PCATP responded that registration with PCATP after getting a degree from an accredited institution sure gives you a title of an architect but one cannot work as a professional architect or take up project single-handedly without attaining the license from PCATP. This architectural license is granted after a year experience in an architectural field and then clearing the license examination. This training exam will help our architectural profession in getting rid of the quacks prevalent in our system. Signing a document carries a lot of responsibility, this license will help in protecting the interests of the public and deliver quality work to the clients.

3.4 Ar. Usman Sami further asked if the senior architects who have been practicing for tens of years will need to appear for such an examination to which Chairman PCATP responded that this licensing examination is for those students who have been recently graduated not for the ones who have graduated and practicing years ago. He informed that even in PEC, the engineers have to appear for a licensing examination after five years of professional practice.

3.5 Ar. Muhammad Arif Changezi enquired if PCATP has listened to the grievances addressed by the young architects who have shown great resentment towards the idea of licensing examination. The main concerns of those students are twofold. First they believe that this licensing examination will create obstacles for them in finding employment opportunities which are already quite scarce in this state of pandemic. Second, the high fees charged for an examination, is not reasonable to demand from young architects who have just graduated from their institutions.

3.6 PCATP Chairman responded that PCATP had already arranged a long session of three hours' duration with the students in which all of their concerns were addressed. Chairman believed that he was able to convince majority of students who understood the importance of this examination. He informed that students have to pay for the licensing examination only once that is 10,000 PKR but they can appear in the examination thrice, which means that students do not have to pay again if they appear for an examination second time. Moreover, the licensing examination will be held every six months. Further he mentioned that students will appear in the licensing examination after a year of professional experience. Chairman PCATP mentioned that unfortunately due to pandemic the job market has worsened, but due to this pandemic it is not only the young architects who are at stake but there have been lay-offs in the firms and the firms have suffered great losses. Unemployment is a national dilemma but it is the time that we have to realign ourselves and raise the standards of an architectural profession. Chairman appeal to all firms to offer higher salaries to fresh blood as it is a shame to offer such low salaries to our students who have spent five years in an accredited institution.



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3.7 Ar. Mazhar Munir said that as per Ordinance, PCATP observers are present in fourth and fifth year of architecture juries. Keeping in mind, that under the supervision of observers, architectural final exams are conducted, there felt no need for conducting yet another examination. Secondly, coaching centers and academies have sprung up which claim to prepare the students for the exam. He was of the view that such steps should not be taken that could lead to consequences which run against our Ordinance. He further mentioned that in the government sectors, the seats for architects and town planners are vacant for years. He stated that he, along with some fellow architects have worked together to create job opportunities for architects and town planners. They have succeeded in amending the rules due to which 74 vacancies have generated but still architects and town planners are not able to exploit these opportunities. He requested PCATP chairman to meet the heads of different departments so that opportunities can be created.

3.8 Chairman PCATP responded by saying that PCATP cannot interfere with the architectural degrees awarded by the accredited universities. It is a regulatory body that registers the architects and town planners and gives license to them when it is the time. The architects, after the registration with PCATP can work as long as they want, but as professional architects signing the building plans bear huge responsibility. He further mentioned that some of the members of the executive committee have been working in their regions to improve the dialogue between PCATP and local organizations and create job opportunities for our members, as Ar. Zulfiqar Ali has done some great work in KPK. He requested Ar. Zulfiqar Ali to let people know of any steps taken in this regard.

3.9 Ar. Zulfiqar Ali mentioned that we have been in constant contact with our local organizations in order to create jobs and accommodate our registered members. With the help of our senior architects, we have been corresponding with the institutions every now and then. One of our achievements is to create posts for 27 district architects in KPK.

3.10 Ar. Zulfiqar Ali Tariq proposed to create an entry level exam for the architectural schools as this will help system to filter out incapable students at the initial level. Second, he mentioned that every year, a lot of foreign scholarship positions are wasted and suggested that young graduates who could not find jobs should consider pursuing higher studies. He recommended PCATP to play a role in creating awareness among its pool of architects about various scholarship opportunities.

3.11 Chairman PCATP mentioned that admission tests are conducted by the institutions themselves and institutions should have a tracer study to calibrate the entry level tests so that best results can be produced at the end. He agreed that aptitude plays a very important role in study of architecture.



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3.12 Ar. Aamir Uddin Sultan commented that minimum salary of a fresh graduate depends on the firm what it can offer to its employees which ultimately depends on what type of projects the firm is involved in and what contract it has signed with the clients. He further mentioned that many senior architects before us get a free walk through and could establish their own firms which were even registered by other construction or cantonment bodies. He feels contended that now Pakistan has its own regulatory body and he feels right to take a licensing exam. He suggested to take licensing exams for the batches who have just graduated and create a cut off line starting from now.

3.13 Vice Chairman (Architecture) clarified that in the ALE document, by the batch of 2014 it is meant the batch which graduated in 2019 and inducted in 2014, so this ALE will be taken by those students who have recently graduated.

3.14 Ar. Azhar Sualehi commented that he has been a paper setter and examiner for PCATP till the time Architectural Competency Exam was announced. He mentioned that for the record, he no longer serves as an examiner since he has opened up an academy.

3.15 Ar. Zulfiqar Ali mentioned that the proposal for an exam has already been approved in the last AGM, most probably in 2018. He clarified to the members that this examination has not been proposed recently, the basic objective of the agenda is to get it approved so that it can be implemented as soon as possible.

3.16 Ar. Ahsan Waleed was of the opinion that due to this licensing examination, many young architects will be devoid of any available job opportunities. He further mentioned that since the proposal of this examination, PCATP has not opened any training centers and is itself playing no role in the training of the architects. It has been over two years; our licenses have been suspended. Comparing the number of architects and the firms who are registered with PCATP and the students who enter the market annually, it will not be possible for all the architects to entertain all these students.

3.17 Vice Chairman (Architecture) replied that keeping in mind the limited number of firms we have, we are accepting the professional experience gained by working with any professional registered architect.

3.18 Ar. Ahsan Waleed also mentioned that the professional experience of one year does not help us gain the training that Chairman PCATP talks that can help us practice individually and will not be helpful in preparing for the exam and case study.

3.19 Vice Chairman (Architecture) clarified that the exam taken will be all about the basic professional practice and case study will be relevant to any part or whole of the project you have spent one year on in the professional practice.



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3.20 Ar. Ahsan Waleed mentioned that why just before some months of PCATP election, the voting right has been shifted from a registered member to a licensed member. Is this in response to a petition being filed in the High Court?

3.21 Vice Chairman (Architecture) mentioned that as per Ordinance, the voting right is only given to those members who have been practicing architecture, so keeping in mind the following, the right has been shifted to members who have the license to practice architecture.

3.22 Vice Chairman (Architecture) responded that the cut-off date was announced way earlier and the architects were reminded several times to apply for registration beforehand. In case, they have not, they have to appear in the exam.

3.23 Ar. Ahsan Waleed commented that for licensing examination, the fresh graduates are required to work under those architects who, themselves have not appeared in the licensing examinations. Should not all architects be appearing in the licensing examination? He suggested opening up training centers.

3.24 Chairman PCATP responded that the licensing examination will check your skills not the skills of the professionals you have worked under the supervision.

3.25 Ar. Ahsan Waleed further mentioned that minimum salary should be defined for the architects. Chairman PCATP responded that PCATP can only appeal the firms to offer a minimum salary but cannot dictate the firms and make it binding for them to offer a minimum salary package. Chairman PCATP suggested studying for the exam thoroughly.

3.26 Ar. Raza Ahsan totally agreed that the profession of architecture should be upgraded and such steps should be taken to raise the standards of our profession. There have been organizations where draftsmen are taking over the role of architects. His major concern is whether PCATP is looking at the ancillary matters as well, where quacks are prevalent. He questioned, what role PCATP is playing in ensuring that even after acquiring the license, the status of an architect is not replaced by other professionals? He applauded PCATP for its efforts in putting an end to an exercise where the architects needed to get themselves registered with authorities such as LDA to practice.

3.27 Chairman PCATP replied that PCATP has been working hard to ensure that like LDA, DHA and other Cantonment Boards get opened to all registered architects. For some extent, we have achieved progress and we are very hopeful that registered PCATP architects will no longer have to re-register themselves with these organizations in order to take on relevant projects. Chairman further informed that to revive the status of architects that has been taken over by the stampers, we have formulated the two-point strategy to which LDA and Karachi DHA City has already agreed. The two-point strategy is to put up a board on the construction site stating the name of the project, architect, contractor and the architect's license. The



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positive thing is that architect will get recognition and will be more responsible towards public. Soon if organizations do not correspond, the matters will be taken legally as well. The matters have also been taken up with the Housing Ministry Punjab where it is appealed that projects

Resolution No. 3

The Licensing Architectural Examination was agreed to be implemented. The confirmation resolution was proposed by Ar. Azhar Sualehi and seconded by Ar. Umar Saeed.

should be declared open for all the architects in Pakistan. PCATP is also putting efforts in promoting the e-business where the submission drawings for both architecture and town planning will be approved within 30 days. We have already arranged meeting with the IT board, once the presentations are made, we will share the presentations with Chief Minister Punjab and Prime Minister. The team in Peshawar is also working on the same agenda which will help architects to take a front seat in their profession.

The meeting ended with the farewell address by the Chairman PCATP to all the members. He thanked all of the participants for taking out their time for this meeting. He requested all the members to follow the COVID SOPs and stay safe.

Dated: January 08, 2021

Ar./ Plnr. Kalim Ahmad Siddiqui
Chairman PCATP (2019-2021)

**PAKISTAN COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTS AND TOWN PLANNERS
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Annexure "A"

ATTENDANCE LIST		
S. NO	Registration No	Name
1	A00010	SHAHINE KHAN
2	A00034	KALIM AHMAD SIDDIQUI
3	A00036	FAUZIA QURESHI
4	A00069	SOHAIL SAEED
5	A00077	AHMAD PERVEZ MIRZA
6	A00090	TAHIRA SADIA FAZLI
7	A00111	AZHAR SUALEHI
8	A00279	NAZAR ABBAS KAZMI
9	A00386	SIKANDAR HAYAT KHAN
10	A00432	FARHATULLAH QURESHI
11	A00524	SYED AKEEL BILGRAMI
12	A00781	DR.ARIF KHAN
13	A00801	ABDUL QADIR
14	A00820	AAMIR UDDIN SULTAN
15	A00916	MUHAMMAD NAEEM
16	A00933	SHEEMA AAMIR
17	A00982	KHADIJA SHABAN
18	A00998	KHALID MAHMOOD AHMED
19	A01026	MUHAMMAD ARIF CHANGEZI
20	A01044	SAMRA MOHSIN KHAN
21	A01089	MOBINA BADRUDDIN
22	A01091	NAVED ZAHEER
23	A01117	ALI ZAFAR QAZI
24	A01124	KOMAL PARVEZ
25	A01126	JAHANGIR KHAN
26	A01177	ATIF OSMANI
27	A01240	JAMSHAIQ IQBAL
28	A01252	NABILA RASHID
29	A01286	AHMED MUKHTAR
30	A01378	ZULFIQAR ALI
31	A01411	AMIR NAZIR CHOUDHRY
32	A01444	ADIL NAZIR
33	A01469	FAUZIA ASAD KHAN
34	A01597	ADNAN KHAN
35	A01605	MARWAT KHAN
36	A01634	ABDUL KABEER MALIK SIDDIQI
37	A01655	UMAR SAEED
38	A03011	NABAH ALI SYED
39	A01696	IQRAR HUSSAIN
40	A01697	SHAZIA QURESHI
41	A01772	SAJID KHAN
42	A01781	SOHAIL KHAN

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ATTENDANCE LIST		
43	A01865	MUHAMMAD IQBAL
44	A01926	WAJIHA REHAN
45	A02005	ASIA JABEEN
46	A02060	KIFAYAT HUSSAIN
47	A02062	ARIF BELGAUMI
48	A02082	MAZHAR HUSSAIN
49	A02115	MARIA ANSARI
50	A02165	UBEDULLAH BALOCH
51	A02211	DR. SAIMA GULZAR
52	A02242	ZULFIQAR ALI TARIQ
53	A02255	ASAD ALI
54	A02354	DR. SHAMA ANBRINE
55	A02356	MUHAMMAD ARIF KHAN
56	A02374	AHSAN NAWAZ
57	A02392	FAIQA KHILAT
58	A02406	MUHAMMAF FARHAN AHMED
59	A02410	INAMUL HAQ
60	A02425	AZAR RAZA
61	A02446	SAMIRAH PERVAIZ
62	A02467	KIRAN UNAR
63	A02472	SYEDA NAQVI
64	A02504	MANSOOR AHMED
65	A02510	TARIQUE HUSSAIN
66	A02577	HASSAN SARMAD TOOSY
67	A02579	SHAUKAT AYAZ
68	A02594	OMER SAEED MALIK
69	A02599	SANA LATIF
70	A02601	MUHAMMAD MOHSIN IQBAL
71	A02651	SITWAT SAEED
72	A02652	SAMREEN ASGHAR
73	A02662	RAZA AHSAN
74	A02713	SHAZIA ABRO
75	A02716	RIZWAN HANIF
76	A02750	SANNAH EJAZ
77	A02761	MOHAMMAD ATAULLAH
78	A02765	FAZAL SUBHAN
79	A02802	SARA ALI
80	A02804	MOHAMMAD SAIFULLAH SIDDIQUI
81	A02859	BISMA ASKARI
82	A02903	AMNA HAMEED
83	A02932	MUHAMMAD YASIM
84	A02946	MAZHAR MUNIR
85	A02989	FAZAL NOOR

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ATTENDANCE LIST		
86	A02997	FAHAD HASSAN
87	A03040	ABDUL WAHID
88	A03086	ASAD UR REHMAN
89	A03093	MUHAMMAD SAAD SAEED MALIK
90	A06829	USMAN LIAQAT
91	A03094	USMAN SAMI
92	A03102	IFRAH WAHEED
93	A03178	SAMIAH SARKAR YASIN
94	A03297	FAIZULLAH QURESHI
95	A03456	ZEESHAN RAZA
96	A02801	UMER ZIA
97	A03528	JAWAD KHAN
98	A03540	NOSHEEDULLAH SHAH
99	A03694	IMRAN MUHAMMAD
100	A03729	ZAREE SOHAIL
101	A03808	UMER IQBAL
102	A03951	HAFIZ SHABBIR HUSSAIN
103	A03986	HIBA HASHMI
104	A04023	INAYAT ULLAH
105	A04033	SALMAN JAMIL
106	A04042	HUSNAIN RAZA KHAN
107	A04076	SYED MUHAMMAD MEHDI
108	A04088	SAMI ULLAH KHAN
109	A04313	SADAM ALI
110	A04344	AQEEL KAPADIA
111	A04407	ALIYA KANWAL
112	A04698	ASIM SOHAIL
113	A04699	KHOLA ASIM
114	A05075	ALI AHMED JAN
115	A05084	JAVERIA JALIL
116	A05157	KAMRAN KHAN
117	A05210	NASEEM SHAH
118	A05259	YASIR HUSSAIN
119	A05389	MUHAMMAD TARIQ
120	A05419	SHAHID AKBAR
121	A05446	AUJALA NAVEED BAHADUR
122	A05697	MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAEED
123	A05707	FAIZAN AFZAL
124	A05847	ZUBAIR AHMAD
125	A05849	ALI ZAIN SYED
126	A05868	MUHAMMAD ASAD KHAN
127	A05887	ABDUL QADDUS MALIK
128	A05951	AZEM SHABBIR

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ATTENDANCE LIST		
129	A06070	MUHAMMAD ASIF AWAN
130	A06073	MUHAMMAD ZAHID
131	A06164	SULMAN MUNIR
132	A06171	KASHIF GHAFUOR
133	A06316	SHAFIQ RASOOL
134	A06478	AFTAB AHMAD
135	A06829	USMA LIAQAT
136	A06939	ZEESHAN BANGASH
137	A07173	MUHAMMAD AHMAD
138	A07330	FURQAN ULLAH
139	A07458	SAMANA MAHDI
140	A07471	SAMIUD DIN UDDIN
141	A07671	SYEDA RIDA SULTAN
142	A07811	MARIAM SAMI
143	A07847	AHSAN WALEED
144	P00067	MUTAHIR MEHMOOD
145	P00185	UMAR FAROOQ
146	P00295	MUJAHID HUSSAIN
147	P00318	MOHAMMAD ATIQ UR RAHMAN
148	P00344	OBIDULLAH NADEEM
149	P00420	AFTAB AHMED
150	P00430	MUHAMMAD SALEEM BALUCH
151	P00444	DR. MUHAMMAD HAROON SIDDIQUE
152	P00461	KHURRAM FARID
153	P00471	AHMAD MASOOD
154	P00494	ANWARUL HAQ
155	P00560	FARIHA TARIQ
156	P00648	MARIAM FAROOQ
157	P00668	FAUZIA RIZWAN
158	P00688	SYED RIZWAN MUNIR
159	P00825	ABUZAR YUSUF
160	P00949	MEHTAB AHMED QASIM
161	P00966	MUHAMMAD SHAFIAT NAWAZ
162	P01015	ANIS SAMOO
163	P01037	YASIR MEHMOOD
164	P01163	RAB NAWAZ
165	P01165	ASIM ZIA
166	P01186	MUHAMMAD HAROON
167	P01187	TAYYAB MUSSADIQ
168	P01234	ALISHA SHAHID
169	P01374	ALI RAZA
170	P01389	UNZILA ABEER
171	P01477	MUHAMMAD AHMAD ANWAR