

Media Update-2

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UNODC

Press Release

The Government of Balochistan and UNODC Launch the Governance Structure of the Rule of Law Roadmap

23 October 2018, Quetta – Mr. Haider Ali Shikoh, Home and Tribal Affairs Department of Balochistan, and Mr. Cesar Guedes, Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) inaugurated today the Delivery Unit at the Home Department – the backbone of Balochistan reform under the Rule of Law Roadmap that was approved by the Balochistan Provincial Cabinet.

“Rule of Law is the most important priority of Government of Balochistan and today we have taken a concrete step towards the implementation of Rule of Law Roadmap by inaugurating the Delivery Unit with the support of UNODC who has been an instrumental partner in improving Rule of Law in Balochistan from last eight years”, said Mr. Shikoh, Home Secretary. “The Government of Balochistan is leading the implementation of Rule of Law Roadmaps across all the provinces despite the challenges on the ground. Our presence today launching the Delivery Unit is a witness of that and the Government’s ownership and commitment throughout the process, translating their strategic vision into action and becoming a role model for other provinces to follow. UNODC will continue supporting the Government of Balochistan and other relevant stakeholders in instilling rule of law and justice for all citizens in the province”, stated Mr. Guedes at the launch event.

Mr. Tariq Khosa, Senior Rule of Law Advisor of UNODC, Mr. Mohsin Ahsan Butt, IG Police, Mr. Amer Zaman Jomezai, Prosecutor General Balochistan, and key representatives from the Home and Tribal Affairs, Law Department, P&D, Reclamation and Probation, Levies, Prisons, Judiciary as well as staff of UNODC also took part at the launch event. They all welcomed the inauguration of the Delivery Unit, and the start of the operationalisation phase of the RoL Roadmap.



The Launch event was followed by convening the first meeting of the Steering Committee headed by Mr. Haider Ali Shikoh, and all the stakeholders from Police, Prosecution, Prison, Reclamation and Probation, Levies, Bar, Judiciary, Law, P&D and civil society.

The Rule of Law Roadmap is a comprehensive document encompasses a significant and inclusive reforms with high government ownership aiming at strengthening the Justice system of Balochistan over the next five years (2018-2022). This instrumental and strategic document was developed by UNODC under the umbrella of a joint programme with UNDP and UN Women with the support of the British High Commission.

UNODC's support to the Government of Balochistan was instrumental in developing and endorsing the Roadmap. UNODC remains committed to supporting Balochistan in putting into action the vision of the Government, whereby the launch of the Delivery Unit is crucial in putting in place the proper foundation that will lead and coordinate reform in the justice sector in the province aiming at improving the delivery of justice to the citizens of Balochistan.

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UNDP Press Release

Tencent-UNDP partner to launch Connecting Cities to Solutions

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will partner with Chinese tech-giant Tencent in a new initiative, **Connecting Cities to Solutions** that fosters innovation and entrepreneurship to address critical urban challenges.

Humanity faces mounting challenges as global population increases in a climate stressed world. Cities find themselves at the forefront of these grand challenges. Cities have an instrumental role to play in tackling climate



change, as they consume close to 65 per cent of the world's energy and generate for more than 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. They also drive growth, accounting for 80 per cent of global GDP.

Given these trends, we need to ensure that cities have more opportunities to adopt innovations that can improve quality of life. "How can cities share their most difficult challenges and make it as easy as possible to receive suggestions and proposals for solutions from the world's entrepreneurs?" asks David Wallerstein, Tencent's Chief eXploration Officer.

Tencent is the inaugural supporter to the UNDP's new initiative, Connecting Cities to Solutions, with the objective of setting up an easy system that facilitates adoption of innovative solutions that boost sustainable development. This will be done through a web-based platform that records the challenges (i.e. water, energy, transportation, etc.) and invites entrepreneurs and solution providers to engage in addressing the problem. It is important there to be high quality "market signaling" mechanisms between government bodies and local/international technologists and entrepreneurs. The initial pilot in Islamabad, Pakistan, will work with the Municipal Corporation Islamabad on the pressing issue of water scarcity.

Islamabad has significant challenges with water scarcity and quality. Over the past five years, water shortage in Islamabad has been elevated to the level of crisis. In 2017, 74 per cent of the water supplied was contaminated leading to a hepatitis rate of 25 per cent. Currently, at 50 million gallons per day Islamabad gets less than 40 per cent of the water it needs, while losses in delivery hover around 30 per cent. Severe droughts and water outages are expected by 2025. "The problem is complex and has wide-ranging ramifications on society and people's well-being" said Ignacio Artaza, Country Director, UNDP Pakistan.

"UNDP can provide adaptable "blueprints" that can be guideposts for other global cities and regions to learn from, benchmark, and emulate," said David Wallerstein. Toward this end, UNDP will support Islamabad to clearly articulate its water challenge and help broadcast it to the rest of the world. An online system will be available for international and local solutions providers to engage with the city around this grand challenge.

"Innovation will play a pivotal role in tackling our most intractable development challenges, and I am pleased to note that we are riding this wave," said Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary General and UNDP

Regional Director of Asia and the Pacific. “Through this important collaboration, we will not only improve the lives of underserved communities, we also hope to illustrate how a new generation of partnerships between UNDP, governments and private sector actors will help achieve the SDGs.” he added.

“This is exactly what Islamabad needs. With current low levels of foreign direct investment, this is a welcome opportunity, especially as it aims to boost engagement and exchange between global solution providers and the city of Islamabad” said Najaf Iqbal, the Chief Metropolitan Officer of Islamabad.

“A UNDP regional team has been dispatched to Islamabad to kick-start the work. This is the first small step in our shared journey,” said Jaco Cilliers, UNDP’s Regional Chief of Policy and Programmes.

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