

PAKISTAN OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION

LICENSED BY: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY

18th JAN 2020 AT 12:00 PM POEPA HEAD OFFICE ISLAMABAD.

Respected Members,

1. The meeting Chaired by the Chairman, Mr. Sarfraz Zahoor Cheema was held in the Meeting Room of POEPA Head office, ISLAMABAD on SATURDAY JAN 18TH 2020. Following officials and members had participated in the meeting:-

1. Mr. Sarfraz Zahoor Cheema (Chairman)
2. Mr. Athar Iqbal Shah (Senior Vice Chairman)
3. Mr. Asad Hafeez Kiani (Vice Chairman)
4. Mr. Naseem Akhtar Mehmood Ch (Member, E .C)
5. Mr. Muhammad Usman (Member, E .C)
6. Mr. Mikaeel Khan (Member, E .C)
7. Mr. Qaiser Naeem Malik (Member, E .C)
8. Mr. Raja Mehmood Ahmed (Member, E .C)
9. Mr. Muslim Shah (Member, E .C)
10. Mr. Muhammad Safdar (Member, E .C)
11. Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Khan Bilal (Member, E.C)
12. Mr. Khawaja Shahid Mehmood (Member, E.C)

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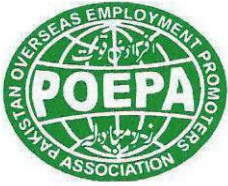
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13. Mr. Muhammad Safdar (Member, E.C)
14. Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Khan (Member, E.C)
15. Mr. Naseem Akhter Mehmood Ch. (Member, E.C)
16. Mr. Gul Faraz Khan (Member, E .C)
17. Mr. Ghulam Shabbir Khan Badani (Member, E.C)
18. Mr. Shahid Ahmed Khan Laghari (Member, E.C)
19. Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Khan Bilal (Member, E.C)
20. Mr. M. Rafiq Janjua (Member, E .C)
21. Mr. Muhammad Idress Chaudhry (Member, E .C)
22. Mr. Shahbaz Zeb Khan Secretary General, POEPA

The meeting deliberated on the following agenda items:-

AGENDA NO.1	APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS OF INCURRED EXPENSES IN MONTHS NOV & DEC-2019 & MINUTES OF PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.
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The executive committee had thoroughly examine the expenses occurred in the preceding month of NOV & DEC 2019, the account sheets were circulated among al the members for scrutiny & perusal, after the discussion over all the head of accounts the committee had unanimously approved the accounts for the month of NOV & DEC-2019, Secretary General had highlighted the necessary expenditures required for office renovation & membership certificate books. The members have approved the office renovation work after reviewing the quotations by the different vendors. Further the



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requirement of 14 Membership Certificates books @ Rs. 10,000/- for each book of 100 certificates from FPCCI has been approved, moreover the committee has given the approval for the furniture requirement of Chairs and tables for POEPA head office.

Decision:

The executive committee has unanimously approved the expenses occurred in the preceding month NOV & DEC -2019 & upcoming necessary expenses in JAN-2020. Moreover the members had approved the minutes of the meeting held dated 30th -Dec -2019.

Agenda No.2	OEC CHARGES CASE UPDATES.
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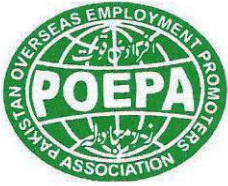
The Chairman Mr. Sarfraz Zahoor Cheema, had briefed the members that the writ petition against the OEC charges on OEP is awaiting for the hearing date in Islamabad High Court delayed due to vacations of IHC.

DECISION:

Hence it has been unanimously resolved to pursue the filed writ petition against Notification of Ministry for insertion of sub-rule 4-A in the Rule 23 of the Emigration Rules, 1979. Mr, Sarfraz Zahoor Cheema, Chairman POEPA is authorized to engage counsel, sign pleadings, application, affidavits, replies, give statement sign vakalatnama and file writ petition/appeal and do whatever is required to be done to safeguard the interest of POEPA.

Agenda No.3	FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON AMENDMENTS IN EMIGRATION RULES.
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The Chairman had briefed the members that POEPA had completed its draft for the proposed amendments in Emigration Rules, 1979 with consultation of the OEPs & the



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executive committee, he further added that in meeting with DG Bureau of Emigration we had decided to finalize the copy of draft of the proposed amendments with mutual consent & consultation session with the Bureau, afterwards it will forwarded to the Ministry for further action. For this purpose we need to deeply study & render final recommendations or complete the proposed amendments draft in a mutual consultation session with Bureau of Emigration & move it onward to the Ministry of OP & HRD & Law Division, for endorsement, we had observed that the Bureau had agreed to increase the service charges up to Rs. 20,000 & many other major proposals by POEPA.

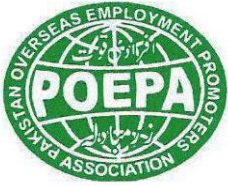
DECISION:

Hence it was decided & resolved that if there are any other facts/particulars which are required to be reviewed or if there are any rules which are not supported by the OEP community needs to be redefined in the final draft of proposed amendments, Then it is requested by the OEP community to give their final recommendations over the draft of proposed amendments within 15 working days to POEPA. In case of no further recommendations in next 15 days there will be no further delay, POEPA is certain to complete the proposed amendments with the Bureau after 15 working days in joint consultative session of Bureau & POEPA executive committee for the welfare of the OEP community.

Agenda No.4	MATTER OF HANDING OVER ALL POEPA OFFICES
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Mr. Muhammad Usman has mentioned that we have the certified copies of all the documents of POEPA south zone office, previous E.C. had written the letters and serve notices to the members of United group south zone to hand over the office to former executive committee members of Karachi but they had refused. He further said that we

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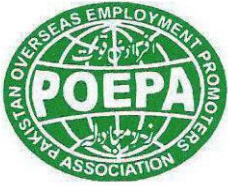
can definitely gain the possession through a FIR against them. He further said that we had a conversation with Mr. Aijaz Ahmed regarding the Karachi office to finalize the matter of handing over POEPA office, he had committed to resolve this issue good-naturedly, will held a meeting after his return from Qatar. Mr. Usman said that we have high hopes that united group in south zone will hand over the south zone office; if they again refuse to do so, then we will handle this matter through FIR & other necessary legal actions.

Mr. Athar Shah has told the members that office in Lahore is set to be handed over to POEPA, what we need is to decide a date for commencing a ceremony or an event for handing it over to POEPA.

The Chairman said that kindly provide me a time of about two weeks to sort out the possession of Rawalpindi office through negotiations if they refused to do so, we will allow the necessary legal action to be initiated against them.

DECISION:

It has been decided to eradicate, the illegal possession over the association owned offices in north & south zone & acquire the possession of all POEPA offices without any further delay, committees of both zones are assigned to report within a week. The committees will furnish a report and gain the possession of the north & south zone office through negotiations or necessary lawful actions against the forcible dispossession of the rightful owner. It has been unanimously decided that POEPA will cancel the membership of the members which are involved in illegal possession & deny to handover the rightful assets & property of the association.



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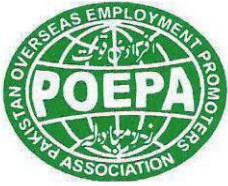
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Agenda No.5	BREIFING OF MEETING WITH MEDICAL CENTRE OWNERS
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The Chairman had briefed the executive committee regarding the meeting with the medical Centre owners, POEPA had negotiated with the medical centers for their cooperation with the OEPs & offer support where it is required, regarding the assurance of lenient & tolerant behavior of the staff, the fees for the repeat medical are reviewed by the medical Centre owners, moreover they had provided the list of email address for correspondence and online collection of medical reports. They had guaranteed to furnish medical reports within 2 working days.

Mr. Athar Iqbal Shah had mentioned that OEPs are also requested to cooperate with the medical centers, by educating their staff to be tolerant & behave properly while their visits & dealing with medical centers staff. OEPs will be provided the special treatment & dealing if they assure the good behavior of staff, they had committed to cooperate & want to run their business with mutual understanding & collaboration with the OEPs.

Decision: It has been decided in the meeting that if any OEP member of POEPA comes across the concerns or problems related to medical Centre, so he/she can furnish verbal complaint to the Chairman, member Executive Committee or POEPA secretariat or a written complaint on its company letter head with evidence. No complaint will be entertained without the substantial evidence or proof.



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Agenda No.6	E-BANKING SOLUTIONS BY NBP FOR VARIOUS FEE SUBMISSIONS & BRIEFING ON NEW AUTHORIZED NBP BRANCHES.
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The Chairman had identified that we had received many complaints of poor performance of the NBP regarding the various fee submission, OEPs have complaint against NBP that they refuse to entertain more than 4 cases daily, which creates burden of work & hurdles in processing of protectorates. In view of the fact we had discussed the same with DG Bureau in every meeting held to resolve this particular issue at the earliest through enhancement of the staff at the branches & authorize all branches of NBP all over Pakistan for fee submission associated with protectorate of intending emigrants.

DECISION:

Henceforward all the members of the Executive Committee had decided to pursue this matter & write a letter to DG Bureau requesting the NBP to enhance their staff and authorize all the branches of NBP for submission of various fee associated with protectorate of intending emigrants.

Agenda No.7	PRA SALES TAX MATTER
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The Chairman, had updated the members that POEPA is in constant correspondence with the authorities & P.A to Finance Ministry Punjab, due to the eventful schedule of the Finance Minister Punjab we are unable to held a meeting with him in the past weeks, nevertheless in the last meeting with the Chairman PRA they had assured us to place our case in the Interprovincial Coordination Committee meeting expected to be

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held in Jan-2020. Chairman PRA was quite confident of the fact that in the IPCC meeting, the proposal for the uniform & reduced rate of sales tax is likely to get approved, and the uniform & reduced rate of sales tax in all the provinces will deliver the relief to the OEP business community. He also mentioned that the Lahore High Court has passed the orders and the matters of levying of PRA sales tax is referred to the Government of Punjab i.e. Ministry of Finance Punjab.

Mr. Muhammad Usman informed the members about his recent telephonic conversation with the the P.S, the Finance Minister (Punjab) was relatively busy with a foreign delegation; he had promised to provide us time for the meeting in the forthcoming weeks. So we anticipate convening a meeting with the finance minister after the session of IPCC in Jan 2020.

DECISION:

The executive committee has unanimously resolved for a meeting with Finance minister, in case the OEPs are not provided with the relief of reduction & uniform rate of sales tax in all provinces by the Ministry of Finance Punjab then the association needs to pursue the orders passed by Honorable the Lahore High Court for uniform & reduced rate or exemption from PRA sales tax.

Agenda No.8	UPDATES REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PROTECTORATE OFFICES IN THE REGION OF SIALKOT & DERA GHAZI KHAN.
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The Chairman informed the members after extensive & persistent efforts of POEPA for the establishment of new protectorate offices, we got success in attainment of approval



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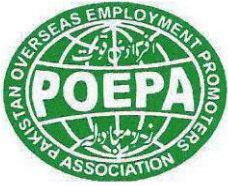
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for the new protectorate offices in Sialkot & Dera Ghazi Khan, he further that the Bureau had informed that new protectorate offices are approved by the finance division and the letter of approval by Government of Pakistan (Finance Division) will be shared with POEPA in the next upcoming week.

Agenda No.9	BREIFING ON FIXATION OF EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES BY THE BUREAU OF EMIGRATION.
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The Chairman had briefed the members that due to the intense pressure of ILO & UN on the Government of Pakistan for reducing the cost of migration & discontinue overcharging by OEPs for overseas jobs particularly security guards jobs in the Middle East, moreover Bureau had continuously received complaints of overcharging by OEPs through Pakistan Citizen's portal of Prime Minister's office which necessitates remedial measures for capping these expenditures so that the cost effect may only be diverted to intending emigrants after a thorough scrutiny of expenditure at different stages of the recruitment process. The service charges for the OEPs (under Rule 15 of Emigration Rules 1979) are @ Rs. 6000/- which are definitely very low, a proposal for enhancing the service charges is also under process. The OEP also bear miscellaneous expenditures on foreign delegations (including their air-tickets, boarding/lodging/entertainment), foreign visits of the OEPs for export of manpower, payment of commission to middlemen, and purchase of visa in the host country. These expenditures incurred by the OEPs are ultimately recovered from the intending emigrants.

Mr. Athar Iqbal Shah had briefed that the maximum limit of total recruitment cost (including air-ticket), subject to the above mentioned instructions, is being fixed @



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(four) salaries (excluding food allowance and overtime as per demand letter in case of only the security guards for UAE. For all the other categories/ trades, the maximum limit of total recruitment cost (including air-ticket), subject to the above mentioned instructions, is being fixed @ **Rs. 300,000/-**

DECISION:

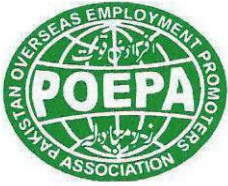
In the light of the above described fact, the executive committee has unanimously approved and agreed upon the cost of migration fixed by the Government of Pakistan in case of security guards & other trades, further if the OEP reasons that the incurred expenditures are exceeding from the cost fixed by the Bureau, so that OEP can acquire the exceptional approval/ permission by the DG, BEOE.

Agenda No.10	PROGRESS REPORT FOR POEPA LICENSE RENEWAL
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The Chairman had briefed that the secretary general had properly followed the case of POEPA license renewal and had submitted the complete application with all the pertinent document requirements. Due to his severe illness he had not corresponded for last week, so when he joins the office, he will further pursue the application of POEPA license.

DECISION;

It has been decided that Secretary General will keep following the application for POEPA license and will fulfill the deficiency & provide the requisite document positively to the DGTO & Ministry of Commerce in the stipulated time.



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Agenda No.11	POEPA HEAD OFFICE RENOVATION & MAINTENANCE WORK APPROVAL
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DECISION: The executive committee had examined the quotations for office renovation work and had approved the quotation of R.s. 95,500/- estimated for office paneling, new file cabinets, kitchen cabinets & wallpapers. Otherwise any further requirement of necessary work has been approved on the basis of post approval & submission of the receipts of the expenses incurred. Furthermore the requirement of integrated computerized system for accounts and membership was proposed by secretary general, wherein the members of the executive committee had unanimously agreed upon and proposed to incorporate such systems to ensure transparency and more efficient procedures.

Agenda No.12	SALARY INCREMENT OF 10% WITH EFFECT FROM JAN-2020 AS PER THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT.
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Decision The application for the increment in the salary in the year 2020 was presented by the Secretary General to the members of the executive committee, after the review of the employment contract and HR policies of the association, **The** executive committee



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had unanimously approved the 10% increment of the salary on the basic pay scale as per the employment contract of POEPA with effect from Jan 2020.

Agenda No.13	ETIMAD CENTRES IN MULTAN & MALAKAND
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Decision It was decided to send request letter to Etimad for establishment of Etimad centres in Multan & Malakand to facilitate the OEPs & migrant workers of Malakand & Multan division surroundings.

There was no further point to discuss. The meeting was adjourned with the greetings from/to the Chair.

CC:

1. Regulator TOs, Directorate General of Trade Organization.
2. All members of Executive Committee.



(Shahbaz Zeb Khan)
Secretary General.