



THIRD KARACHI INTERNATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE CONFERENCE DECLARATION (DRAFT)

We, the conference delegates celebrate the success in generating mutual trust among diverse groups that participated in the conference. We will continue deepening and strengthening the dialogue among different stakeholders and promoting inclusive solutions. We will continue to provide the neutral space where all shades of opinion have a place and every group can express its views and concerns. We recognize the role of citizen's groups in bringing the debate on water to the forefront. We all know the challenges, now we must focus firmly on solutions. As the water crisis grows, we will continue to make the effort. Pakistan has risen to the challenge before, and we can do it again.

People accepted the 'citizen's water policy' because it is realistic and precise, with clear goals and time frame. We have seen growing concern and response from government. We welcome the support of the Governor Sindh to take these policy recommendations to highest levels of provincial and federal government. This conference calls for coordinated provincial and national water policies. We will continue to engage with provincial and federal governments as well as private sector on the promotion of the water economy as the backbone of development through a consultative group as part of the work of Hisaar foundation's Think Tank on the rational Use of Water. We believe such engagement must be a broad engagement process with representation of women at all stages. However, we will continue to remind and persuade the government not to abdicate their responsibilities in these important areas.

We recognize with concern the distance and disconnect between practice and academia as well as between the work of NGOs and the private sector. We need to value the work on the ground done by NGOs as well as the solutions developed by the private sector and work these into the fabric of our universities so as to generate cutting edge research of real-world problems. At the same time, we have to ensure that research from universities informs practice, business and professions related to water, and that technology is deployed extensively. Through the work of the Universities for Water Network we intend to close the gap between the research required by the economy and society and that which is being generated by universities at present. The Panjwani-Hisaar Water Institute will be up and running.

We believe the lessons from the Murray-Darling basin continue to be relevant for Indus basin and will enhance our linkages with the Australian Government to ensure continued mutual learning. We are opening a new chapter with Hungary. We have to advance learning on water in Pakistan and can do with by the example of how Hungary manages its water. We will develop and promote links with Hungarian NGOs, private sector and academia.

We recognize the absence of women in policy making at all levels of the water sector and will pay more attention to clean drinking water and sanitation for girls and women. We believe the empowerment of women and girls is a guarantee for water reforms.

We have to refocus the water discourse to converse with young people. In two years we will be more digitized and connected, and you will see more mainstreaming of young people.

Hisaar Foundation has delivered what it promised in the last two conferences and we will deliver this time as well.

For feedback and comments on this draft version please email at conference@hisaar.org

Deadline for feedback submission: 22nd Dec 2017