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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE FUNCTIONS AND RULES OF BUSINESS (ROB) OF MINISTRIES OF GOVERNMENTS OF PAKISTAN & AUSTRALIA



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Note : This comparative analysis paper was prepared during Civil Service Reform Project 'Uraan (Fly)' in 2015 at the Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform (MoPDR), Government of Pakistan. The functions and rules of business (RoB) have been incorporated without any changes, and are exempted from plagiarism check as it is against the law to temper, alter, change or rephrase RoB as it could lead to different meanings, implications, connotations, outcomes and legal interpretations.

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ABSTRACT

In 2013, the general elections brought Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) government in the center. This political shift was welcomed by actors in favor of democracy and future development. Winning elections was in itself an achievement; however, the political leadership was about to face long term challenges. In order to run the affairs of the state, ensure sustainable growth and shape economic stability of the country, it was necessary for the new government to tackle these challenges and devise long term strategy and plan for development. With these challenges upfront, and in order to streamline problems and sort out possible solutions, the Prime Minister of Pakistan directed the Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform (MoPDR) to prepare a comprehensive development plan. Following the directives, a detailed strategic plan called 'Pakistan Vision 2025 (PV2025)' was designed by the MoPDR in consultation with all key stakeholders. This document was of the utmost importance to provide guidelines and identified strategic windows for future development that are vital for progressive growth. The PV2025 comprises seven pillars or areas of focus which are linked with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 'Governance' is set as the third pillar in PV2025. Through good governance, the government is aiming to development achieve human goals by institutional introducing reforms and modernization of public sector organizations. This pillar carries synonymous status in line with SDG#16 to bring about reforms in civil service, justice system, police, health and taxation systems to name a few.

In order to implement the Government's agenda, Governance Section, MoPDR initiated Project 'Uraan (Fly)' with explicit focus on Civil Service Reform. The rationale of this project is to figure out best practices of service delivery in developed countries and propose solutions which could improve service delivery system in Pakistan. To actualize this vision, the Government of Pakistan and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a four year programme with MoPDR titled 'Reforms and Innovation in Government for High Performance'. A 'Governance Forum 2015' was also organized at MoPDR to debate, seek advice and invite proposals on Civil Service Reform & good governance.

In the light of this, the functions and rules of business (RoB) of various ministries of Governments of Pakistan and Australia were analyzed and possible amendments were proposed. It is assumed that the proposed changes, if incorporated, would improve the efficiency of the ministries in Pakistan, increase citizen's satisfaction and help the government achieve SDGs and long term success.

KEYWORDS: Civil Service Reform in Pakistan; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Efficient Government Institutions; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Initiatives for Good Governance ; Comparative Analysis of the Functions & Rules of Business (RoB) of Ministries of Governments of Pakistan & Australia.

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