



Visit /Training Report (Training at ADR Centre, Rome, Italy)

The Sindh Judicial Academy in collaboration with The Asia Foundation initiated the ADR project in Sindh with the objective of introducing 'mediation' in the province. This project was planned after carefully observing ADR activities in other jurisdictions of the country. Court Annexed Mediation Centres which have been set up at the district level, have been working effectively and courts have started to refer cases to Court Annexed Mediation Centres for mediation. In view of the success of ADR in places where ADR structures have been set up, the Sindh Judicial Academy decided to introduce institutional mechanisms of ADR in Sindh.

In the first phase of mainstreaming ADR in the province, The Academy initiated the process of building ADR capacity in the province. The Hon'ble High Court of Sindh and His Lordship, Hon'ble Chief Justice Sindh, endorsed the idea and nominated a set of judges as trainees. Eight Civil Judges selected by the Hon'ble High Court were trained at the Sindh Judicial Academy and out of them, three were shortlisted for attending a training on ADR conducted by an international expert. A group of master trainers were also selected and a total of eight judicial officers travelled to Italy to participate in a training of trainers (ToT).

The Asia Foundation organized the 5- day training in collaboration with the ADR Centre in Rome



Two sessions were held on each day. The trainees were welcomed by the Head of the ADR Centre in Rome and the occasion was graced by the Consul General of Pakistan. He extended a formal dinner invitation to the Hon'ble Director General of the SJA along with the

delegation trainees visiting from Pakistan. The Hon'ble DG, SJA shared progress made on ADR in Pakistan via an interactive presentation. A special souvenir from Pakistan was later presented to the ADR Centre.

Participants were informed that six mediation centres are currently operational in Rome and that the ADR Centre headed by Mr. Leonardo D'Urso is handling around 20,000 cases per year. Moreover, 75% of the cases have been successfully resolved, due to which 30% of the workload of courts has been reduced at trial and appellant forums.

The proceedings of the training began with an introductory session in which the goals of the program

and the course discussed. An assessment test and thereafter, components of training were focus on learning



agenda were initial knowledge was conducted the main basic mediation shared with a effective adult techniques. These

included methodologies to be adopted for adult teaching. Mr. Leonardo's presented seminars to the Hon'ble Director General.

The afternoon session was about conflict dynamics, conceptual definitions, and the stages of mediation in light of the ADR Centre's 4X4 Matrix. A host of teaching techniques were used such as group exercises and simulations, and a question and answer session made way for a lively discussion on the different aspects of mediation. On day-two, the stages of mediation and the 4X4 matrix were further discussed, and the trainees given exercises to reinforce the taught concepts. Video clips allowed participated to gain an insight into the practical side of things.

On the third day of the workshop a few more videos were shared and discussed. The videos highlighted the process of mediation while touching upon the basic protocols associated with it. Negotiation techniques were taught through practical exercises after which the skills employed by the different groups were analysed.



The morning session of Day-4 focussed on negotiation and covered the process of preparing for mediation and the ways of conducting joint sessions, private/individual sessions, and closing sessions.

The last

day entailed more group exercises in which trainees were asked to act as mediators and conduct a joint session, private/individual session and a closing session. Participants were also guided on how to prepare a mediation agreement after which a post assessment of trainers was done.



A five-day training program was prepared with exercises and it was presented by the Hon'ble Director General and Senior Faculty Member, Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq. Certificates were distributed among participants at the end of the training.

Consulate General of Pakistan invited the participants in the consulate office and hosted dinner. Mr. Nadeem Riyaz, (Ambassador of

Pakistan) warmly welcomed the delegate. Participants could know their activities Rome.



On the Last day ADR Centre was visited. It was informed that how it works and how the parties are facilitated in mediation rooms during mediation sessions. Visit was useful as it gave idea to the participants about physical infrastructure of a standard mediation centre.

A Court Annexed Mediation Centre at the Sindh Judicial Academy has been established and a few



cases have been referred to it. Three judges have been trained and they are able to mediate cases as and when needed. Initially the SJA proposed to set up three mediation centres in the districts where a high pendency of civil cases has been observed. On their way back to Pakistan from Rome, the participants stopped over at Turkey for a few days and visited a reputed Mediation Centre. The Sindh Judicial Academy took note of its infrastructure -

elements of which may be replicated in the construction of a mediation centre in Sindh.

The Asia Foundation will provide technical assistance in establishing three mediation centres in Sindh and provide the necessary furniture, fixture and equipment needed to run a mediation centre.

A legislative initiative to amend the law has already been submitted to law department by the Sindh Judicial Academy and there is a possibility of amending relevant provisions of law in the near future. According to the proposed legislation, the Sindh High Court would have authority to assess the possibility of resolving a dispute through mediation at an early stage. In case the Presiding Officer makes up his or her mind on the possibility of an amicable settlement, the matter shall be sent to the Court Annexed Mediation Centres.

A formal request is being sent to the Hon'ble High Court for setting up mediation centres in District Hyderabad, Sukkur and Larkana. Meanwhile, the Sindh Judicial Academy shall provide the necessary assistance to the District Courts which may include further training and coordination between parties.

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