

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chamber

Date and Time: 20th May, 2023 at 11:30 am
Venue: Mian Parvez Aslam Hall of the Chamber
Participants: Mr. Saqib Rafiq (President in Chair)
Mr. Muhammad Hamza Sarosh (SVP)
Mr. Faisal Shahzad (VP)
Ch. Nadeem A. Rauf (Immediate Past President)
Mr. Abdul Rauf
Mr. Muhammad Rafique Khan
Mr. Shahid Qayyum
Chaudhry Jamil Ahmed
Khawaja Farooq Ali
Mr. Asim Mahmood
Mr. Muhammad Akram
Mr. M. Tariq Najeeb Butt
Mr. Ikram-ur-Rehman Abbasi
Mr. Waseem Aslam
Mr. Asad Aftab
Ms. Gull Zaiba Jawad

Regrets: Mr. Waqas Bin Mahmud
Mr. Mudasir Maqbool
Mr. Kashif Raheem
Mr. Abu Baker Siddique
Ms. Sadia Zia
Mr. Martin Pervez

The 8th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chamber started with the recitation of Holy Quran by Mr. Faisal Shahzad, Vice President. President Mr. Saqib Rafiq who chaired the meeting welcomed all Executive Committee Members for their attendance.

Later the President started the proceedings according to the following agenda points which were circulated vide letter No.12/2023/2234 dated 17th May, 2023.

Res. No.60: To Offer Condolence/Fatiha Prayer for the deceased persons

Chaudhry Jamil Ahmed, Mother of Mr. Muhammad Rafique Khan, Mother in Law of Mr. Mohammad Fayyaz Qureshi.

Res. No. 61: To confirm the Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the the Executive Committee held on 20th April, 2023.

Mr. Saqib Rafiq, President RCCI announced the agenda item No. 2 for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the 7th Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th April, 2023 were approved by Chaudhry Jamil Ahmed and seconded by Mr. Ikram-ur-Rehman Abbasi. House also accorded a unanimous approval for the Minutes of the 7th Executive Committee Meeting.

Res. No.62: To consider the applications for the Chamber's Membership of the firms/companies mentioned in the attached list.

President announced the agenda item No. 3 for approval.

Decision:

The total of 168 applications for Associate Class and 30 applications for Corporate Class were approved by Mr. Abdul Rauf and seconded by Mr. Muhammad Rafique Khan. House also accorded a unanimous approval.

Res. No.63: To overview the activities from last executive committee Meeting till date

During the discussions over past one month Mr. Asim Mahmood congratulated the Office Bearers, Chairman and his tem and staff for successfully organizing Education Excellence Awards. He also communicated appreciations on behalf of Ch. Faisal Mushtaq of Roots Millenimum School. House also appreciated everyone for organizing a wonderful event.

President Mr. Saqib Rafiq informed about the event with the First Lady and informed the house that we have negotiated the Bye-Laws of RDA to make wheel Chairs passages in all the public buildings in Rawalpindi. He further requested the house to forward their budget proposals for their relative sectors as soon as possible.

Upon the request of President Mr. Saqib Rafiq, Ch. Nadeem A. Rauf, Immediate Past President briefed the recent development work of Gymkhana Club Rawalpindi.

Res. No.64: To discuss monthly financial statement of Chamber

President Mr. Saqib Rafiq briefed the financial position to the house. He informed that total revenue collected during the past one month was Rs.6,080,600/- and expense incurred was Rs.4,883,421/-

Decision:

Mr. Muhammad Akram approved and Mr. Waseem Aslam seconded the summary of total revenue and expenses for the month ending April 2023. House unanimously approved the details of revenue and expenses.

Res. No.65: To discuss the upcoming events of RCCI

Upon the request of President, Khawaja Farooq Ali who is the Chairman of Business Opportunities Conference Gilgit Baltistan briefed the event and requested the house for maximum participation.

President Mr. Saqib Rafiq elaborated the upcoming events which are as follows:

- 3rd Build Expo, Topi Rakh Complex, Ayub Park Rawalpindi from 2nd – 4th June, 2023.
- Business Opportunities Conference 2023 – Gilgit Serena Hotel from 18-20 June, 2023.
- Exporters Conference
- Health Summit – July 2023.

President requested all the members of House for maximum participation and support.

Res. No.66: Approval of RCCI Staff Matters

A special Loan of Rs.50,000/- in lieu of Application of Ms. Areej Iftikhar, F&E Officer was approved.

A special loan of Rs.300,000/- has also approved for Mr. Waqar Ahmed (Gullu) Photographer upon his request which will be recoverable in 2 years period of time and he will submit an Advance Cheque alongwith the undertaking.

Res. No. 67: Any other point with the permission of the Chair.

President informed the house that the numbers of members are visiting Chamber for the issuance of Visa Recommendation/Invitation letters without any appointment which makes the process difficult for the staff to handle and manage the load on number of occasions. He further added that we have already a sppointment system for issuance of such letter which also gets disturbed due to cases of such nature. Hence we recommend that additional fee which may be named as “Priority/Executive Services” i.e.

Rs.2,500/- over and above the regular fee in such cases member can come and get the letter issued without prior appointment. House approved the additional fee as recommended.

President informed the house that Chamber is issuing the Guarantee letters for Chinese Embassy but few incidents in the recent past has alarmed the whole process as one of the member has submitted a fake document in the Embassy who was issued with the Guarantee letter by Chamber.

President readout SoPs as attached and proposed that the fee for Guarantee letter should be enhanced from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.25,000/- and refundable security fee of Rs.100,000/- be taken in Advance for deterrence.

Mr. Abdul Rauf and Mr. Ikram-ur-Rehman Abbasi endorsed the idea to increase the fee for deterrence.

Mr. Asim Mahmood and Chaudhry Jamil Ahmed said that we should not increase the fee as this is a common requirement of all the traders. Mr. Mohammad Akram said that security fee is not a rational and should be waived as we have to face members in the markets. Mr. Mohammad Rafique Khan suggested that the Agents who are issuing faked documents to our members should be banned.

Mr. Muhammad Hamza Sarosh (SVP) replied that we have no authority to put a ban in any person or organization. Khawaja Farooq Ali suggested that we should hire a Chinese Company for verification of members who are applying Chinese Visa. President Mr. Saqib Rafiq requested him to highlight any company which is providing such sort of services.

Ch. Jamil Ahmed suggested that the visa processing fee of Chamber should be waived for the Executive Committee members during their tenure. Mr. Asim Mahmood and Kh. Farooq Ali endorsed the suggestion. President replied that we will discuss the matter in the next meeting.

Since there was no other point, the meeting was adjourned with vote of thanks to the chair.

(Irfan Manan Khan)
Secretary General