

Muhammad Saquib Mangrio

Apartment 403, Deans Apartments,
Street 98, G-11/3, Islamabad

+92(0)331 360 1431
msaqib_1@ymail.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director (Law) at SAARC Arbitration Council (SARCO) (1 March 2023 to Present)

- Overseeing SARCO's legal and operational functions, ensuring compliance with its mandate while contributing to strategic decision-making
- Entrusted with managing SARCO's day-to-day operations in the absence of the Director General, handling routine matters and ensuring seamless workflow
- Spearheading regional outreach initiatives through webinars, workshops, and seminars to advance SARCO's mission and strengthen ADR mechanisms across SAARC nations
- Enhanced SARCO's visibility through strategic collaborations with key partners, e.g. regional chambers of commerce, and specialized ADR training initiatives, creating significant potential for business opportunities and revenue generation.
- Supervising the implementation of SARCO's Program of Activities, including budget allocation, financial planning, and administrative execution
- Conducted extensive research and led the revision of SARCO's Rules of Procedure for Arbitration and Mediation, aligning them with international best standards and the latest UNCITRAL Rules
- Representing SARCO at high-level inter-governmental meetings, including Governing Board and Programming Committee sessions, while maintaining active engagement with SAARC Member States
- Contributing to research publications, newsletters, and reports on arbitration and ADR, fostering legal discourse and promoting best practices
- Managing SARCO's social media presence, ensuring timely updates and enhancing visibility of its activities, programs, and institutional collaborations
- Assisting the Director General with day-to-day legal, administrative, and policy-related matters, ensuring efficient governance and implementation of SARCO's objectives

Deputy Director (Legal) (PPS-08) at Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) (16 August 2021 to 28 February 2023)

- Handed over charge of Project Director to overlook the project titled "Human Rights Coordination and Monitoring Unit for National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-Up"
- Part of the legal team overlooking the following initiatives of the MoHR:
 - i. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5, 8 and 16
 - ii. National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR)
 - iii. Performance Agreement for the Ministry of Human Rights (2021-22)
- Member of the following committees:
 - i. Committee to review UNICEF's Technical Package on Child Protection
 - ii. Committee to draft Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Rules and SOPs
 - iii. Technical Advisory Committee on Pakistan Youth Development Index
- Prepared the following legislative instruments:

- i. ICT Rights of Persons with Disability Rules, 2021
 - ii. Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Rules, 2022
 - iii. ICT Senior Citizen Rules, 2022
 - iv. Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Rules, 2022
- Collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on:
 - i. Inter-Provincial Working Group Meeting(s)
 - ii. National level workshops on ‘*Harmonizing Pakistan’s Human Rights & SDGs Data and Reporting Mechanisms*’
 - iii. Trainings and capacity-building of core staff of MoHR in UN mechanisms, Treaty Body reporting, Universal Periodic Reviews and Voluntary National Reviews
 - iv. Preparation of Terms of Reference (‘TORs’) for the establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up Unit (NMRF Unit)
- Project responsibilities include project monitoring and management, budgetary review and funds allocation, day-to-day supervision and division of tasks amongst project officers, and liaison with relevant stakeholders for project activities
- Regular review, response and reporting on queries related to relevant local legislation, SDG Indicators and International UN Conventions, e.g., CAT, ICCPR, CEDAW, to name a few
- Conducted awareness sessions on relevant laws, e.g., ICT Child Protection Act, 2018; Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2018; and Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Act, 2020 with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders
- Preparing responses on behalf of and representing the MoHR in relevant court proceedings, including but not limited to various constitutional petitions on fundamental constitutional rights
- Preparation of Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Assistant Director (Legal) (PPS-07) at Ministry of Human Rights (1 April 2020 to 31 July 2021)

- Part of the team overlooking the project titled “Implementation of Action Plan for Human Rights”
- Overall legal review and analysis of laws and policies governing different aspects of human rights in Pakistan
- Preparation of an ‘Action Plan Progress Report’ detailing the progress made by relevant federal and provincial ministries and line departments for the implementation of the Action Plan for Human Rights
- Monitoring compliance with Pakistan’s relevant treaty obligations at the national level
- Preparations of seminars, lectures, presentations etc., with the objective of raising awareness, capacity building and identifying relevant issues
- Correspondence and coordination with different line ministries, committees and various stakeholders

Associate at RIAA Barker Gillette (15 May 2019 to 31 March 2020)

- Part of the legal team assisting various project companies achieve financial close for their major power projects and overseeing compliance with conditions to first disbursement with respect to financing of such projects
- Assisting on transactions relating to, including but not limited to, corporate restructuring by way of divestment of shares, syndicated term financing, and pharmaceutical project development
- Conducting due diligence with respect to major financial institutions, and reviewing and opining on their regulatory framework

- Drafting services contracts in relation to major vendors and recruitment firms in Pakistan
- Liaison with government officials on matters relating to, including but not limited to, labour approvals, trade mark applications, and corporate security registrations

Associate at Akhund Forbes (14 Mar 2016 to 30 April 2019)

- Drafting and vetting corporate instruments including, but not limited to, escrow agreements, share transfer agreements, lease and licence agreements, client letters and responses, term sheets, engagement letters, arbitration orders etc.
- Overseeing legal aspects of corporate restructuring transactions, including drafting and marking up transaction documents such as share purchase and subscription agreements, syndicated finance agreements, ancillary security documents etc.
- Extensive legal due diligence in relation to various infrastructure, automobiles, I.T. and telecommunication projects, highlighting red flags and legal risks
- Opinion writing on complex areas of law such as land ownership, redundancies and severance, foreign investments, electronic funds transfers, succession issues etc.
- Extensive legal research in projects relating to the automotive sector, labour laws of Pakistan, privatisation and IPOs, I.T. business start-ups, and energy sector
- Advising local businesses on issues relating to Pakistani laws covering defamation, creation of securities, company incorporation, corporate regulatory compliance

Junior Associate at Jamil & Jamil – Barristers at Law (01 Oct 2013 to 30 Mar 2014)

- Drafted legal instruments such as applications, complaints, written statements and contracts including, but not limited to, non-disclosure agreement, license escrow agreements, business process outsourcing agreement, and service agreements
- Prepared an opinion with respect to mutual rights under a shareholder's agreement
- Legal research on relevant provisions of the Companies Ordinance, 1984

EDUCATION

LLM in Legal Practice (distance learning), Nottingham Law School (2016 – 2018)

- Achieved a High Pass
- Dissertation titled “*Corporate Rescue and its Impact on Society: An Overview of the Legal Framework of Insolvency Law in the United Kingdom and its Social Implications*”

Bar Professional Training Course, Nottingham Law School (2014 – 2015)

- Achieved a Very Competent Award
- Called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 2015

LLB (Honours) (distance learning), University of London (2010 – 2013)

- Achieved Second Class Honours
- Law Skills Portfolio thesis titled “*The Legality of Euthanasia*”

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

- High Court Advocate of the Sindh Bar Council, Pakistan
- Completed the UN Human Rights Council Training Programme organised by UNITAR (2022)
- Publication in the 1st edition of ‘Pakistan Journal of Diversity and Inclusion’ on the research title “*A Road to Recovery: Does the law fulfil its purpose of providing care to victims of abuse and violence in Pakistan?*” (2021)
- Completed a two-day training programme on ‘Pakistan’s International Human Rights Reporting Obligations’ organised by the EU-Pakistan Team (2020)
- Voluntary work in organisations such as “Family Matters”, “Ilm Possible”, “Qaaf se Qanoon”, and “Robin Hood Army - Karachi”
- Lincoln’s Inn Speed Moots (2014 – 15) and SZABIST Annual Mooting Tournament (2010 – 2012)
- IELTS score of 8.5 (2014)
- SZABIST Model United Nations (2012) (Won award for Best Delegate)
- Member of SZABIST Law Society (Deputy Publications Secretary) (2011– 2012)

REFERENCES

- Can be furnished upon request