

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE  
TRADE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ORGANIZATION**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Public Private Dialogue on  
“Draft Law of Trade Dispute Resolution Organization(TDRO)”**

Trade Dispute Resolution Organization (TDRO) in conjunction with UN International Trade Centre(ITC) is organizing a Public Private Dialogue (PPD) on draft Trade Dispute Resolution Act, 2016 on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 at Marriot Hotel, Islamabad.

2. The draft Trade Dispute Resolution Act, 2016 has been prepared by a team of domestic and foreign consultants hired by ITC under the EU Trade Related Technical Assistance(TRTA-II) Programme. The TDRO management provided guidance and support to the consultants. The draft Act is expected to build an efficient, speedy and impartial dispute resolution mechanism for international trade disputes between Pakistani businessmen and the foreign counterparts which is essential for building up an equitable, effective and predictable trade and investment regime in Pakistan. It is assumed to be protected from the delays, obstruction and inefficiencies that have become prevalent in existing multifaceted dispute resolution mechanisms.

3. This law would positively impact international trade involving Pakistani entities and bridge the trust deficit between local and foreign businessmen. It would also improve upon the international standing and reputation of Pakistan in matters of trade, especially in the contract enforcement. It would aim at minimizing the costs and delays associated with the lengthy litigation processes. The draft law is the outcome of extensive consultations with the stakeholders in the public and private sector all over the country. The business community is expressing great interest in the TDRO Law which is about to change the face of trade dispute resolution in Pakistan.

4. The Minister for Commerce, Engr Khurram Dastgir Khan will inaugurate the Dialogue. EU's Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Jean-François Cautain will also participate in the inaugural. The Dialogue would have two Technical Sessions which will be chaired by Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Law and Justice Mr.Ashtar Ausaf Ali and Secretary Commerce Mr.Muhammad Shehzad Arbab. Renowned panelists from the private and public sector including Former Minister for Law Justice and Human Rights Mr.Ahmer Bilal Soofi presidents of leading Chambers of Commerce and Industry, mediators, arbitrators and senior government officials will be attending the Dialogue.

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