

**Consulate General of Pakistan
Los Angeles

Press Release

**Guidelines for International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) for their
Operations/Projects in Pakistan**

The Government of Pakistan has announced a new policy that will regulate the registration, working, funding, monitoring and other related aspects pertaining to all types of International Non-Governmental Organizations (hereinafter INGOs) functioning in Pakistan. The policy can be accessed at the following link:

<https://ingo.interior.gov.pk/>

The Government of Pakistan acknowledges the diverse contributions of INGOs. At the same time, all the INGOs desirous of working in Pakistan are advised to get themselves registered as per procedure mentioned on the website of the Ministry of Interior at the link mentioned above.

Accordingly, policy for issuance of visas to employees of INGOs has been formulated by the Ministry of Interior, which is underlined below:

1. No unregistered INGO shall be issued visas for its personnel.
2. NGO Visas will be granted to the employees of only those INGOs, who are registered with the Ministry of Interior, Government of Pakistan. A copy of registration letter issued by the Ministry of Interior must be provided along with visa application.
3. For issuance of initial NGO visas, prior clearance from the concerned authorities in Pakistan will be required (which would entail additional processing time). Therefore, the NGOs are asked to apply for visas at least six months in advance.
4. Hiring of foreign nationals by the INGOs in their management and/or staff shall be subject to prior clearance of Ministry of Interior of Pakistan.
5. Maximum duration of visas for non-Pakistani nationals working for the INGOs will be one year.
6. The foreign employees of the INGOs shall seek prior permission of the Ministry of Interior for visiting areas outside their designated areas of activities. Violation may lead to cancellation of visas. Areas and field of operation shall be allowed/specified by the Government of Pakistan.
7. Business/visit visas shall not be issued to INGOs staff.

8. No request for change of status of visa shall be entertained in Pakistan or by Pakistan Missions abroad.
9. Hiring of Foreign nationals by the INGOs in their management and/or staff shall be subject to prior clearance of Ministry of Interior, Islamabad.
10. For processing for NGO visas, following information would be required:
 - a. Details of operations in Pakistan and other countries.
 - b. Sources of funding including from foreign nationals.
 - c. Account details as per internationally accepted accounting standards.
 - d. Proof of legal international transfer of funds.
11. Confirmation of Non-profit status of the NGO should be provided with the visa application. Audited accounts of last three years may also be provided.
12. Visa application form should be dully filled in and signed by the individual who shall be called for interview.
13. The following should be provided with the visa application:
 - a. Letter of registration with the Ministry of Interior
 - b. Original Passport having at least six months validity and a photocopy of the passport.
 - c. Two passport size current photographs with white background.
 - d. A letter from the current employer stating job description of the applicant.
 - e. For Non-USA passport holders, a copy of State ID/Green card/Immigration status.
 - f. A non-refundable visa processing fee of US \$ 180/- in the shape of Money Order, Bank Draft or Cashier's cheque in the name of Consulate General of Pakistan, Los Angeles.
 - g. Pre-paid return envelope having tracking number if sent by mail.
 - h. Bank statement of the applicant for last three months.
 - i. Complete contact details of the applicant (Residential, Business etc.)
14. The Mission is expected to provide vital inputs to the Ministry of Interior regarding the visa applications. The management of INGOs may be called for information and would be required to provide necessary documentation/proof/evidence to support their applications.

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