

SECTION-I
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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4. Institutional arrangements established for the follow-up of the WFS Plan of Action (if any):

National Committee for World Food Summit, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock. The Committee is supported by the relevant Federal Ministries and departments of the Provincial Governments

SECTION-II

PRIORITY FOOD SECURITY ISSUES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD FOOD SUMMIT PLAN OF ACTION

The basic objective Pakistan's national food security is to ensure adequate food supply throughout the year either by means of indigenous production or through import. Being an agriculture country, the main emphasis has been on achieving self reliance in food production through developing agriculture sector. Resultantly, the production of food crops grew many folds since 1970. The impact of the substantial increase in production on food security indicators has partly been off-set by the rapidly growing population.

The food balance sheets for 1996-97 to 2003-04 indicate that the overall per capita availability of food items has marginally been maintained. During this period, population increased by 20.1% from 123.87 million in 1996 to 148.72 million in 2004. The availability of per capita calories declined during this period from 2522 kcal/day to 2466 kcal/day and per capita availability of protein declined from 66.6 grams/day to 64.3 grams/day. Per capita per day caloric level in Pakistan is less than the recommended dietary allowance (RDA) of 2550 kcal/day. However, the protein level is 7.2% more than the recommended dietary allowance of 60 grams/day.

Per capita availability of total cereals (wheat, rice, maize, millet sorghum, barley) has declined from 156.9 kg/annum in 1996-97 to 147.3 kg/annum in 2002-03. The production of coarse grains has shown a declining trend whereas wheat production increased from 16.9 million tons in 1996-97 to 19.7 million tons in 2003-04.

Per capita availability of edible oil and sugar per capita availability remained almost stagnant at 11.42 kg/annum and 27.8 kg/annum, respectively from 1996-97 to 2002-03. Per capita availability of meat declined during this period from 17.25 kg/annum to 14.56 kg/annum. Milk and eggs availability, however, increased from 67.16 kg milk/annum and 44 eggs/annum in 1996-97 to 83.87 kg milk/annum and 55 eggs/annum in 2002-03.

Despite the fact that Pakistan has attained near self-sufficiency in food production, the improvement in malnutrition was almost invisible during the last 15 years, i.e., between 1st National Nutrition Survey (NNS) conducted in 1985-87 and 2nd NNS conducted in 2001-02. This is due to shortage of health care personnel, uneven distribution of health facilities, non-availability of medicines, regional disparities in health care services and scarcity of administrative health care capabilities and facilities.

The prevalence of malnutrition is a serious concern in Pakistan which is significantly high in mothers and children with no improvement over 15 years (NNS: 1985-87 and NNS: 2001-02). About 38% of children under 5 years are under-weight, about 36.8% are stunted and 13.1% are wasted. Number of under-weight and stunted children is higher in rural areas by 3.3% and 8.0% than in urban areas, respectively. About 12% mothers are malnourished. The child below 5 years apart from the problem of low body weight (LBW) and protein energy malnutrition (PEM) suffer from anemia and sub-clinical deficiency of vitamin-A. About 65% of young children and 45% of pregnant/lactating mothers suffer from anemia. Such malnutrition is high among pregnant and

lactating woman and responsible for low body weight and increased risk of complications during child birth. The main causative factors for malnutrition are inadequate food intake and poor health status which are influenced by poverty and lack of access to food, feeding practices and large family size.

In Pakistan, efforts are underway for achieving World Food Security goals and implementing WFS-Plan of Action. The Government policies focus on achieving sustainable food security through increasing productivity, encouraging entrepreneurial agriculture and introducing income diversification interventions at farm level. The main thrust is to increase income and profitability enabling the rural, poor masses and farming community to raise their living standard and ensuring access to food. Greater focus has been on increasing farm productivity through providing production loans for purchase of inputs, quality seed, training of farmers and transferring of production technology to farmers. Resultantly, food production during the last seven years has increased. Pakistan is self sufficient in rice, cereals, vegetables, fruits, potatoes, onions, sugar, milk, meat and poultry.

Pakistan's macroeconomic indicators have further strengthened in a very difficult global environment during the fiscal year 2002-03 and 2003-04. During last two years, the country has witnessed a significant improvement in its macro-economic indicators. A sharp increase in growth accompanied by low inflation and interest rates, decline in fiscal deficit, strong growth in exports and imports, surplus in the current account maintained second year in a row, continued build up in foreign exchange reserves, further strengthening of Pak rupee, decline in domestic and external debt, rising inflow of foreign direct investment, buoyant stock market, and improved credit rating in international capital markets are some of the key achievements of the outgoing fiscal year. Four years of sound macroeconomic policies and the implementation of wide-ranging structural reforms have now started paying the dividends.

Pakistan is now beginning to recover from its difficult past. It is required to build on the current gains and use the strong foundation laid down over the last few years to sustain a higher growth momentum. Notwithstanding major progress made in many areas and macroeconomic environment improving considerably, Pakistan still faces many challenges. Prominent among those include raising investment to sustain higher economic growth, reducing poverty, ensuring food security and improving social indicators and improving the financial health of the public sector enterprises.

The democratically elected government is fully cognizant of the challenges ahead and is committed to keep good policies on track. The economy is at the take-off stage and going forward, sustaining high economic growth accompanied by macroeconomic stability, improving the lives of a common man, enhancing food supply and access, investing in human capital and improving governance, are the central objectives of our medium-term policy.

SECTION-III

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR EACH COMMITMENT AND MEASURES TAKEN

Seven commitments of World Food Summit-Plan of Action

The implementation status of the seven commitments of WFS 1996 is as below.

Commitment No.1: Creation of an enabling political, social and economical environment for:

(i) **Strengthening democratic political systems and broad based participation:** Pakistan has introduced Devolution Plan to create a political environment whereby, the people are enabled to solve their problems at grass roots level. Every eligible person had been given an equal opportunity to contest in the local elections and represent the group of their constituency. Seats for women have been reserved for every District Council. Separate quota for labourers and minorities has also been earmarked. Under devolution of power, the policy planning regarding political, socio-economic development have been entrusted to the district elected governments.

This policy has created awareness among the people and they have been associated with the development of their own areas. There are 101 District Councils, 337 Tehsil Councils and 6022 Union Councils. All these institutions are run and managed by the people's representatives. In order to govern/regulate and strengthen this system on sustainable basis, the Government has promulgated the Local Government Ordinance, 2001. At the same time, concerted efforts have been made at the Federal and Provincial levels to bring all laws in conformity with the above stated Ordinance/regulatory framework. The Government is endeavoring to amend or repeal all laws which are discriminatory in nature. The Ministry of Local Government is also working on a programme to create database wherein all local government laws, the number of Local Councils/bodies, their structure and the number of elected councilors which were promulgated and remained in force since 1909 is available on the website.

Post graduate diploma courses in local government are being offered, workshop/seminars are organized on regular basis in training & research institutes for capacity building of elected representatives and state functionaries. An effort is being made to include in the courses awareness and importance of the safety of food products, pollution and other social and cultural indicators which have direct impact/linkage with improvement of socio-economic life of the general public.

The district authorities coming from the local areas are well versed with the traditions, cultural practices and social organizations. They provide leadership for the pursuits of development, decision making and action taking that improve their economic prosperity and food security. This helps promote and strengthen well functioning of the democratic systems, ensure broad based participation and thus protect basic rights of the people in a better way.

Pakistan has taken impressive steps in political empowerment of women. Their participation in political system has been assured through reserving 33% seats in the local

councils and by doubling the number of reserved seats for women in the national and provincial assemblies. A total of 67512 women contested the election in the local bodies elections against 39,964 seats reserved for women. Another 126 were elected on reserved seats for minorities. About 27,000 women councilors at District, Tehsil and Union council levels have been trained. There are 73 women members in the National Assembly out of 342. Sixty of these have been elected on reserved seats and 13 on general seats. At provincial level, there are 139 women members out of a total of 728 provincial assembly seats. One hundred and twenty eight (128) of these women have been elected on reserved seats and 11 on general seats. There are few countries in the world which can demonstrate such concrete progress in the political empowerment of women.

ii) Improving human rights: The constitution of Pakistan ensures fundamental freedom and protects basic rights of people. The constitution also fully guarantees equality of all citizens irrespective of sex in all walks of life. In support thereof, the Government of Pakistan takes measures to ensure improving human rights situation in the country.

Pakistan has acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the Convention for Elimination of all Forms of Discriminations Against Women (CEDAW). Pakistan has also signed the two optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and will soon ratify them. The Government has already taken concrete steps for implementation of these international commitments. Continued attention will be given to improving the coordination, monitoring and reporting of their implementation status.

Several laws have been drafted for fulfillment of child rights. In 2000, the Juvenile Justice Ordinance was promulgated. This law provides increased protection to children in conflict with the law. Pakistan has also recently signed and ratified the ILO Convention 182 for Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

iii) Preventing conflicts and creating a peaceful environment: Pakistan is a peace loving and peace promoting country. Pakistan has cooperated with the international community for developing conflict prevention mechanisms and settling down the disputes by peaceful means. Pakistan has contributed through peace troops to maintain peace in several war-affected countries of the world. Pakistan's role in combating terrorism has been widely acknowledged and appreciated by the international community.

It is broadly accepted that peace and development are inextricably linked. There is not likely to be sustainable development without lasting peace. This is clearly evident in the South Asian context where a difficult regional security situation has led to the diversion of scarce development resources. Pakistan has therefore striven to resolve all issues bedeviling regional peace and security according to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter.

iv) Enhancing Gender equality and women empowerment: Government of Pakistan has taken a number of measures to empower women in social set up. The major measures so far taken by the Government are: the setting up of a Women's Division in the Ministry of Women Development, Social Welfare and Special Education at federal level with the key role of advocacy, policy making, planning and implementation of programmes to ensure protection of women rights and other matters relating to them in collaboration with other Federal Ministries and Provincial Governments, National and International NGOs.

The Government has also established a National Commission on the Status of Women in July, 2000. The Commission was assigned the task of examining/reviewing the existing policies, programmes, law and rules/regulations concerning women development and gender equality and make suitable recommendations to improve the status of women. An advisory board was also constituted in August, 2000 for the welfare of the women. A Woman's Grievances Cell was established and many petitions concerning domestic violence, honour killing, family disputes, etc. were received from the affected women. Almost all the petitions were disposed off.

The Federal Cabinet on March, 2002 approved the National Policy for Development and Empowerment of Women. The President of Pakistan announced this policy at a grand Convention of Women organized in Islamabad on March 7, 2002. The policy will serve as a guideline for the government and non-government organizations as well as civil society to ensure protection of women's rights, promotion of gender equality, a balanced society and women's participation in socio-economic development of the country. This is a big step forward towards the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (1995).

To enable the women of the country to participate in policy and decision-making process at the highest level, the present government has introduced seven women ministers in the Federal and Provincial Cabinets. These women ministers hold consultation from time to time to review, discuss, analyze and monitor the women related issues for remedial measures. Under present devolution programme, women seats of counselors at district, tehsil and village level have been increased to 33% to enable their participation in the policy and decision-making process at grass root level.

v) Equal opportunities for all: Government has designed a comprehensive approach for forging national solidarity, improving social indicators, social development and providing equal opportunities for all in social and political life under the Social Action Programme (SAP). The first phase of SAP was formulated and launched in 1993-94 with an outlay of Rs127.4 billion for a period of three years. The first phase of SAP had helped in: (a) improving programme design to expand access to basic services (basic education, primary school education, adult literacy, basic health care, rural water supply and sanitation, rural sanitation, contraceptive services) by the poor, particularly females and improve service quality; (b) strengthening implementation capacity of social services programme; (c) increasing real level of expenditure for sectors; and (d) generating political support to reform social sectors for better delivery of services to the target groups.

Keeping in view the strong and weak points of SAP Phase-I, the Government initiated a five- and-a-half-year SAP-II programme starting from January 1, 1997 to June 30, 2002. The scope of SAP-II had been expanded to cover middle schools and non-formal education, tehsil level referral hospitals, tuberculosis and nutrition in the health sector and water supply and sanitation in urban slums. Total financial allocation for SAP-II had been increased to Rs 498.84 billion (Rs 434 for provinces and Rs 65 for federal schemes).

Commitment No.2: Policies pursued and action taken to eradicate poverty and inequality and improve physical and economic access to adequate food for all:

i) Specific policies and targeted intervention to generate income and employment for urban

poor: Poverty in Pakistan reduced during period 1980 to 1988. Thereafter, it started rising. The proportion of population in the country living under poverty line was 29.3% in 1987-88 which rose to 31.8% in 2002-03. The poverty reduced in urban areas but in rural areas the poverty increased sharply from 29.3% in 1987-88 to 38.7% in 2002-03.

Pakistan started a process of structural and financial reforms in late 1980's with the view to improve overall economy of the country and reduce poverty. In spite of efforts in this direction, the problem of poverty intensified after 1987-88. It is found that the structural reform process had a negative effect on poverty. The structural adjustment programmes and macroeconomic stabilization measures increased the prices of items of daily consumption through heavy taxation, adjustment in exchange rate, reduction in subsidy and adjustment in tariff rates and thus become additional burden on poor segments of population. Interventions favouring income generation are summarized below:

(a) **Investment policy:** Economic growth in the country is necessary for improving economy and social indicators. Investment policy of Government encourages and attracts direct foreign investment in all sectors of the economy particularly in telecommunications, education, banking, and power generation. Due to favorable policies, foreign direct investment inflow, in Pakistan, has enhanced GDP, exports and job opportunities, revenues, overall development in far-flung areas has helped in technology and know-how transfer as well as stimulated the education and social sectors.

(b) **Micro-credit bank (Khushali Bank):** Specialized financial institutions have been established to provide credit to enable gainful self-employment. These credit institutions/banks are providing micro credit for small and medium enterprises and self-employed micro enterprises. The government is deregulating this sector and micro credit has been established in the private sector.

(c) **Khushal Pakistan Programme:** The Khushal Pakistan Programme is a social intervention aimed at generating economic activity through public works in the country. The provinces in close collaboration of local authorities are implementing the programmes. Rs 20 billion (US\$ 330 million) Khushal Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Programme covering the two years period January 2000 to December 2001 has been launched with the main goal of increasing employment opportunities and providing essential infrastructure in rural and low-income areas. This is achieved by building farm to market road, rehabilitating water supply schemes, repairing existing schools, small rural roads, streets, drains and storm channels in villages.

(d) **Good governance:** It is generally believed that poor governance is one of the factors causing poverty to rise. It is argued that the same economic policies and institutions that have led to high growth and poverty reduction in other countries have failed in Pakistan because of poor governance. Rising poverty enables the value system to decline sharply and allows the elite to exploit and manipulate more easily. Good governance will ensure that the benefits of growth are more equitably distributed. In view of this, the government has been increasing allocations to this sector. The budget for good governance was Rs 41.86 billion in 2003-04.

ii) Specific policies and targeted interventions to generate on-farm and off-farm income and employment for the rural poor:

(a) **Development funds:** Government provides development funds to the elected representatives for improving infrastructure facilities in their constituencies. The funds are spent through the public sector department called Local Government Department. The programs thus initiated provide a large number of employment opportunities to the rural poor.

(b) **Under poverty reduction programme:** Under this derive, government has identified five major sector, viz., agriculture, housing and construction, small and medium enterprises, oil and gas and information technology. With relatively higher investment in these sector, it is expected to generate more growth and employment opportunities for rural poor.

(c) **Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)**, established in February, 1997 as a private limited company to reach the communities through the NGOs and the CBOs, is designed to enhance access and quality of social and economic services to low income communities and to provide low income communities physical infrastructure development. It is anticipated that the communities that lack essential community physical infrastructure and have high unemployment and underemployment will be focused. The benefits will accrue directly to poor through income generation opportunities, improved community physical infrastructure and greater economic integration to women.

(d) **Farm-to-market roads:** The farm to market roads are being constructed in rural areas where people rely directly on agriculture for their living. This provides a quick link to the markets and hence increase the household income. It also improves access to health services and schools. This programme serves two purposes, first increase in productivity of agriculture, and second generation of employment opportunities for the rural poor.

iii) Provision made to develop social safety nets to meet the needs of the poor including those affected by HIV/AIDS in rural and urban areas:

(a) **Pakistan Baitul Mal (PBM)** The basic objective of PBM is to provide subsistence living, shelter, education and medical relief for those who are permanently or temporarily unable to earn their livelihood on account of sickness or because of circumstances beyond their control. PBM has launched special projects for the benefit of poor and deserving persons through programmes such as National Centre for Rehabilitation of Child Labour, vocational training for child workers working as apprentices in auto workshop, mobile dispensaries schemes to provide basic health facilities to poor and Dastkari (Sewing/handicrafts) schools for widows, orphan girls and daughters of invalids to earn their livelihood. PBM also introduced various food subsidy schemes during the last five years.

(b) **Food Support Programme (FSP):** During the fiscal year 2000-01, Pakistan Baitul Mal launched a countrywide Food Support Programme. This programme is a social sector inheritor of various Food Stamps Subsidy schemes, introduced in the past. In addition, it is designed to meet basic nutritional requirements of the poor and vulnerable groups, which covers urban as well as rural areas. FSP provide **effective social safety net** to 1.25 million households in the lowest slab of societal income up to the threshold of Rs.2,000 per month. The objective of the programme is to provide relief to the poorest segment of society due to increase in the wheat prices. A subsidy is provided under this program to the tune of Rs 2.5 billion which has now been increased to Rs

3.0 billion and the rate of annual subsidy per family has been increased from Rs 2000 to Rs 2400/-. The subsidy meets four months expenditure of an average household on wheat.

(c) **Income Safety Nets:** The Government has also initiated some income transfer measures through which the most destitute and socially marginalized sections of the society are provided relief. The most notable among them are Islamic mode of welfare system of Zakat and Ushr through which timely support is provided to those who are disadvantaged and marginalized by market forces. Other government's safety net programmes include food subsidies, food support programmes, Tawana Pakistan and low cost housing. These programmes are directly related to the poorest section of society. Hence the government is continuously increasing their budgetary allocations every year. For example, against an expenditure of Rs 13.75 billion in 2002-03 the budget for 2003-04 was Rs 17.67 billion including Rs 13.26 billion for food subsidies alone.

(d) **AIDS prevention programmes:** Although the incidence of HIV/AIDS is estimated to be minimal in Pakistan, still the Government has been pro-active in creating awareness about the disease. Government is implementing the HIV/AIDS control Programmes since 2003 at a cost of Rs 2.8 billion, with major focus on creating awareness, services for vulnerable population, strengthening of public and private sectors for effectively providing HIV/AIDS related services and promoting blood safety through providing safe transfusion services. A national curriculum on HIV/AIDS has been designed for in-service teacher training program. It is designed in collaboration with UNESCO. Health and environment education are the integral part of the national curriculum both in formal and non-formal systems of education.

iv) Measures taken to ensure access to basic education and primary health care:

(a) Government has designed a comprehensive approach for social development and providing equal opportunities for all in social life. These efforts cover basic education, primary school education, adult literacy, basic health care, rural water supply and sanitation, rural sanitation and contraceptive services. Opportunities were increased to enhance the productivity of poor and transform them into a dynamic and fast growing segment by improving their basic skills through traditional apprenticeship system or on-the-job training. In the northern and extremely disadvantaged areas, school feeding and food aid programmes have been successful in improving school retention especially of girls and their nutrition status.

(b) Provision of better health facilities to improve the standard of living of people is of a paramount importance. While keeping this end in view, due priority has been given to the health planning by increasing health allocations and expanding health facilities. Medical facilities in the country are constantly increasing. The present health infrastructure with 906 hospitals, 4590 dispensaries, 550 rural health centers and 5308 basic health units compared well with other developing countries. The availability of 108.1 thousand doctors, 5.5 thousand dentists, 46.3 thousand nurses and 98.2 thousand hospital beds in the country which in term of population doctor, ratio works out to be 1466 persons per doctor, 29405 persons per dentist, 3347 persons per nurse and 1517 persons per hospital bed though show improvement over the previous years but much more efforts will be required to improve health care and preventive services. During last five years, immunization coverage has also been improved with the increased percentage of fully immunized children of 5 years or younger.

(c) The federal and provincial governments have launched a number of incentive schemes to educate and train the people of Pakistan. This includes Elementary Education, Adult Literacy,

and Early Childhood Education. Under Adult literacy program, skill development is the priority. This will help make the adults literate in life skills and economic skills. These steps help in promoting self dependency and eradicating ignorance and poverty from the society. Empowering women through environment education for sustainable development is a specific feature of developing our human capital.

(d) Government is giving highest priority and budget allocation for the promotion of education. New schools have been built and existing ones are upgraded. There are 156 thousand primary schools, 29 thousand middle schools and 16 thousand high schools present in the country. Over last five years, primary, middle and high schools increased by 5.7%, 12.7% and 8.6%, respectively. Similarly, total enrolment at public and private institutions increased by 4.7%, 7.3% and 6.0% in primary, middle and high school levels, respectively.

Commitment No.3: Peruse participatory and sustainable agriculture, food, forestry and rural development policies and to combat pests, drought and desertification.

i) Policies and actions taken to intensify food production:

(a) The **government policy** focuses on sustainable food security, increasing productivity, encouraging entrepreneurial agriculture, income diversification and export orientation. The main thrust in agriculture sector is to increase farm productivity and profitability. In view of increasing water shortages and degradation of land, the policy emphasizes to conserve the natural resource base. Timely availability of adulteration free farm inputs at reasonable rates and effective technology dissemination and its adoption are considered the basic requirements for productivity enhancement. The role of private sector is being promoted and encouraged in procurement of food grains and other agricultural commodities leading to a sound public-private sector partnership for ensuring reasonable prices to farming community for their produce. A special focus is being made to establish a network of quality testing laboratories in public sector for grains, livestock diseases and products, fertilizer, agro-chemicals and residue testing and strengthening of plant and animal quarantine services for meeting the international quality standards.

(b) Federal and Provincial Governments provide policy support and extension services to farmers. Government also addresses all issues and constraints impeding the productivity and scientific development of food production system. Necessary elements for productivity enhancement are ensured including: availability of improved seed, ample quantity of fertilizers, field implements and production and development credit line for the farmers. In addition, support price mechanism, tube-well installation, integrated pest control (IPM) and improvement in post harvest handling interventions are made to ensure good return to farmers.

(c) Shortage of irrigation water is intensifying due to prolonged drought and intensive agriculture. In addition, 60-65% of the available water is wasted/lost through seepage, leakage, evapo-transpiration, before it reaches root-zone in the intended farmers' field. Therefore, the policy focus is on a balanced approach of investment in water infrastructure and water management to address supply and demand issues simultaneously. The goal is to address water scarcity, the flow of floodwater, safe disposal of drainage effluent, tapping of underground water and reducing seepage losses during water delivery process. More than three-fourth investment would be for construction of new dams, hydropower capacity and new canals to sustain high agriculture growth rate. Water conservation will also remain a priority area for the government. It has been planned to improve the remaining 87,000 watercourses throughout the country during next the four years through a federally funded project costing Rs 66 billion.

(d) Water vision 2025 envisages mega program including development of 64 MAF of storage capacity with an investment of Rs 50 billion over next 25 years in three phases. Phase-I comprises fast track projects to be completed in first 5-7 years (2002-2006). This includes construction of Gomal Zam Dam, Mirani Dam, Greater Thal Canal, Kachhi Canal, Raineer Canal, Raising of Mangla Dam and Satpara Dam. These dams would add about 5 MAF and bring more than 0.8 million hectare of land under cultivation besides generating 332-mw of power. Feasibility studies for Basha Dam, Kurram Tangi Dam are underway. Detailed design of Sehwan Barrage and Chashma 1st lift project would also be started. Phase-II include Basha Dam on Indus with 5.70 MAF storage capacity and power generation 3360 M.W, and Sehwan Barrage on Indus with 0.65 MAF storage capacity. Phase-III would include Kalabagh Dam with Storage

capacity of 6.10 MAF, Yugo Dam on Syhok River in Northern Areas with 9.82 MAF capacity, Skardu Dam with 15-52 MAF capacity and Kalam Dam on Swat River.

(e) Livestock is a fast growing sub-sector in Pakistan. It has great potential for further growth. It provides 25 to 30 percent of the income to small farmers and landless livestock producers. The sub-sector's share of agriculture value addition is 49.1 percent and 11.4 percent of GDP. Empirical studies have shown that small farmers who combine livestock with crop production have income twice as high as those with only crops. Therefore, efforts are underway to increase flow of funds to this sub-sector. The strategy in this sector will be to focus on genetic improvement of breeds of livestock, increase development of feed and fodder resources, establish feed mills, eradicate diseases of economic and trade importance, build state of the art slaughter houses, establish milk chilling plant and milk powder units and improve marketing of livestock and livestock products. The Provincial Governments have initiated their own programs to promote livestock breeding as a tool to reduce rural poverty under various area development projects.

(f) Fisheries is another important sub-sector, though small, but has played a significant role in the national economy and food security. It contributes 0.3 percent to GDP. Fisheries is one of the most important economic activity along the coastline of Sindh and Balochistan where the poorest of the poor communities live. The Government has taken certain policy initiatives to improve this sub-sector. Deep Sea Fishing Policy has been revised that encourages export of fish and fish products. Marine fishing program has been started. It includes aquaculture development, up-gradation of marine fisheries, installing global positioning system (GPS) in fishing boats, survey of the fish stocks, improving post-harvest facilities (chilling, refrigeration, hygienic conditions), up-gradation of fisheries quality control laboratories, and European Union accredited processing units. Programme of inland freshwater fish farming is further promoted and it is gaining momentum. Under this programme, about 40,000 hectares have been brought under fish farms in the provinces of Punjab, Sindh, and NWFP. Trout culture is being developed in the northern areas of the country by establishing private hatcheries and fish farms.

(g) Improving of rural infrastructure is another priority area necessary for the development of agriculture. Provincial Governments have undertaken major projects of constructing Farm to Market Roads to facilitate access to markets for the agricultural produce. Under a phased program, 5186 kilometers of roads have been constructed in various districts of Pakistan. The Government will implement Rural Development Project in Punjab, Sindh, NWFP, and Balochistan for further improvement in this direction. Expanding electricity supply to rural areas is another active programme. The Government has launched a rural electrification program. Under this program, 15,000 villages will be electrified during 2003-04 to 2005-06. It will facilitate (a) the establishment of agro-based and cottage industries which will help reduce poverty and improve job opportunities, (b) pumping sub-soil water for domestic and agricultural purposes, (c) providing support to rural women in terms of labor and (d) reducing rural/urban inequities and slow down migration to urban areas.

(h) In pursuance of World Food Summit – Plan of Action, Pakistan initiated Crop Maximization Project in July, 2002 with complete participation of farmers. The project is aiming at: (a) supplement the country's on-going efforts to increase food production through enhancing crop productivity and (b) ensure food security and alleviate poverty through improving income of small farmers. The project focuses on small farmers and provides them financial assistance in the form of inputs. The project is technology based and provides technical assistance for productivity enhancement and increasing farm income. The technologies are simple and time tested with assured benefits. The project results are more than projected. The crop productivity enhanced by 50-68%, while income of the farmers doubled as a result of increase in productivity and income generation from small scale on-farm enterprises introduced through

this project. The Government has plan to expand this project further on countrywide bases. A total of Rs 2.5 billion are earmarked in the Ten Year's Perspective Plan (2001-2011) for this project.

(i) In pursuance to national food security policy aim at achieving self reliance in food production through developing agriculture sector, the production of all food and cash crops grew many folds since 1970. Wheat production increased by 204.2% from 6.476 million tons in 1970-71 to 19.700 million tons in 2003-04. During the same period, rice production increased by 103.6% from 2.199 to 4.478 million tons, sugarcane production by 124.9% from 23.167 to 52.055 million tons, potato by 8 fold from 0.228 to 1.946 million tons and onion by 5 fold from 0.247 to 1.427 million tons, milk by 345% from 7.758 to 34.6 million tons, meat by 261% from 0.0591 to 2.134 million tons and eggs by 12 folds from 53.9 to 665.9 million dozens (Table 1).

(j) Food Availability data (Table 2) shows that the availability of daily calories per capita increased on average by 7.1% from 2301 in 1979-80 to 2466 in 2002-03 and protein increased by 4.5% during the same period. Per capita availability of total cereals remained stagnant during this period at 147.1 kg/annum. Per capita availability of wheat, rice, sugar and pulses declined and of meat, milk, fish, vegetables and fruits increased between 1979-80 to 2002-03. Shortfall of domestic production in food items are supplemented by imports whenever so needed.

Table 1. Food production in Pakistan: 1970-71 to 2002-03 (000 Tons)

Items	1970-71	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Wheat	6476	16650	18694	17858	21079	19024	18226	19192
Rice	2199	4305	4333	4674	5156	4803	3882	4479
Maize	718	1491	1517	1665	1652	1643	1664	1737
Millet	354	146	211	213	156	199	216	189
Sorghum	329	219	231	227	220	218	221	203
Barely	91	150	174	137	118	99	100	100
All cereals	9520	22961	25161	24775	28380	25986	24311	25890
All Pulses	667	832	1007	951	802	621	594	930
Sugar	519	2379	3549	3531	2415	2466	3197	3652
All Vegetables	1621	3821	4172	4805	4731	4526	4605	4826
All Fruits	1602	6187	6280	6344	5846	5892	5902	5742
Meat	591	1908	1841	1906	1956	2014	2073	2134
Milk	7758	29930	30126	30948	31804	32695	33624	34593
Eggs(m dozens)	54	480	501	688	705	625	640	666

Source: Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan (various issues).

Table 2. Per capita availability of major food items in Pakistan (Kg/annum)

Food items	1979-80	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Cereals	147.1	156.9	158.0	159.0	160.8	164.9	149.3	147.3
Wheat	116.0	130.85	134.17	140.87	131.45	123.85	112.05	116.31
Rice	23.4	16.85	15.07	19.80	20.78	15.85	13.97	17.24
Edible oil	6.8	11.42	10.46	10.95	12.66	11.44	11.57	11.95
Sugar	28.8	27.88	32.80	31.20	26.40	30.80	26.10	27.80
Meat	9.9	17.25	14.00	14.17	14.23	14.30	14.45	14.56
Milk	53.0	67.16	68.58	81.45	82.40	80.60	83.14	83.87
Fish	1.99	4.61	5.01	5.06	5.12	5.15	5.23	5.23
Pulses	6.3	6.00	5.90	6.80	7.20	7.00	6.10	5.80
Vegetables	23.4	33.10	32.33	35.72	37.50	33.71	33.61	35.22
Fruits	29.7	48.60	48.20	47.40	46.60	47.30	48.70	47.38
Eggs (Nos.)	15.0	44	45	61	61	62	55	55
Calories/day (Kcal)	2301	2522	2655	2728	2625	2706	2306	2466
Protein/day (grams)	61.5	66.6	68.37	71.85	70.00	71.74	67.00	64.3

Source: Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan (various issues) and Economic Survey of Pakistan-2003-04.

ii) Actions taken to combat environmental threats to food security, in particular: Long-term projects have been planned to fight drought, overcome desertification and check the water losses and soil erosion. The plant species, which performed well in such conditions, have been multiplied and protected after its transplantation. Water conservation strategies have been given priority in agricultural policy and efforts are being made to utilize rainwater. New water harvesting techniques in the rain-fed areas have been introduced to mitigate drought effects and check erosion. Soil Conservation Department is carrying out activities for soil and water conservation. About 1000 hectares of eroded land was reclaimed/protected in NWFP erosion through construction of 500-600 number of soil conservation structures. During the last five years, about 5000 hectares of land was reclaimed in project districts.

In pursuance of article 5 of International Convention of Desertification, Government of Pakistan has formulated a National Action Programme in 1999 to combat desertification. This programme is for 10 years (2000 to 2010). The programme is focused on conservation, sustainable development and maintenance of natural resources, i.e., forests, rangelands, soil and water in croplands/watersheds and wildlife, so that the process of desertification is stopped and reversed. The key programme areas recommended in the plan are: (i) dry-land afforestation/ agro-forestry in gullied degraded areas, (ii) improved crop production in dry-lands, (iii) range/livestock production, (iv) soil and water conservation, (v) water harvesting, (vi) sand dune stabilization, (vii) rehabilitation and reclamation of saline/sodic soils, (viii) improvement of drainage and on-farm management, (ix) wildlife conservation and (x) integrated pest management.

For sustainable development and eradication of desertification, various projects with the assistance of foreign countries were launched and implemented during last five years. With the implementation of these projects, though beneficial results were achieved but it was felt that Government's efforts alone couldn't produce positive results until it is supplemented with community mobilization and its active participation. With this aim in view, a number of projects are being implemented such as NWFP Forestry Sector Project covering seven districts where afforestation activities are carried out and Punjab Forestry Sector Project operating in rural areas. These projects include Farm Forestry, Transfer of Technology of Nursery Raising to private sector, empowerment of rural poor through community organizations and women organizations.

Forestry in Pakistan is facing a number of problems related with lack of forestry database, wood shortages, environmental degradation, biodiversity conservation, forest protection and sustainable management. Government of Pakistan has approved a Forestry Sector Research and Development Project executed by Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar, NWFP. The project encompasses the inventory and mapping of forest resources of Pakistan through the use of GIS/RS, selection, multiplication and distribution of improved seed sources of Paulownia and Neem species, conservation and management of important endangered wildlife species, determination of optimum water requirements of important tree species, tree improvement and quality seed production of chilghoza pine, walnut and almond species. The emphases is also on the control of harmful forest insect pest and pathogens and human resource development through the local and foreign trainings both at graduate and post graduate levels. Aquatic-based natural resources are being looked after by the Sindh Forest Department. A number of projects are being implemented with the assistance of IUCN, UNDP, EU and other international funding agencies.

On-Farm Water Management is a top priority area because of drought, water shortage and increased cropping intensity. This wing of provincial agriculture department has

significantly reduced water losses during last five years through improving watercourses, precision land leveling, building of water storage tanks, training of farmers and establishment of demonstration centers. Water management interventions are carried out with the participation of farmers and farming community on cost sharing bases. Since inception of the OFWM Wing, about 55, 000 Water Users Associations have been registered under OFWM and WUA Ordinance 1981 and 47,000 watercourses involving 188,000 Km of total length have been remodeled, partially lined and reconstructed according to engineering design. These interventions have reduced water losses up to 12% and increased in delivery efficiency to the tune of 38.5%. The resulting increases in cropping intensity has been reported nearly 20%, and overall increases in crop yields around 8.5% have been reported due to better water use.

For sustainable crop pest management, conservation of biodiversity including natural enemies of pests in crop ecosystems, Government, with the support of FAO and EU, has begun a programme of Farmers Field Schools (FFS) which enable the farmers to organize themselves and make their own decisions based on the agro-ecosystem analysis to control insect-pest by means of insecticides or through biological approach. This approach has also led to community development.

To give a relief to drought hit areas in the country, Government launched a ten years Drought Emergency Relief Assistance (DERA-I) Program in 2001 with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank and World Bank. The objectives of the programme are: development of short term schemes in drought-hit areas of the provinces to revive the agrarian economy and promote sustainable use of water resources for improving productive capacity, livelihood and income of drought affected people. Sub-projects are formulated on need basis as identified by the community and local leadership. First priority was given to labor intensive projects. At present, about 2213 development schemes costing Rs 9.698 billion are under implementation.

iii) Transfer and use of agricultural technologies: The national agriculture policy lays emphasis on increasing food production and reducing poverty in the rural areas. Provincial agricultural departments organize trainings for farmers at union council level and educate them in advanced production technologies through use of mass media (electronic and print media). The Government has launched and implemented following different programmes for efficient transfer of technology to the farmers.

- Provincial Extension Services are providing farmers with information and training on application of technology, pest management practices, IPM and other agronomic practices to increase productivity per unit area.
- The on-going IPM programme aims at capacity building of farming communities in self-organization, decision-making and rural development. This programme will also involve university teachers and school children to enable them to care for the ecology, biodiversity and rural development.
- Provision of agricultural inputs through establishment of Farm Services Centers network in each district.
- The services of agriculture experts/specialists through Out-Reach Programme have been interlinked with Farm Services Centers.

- NGOs and Rural Support Programmes are also involved in capacity building of farmers and providing them micro credit.
- Daily radio/TV programmes, monthly information bulletins are in vogue for information of the farmers.

National yields in Pakistan are substantially lower than that obtained by progressive growers (Table 3). The yield gaps from those that are realized at research farms are even larger. The reasons could be capital constraints at the farm, slow rate of diffusion of modern technologies, marketing constraints and physical barriers arising from lack of availability of hardware as seeds, soil amendments and others. This calls for more efficient extension system and correcting availability of the hardware. As agriculture is primarily a provincial subject, therefore, major over-hauling of the system will have to be carried out in provinces.

Table 3. Comparison of national average yields of Pakistan with the yields of other countries

Country	Average yield (kg/hectare)				
	Wheat	Cotton	Rice	Maize	Sugarcane
World	2720	1788	3916	4343	65802
India	2770	754	2915	1705	68049
China	3885	3978	6266	5022	66802
Egypt	6006	2654	-	-	119838
Mexico	5151	-	-	2437	74746
France	7449	-	-	9914	-
Pakistan					
National Average	2262	1867	2882	1768	48056
Progressive farmer	4500	2890	4580	7455	106700

The current extension services system can not keep pace with the rapidly emerging progressive farming style which is based on more multi-disciplinary and integrated approach. As such this system neither can identify the farmers problems nor attempt a prompt response to their needs. It has poor access to electronic media for transfer of technologies, knowledge and skills of front line extension workers are old and outdated, funding and resource constraints are common and linkages with research and education are inadequate. Weaknesses in structure as well as methodology must be addressed to on priority if the entire system of extension services need to be strengthened and revitalized. This will entail substantial increase in funding and resources for extension wing to play an effective role in future transfer of technology.

iv) Formulation and implementation of integrated rural development: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development is responsible for planning and policy formulation for the rural development. The rural development policy aims to improve the rural infrastructure (roads, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, vocational training & electrification, etc.) and undertake major projects in this regard. Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock focuses on crop promotion, productivity enhancement, water management and farmers training through provincial agriculture departments. Federal Ministry of Health, Basic Health Units, Provincial Offices of the Planning and Development Departments, Federal Women Division and World Food Programme (WFP) are directly or indirectly involved in rural development and poverty alleviation.

Government has a policy to improve the rural infrastructure and thus has undertaken major projects of constructing farm to market roads to facilitate access to markets for the agricultural produce. Expanding electricity supply to rural areas is another active programme which will facilitate (a) the establishment of agro-based and cottage industries which will help reduce poverty and improve job opportunities, (b) pumping sub-soil water for domestic and agricultural purposes, and (c) reduce rural/urban inequities and slow down migration to urban areas. The rural development programmes/efforts need to be expanded on massive scale to make a dent in rural economy and ensure a sustainable development in agriculture sector.

Agha Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) is a private organization established in 1982 by Agha Khan Foundation funded by bilateral and multiple donors. This organization works in Northern Areas, focusing on economic and institutional development. The main goal of this organization is to raise the income level of the villagers and to develop a replicable model for rural development. Its rural development approach has seven major components: (i) institutional development and social organization, (ii) women development, (iii) mountain infrastructure and engineering services, (iv) natural resource management, (v) human resource development, (vi) credit and saving, and (vii) enterprise development.

National and provincial Rural Support Programmes (NRSP) are also involved in rural development and poverty alleviation in rural areas. The main objectives of these programmes are to foster a countrywide network of community organization at the grass root level and enable them to plan, manage and implement their development plans on their own. As of January 31, 2001, the NRSP has facilitated formation of 12,155 community organizations and 264,058 households have been organized. While the total credit disbursed up to January 2001 amounts to Rs 2504.4 million. The cumulative recovery rate was 93 percent during 1999-2000. NRSP in collaboration with the UNDP has initiated an urban poverty alleviation programme. Under this programme, Rs.40 million loans were disbursed to 3792 borrowers with a recovery rate of 99 percent.

Commitment No.4 Ensure the food and agricultural trade policies and over all trade policies to foster food security.

i) To establish well functioning internal marketing and transportation systems to facilitate better links within and between domestic and external market: Marketing of agricultural products is in the private sector, except in the case of wheat where Government intervenes for procuring of strategic reserves stock. This depends on the consumption estimates and ranges from 3 to 4 million tons annually.

The agriculture markets are generally small, fragmented and unorganized. Various stages of operation exist between a farmer and a consumer. The intermediaries are called commission agents and operate at wholesale and retail levels. They capture a large portion of prices paid by the consumers. It is generally believed that the farmers in this system get lower prices of their products. In order to improve marketing system, a development project “Improvement of Agricultural Marketing” is in the process of approval. The project aims to restructure and strengthen agriculture marketing system and marketing information mechanisms in all provinces. The project will providing agriculture sector a boost and make agriculture marketing more remunerative for the producers. At the same time, it would assure fair returns for the traders and more stability in supply of commodities and their prices for the consumers

In order to improve the quality of agricultural products, emphasis is laid down on pre and post-harvest technology. Various reports have shown that post-harvest losses of perishable items range between 25 - 35 %. Focus is on to reduce such losses by adoption of better harvesting, handling, storage, packing and packaging and transportation of the produce. The greater emphasis is placed on adoption of cold chain transportation and modern ware-house storage systems. A system of grading and quality certification is implemented by the government under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act. Grades and standards of quality of agricultural and livestock products have been laid down for export purposes. The grade standards are in line with international standards and have general acceptability in international markets.

The Provincial Governments have undertaken major projects of constructing farm to market roads to facilitate access to markets for the agricultural produce. Under a phased program, 5186 kilometers of roads have been constructed in various districts of Pakistan. The Government will continue improving road access and would also implement Rural Development Projects in Punjab, Sindh, NWFP, and Balochistan for further improvement rural infrastructure.

Pakistan has undergone a massive restructuring of macro economic policies wherein the role of public sector has been confined to minimal only for wheat crop, which is the basis of Pakistan’s food security. Trade policy is liberal and allows export and import of all commodities.

Pakistan has adopted export led production system and promote those commodities/ products which are required in the international market and meet quality requirements of the overseas consumers’ tastes. The use of agro-chemicals in crop production is another area of concern, which can in future hinder Pakistan’s trade of agricultural commodities. To address this issue, a programme of Integrated Pest Management has been initiated. To further supplement the efforts, a pesticide residue-testing laboratory has been established in Karachi to test and certify the residual levels of agro-chemicals in agricultural products.

Government has made heavy investments for improvement of the quality of agricultural products through:

- Establishing two grain-testing laboratories at Islamabad and Karachi to assure quality of cereal exports. Incentives were also offered to private sector for upgrading quality of wheat for export purpose.
- Implementing quality standard for agricultural commodities and products.
- Initiating a program of clean cotton and offering premium prices to the ginners/ growers for carrying out this scheme.
- Improving quality of fruits and vegetables through grading. A process has been started for upgrading packaging industry for fruits and vegetables using card boards.
- Establishing a pesticide residue-testing laboratory at Plant Protection Department, Karachi.
- Upgrading the animal and plant quarantine facilities and services. The quarantine services are being strengthened at a number of dry ports through establishment of new laboratories.
- Overhauling the handling facilities at fishing vessels and at auction halls. A massive improvement has been made in fish processing facilities. The fish processing units have been registered in Europe, meeting their quality standards.
- Establishing modern abattoirs at a number of places for meeting the food quality standards of the importing nations mainly Saudi Arabia and Gulf States.

ii) To diversify trade: The trade policy is based on the principle of maximum participation of all the stakeholders for the promotion of trade and industrial growth. Its framework has ensured consistency of policies with minimum government intervention. The trade policy is guided by market driven forces and also aimed at to further liberalize and deregulate the economy and provide incentives for reducing the cost of doing business in Pakistan and diversify export trade and maximize foreign exchange earnings. The focus has been placed on macro-economic stability, especially in terms of inflation, interest rates and exchange rate, with a view to expand and diversify the country's export base both market-wise and product-wise.

iii) To ensure national policies related to international and regional trade agreements do not have adverse impact on economic activities towards food security, especially women's activities: Non of the trade agreement including WTO of which Pakistan is member, adversely affect food security and women activities. Under the WTO, agreement on AoA, the agricultural trade is being liberalized gradually by both the developed and development country with due safeguards for food safety and security. We expect that the developed countries markets will be opened in near future and our exports will have greater market access. It will benefit the farmers/producers.

The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures is an integral part of the Agreement on Agriculture (Article 14). The SPS agreement specifies the principles and rules which member countries must use in regulating imported products. Pakistan, therefore, has planned to ensure to satisfy the sanitary and phytosanitary regulations for all its export commodities. Pakistan has also planed to meet the product standards established by Codex Alimentarius Commission, International office of Epizootics and International Plant Protection Convention. However, it will take time and in the intervening period Pakistan's exports may get a set back on this account.

The WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AOA) asks for major reductions in export subsidies, trade distorting domestic support and tariff barriers on agricultural products. Pakistan is in full conformity with AOA and has fulfilled all the required reduction commitments. The impact of the AOA has not been fully calculated as yet. But it seems that there may not be any direct negative impact of AOA on Pakistan's agriculture.

Contrary to the domestic scenario, Pakistan agricultural exports are facing a tough competition in international markets as the developed countries are subsidizing their agricultural products. The subsidies are provided at marketing as well as production stages. This has not provided a level playing field for countries like Pakistan where agriculture exports are not subsidized and farmer are provided any subsidy. The disparity can be seen from the amount of subsidies provided by the developed countries. Currently, subsidy of about US\$ 360 billion a year is provided against US\$ 302 billion provided during 1986-88. This makes total agricultural support three times the Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows and more than twice the foreign direct investment (FDI) flows to the developing countries. It also makes up almost 60 percent of total world agricultural trade. Export of such highly subsidized OECD products to the developing countries like Pakistan depresses prices artificially, adversely affects the producers, and hence reduces production capacity and export potential.

Another important concern for Pakistan is the increasing use of non-trade related issues to influence trade by the developed countries and resulting in unfair competition in the international market. As a result of these issues, the farmers of the developing countries may incur high costs of production and face other related problems. These issues are concerned with environment, labor and the human rights. Based on these issues, the developed countries may take unilateral action against exports from the developing countries and impose ban and other trade restriction. Multifunctionality of agriculture is also an emerging topic/issue up that tends to justify the existence of protectionist policies. If such issues are freely allowed to be brought in the liberalization agenda, the non-trade related issues may jeopardize the original objectives of the WTO agreement towards free trade.

Commitment No.5 Prevent and get prepared to tackle natural and man made emergencies and disasters.

i) **Institutional arrangements for early warning and advance information on possible emergencies:** Being a land of variegated topography and varying climatic conditions, Pakistan is prone to a number of natural calamities/disasters, e.g., floods, earthquakes, droughts, cyclones, landslides, snowfalls, fires, locust, etc. The country also has to sometimes face man-made disasters, but they are far and few between and also not of that nature/scale as to have much relevance in the context of food. However, the question of man-made disasters in the regional context is of sublime importance, as refugees, are constantly straining our economic nerves, including, of course, the food. Of the natural calamities, floods/rains and drought have been the most recurring feature and have been a potential threat to the food security. With a view to reducing the effects of these disasters, inter-alia through early warning, Pakistan has well-established set-ups, like Pakistan Meteorology Department and Federal Flood Commission which have progressively developed fairly adequate arrangements of early warning in respect of rains/floods and cyclones. With the experience of the recent prolonged drought, the country has also developed some early warning capability in relation to drought. Earthquakes, fires, etc. are, as in the rest of the world, hardly predictable in Pakistan. Nevertheless, in the face of the possible magnitude of risk, the arrangements have a considerable allowance for further improvement in relation to early warning and advance information on long term basis. This allowance owes to the meager financial resources and the lack of a comprehensive/coherent disaster management system at the federal /provincial levels.

ii) **Mechanisms in place to combat disasters and to provide rehabilitation for people affected:** The primary combatants are the provinces and the only law, viz., the “National Calamities Act, 1958, available on the subject, is provincial. However, in case of major disasters, the Federal Government beefs up the resources of the affected provincial Government. The Federal Government’s main organizations for assisting the provinces to combat the disasters are the Emergency Relief Cell (ERC), Federal Flood Commission, Meteorology Department, National Crisis Management Cell and Civil Defence, while the Armed Forces play a major role in rescue/relief operations on the occurrence of major disasters. Among the institutional arrangement, ERC is the only organization at the federal level, which provides emergency relief and also coordinates the relief activities carried out by all the national and international agencies. The ERC has also been effective in extending relief to the disaster-affected people abroad. The relief assistance provided in the recent earthquake in Iran is a glaring example. The Federal Flood Commission is a well-organized standing source of assistance to the provinces in case of floods especially in relation to preparedness and the restoration/rehabilitation of protection works. The mechanism has been showing ever-increasing efficiency to combat the floods.

The rehabilitation is basically the responsibility of the provinces. Yet, the Federal Government out of its own resources and through international assistance (donations and loans/grants), incurs a lot of expenditure on rehabilitation. As described, the country has a mechanism in place with the focus on provision of relief and to some extent on rehabilitation on which a huge amount of money is being spent. At the provincial level, Relief Commission, is the only agency responsible for disaster relief, but only as part time job. The other institutions, like Armed Forces, Provincial Irrigation Department, etc. are exclusively meant for other purposes and their help is involved at the onset of a calamity only, for they could, by virtue of the nature of their original job, play a role in the relief activities.

In addition to the Emergency Relief operations and activities, Pakistan has also launched medium and long-term projects in calamity prone and weak areas to overcome sufferings of people on sustainable basis. These projects include: expansion of veterinary facilities, constructions of roads in severely drought hit areas, improvement of existing tube-wells, development of new ones and low cost water supply schemes, implementation of irrigation efficiency systems, community land development, piped water supply schemes, social welfare schemes, health care schemes, establishment of agro-based cottage industry and camping grounds.

The Government launched a drought relief programme in the drought hit areas, viz., Drought Emergency Relief Assistance (DERA-I) Program in 2001 with an outlay of US\$ 179.59 millions. Through this programme, short-term development schemes are executed in drought-hit areas of the four provinces including FATA to revive the agrarian economy and promote sustainable use of water resources for improving productive capacity, livelihood and income of drought affected people. The share of Asian Development Bank in the program is US\$ 100.9 million, of World Bank US\$ 45.96 million and of Government of Pakistan US\$ 32.73 million. Under DERA programme emphasis has been laid down to engage local labor in the development schemes being implemented in all the four provinces. Priority was accorded to schemes, which are labour intensive such as construction of small dams, delay action dams, roads, and water supply schemes. About 2213 development schemes costing Rs 9.698 billion are under implementation in the drought-hit areas. First priority was accorded to drinking water schemes followed by construction of roads, small dams/delay action dams, irrigation channels and tube wells.

iii) Measures taken to link post-emergency relief operations to development programmes:

The Federal Government carries out post-emergency relief operations in the drought affected areas through short, medium, and long-term development projects. These projects are generally initiated on the instructions of the President or the Prime Minister. Funds for these projects are made available by the Federal Government or arranged from external resources. The provincial governments, however, on their own part prepare development projects to mitigate sufferings of the calamity hit areas. Funds for development projects are provided by the respective provincial government through their own resources or arranged from the Federal Government.

Government is endeavoring to incorporate several new dimensions to improve emergency response mechanism. In this regards efforts are being made to adopt integrated participatory approach through participatory institutions at the grass root level. Further expansion of the existing capabilities is planed through:

- Expanding delivery and improving the quality of basic social services.
- Enabling environment for communication at grass root level to organize communities to solve their problems.
- A bigger role for the private sector in restructuring programmes and emphasizes on the importance of human resource development as fundamental element for achieving the objectives of growth, equity and protection.

- Developing a transparent system of NGOs participation in community development activities to help communities in strengthening income generation and emergency relief programmes.

iv) Watershed management strategies put in place: The Government of Pakistan is planning to implement a number of Watershed Management Programmes in the North-Western mountain ranges of the country in order to sustain continuous water supply through the participation of the local masses. Out of these Watershed Management Programmes, the Terbela Watershed Management Programme, Mangla Watershed Management Programme, Mountain Area Conservancy Programme are the three major programmes implemented by the Provincial Forest Departments of NWFP, AJK and N.As in collaboration with the funding agencies. Different strategies adopted for the sustainable management of such important watershed areas include:

- Intensifying production and increasing per hectare yields through redirecting resources and improving farming system/technologies towards the most suitable land units.
- Modification of livestock rearing system like encouraging stall feeding, introduction of improved breed, range rehabilitation, growing fodder crops etc.
- Afforestation on Government and private lands as an erosion control measures and to increase forest cover.
- Setting land use standards and environmental baselines through bringing desired changes in unwanted landuses.
- Establishment of partnership arrangements among the Forest Departments and village development committees/women organizations for the implementation of watershed programmes.
- Establishment of nurseries of proven indigenous and exotic species in the private sector, building necessary skills at the community level, transfer of technology and purchase of nursery stock from the farmers by deducting the cost of seeds and polythene bags.
- Planting, direct sowing and restocking in new plantations carried out both by the Forest Department and community organizations by following designed spacing, restocking and sowing techniques.
- Maintenance of new and old plantations both by Forest Departments and local communities. Local community will hire Chowkidars and follow local tradition of “NAGHA” and social ban on grazing.
- Distribution of planting stock free of cost including Tea and Olive seedlings to the farmers and community for planting on their farmlands.
- Development of pilot catchment schemes per watershed range through the establishment of development committee empowered to resolve issues of the scheme.
- The soil conservation work carried out through bio-engineering techniques, construction of check-dams by concerned owners through 50% payment, construction of cut-off drains, conservation of agricultural land through bio-terracing, community schemes identified by VOs/VDCs (construction of irrigation channels, small dams, cattle ponds, terraces, repair of roads etc) on the basis of 50% cost share.

A number of other watershed management projects were also launched aiming at conservation of soil and water, sustainability of multi-purpose reservoirs and the improvement of socio-economic conditions of the local people through sustainable supply of food, fodder, fuelwood, timber and other NTFPs. These watershed management projects were launched by the local communities as government programme to protect the reservoirs. Realizing this fact Government of Pakistan has initiated integrated watershed management/community forestry concepts with emphasis on true participation of local communities during the last 10 years.

Commitment No.6 Promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry systems:

i) Share of national budget allocated for human resource development indicating its impact in terms of primary and secondary school and higher education development: The budget for human resource development increased exponentially during the last four years (Table 4). The total number of public and private institutions at primary level is 156100, at middle level is 28,716 and at high school level is 16,059 in the financial year 2003-2004. Over the last five years, primary, middle and high schools increased by 5.7%, 12.7% and 8.6%, respectively. Similarly, total enrolment at public and private institutions registered an increase of 4.7%, 7.3% and 6.0 %, respectively in primary, middle and high school levels. It is encouraging to note that enrolment of girls child increased by 6.4% while boys enrolment increased by 3.5% over the last 4 years.

Table 4. Number of primary, middle and high schools in Pakistan and budget allocation for education sector

Year	Number Schools			Budget (Rs million)
	Primary	Middle	High	
2000-01	147,736	25,472	14,786	6,706
2001-02	149,085	26,790	15,051	11,469
2002-03	152,546	27,734	15,545	88,840
2003-04	156,100	28,716	16,059	111,475

A National Plan of Action (NPA) for Education for All (EFA: 2001-2015) has been chalked out. It is a strategic plan to meet the physical targets set in the National Education Policy (1998-2010). This includes raising the literacy rate from 43% to 70% by the year 2010 through adult literacy program establishing 270,000 Adult Literacy Centers and 82,000 Non-Formal Basic Education Community Schools. Universal Primary Education (UPE) is the top priority and is envisaged to be achieved through various programs by 2015. Skill Training Project has become operative. The objective of the project is to impart functional literacy to alleviate poverty.

Incentives for UPE include free distribution of textbooks and provision of stipends/ scholarships in provinces. Serving food and free distribution of edible oil in 29 selected districts through World Food Program (WFP) as assistance to Girls Primary Education Project. The development programs and projects in primary education already initiated being implemented are as under:

a) Education Sector Reforms (ESR): Main thrust of ESR focuses on:

- Comprehensive Literacy and Poverty Reduction Program.
- Rehabilitate / up-grade physical facilities in existing primary schools.
- Improve quality of Education through Teacher Education and Training.
- Enactment and enforcement of Compulsory Primary Education.

b) Social Action Program (SAP): Main focus on Basic Education:

- Access (special focus on female education)
- Quality (School Effectiveness)
- Gender Equality and Equity
- Community participation

c) Primary Education Development Project:

- Girls Primary Education Project.
- Sindh Primary Education Project.
- NWFP Primary Education Project.
- Balochistan Primary Education Project.
- Women Empowerment and Literacy Project.
- Northern Areas Education Project.
- Universalization of Primary Education (UPE) in selected districts of Pakistan (UNICEF sponsored) project.
- Female Education in selected districts of Pakistan with financial assistance of UNFPA.
- World Food Program Assistance to Girls Primary Education Project.
- NORAD Assisted NWFP Basic Education Improvement Project.

d) Institutional Reforms: Public / Private Partnership and Community Participation Programs through:

- Restructuring and Strengthening of Education Foundation.
- Establishment of Village Education / School Management Committees and School Councils (making them legal entities).
- Devolution Plan for District based planning, management and monitoring.

ii) Share of the national budget allocated to agriculture and fisheries and food security programmes: In Pakistan, public sector is responsible for building up of agricultural infrastructure and provision of other support services besides expenditure on irrigation works drainage reclamation, flood protection and water management. The financial allocation to agriculture in the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP). However, during the recent period, financial allocation for agriculture development projects including fisheries and food security interventions has increased from Rs 0.904 billion in 2002-03 to Rs 2.804 billion in 2003-04 and to Rs 7.289 billion in 2004-05.

iii) Nature and extent of investment in infrastructure aimed at improving access to markets and food: For Pakistan, improving rural infrastructure is another priority area necessary for the development of agriculture. Provincial Governments have undertaken major projects of constructing Farm to Market Roads to facilitate access to markets for the agricultural produce. Under a phased program, 5186 kilometers of roads have been constructed in various districts of Pakistan. The Government is planning to implement Rural Development Project in Punjab, Sindh, NWFP, and Balochistan for further improvement in this direction. Expanding electricity supply to rural areas is another active programme. The Government has launched a rural electrification program. Under this program, 15,000 villages will be electrified during 2003-04 to 2005-06. It will facilitate (a) the establishment of agro-based and cottage industries which will help reduce poverty, improve road access to markets and improve job opportunities, (b) pumping sub-soil water for domestic and agricultural purposes and increase food production campaign, (c) providing support to rural women in terms of labor and (d) reducing rural/urban inequities and slow down migration to urban areas.

iv) Initiatives undertaken and resources allocated to promote technology development and transfer for improved production: The Green Revolution, beginning with the wheat and rice revolutions in the late 1960s, and extending to several other crops including cotton in recent years, ushered an era of food and fiber self-sufficiency and ultimately export led quality production of crops. The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) was at the forefront in guiding these technological breakthroughs.

National Agricultural Research System (NARS) of Pakistan generate technology for the development of agriculture sector. Public sector investment in research system has increased considerably during last two years. The primary objective of agricultural research is to generate new knowledge and technologies for the enhancement of agricultural productivity, quality, competitiveness for export and conservation of the resource base. To transform agriculture sector from self-sufficiency to high value products, following measures are taken:

- Research programs are being reorganized and resources allocation to high priority research areas assured. A proper mix of adaptive and basic research is to be maintained to solve the emerging problems in crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry;
- High priority is accorded to the development of disease-resistant varieties of cotton by the research institutions;
- Emphasis is laid on accelerating the development of high yielding, disease-resistant varieties of crops, especially cotton, sugarcane, wheat, rice, oilseeds, pulses, fruits and vegetables;
- Research is undertaken to develop agronomic packages necessary for realizing the full yield potential of each crop, including appropriate tillage and planting equipment. Appropriate management practices for problem soils are developed;
- Integrated disease and pest management programs for different crops are being developed;
- Programs on Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology have been established and strengthened in selected institutions which have the capability for undertaking such activities;
- Research is undertaken on efficient harvest and post-harvest handling techniques of different crops/commodities;
- Special attention is given to optimize the use of irrigation water for different crops;
- Livestock research is strengthened in order to increase the production of milk, meat and other livestock products; and
- Coordination and linkages within the research and extension system are being strengthened.

Other interventions to improve transfer of technology are as follows:

(a) Emphasis on Public – Private Partnership: It is not possible to replace the work of public extension services with private companies and NGOs. However, it is encouraged to form a partnership between the public extension services and the work of participatory NGOs to bring about the most effective method for agricultural development at all levels of society and to maximize coverage to the beneficiaries.

(b) Role of Electronic Media. The electronic media has emerged as a very strong instrument in transfer of technologies. Future focus is more on increasing the number of telecast hours per week for technology dissemination programmes.

(c) Participatory Approach: Community participatory approach for group extension has been a better method to reach farmers, deliver extension message and involve them in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of various activities that affect their lives directly. The approach generally works better at micro level. Hence, Farmers Organizations (FOs) at village level are being established for effective community participation.

(d) Improving Institutional Linkages: Links between agricultural research institutes and their clients – farmers and extension agencies – are vital for successful technology development and delivery. Efforts are underway to promote linkages and effective delivery of technology to the doorstep of resource poor farmers.

v) Strategies for sustainable watershed management and associated investment: Degradation of land in Pakistan is being controlled through Watershed Management Programmes since 1956. These practices gained far greater importance with the signing of Indus Water Treaty with India in 1960 and by constructing two major water reservoirs of Mangla and Terbela. The Government is implementing Mountain Area Conservancy Programmes at these dams through strategies adopted for the sustainable management of such important watershed areas. Government has also initiated integrated watershed management/community forestry concepts with emphasis on true participation of local communities during the last 10 years.

These projects were executed with the main objectives to improve the living standards of the people in the respective watershed areas, initiating community development activities for making better use of environments, developing production of watershed areas on sustainable basis and ensuring distribution of plantations and other benefits to the current users of marginal lands in perpetuity.

vi) Measures taken to control deforestation and to enhance national forest cover: Government is planning to implement an afforestation programme by farmers. For this purpose, a package of incentives has been prepared to bring additional 2-5% of land under forest trees. This farmers' afforestation programme indicates that 200 million saplings of multipurpose indigenous trees will be raised by about 5000 to 6000 farmers on their lands. This incentive package will provide the financial and technical assistance to the farmers for raising nurseries, planting, maintenance and monitoring of the project activities throughout the project period. This will be an ideal programme to enhance the national forest cover in the country.

The Government of Pakistan imposed ban on forest cutting and harvesting since 1993 and strict forest conservation measures are taken under legal cover to control deforestation. At the same time afforestation of various tree species is carried out under various projects to enhance forest cover in the country. Fast growing species such as Robinia, Ailanthus, Simal, Shisham, Mulberry, Ber, Neem, Poplar, etc. are planted under community forestry projects to cater for the energy, timber and fodder needs of local inhabitants.

Commitment No.7 Facilitate the implementation of the WFS-Plan of Action:

i) **Institutional arrangements at national and local levels to implement the plan of Action and monitor the progress implementation:** A National Committee for World Food Summit has been set up in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock to follow up on the developments and improvements in the implementation of the seven commitments of the WFS 1996. The relevant Federal Ministries and departments of the Provincial Governments support the Committee.

ii) **Food for All campaigns to mobilize stakeholders and their resources at all levels of society in the implementation of the WFS Plan of Action:** The Government on 16 October each year celebrates the World Food day and launches an awareness campaign about the WFS plan of action, commitments made in 1996 and the plan of actions that the Governments follows to implement the commitments. Government believes that Food Security is “an effective access to food at all times by all people, sufficient for productive and healthy lives”. Government maintains an explicit policy for human development and ensuring minimum food consumption requirements for all. For this purpose, Government makes all arrangements covering food production and marketing it with the required consumption level of calories and proteins. This implies strong public policies to promote food security ranging from conducive, fiscal, commercial and pricing policies and incentives to promote local production and distribution. Government announced Economic Revival Package and incentive package for the farmers based on inclusive economic growth strategies, which looked holistically at macro-economic and social dimensions. This intervention was one of the efforts in providing an effective social net for the poorest of the poor.

iii) **Mechanisms to ensure food security for every person in the country:** Food security system in Pakistan is jointly run by the Federal and the provincial governments. In the case of food production, the provincial governments plan and launch production campaigns through the agriculture departments and extension services. At the time of harvest, wheat, the main staple food in Pakistan, is procured in large quantities of 4 to 6 million tones by the provincial food departments for maintaining strategic reserves and by Federal Government through Pakistan Agriculture Services and Supply Corporation (PASSCO) for meeting the requirement of deficit areas. During rest of the year, wheat is released to flour mills as and when necessary. The procurement and release process includes storage of the strategic reserves and ensuring its release at proper time to meet the objectives of the food security policy. In addition, Government is making all efforts to facilitate private sector to play a bigger role in food supply chain and thus participate in food security efforts. Government is also encouraging the participation of investors through creating a business friendly environment and liberal “Investment Policy”.

SECTION-IV

LESSONS LEARNED

A REVIEW OF BEST PRACTICES

OR

CONSTRAINTS ENCOUNTERED IN REDUCING HUNGER

The basic objective Pakistan's national food security is to ensure adequate food supply throughout the year either by means of indigenous production or through import. Being an agriculture country, the main emphasis has been on achieving self reliance in food production through developing agriculture sector. Resultantly, the production of food crops grew many folds since 1970. The impact of the substantial increase in production on food security indicators has partly been off-set by the rapidly growing population.

One of the reasons of food insecurity in some segments of the population in the country is prevalence of high poverty rates and income inequality which reduced the access to food. Pakistan started a process of structural and financial reforms in late 1980's with the view to improve overall economy of the country and reduce poverty. In spite of efforts in this direction, the problem of poverty intensified after 1987-88. It is found that the structural reform process had a negative effect on poverty. The structural adjustment programmes and macro-economic stabilization measures increased the prices of items of daily consumption. Other reasons for prevalence of poverty were: political in-stability, slow increase in real per capita income, rising unemployment and stagnant/declining real wages.

Prolonged drought during last 5-6 years has given a serious setback to agriculture in general and to rainfed areas in particular. Most affected provinces are Balochistan, NWFP and Sindh. The rainfall during last two years has improved to some extent, however, remained below normal. This has created a shortage of irrigation water up to 50% causing reduction in the agricultural productivity.

The reasons of slow development in agriculture sector include: (i) low productivity of crops and livestock; (ii) under-performance of rural factor markets and extension services; (iii) under-investment in research and technology development; (iv) insufficient rural infrastructure and education provision and (v) shortage of water and inefficient irrigation technology.

Pakistan's macroeconomic indicators have started improving during the last two fiscal years (2002-03 & 2003-04). The key achievements include a sharp increase in growth accompanied by low inflation and interest rates, decline in fiscal deficit, strong growth in exports and imports, surplus in the current account maintained second year in a row, continued build up in foreign exchange reserves, further strengthening of rupee, decline in domestic and external debt, rising inflow of foreign direct investment, buoyant stock market, and improved credit rating in international capital markets. Sound macro-economic policies and the implementation of wide-ranging structural reforms have finally started paying the dividends.

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Preamble

The national report presents the implementation status of the Plan of Action adopted during the World Food Summit (WFS) held on 13-17 November 1996 in Rome, Italy. The Heads of States/Governments or their representatives from 185 countries and the European Community who participated in the Summit, pledged their political will and their national commitment *"to achieve food security for all and to strengthen ongoing efforts to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reduce the number of undernourished people to half of their present level no later than 2015"*.

To facilitate the implementation of this commitment, a Plan of Action was drawn along with Rome Declaration on World Food Security and adopted as a path for achieving the global objective of hunger eradication, one of the most important issues facing the world in the new millennium. Pakistan's participation in the WFS and later implementation of Plan of Action indicates its adherence and commitment to the goal of Food Security.

The cursory review of the situation reveals that there were 800 million under-nourished people in the world in the beginning of last decade. Information collected by FAO indicates that reduction rate of hunger during last decade has been 8.0 million people per year which is far below the average rate of 20 million per year necessary to reach the 2015 target set by the WFS. The Summit's Plan of Action seeks the governments to undertake a major broad-based progress assessment of its implementation by 2006. Indications are that until and unless early corrective measures are taken, the broad-based assessment plan in 2006 reveal, that the Summit's targets would not be met.

The Country Report on Pakistan explains the policies and plans of the Government of Pakistan to implement the seven commitments made by WFS in 1996. In this regard, the technical and professional support given by the FAO is appreciated.

National Committee for WFS-PA

PAKISTAN

COUNTRY REPORT
FOR
THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF
WORLD FOOD SUMMIT - PLAN OF ACTION

Prepared by
National Committee for World Food Summit - Plan of Action

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad
August 2004

