

Ref: 268(16)IHCBA/24Date: 3-6-2024**STATEMENT ON WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2024**

On this **World Environment Day, June 5th, 2024**, the Islamabad High Court Bar Association (IHCBA) proudly announces its inaugural step towards advancing climate literacy within the legal community to share information and inspire initiatives in sustainability, the environment and climate crisis. To fulfill this objective the IHCBA created Climate Change Committee on **25th April 2024** chaired by respected members **Barrister Sarah Kazmi and Barrister Zunaira Fayyaz**, specializing in this field.

Furthermore, we are delighted to announce that the Islamabad High Court Bar Association is the first bar association to represent Pakistan in the International Bar Association Climate Registry a unique climate knowledge sharing platform for bar associations and law societies around the world. Details of our submission can be accessed on their website <https://www.ibanet.org/IBA-Climat-Registry>.

Legal Implications of Climate Change: Climate change is no longer an issue of concern only to environmental or energy lawyers and poses complex legal challenges across multiple social and economic sectors. Lawyers play a crucial role in interpreting and applying existing laws, as well as developing new legal frameworks to address these issues. It is critical, now more than ever, for legal practitioners to ensure that they develop a proper grasp of the wide-ranging effects of climate change on their clients.

Environmental Rule of Law: Climate change disproportionately affects vulnerable communities and groups like indigenous people, women, children, who often lack access to legal resources and remedies. Lawyers can advocate for environmental justice and seek legal remedies for environmental harms through litigation and advocacy efforts.

International Cooperation and Treaty Negotiation: Addressing climate change requires international cooperation and the negotiation of global agreements and treaties. Lawyers are needed in drafting, interpreting, and implementing these international legal instruments, ensuring compliance with international law and promoting collaboration among nations to mitigate climate impacts.

Innovation and Legal Solutions. As the climate crisis evolves, there is a growing need for innovative legal solutions for climate change adaptation. Lawyers can contribute to the development of legal frameworks, innovative financing mechanisms, and technology transfer agreements to facilitate climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Our committee aims to work in collaboration with organizations to leverage their expertise, resources and network for knowledge sharing on interdisciplinary aspects of climate change including legal, scientific, technological and socio economic. IHCBA will engage in professional and educational endeavors among both current and prospective members of IHCBA, while also marking World Environment Day with awareness initiatives.

Additionally our committee seeks to create a pool of legal experts specializing in climate change and related sectors which will serve as a resource for individuals or organizations seeking legal expertise in this critical area. We invite members of the IHCBA specializing in this field to collaborate with the committee in this endeavor. Please get in touch with us at climatechange.ihcba@gmail.com.

Thank you.


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