



Brief report of Afghan Women's Network International (AWNI)

Advocacy at international level

Women's rights in Doha meetings were effectively addressed. Joint position paper with member organizations and nonmember women's organizations of Afghan Women's Network were developed and presented in the meetings. The International Community and the UN was informed about restrictions imposed on women's rights and how it brought serious effects on the lives of Afghan women and their families. Recommendations and alternative ways to protect and promote women's rights were made to the UN and other International stakeholders.

Open letters to Pakistani authorities including Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Prime Minister, Chief Justice and Interior Minister of Pakistan were developed and shared with concerned people. The Pakistani authorities were informed about the issue of Afghan Women Human Rights Defenders; the serious threats faced by them and could put their lives under serious threat if they are sent back to Afghanistan.

Support Afghan Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs)

Support through collaboration and networking

A number of 50 WHRDs are supported in Pakistan through collaboration with Potohar Organization for Development and Advocacy (PODA) food packages, health cards and cash amount for house rent and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Financial support

Seven WHRDs were facilitated to get financial support from Frontline Defenders.

Twenty-five WHRDs were supported with the cash amount given by Safety and Risk Mitigation Organization (SRMO).

Financial support is obtained from Urgent Action Fund Asia Pacific for fifteen WHRDs and their immediate families live in Pakistan. These WHRDs included journalists, members of parliament, provincial council and senate, Human Rights activists, defense lawyers, representatives of law enforcement agencies, criminal justice and judiciary.

Shelter Provision

Five HRD families (17 individuals) are given safe refuge during the forcible deportation of Afghan refugees from Pakistan. A temporary shelter was established for 3 months where a number of seventeen people are given safe refuge.

Renewal of passports and visa

Three WHRDs are given support to renew their passports which included informing the visa section of Afghan embassy in Islamabad about the nature and emergency of the cases, transport, passport fees and documentation.

Thirteen WHRDs are given support to renew their visas and stay in Pakistan through linkages and personal relations of AWNI's focal person.

Registration with UNHCR

Eleven people were supported to register with SHARP and then to get registered with UNHCR.