

SHEHRI – CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment was formed in 1988 (based in Karachi City), as a non-political, noncommercial, non-governmental organization (under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860) by a group of concerned citizens to provide the citizens with a platform to effectively voice their concerns in determining their future and taking action in arresting the deterioration in their living environment and propose reform with a view to improve the same. Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment is now fighting at the forefront of various issues of public concern related to the environment. The organization is actively engaged in areas of work like public advocacy and Public Interest Litigation (PIL), Right to Information (RTI), Freedom of Information (FOI), Good Governance, Community Policing and Police Reforms, Nature Conservation, Corporate Social Accountability, and last but not the least Institutional Reforms.

Objectives

- Establishment of an aware and pro-active civil society, good governance, transparency and rule of law
- Promotion of research and documentation, dialogue and influence of public policies
- Setting up an effective and representative local government system, e.g. capacity building and training
- Observance of basic human rights in society

Management

The core decision making body of the organization is the 'Managing Committee' (MC) that is answerable to the 'General Body' members. The MC is a volunteer body. The members of the MC hold office for a period of two (02) years, after which there is a fresh election. Annual Audit is conducted regularly and the audit report is duly shared with all members.

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment

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“Water Issues in Karachi”

کراچی میں پانی کے مسائل

A Consultative Session with Citizens

Organized by

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment

in collaboration with

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

Wednesday, 16th November 2016 (5:00 pm)

St. Philip's Catholic Church, Block 13-D/2
Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi

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Programme

16th November 2016

Time	Contents
4:00 – 4:10 pm	Registration
4:10 – 4:30 pm	Introduction and Welcome Address Mrs. Amber Alibhai Shehri-CBE
4:30 – 4:50 pm	Role of KWSB in providing potable water to the citizens Mr. Nooruddin Ahmed Shehri-CBE
4:50 – 5:10 pm	Citizens dilemma to get water Father Bernard Y. Bhatti OFM Parish Priest, St. Philip’s Parish, Gulshan-e-Iqbal
5:10 – 6:00 pm	Water supply in Gulshan-e-Iqbal and its surrounding areas <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mr. Agha Abbas (AXEN Water, KWSB, Gulshan-e-Iqbal)2. Mr. Waqar Ahmed (AXEN-Sewerage, KWSB Gulshan-e-Iqbal)3. Syed Zeeshan Ahsan (Sub Engineer, KWSB Gulshan-e-Iqbal)
6:00 – 7:30 pm	General Discussion/Questions & Answers
7:30 – 8:00 pm	<i>Conclusion of Discussion</i> <i>Evaluation of Workshop</i> <i>Vote of thanks</i>
Dinner	

The water sector in Karachi faces a number of problems, both in terms of quality and quantity of the water supply. There are many areas in the city which face severe shortage of piped water while in some areas it would appear that an ‘artificial’ water supply shortage has been created. That gives rise to the supply of water through the water tankers sourcing water from a number of hydrants located in the city – a practice that is neither well documented nor transparent. Supply of contaminated water is another concern. There is an overall governance crisis within the sector that is because of the monopoly of government through Karachi Water & Sewerage Board (KW&SB). Issues in governance are characterized by a rising decline in the quality of service and financial bankruptcy.

Freshwater is diminishing the world over and Pakistan is amongst the most water-stressed countries, Karachi- the metropolitan city of Pakistan, holding a population of almost 20 million is simply falling short of potable water.

Karachi receives 650 million gallons per day from its sources but unfortunately the poor, inefficient system is only able to supply half or may be less of that amount to the people through pipes. The adverse consequences have to be borne by the citizens of the city in terms of exposure to health hazards, decline in the quality of living and by being forced to purchase water at costly rates from an unregulated and undesirable ‘water tanker’ service.

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment has organized a consultative session with citizens on “Water issues in Karachi” on Wednesday, 16th November 2016 (4:00 – 8:00 pm) at St. Philip’s Catholic Church, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi, to discuss this critical aspect of the water supply situation in Karachi that goes to characterize a number of issues relevant to non-transparent governance of Karachi’s water sector.