

**Tuesday, January 22, 2013**

## **New PAP executive council pledges to ease devolution process**

Staff Reporter

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 - Islamabad—The new executive council members of population association of Pakistan (PAP), elected here on Monday, pledged to facilitate the provinces in ensuring successful devolved governments.

The new Executive Council members comprising of population and social sector specialists took over office on Monday with Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on the Social Sector, elected as the new President.

Speaking at the occasion, the new president appreciated the efforts made by the Population Association of Pakistan to highlight the population issue in Pakistan by generating and sharing research evidence that establishes the impact of rapid population growth on all development indicators. Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali also called for a greater engagement between policy makers and the research community.

The new committee feels that the association must ensure that policy makers are fully cognizant of the importance of the “Demographic Dividend” by making it a top priority. Pakistan’s transit towards a major demographic re-structuring presents additional issues for provinces to deal with; an increasingly youthful population, with 15 to 29 year-olds representing almost 40% of the nation’s adults, will require a robust health, education and employment system. Harnessing opportunities at the right time will help Pakistan and its people achieve their full potential, the committee outlined.

The Population Association of Pakistan is a non-profit, non-political, scientific, and professional association established in early 2000 for the individuals and organizations interested in population and development in the Pakistani context. The objective of the Association is to promote and strengthen the disciplines of population by providing forum to subject experts, facilitating their professional development, sharing scientific knowledge in population, and sharing experiences in the different disciplines of population.

<http://pakobserver.net/detailnews.asp?id=192720>

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ISLAMABAD: Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali with newly elected members of executive council of Population Association of Pakistan.

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## **PAP nominates Shahnaz as new president**

Our correspondent

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From Print Edition

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Members of the Executive Council renewed pledge to help the provinces in ensuring that the devolution process is a success by helping provincial policy makers and stakeholders in designing programmes and policies which factor in the population equation based on available empirical evidence. They said that Pakistan's fertility decline remains slow and its maternal and infant mortality ratios remain unsatisfactory.

Pakistan's transit towards a major demographic re-structuring presents additional issues for provinces to deal with; an increasingly youthful population, with 15 to 29 year-olds representing almost 40 per cent of the nation's adults, will require a robust health, education and employment system if this cohort is to achieve its full potential. The new committee feels that the association must also ensure that policy makers are fully cognizant of the importance of dealing with this important milestone a top priority. Harnessing such changes, the committee outlined, will help Pakistan and its people achieve their full potential.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-6-155703-PAP-nominates-Shahnaz-as-new-president>

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