NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE (HRI)

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F No.4-87/NBC/IRB-Reg/26-27 443 Dated: September 23 2026

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of the mandate of the National Bioethics Committee (NBC), for which the Health Research Institute (HRI), National Institutes of Health (NIH) serves as the Secretariat, and with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), NIH, the following IRB Oversight Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") is hereby constituted at the HRI Head Office, Islamabad, with effect from the date of issuance of this notification.

2. The Committee shall function as the operational oversight arm reporting to the NBC Research Ethics Committee (NBC-REC) and shall comprise the following members:

S #	Name & Designation	Role
1.	Dr. Faiza Bashir Research Director/National Focal Person, National Bioethics Committee (NBC)	Chairperson
2.	Mr. Obaidullah Khan Ghauri, Scientific Research Officer (SRO)	Member / Focal Point, Gilgit- Baltistan / AJK
3.	Dr. Faiz Ahmad Raza, Principal Research Officer, HRI, NIH, Lahore	Member / Focal Point, Punjab
4.	Mrs. Safia Bibi, Senior Research Officer, HRI, NIH, Karachi	Member / Focal Point, Sindh
5.	Mrs. Saima Naz Mohsin, Senior Research Officer, HRI, NIH, Lahore	Member / Focal Point, Balochistan
6.	Mr. Israr Ahmad, Senior Research Officer, HRI, NIH, Peshawar	Member / Focal Point, KPK
7.	Mr. Aftab Khan, Research Officer, HRI, NIH, Peshawar	Member / Focal Point, Federal
8.	Mr. Mazhar Iqbal, RO/NC-I, National Bioethics Committee (NBC) Mrs. Tayyab Rahat, SO/NC-II, National Bioethics Committee (NBC)	Secretary

3. Tenure

The Committee is constituted for a period of one (1) years from the date of this notification, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. A member who ceases to hold the office/position by virtue of which they were appointed shall cease to be a member of the Committee, and the successor to that office/position shall serve for the remainder of the term.

4. Terms of Reference (TORs)

The Committee shall perform its mandate as per the following Terms of Reference:

i. Maintain oversight of Institutional Review Boards (IRBs)/Ethics Review Committees (ERCs) in compliance with the mandate assigned under the NIH Re-organization Act, 2021.

ii. Assess applications for registration with the NBC against the prescribed minimum standards, and grant approval, defer, or refuse such applications by consensus or, failing consensus, by a vote of members present, subject to the quorum specified in paragraph 6 below. A member with an institutional, financial, or personal interest in an application under consideration shall declare such interest and recues themselves from deliberation and voting on that application.

iii. Decide on the renewal, suspension, and termination of registration of IRBs/ERCs.

iv. Review and determine re-submissions and appeals referred to it by the Secretariat, NBC, or by an applicant IRB/ERC.

v. Submit periodic (at minimum, quarterly) progress reports to the NBC-REC through the National Focal Person, NBC.

5. Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least once every quarter, and additionally as and when required, on a date and at a venue to be notified by the Secretary. Meetings may be convened in person or through video-link at the discretion of the Chairperson.

6. Quorum

A minimum of five (5) members, including the Chairperson or a member nominated by the Chairperson to preside, shall constitute the quorum for a valid meeting and for any decision of the Committee.

7. Secretariat Support and Expenses

The Secretary shall be responsible for convening meetings, recording minutes, and maintaining the record of the Committee's proceedings. Travelling allowance/daily allowance (TA/DA) and any honorarium admissible to members shall be regulated as per rules, and borne by HRI, NIH.

Dr Faizu Bashir
Research Director/
National Focal Person
National Bioethics Committee

Distribution:

1. Chairperson, National Bioethics Committee (NBC).
2. PS to Chief Executive Officer, NIH.
3. All members of the Committee.
4. Office file.