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Government of Pakistan
Establishment Division
Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development
(Park Road, Chak Shahzad, Islamabad)

F.No. 1(4)/2015-16/IL.Trg

01st September, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Online International Training Programme on "Biofortification: A Cost-Effective and Sustainable Solution to Improve Human Health", at HarvestPlus, India, September 15-18, 2025

The undersigned is directed to inform that the African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), New Delhi, India is organizing subject international ONLINE training programme in collaboration with HarvestPlus, India, from September 15-18, 2025. AARDO has invited nominations from Pakistan to attend the subject training programme that will be conducted for four days (total 08 hours, two hours' session on each day). The session timings will be 1400-1600 hrs. Indian Standard Time (1330-1530 hrs. PST).

2. **Objectives:**

Objectives of the training programme are to:

- Equip participants with knowledge on biofortification as a strategy to address malnutrition and food insecurity, focusing on sustainable agricultural practices that prioritize nutrition and climate resilience;
- Analyze development and scaling up of biofortified crops in Asia and Africa, highlighting key achievements, best practices, challenges, and opportunities for impact;
- Orient participants on effective advocacy and communication strategies to promote biofortification, including stakeholder engagement, policy influence, and consumer awareness; and,
- Educate participants on integrating nutrient-enriched staple crops into value chains and establishing market linkages, ensuring access to nutritious food.

3. **Eligibility Criteria:**

The candidate must:

- Be a Government Officer (BPS-17 or above) or middle or senior level officers from Ministries/Divisions/Attached Departments, Provincial Governments and Public-Sector Universities;
- Have bachelor's degree in Sciences/ or its equivalent with a considerable working experience in planning and executing programmes related to the subject of the training;
- Have proficiency in spoken and written English language as the medium of conducting the programmes will be English only; and,
- Be conversant with ICT and willing to undertake online training programme.

4. Interested candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria are required to submit online applications on AARDO's website (<http://aardo.org/formDD.php>). Nominations of the interested candidates consisting of the following may be sent to Director General, AHKNCRD, latest by **September 11, 2025**.

- Clearly scanned or printed copies of the duly filled and submitted online application forms, and
- The official nomination letters.

5. Advance copies of the approved nominations with submitted application forms may preferably be emailed at ro2@ncrd.gov.pk as well as dg@ncrd.gov.pk, due to paucity of available time. The nominations may also be faxed at 051-9255157.

6. Incomplete/late nomination(s) will not be entertained. After scrutiny and approval of nomination(s) by the competent forum, the selected nominee(s) will be informed accordingly. Likewise, other necessary details will also be shared later on.

7. In case of any queries, please feel free to contact the undersigned (focal person).



(Muhammad Ahsan Jamil)

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Distribution to:

1. Secretary, Cabinet Division, Islamabad.
2. Secretary, Establishment Division, Islamabad.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Islamabad.
4. Secretary, Ministry of National Food Security and Research, Islamabad.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad.
6. Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Islamabad.
7. Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Revenue & Economic Affairs, Islamabad.
8. Secretary, Ministry of Industries and Production, Islamabad.
9. Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology, Islamabad.
10. Secretary, Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety Division, Islamabad.
11. Chairman, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.
12. Chairman, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC), Islamabad.
13. Director General, National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC), Islamabad.
14. Chief Commissioner, ICT Administration Complex, Islamabad.
15. Chief Secretaries of Provinces (Punjab-Lahore, Sindh-Karachi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Peshawar, & Baluchistan-Quetta).
- 16. Chairmen, Planning & Development Boards, Govt. of Punjab, Lahore & Govt. of Sindh, Karachi.
17. Secretaries, Planning & Development Depts., Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar; and Govt. of Baluchistan, Quetta.
18. Secretaries, Local Govt. & Rural Development Depts., Govt. of Punjab, Lahore; Govt. of Sindh, Karachi; Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar; and Govt. of Baluchistan, Quetta.
19. Secretaries, Agriculture Depts., Govt. of Punjab, Lahore; Govt. of Sindh, Karachi; Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar; and Govt. of Baluchistan, Quetta.

CC.

- Joint Secretary (Training), Establishment Division, Islamabad.
- Assistant Director (T-II), NCRD, with the request to upload this OM on the NCRD website.