

Registration of NGOs in Pakistan

The NGOs in Pakistan are engaged in a wide range of activities. These consist of different types of organizations ranging from the unregistered and informal to formal. Following laws mainly deal with registration of NGOs in Pakistan.

Societies Registration Act of 1860

Societies, association and clubs can get registration under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. These are formed for promotion of literature, science, fine arts, diffusion of useful knowledge and charitable purposes.

Religious Societies Act of 1880

Religious societies were registered under the Religious Societies Act of 1880 by executing a Deed of trust which must be registered under the registration Act, 1908 for maintaining property used for religious purposes.

Trust Act of 1882

Public Charitable Trusts and Private Trusts were registered under the Trust Act of 1882 by executing a Trust Deed which must be registered under the registration Act, 1908 with the express purpose of bestowing ownership of property in the Trustees which is to be used for the benefit of civil society.

Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (Registration and Control) Ordinance, 1961

Organizations are registered through the Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (Registration and Control) Ordinance, 1961 by completing the registration form for the welfare of children, youth, women, physically and mentally handicapped, released prisoners, Juvenile delinquents, socially handicapped, beggars, aged and infirm, training of social work, family planning, recreational programs, social education, rehabilitation of patients and coordination of social welfare agencies. These agencies are registered with the Provincial Directorate of Social Welfares.

Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance of 1984

Companies get registration by filing the Memorandum and Articles of Association with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan. This registration allow them to work for promoting commerce, art, science, religion, sports, social services, charity etc.

Sections 14 and 47 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1979 (Tax Exempt Charitable Organization)

Section 14 of the Income Tax Ordinance provides relief from taxation to the NPOs and Section 47 provides relief to the giver of donations and grants for charitable purposes.