



**PAKISTAN ELECTRONIC MEDIA
REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISLAMABAD**

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PRESS RELEASE

**PEMRA COUNCIL OF COMPLAINTS ADJOURNS COMPLAINT OF
SHAHID MASOOD TILL APRIL 8, ON HIS REQUEST – EXPRESSES
DISPLEASURE ON HIS NON-APPEARANCE**

33rd Meeting of the Council of Complaints, Islamabad, chaired by Prof. Ms. Shamim Humayun concluded at PEMRA Headquarters today. The Council took up complaint of Dr. Shahid Masood, Group Executive Director, ARY Digital Network, referred by the Chairman PEMRA for opinion of the Council under Rule 3(4) of PEMRA (Councils of Complaints) Rules 2010. The complainant had approached PEMRA against remarks of Senator Pervaiz Rasheed, Federal Minister for Information Broadcasting and National Heritage, aired by TV channels on the occasion of condolence reference in the memory of Dr. Ahsan Akhtar Naz (Late) on 20.02.2016.

Summons to the complainant, the Minister and twenty five (25) satellite TV channels were issued to appear before the Council on March 24. Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage, Senator Pervaiz Rasheed appeared before the Council along with his legal team headed by Barrister Zafarullah Khan.

However, the complainant did not appear and Barrister Qasim Nawaz appeared on behalf of the complainant and sought adjournment mentioning the reason that the complainant had proceeded to USA today morning on urgent official engagements.

The Council, while acceding to the request of the complainant, recorded displeasure on his failure to appear before the Council despite the fact that he was summoned/ informed well in time for the meeting. The CoCs also expressed its concerns for wasting precious time of the Council and everyone else. The Council adjourned the matter till 08.04.2016 in the interest of justice and further directed that ex-parte recommendations shall be made in case Dr. Shahid Masood failed to appear in person before the Council in its next meeting.

**(Fakhar-ud-Din Mughal)
General Manager (Media & PR)**