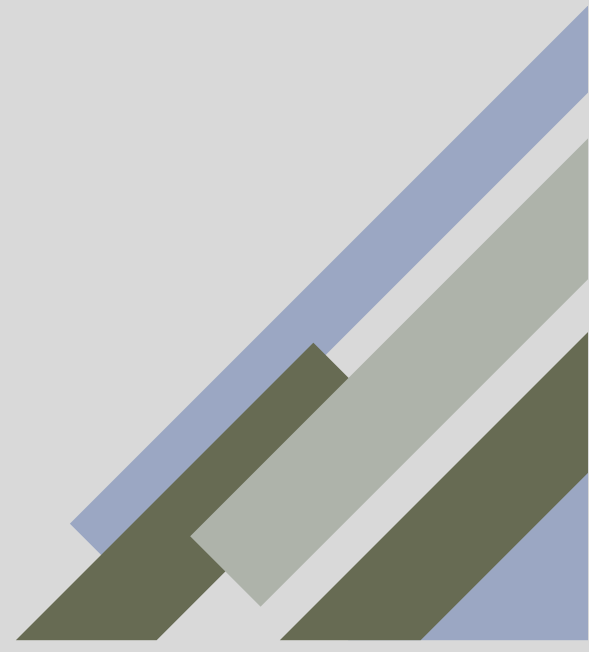




SEPTEMBER 2024



COMPETITION LAW & PRACTICE SESSION REPORT



INTRODUCTION



On 27 September 2024, Women in Law Initiative Pakistan in association with Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and with support of Legal Awareness Committee of Islamabad High Court Bar Association (IHCBA) conducted an awareness session on Competition Law and Practice for lawyers in Islamabad. IHCBA Secretary Shafqat Abbas hosted the event while the IHCBA cabinet, including its President Mr. Riasat Ali Azad, attended it.

138 participants registered for the session of which 110 attended it.

Ms Sibah Farooq, Chairperson of Legal Awareness Committee addressed the participants and gave a historical overview of this law in her address.

Member CCP, Mr. Salman Amin gave the opening remarks for CCP. President of IHCBA Mr. Riasat gave the closing address.

Nida Usman Chaudhary, founder of Women in Law Initiative Pakistan gave the welcome address and introductory note for the motivations of this session.



She said, it was organised to create awareness among female lawyers in particular about law and practice at the CCP and mainstreaming more women in law in specialised areas of legal practice.

She stressed that this was a field that would benefit any corporate and consumer lawyer.

SPECIAL ADDRESSES



Mr. Riasat Ali Azad
President, IHCBA



Mr. Salman Amin
Member, CCP



Mr. Shafqat Abbas
Secretary, IHCBA



Ms. Sibah Farooq
Chairperson, Legal Awareness
Committee, IHCBA

NOTABLE ATTENDEES



**Senior Advocates Ms. Kausar Awan and
Ms. Bilquees Rasheed Minhas, AJK Bar**



**Former High Court Judge, ASC
Ms. Jamila Jahanoor Aslam**



**Advocate High Court
Ms. Waiza Rafique**



**Women in Law GB Chapter Lead
Ms. Kulsoom Abbas**



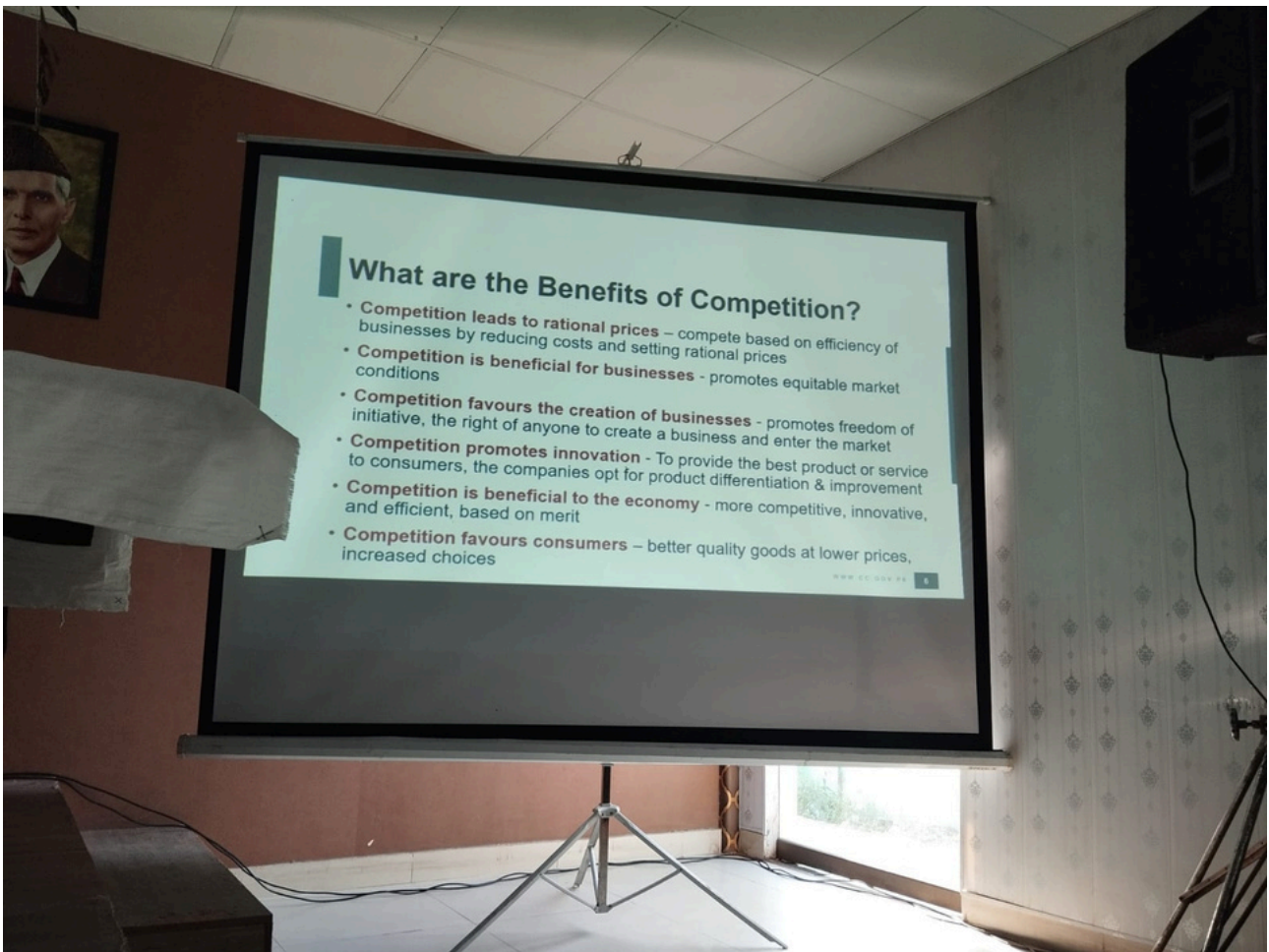
**Member Executive Committee, IHCBA
Ms. Syeda Rida e Batool**



**Advocate High Court
Ms. Sidra Ishaq**

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

The session commenced with a short documentary being shown, introducing the fundamentals of competition law, followed by a detailed presentation on the subject by **Ms. Kishwar Khan**, Director General for Research at the CCP.





Presentation Highlights:

- History of Competition Law in Pakistan.
- Establishment of Competition Commission of Pakistan.
- A walk through what practices that are considered anti competitive such as abuse of dominant market position.
- Industries prone to cartelization.
- Functions of CCP.

THE PANEL



The presentation was followed by a panel discussion.

The panel comprised of:

- Moderator: Ms. **Maryam Haseeb** (CCP)
- Ms. **Shazia Ashraf** Director exemptions CCP
- Barrister **Zainab Khan** (ABS & Co)
- Barrister **Zainab Janjua** (Partner Ajuris and representative of Women in Law).

Ms. Shazia Ashraf explained the concept of exemptions envisaged within the Competition law of Pakistan including the kind of agreements eligible for exemption and the criteria that CCP uses before granting an exemption.

Ms. Zainab Khan spoke about open and free competition as a fundamental right of businesses and how the CCP Act promotes and ensures that. She also spoke about rapid growth of e-commerce and digital platforms and the need to address new challenges posed to competition with advent of these platforms in law.

Ms. Zainab Janjua shed light on the common challenges faced by corporate clients in understanding and complying with Competition Law especially when it comes to mergers and acquisitions. She also spoke about the role of legal professionals in advising clients on these aspects particularly where compliance across different jurisdictions is concerned.

Q AND A



The panel discussion was followed by a very engaging Q & A session where the members of audience got an opportunity to ask insightful questions to the panelists and member CPP.





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cabinet of IHCBA;

- President: Riasat Ali Azad
- Secretary: Shafqat Abbas
- Legal Awareness Committee, IHCBA, Chairperson: Sibah Farooq
- Member Executive IHCBA, Syeda Rida e Batool
- The management and staff at the Islamabad High Court Bar Association.

Competition Commission Pakistan:

- Member, CCP: Salman Amin
- Registrar CCP: Shehzad Hussain
- The speakers at the session: Kishwar Khan, Shazia Ashraf, Zainab Janjua and Zainab Khan

Women in Law Session Team Members:

- .Zeneb Abid
- Tabeen Sarmad

Just 1 Team:

- Habib Hanzalah
- Hussan Shah

Audience:

- All our attendees and participants who attended the session and asked pertinent questions.