



Parliamentarians for Global Action

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STATEMENT ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

New York, May 18, 2007—PGA notes with increasing concern the state of continuing political unrest in Pakistan. During these difficult times, PGA calls on all sides to exercise restraint and engage in constructive dialogue which it firmly believes offers the only, and best possibility for a peaceful way out of the current impasse. As is its practice when similar circumstances arise in other countries, PGA urges that the crisis pertaining to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan be resolved in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution and with full respect to the letter and spirit of the law.

As an organization with a primary focus on the peaceful settlement of disputes, PGA expresses alarm in connection with the violent events that took place in Karachi on May 12, 2007 and regrets that there was inadequate security during the demonstrations. PGA calls on the Government of Pakistan to address the underlying causes of this crisis and to restore and maintain a fundamental democratic principle that is crucial for the rule of law in any principled country in the world - the independence of the judiciary.

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NOTE FOR EDITORS

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is a network of over 1300 legislators from 117 parliaments worldwide engaged in a range of action-oriented initiatives that promote democracy, peace, justice and development throughout the world. Further information on PGA's multifaceted initiatives and activities may be found at its website at www.pgaction.org