

Disaster Response Committee (DRC):

The committee aims to strengthen Pakistan's disaster management framework, improve coordination between federal and provincial governments, and ensure effective response to potential monsoon-related emergencies. The DRC meetings involve various stakeholders, including NDMA, PDMA, federal ministries, and other relevant agencies.

1. First Meeting (July 8, 2024):

Chaired by Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ehsan Iqbal Chaudhry

Key Points:

- Establishment of the DRC as a crucial step in strengthening the national disaster management framework
- Focus on preparing for the upcoming monsoon season
- NDMA's NEOC provided projections about the monsoon season
- Emphasis on reviewing stock positions for monsoon contingencies
- Stress on the need for robust coordination among federal and provincial authorities
- Review of previous disaster response experiences to identify areas for improvement
- Instructions to provincial governments:
 - a) Establish shelter spaces for livestock
 - b) Take actions against encroachments to mitigate urban flooding
- Directives to relevant ministries to secure costly infrastructure (ICT, roads, communication)
- PDMA instructed to prepare standardized response plans



2. Second Meeting (July 20, 2024):

Chaired by Federal Minister for Housing and Works Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada

Key Points:

- Review of progress on directions given during the first DRC meeting
- Assessment of preparations by provinces and departments for Monsoon 2024
- Updates from NEOC on likely impacts of monsoon in upcoming weeks
- Briefings from NDMA, PDMAs, and other stakeholders on assigned tasks
- Chairman NDMA's directives:
 - a) Identify reserve deficiencies
 - b) Leverage resources from local formations, departments, and humanitarian agencies
 - c) PDMA Punjab and Sindh to continue surveillance of river water levels
 - d) Eradicate encroachments on waterways and riverbanks
 - e) Ensure readiness for potential flood emergencies
- Emphasis on securing critical infrastructure against potential threats
- Instruction to PDMAs/SDMAs to develop standardized response plans
- Highlight on the necessity of a well-coordinated approach to manage climatical hazards



3. Third Meeting (July 30, 2024):

Chaired by Federal Minister for Planning & Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal

Key Points:

- Review of progress on directives issued during previous meetings
- Assessment of preparedness for Monsoon 2024
- NEOC briefing on anticipated impacts of the upcoming monsoon season
- Updates from PDMAs and stakeholders on assigned tasks
- Emphasis on the necessity of a well-coordinated approach to manage climatic hazards
- Highlight on the crucial role of Federal & Provincial Authorities in coordination with NDMA
- Minister's directives:
 - a) PDMAs to arrange stockpiles, including snakebite vaccinations
 - b) Conduct reinforcement regarding building codes and resilient infrastructure
- Stress on the importance of all stakeholders fulfilling their roles responsibly



4. Fourth Meeting (August 06, 2024):

DRC 4th meeting will be chaired by Prime Minister of Pakistan on August 6, 2024, indicating the committee's commitment to ongoing oversight and coordination of disaster response efforts.

Common Themes Across Meetings:

1. Regular monitoring of progress and addressing emerging challenges
2. NDMA's role as the central coordinating body
3. Emphasis on coordination between federal and provincial authorities
4. Focus on preparedness for the monsoon season and potential emergencies
5. Development of standardized response plans
6. Securing critical infrastructure
7. Addressing urban flooding risks and riverbank encroachments

