

Press Release

Presentation on Draft Futures Trading Act, 2005 held at SEC head office

Islamabad – March 4, 2005: A presentation on the preliminary draft Futures Trading Act, 2005 was held at the head office of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SEC) on Friday, which was presided over by the Chairman SEC, Dr. Tariq Hassan and attended by leading capital market professionals, legal experts as well as officers of the SEC.

The draft Act has been prepared in line with international standards by Mr. Ray Austin, a renowned expert on capital markets and former Commissioner of Securities and Commodities Futures Trading of Hong Kong.

Mr. Austin gave a detailed presentation on the complexities of futures trading and outlined the key provisions contained in the draft Act. He addressed various queries and comments put forward by the participants.

The proposed Futures Act would provide a comprehensive legal framework to regulate trading in futures contracts and for matters connected therewith. The Act would help in strengthening the existing regulatory framework, and would also provide for the introduction of more sophisticated derivatives instruments such as index futures, financial futures, options etc.

The Chairman SEC, Dr. Tariq Hassan while speaking on the occasion thanked Mr. Austin for his informative presentation and stressed that the draft law is still at the concept stage. “The Act would be finalized after taking into account the views/comments of capital market participants,” he said.