

### **Mr. Ahmer Bilal Soofi**

(Nominated by the Government of Pakistan)

Mr. Soofi is a leading lawyer from Pakistan practicing before the Supreme Court and is also a senior partner of law firm with offices in both Lahore and Islamabad. He is also the founding President of Research Society of International Law, the only think tank of international law in Pakistan that is dedicated to activities for lawyers, journalists and Government officials for improving capacity and awareness about legal commitments of Pakistan under various treaties and conventions.

Mr Soofi acted as an expert from Pakistan and to provide country report that became part of the ICRC Customary Study on IHL. He has done extensive work for improving legislation in Pakistan relating to HR and IHL. In this regard Mr. Soofi and his team carried out a one volume comprehensive comparison of Pakistan's entire legislation with the Geneva Conventions, Additional Protocols and the Rome Statute. He also supervised preparation of a ratification memo for the ICCPR containing comparison of Pakistan's domestic legislation with the provisions of the ICCPR that formed one of the basis to ratify the ICCPR by the Government. Likewise, his work on CAT and its legislative comparison was considered by the Government when ratifying CAT. More recently, he has advised the Government on the Child Rights Convention. He has also advised the Government on the legal aspects of the country report from Pakistan on UNSC Resolution 1540. He has also advised the Government of Pakistan on the implementing legislation relating to BWC and CWC.

Mr Soofi negotiated in seven successive sessions of the UNGA Adhoc Committee on behalf of G-77 and Pakistan, the UN Convention on Corruption and several of his suggestions received support from negotiating states and were eventually incorporated in the text of the Convention. He was appointed Chair of several working groups. Mr. Soofi was also made member of the 14 member Consistency Group to review the language of the entire Convention. Later he was made member of the Experts Group to prepare implementing guidelines for the UN Convention. He has been a member of a UNODC Experts Group on Terrorism relating to interpretation of offences contained in UNSC resolution 1373.

Mr Soofi is invited frequently to lecture on various aspects of international law issues relating to Pakistan at the National Defense College Islamabad, Command and Staff College Quetta, National Management School Lahore. He remained a visiting Professor of International Law at the Punjab University for over 10 years. His 45 lecture series on international law are recorded by the virtual university as a offered course. Mr Soofi was also commissioned as an examiner for a Phd work by the University of Trento, Italy. Mr Soofi has also delivered talks and lectures at venues like International Development Law Organization Rome, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka, Shanghai University China, Fletcher School USA and Royal United Institute, London.

Mr Soofi is member of the Board of Governors of World Wide Fund for Nature Pakistan (WWF). He has represented the civil society before important public interest litigation before the Supreme Court and obtained injunctive orders preventing de-frostation in important national parks of Pakistan.

Mr Soofi is the author of over 100 articles and comments printed in leading newspapers and journals of Pakistan. He is frequently invited by electronic and print media for expert comments on international law issues.

Mr Soofi was born on 25 November 1962. He did his law graduation from the University of Punjab and later his LLM from the University of Cambridge UK. He is married and has three sons. He can be reached through [ahmersoofi@hotmail.com](mailto:ahmersoofi@hotmail.com) or [ahmersoofi@absco.pk](mailto:ahmersoofi@absco.pk).