

**PRESS RELEASE**

**INDUS RIVER SYSTEM AUTHORITY (IRSA)**

**IRSA HQs at Islamabad,  
Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2024**

IRSA meeting was held on 08.05.2024 at IRSA HQs under the Chairmanship of Mr. Abdul Hameed Mengal, Chairman IRSA/ Member Balochistan, attended by all IRSA Members, Director (Opr) and senior technical personnel of the Authority. The Authority reviewed the Water Situation (WS) from April 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and noted that the actual inflows of 10.35 Million Acre Feet (MAF) far surpassed the forecasted inflows of 7.03 MAF with a 47% increase. The increased river inflows - more concentrated in the Kabul and Jhelum Basins - were due to the exceptional westerly disturbances that stretched into the month of April 2024, making the rainfall total for the month, 164% above normal. The recent rains added about 3.6 MAF in storages, accordingly, the storages in Tarbela, Mangla & Chashma Reservoirs stood at 4.358 MAF on 08.05.2024, i.e., 48% above the 10-year average.

2. Taking the above-mentioned very promising WS into consideration, the Authority was pleased to curtail the shortages for the Early Kharif period till June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from the initial 30% to 21% for Punjab and Sindh, while allowing full indented supplies for Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under the already approved exemption. Resultantly, provincial utilization of Punjab and Sindh was switched to the IRSA Advisory Committee's (IAC) approved maximum scenario, whereby they were allowed to utilize the flood flows to avoid spillage. Hence, with effective and timely regulatory measures, the following increased shares for Early Kharif 2024 were authorised by IRSA to Punjab & Sindh Provinces: -

(Million Acre Feet)

| <b>Province</b> | <b>IAC Approved<br/>Likely Shares<br/>(MAF)</b> | <b>IAC Approved<br/>Maximum Scenario<br/>(MAF)</b> | <b>Increase in Share<br/>(MAF)</b> |
|-----------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Punjab          | 8.252   | 9.266  | +1.014                             |
| Sindh           | 4.934   | 5.548  | +0.614                             |

3. In the wake of weather advisory issued by Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) regarding the heat wave in the current week, the Authority also decided that owing to the erratic hydrological variability that was becoming increasingly pronounced due to Climate Change, the WS shall be reviewed after each 10-daily period and adjusted, if deemed necessary.

**END.**