



## PRESS RELEASE

PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN JOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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### **Honor of Holy Prophet (Peace be upon him) must be defended by all means: Unanimous resolution at PAJCCI's 9th FGD by Af-Pak business community**

At PAJCCI's 9<sup>th</sup> Focus Group Discussion meeting at Islamabad, Zubair Motiwala, Chairman PAJCCI and Khan Jan Alokozai, Co-Chairman on behalf of business community at large and also on behalf of Pak-Afghan business community delegation strongly condemned the recent sacrilegious comments by official elements in India which has hurt over 1 Bn Muslims around the world.

The joint condemnation resolution was passed by the forum against this outrage, ***“any such action is absolutely unacceptable by Muslim Ummah and business community of both countries strongly condemns this treacherous and disrespectful behavior & action. The world at large must understand that Muslims will sacrifice their lives for the honor of Holy Prophet (Peace be upon him) and there shall be no compromise on this principle and faith.”***

During the session, PAJCCI deliberated robust barter trade framework for final approval of both governments. A monitoring matrix is being developed for the project and will be submitted to ministries across the border and Afghan Inter-ministerial Coordination Cell (AICC).

Mohammad Sadiq, SAPM and Chairman AICC, Zubair Motiwala; Chairman PAJCCI and Maria Kazi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce also made it very clear that all existing trading options will remain operational and barter trade is one more tool to enhance trade and economic activity between two countries. They categorically rejected baseless rumors that all other trading options will cease to function once barter trade is notified. Such anti-economic elements do not want strong, deep & sustainable trade and economic relationship between Pakistan & Afghanistan. It was unanimously agreed that business community on both sides will work together and put an end to all unscrupulous and parallel economy agents.

The house also acknowledged that PAJCCI is tirelessly working to develop barter trade mechanism and providing strong technical support to both governments in realizing high potential of trade between two countries.