



## PRESS RELEASE

PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN JOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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### **PAJCCI appreciates amendments in Cross stuffing SRO for transit trade via Afghanistan**

PAJCCI appreciates priority response of DG Transit Trade Pakistan Customs and Ministry of Commerce on approving the amendment in Cross Stuffing SRO to allow transfer of goods from one container to another container or any other mode of transportation, in the premises of the port or at off-dock terminal. In addition, cross-stuffing of containerized cargo under Afghan transit trade will be allowed both inside seaport terminal where cargo arrived as well as at any approved off-dock terminals (ODT) at separately demarcated areas.

Previously cross stuffing was only allowed at off-dock terminals which increased the cost of doing business and limited the options available for high volume transit trade via Afghanistan. Both countries use each other's facilities to conduct transit trade with CAR and huge quantity of goods are transferred from one to another containers. Cross stuffing is important to reduce detention and demurrage charges incurred due to using of shipping lines containers. Cross stuffing gives opportunity to use local containers in either country or make use of any other mode of transportation for goods movement.

After the recent meeting of Zubair Motiwala; Chairman PAJCCI with Naveed Qamar; Minister of Commerce, Government of Pakistan, the long pending SRO on Cross-stuffing of containers for Afghan transit trade covering both forward and reverse cargo was issued. PAJCCI further advocated the amendment keeping in view the needs of business community and momentum of the transit trade, which has been incorporated in issued SRO.

Zubair Motiwala; Chairman PAJCCI thanked Minister of Commerce and appreciated the support of government in giving due importance to business community needs and removing barriers to enhance the economic activity.

PAJCCI remains committed to raising the business community issues to highest levels in both the governments and provision of technical assistance to governments for trade friendly policy development.