# **MEMORANDUM** OF **UNDERSTANDING**

between





PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN JOINT CHAMBER COMMERCE & OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (RCCI) **INDUSTRY (PAJCCI)** 

**RAWALPINDI CHAMBER OF** 

signed at MARRIOT HOTEL

(Date: DEC 16, 2014)



## Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PAJCCI)



## Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI)

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (hereinafter "MoU") dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_ is agreed between Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PAJCCI), and Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) herein referred to collectively as the "Chambers".

#### **PREAMBLE**

THAT the chambers are desirous of defining a framework of cooperation with each other and developing a number of actions aimed further to strengthen the bilateral trade and relationship between the **Pakistan & Afghanistan** in the light of their defined charters. Additionally the cooperation will also be extended in developing mutually beneficial relationship between the members of both the Chambers.

WHEREAS, both the chambers agreed that in view of the need to build a dependable, pragmatic, and advantageous relationship between both the chambers, they desire to initiate the establishment of friendly and cordial relations between the two chambers through an increased cooperation mode among the members of the two chambers.

WHEREAS, the scope of work of both chambers is specified as under:-

## PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN JOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (PAICCI)

Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PAJCCI) is an entity which is duly recognized and licensed by Islamic Republic of Pakistan as well as Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The core objective of this trans-border arrangement is not only to transform the economic landscape of the South and Central Asian region but also to facilitate peace prospects and to curb extremism and terrorism. The Chamber was established having members of Trade and Industrial community with a motive to provide level playing field for promoting the bi-lateral trade and investment, ensuring transfer of technology, exploring new trade opportunities and areas of mutual interests, alleviating illegal trade and promoting positive image of both the countries across the globe.

## RAWALPINDI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (RCCI)

Rawalpindi chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) is a business membership organization Licensed by Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan. RCCI aims at facilitation of businesses through Policy Advocacy, Research & Development, International Exhibitions & Conference, Foreign Delegations, Capacity Building sessions (seminars & workshops) and related services for the growth and expansion of member business in the broader national interest of the country.

WHEREAS; in accordance with their respective interests and objectives, both chambers are willing to cooperate with each other to actively facilitate and cooperate each other, and;

**RECOGNISING** the possibilities and potentials of growth, development and promotion of bilateral trade, investment and joint ventures of Pakistan with other countries, and;

**APPRECIATING** the scope of further expansion of bilateral trade relations within the framework of the laws and regulations prevalent in the respective countries; and;

**REALIZING** the need to foster a spirit of better cooperation and coordination between business communities represented by both the chambers in general and their respective members in particular for the development of trade and commerce;

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of their interests and objectives, both chambers hereby confirm their mutual understanding of the following:

# ARTICLE-1: SCOPE OF COOPERATION, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

For mutual cooperation in respect of encouraging bilateral trade activities, exchange of trade delegations/ participation in trade fairs/ exhibitions, both chambers will play their facilitation role. Both chambers shall establish effective consultation, co-operation and the exchange of information on bilateral trade and relationship; refer trade queries/inquiries/ disputes of their members to each other for needful action and follow-up. Both chambers shall appoint permanent staff to serve as focal point for execution of this MoU.

Both chambers, with mutual understanding and consent, shall jointly organize/hold conference/meetings/ seminars/ workshops/ presentations/ for their members to strengthen bilateral commerce and explore new trade opportunities; engage in joint ventures, transfer of technology & expertise; allow each other to post their website addresses/links on respective website and other publications/ news/ trade bulletins.

Both chambers will mutually cooperate in best possible manner so that the trade can grow and flourish with required interventions and coordination, likewise, both chambers shall carry out their respective roles and responsibilities with due diligence and in a professional manner, and with due regard to applicable laws and regulations. Both chambers shall have no liability to each other for non-performance of any services under this MoU to the extent that any such performance would result in the breach of applicable laws and regulations applicable in this context.

## ARTICLE-2: EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION & COOPERATION

Both chambers shall exchange information on the economy, trade, publications, trade regulations, industrialization, economic legislation and business practices being enforced. Wherever applicable, both chambers may extend best cooperation and support to achieve the aims, mentioned in this MoU.

# ARTICLE-3: SUPPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Both chambers shall provide mutual support in order to encourage their members to participate in the different business events/international exhibitions and to organize productive seminars on enhancement of trade and commerce. Both chambers will help visits of commercial and economic delegations between the specified countries enabling the counterparts for best realization of business contacts, and shall inform each other about national and international fairs/exhibitions etc.

All the actions set out in this article shall be subject to specific letters of engagement or amendments/addendums to this MoU setting out the terms and conditions applicable thereto, and particularly, the financial conditions.

## **ARTICLE-4: SUPPORT ON JOINT VENTURES**

Both chambers should facilitate joint ventures specifically with respect to revamping industrial set-up in Afghanistan through transfer of technology and expertise from Pakistan.

#### **ARTICLE-5: JOINT MEETINGS**

Both chambers will organize joint meetings of their representatives, subject to proper issuance of agendas/ ensuring availability of representatives from both the sides with mutual consent.

## **ARTICLE-6: EFFECTIVENESS & AMENDMENTS**

This MoU, drawn up in English in Two-Originals, shall become effective on the date of signature thereof, for an unlimited period. This MoU may be amended or modified through mutual consent of both chambers in writing. However, both the chambers have right to terminate this agreement any time with prior one month notice.

#### ARTICLE-7: LIABILITY OF CHAMBERS

To the extent that the performance by both chambers of any of the services contemplated in this MoU is delayed or prevented by causes beyond its reasonable control including, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of Governments and authorities or any instrumentality thereof, strikes, civil commotion etc., two chambers shall not be in default of their obligations stated under this MoU.

## **ARTICLE-8: ARBITRATION/ MEDIATION**

Both chambers will assist for the amicable and friendly settlement of trade disputes arising out of business transactions between the members of both the chambers through conciliation, negotiation and arbitration/ mediation wherever necessary, taking into account the international standards and conventions in this regard.

#### ARTICLE-9: NON-EXCLUSIVITY

This MoU is not exclusive in any way or manner. Both chambers are at liberty to sign and make identical MoUs/Agreements with other institutions of their choice.

#### ARTICLE-10: JOINT APPEAL

Both chambers agreed to unequivocally call upon their governments/ respective ministries to officially recognize and endorse both chambers and undertake sincere efforts to introduce confidence building measures so that trade opportunities are augmented, diplomatic initiatives are developed, and geopolitical cooperation is assured; for the enhancement of trade and commerce amongst each other and additionally between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Chambers have caused this MoU to be signed on <u>Dec 16, 2014</u> at <u>Markiot Hotel</u> in their respective names.

For: Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI)

Muhammad Zuhair Motivrala

Muhammad Zubair Motiwala Co- President, PAJCCI For: Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI)

Syed Asad Mashadi President, RCCI