



## PRESS RELEASE

PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN JOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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### **PAJCCI Condemns Recent SRO Issuances and Calls for Reconsideration**

President Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI), Junaid Makda expressing deep concern and condemnation of the recent issuance of several Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs) that have caused distress within the business communities from all over Pakistan (KPK, Chaman, Lahore, Islamabad, Faisalabad) and in Afghanistan across the border.

The SROs in question, specifically SRO No. 1397(I)/2023, SRO 1380(I)/2023, SRO 1401(I)/2023, and SRO 1402(I)/2023, have triggered widespread consternation among the business communities in both Pakistan and Afghanistan. These recent regulatory measures have raised significant challenges and uncertainties for businesses and trade relations across the border.

The PAJCCI firmly believes that maintaining and enhancing economic ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan is vital for the prosperity and well-being of our peoples. It is in this context that we express our concerns and urge the authorities to reconsider the implications of these SROs on the bilateral and transit trade and economic cooperation between two countries.

We understand that regulatory measures are often necessary to safeguard the interests of a nation, but we also believe that such measures should be taken with due consideration of business community for their potential impact on trade and commerce. The current SROs have inadvertently created barriers that are detrimental to businesses and hinder the growth of economic relations both sides.

PAJCCI strongly calls for open dialogue and a collaborative approach to address the concerns raised by the business communities and to find solutions that promote and strengthen the trade relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan. We are committed to working with the relevant authorities and stakeholders to foster an environment conducive to business growth and mutual prosperity.

PAJCCI remains dedicated to its mission of promoting economic cooperation and trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan. We believe that by working together and addressing the challenges presented by recent SROs, we can build a more resilient and prosperous future across the border.