

Government of Pakistan

Cabinet Division
Special Technology Zones Authority



PRESS RELEASE

CHAIRMAN STZA ADVOCATES FOR RAPID TECH TRANSFORMATION OF LEGAL PROCESSES

May 19, 2022

The Technology for Justice Forum 2022 hosted a high-level discussion panel here in Islamabad where thought leaders from the legal fraternity and tech industry discussed the technology transformation of the law and justice landscape in Pakistan. The panel included leading experts in the field including Honorable Minister Azam Nazeer Tarrar, Honorable Justice Ather Minallah, Honorable Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, the Chairman of the Higher Education Commission Dr Tariq Banuri, Chairman Special Technology Zones Authority, Mr Amer Hashmi and several thought leaders from the government and tech industry.

While speaking at the forum, Amer Hashmi, the Chairman of the Special Technology Zones Authority – STZA advocated for the rapid tech transformation of the Government process, which he said would prove instrumental in ensuring service delivery to the citizens, increasing transparency, and improving Pakistan's ranking on the global ease of doing business index. He went on to explain how technology interventions can standardize and optimize the investor journey, including fast-tracking investor facilitation in areas like regulatory approvals and troubleshooting.

He also highlighted that the STZA has operationalized the triple helix model of innovation, which creates interoperability and synergy between academia, the tech industry and government stakeholders. He said that the Special Technology Zones (STZs) being developed under STZA's National Rollout Plan would not only be the engines of economic growth for the country but would also accelerate human capital development, and job creation, as well as foreign and domestic investment in the tech sector. He also elaborated on how STZs would create enormous opportunities for the Pakistani youth, startup entrepreneurs, and small, medium, and large-scale tech enterprises, which would have far-reaching socio-economic impacts on women empowerment, poverty reduction and accelerating Pakistan's pursuit of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs).

The Chairman thanked the Tech for Justice Forum and lauded the role of the government, and private sector stakeholders for their support. He also encouraged all stakeholders and leaders in the legal tech space to work closely with STZA, to help drive Pakistan's transformation into a technology-driven, knowledge economy.