



Government of Pakistan
Cabinet Division
Special Technology Zones Authority



PRESS RELEASE

STZA AND FPCCI TO WORK TOGETHER ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION

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A high-level delegation of the Special Technology Zones Authority (STZA), led by Chairman Amer Hashmi, visited the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) in Karachi. Mr Shabbir Mansha, the acting President of FPCCI welcomed the STZA delegation. The Chairman of STZA highlighted the role of knowledge ecosystems across the world as an engine of economic growth and stated that the Special Technology Zones (STZs) are designed as per international benchmarks. He went on to explain STZA's national rollout plan, under which several Special Technology Zones are likely to be opened in the Sindh province. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of Pakistan Single Window, SMEDA and several leading Universities.

Mr Shabbir Mansha, the acting President of FPCCI lauded the vision of STZA and expressed his support for its projects, stating that Pakistan had a shortage of technology professionals which could be bridged by creating new opportunities to inspire the youth to adopt the technology sector as their first career choice. He also explained several challenges faced by Pakistani technology professionals including the acceptance of their certifications abroad and the quality of the overall skillset available in the country's technology sector.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Commercial Officer STZA Javaid Iqbal, stated that the required legislative support in the form of an act of Parliament has been provided to STZA and it has already launched Special Technology Zones in Lahore, Islamabad and Haripur (KPK) to operationalize the triple helix model of innovation. Abdul Rahim Ahmad, Chief Information Officer of STZA stated that STZA intends to launch STZs across the country to create futuristic opportunities for entrepreneurs, startups, and small, medium and large-scale technology organizations.

The Chairman STZA thanked FPCCI for hosting the engagement and expressed his desire to work closely with the business community to bring STZs to Sindh province. The FPCCI and STZA delegations agreed to cooperate on facilitating the technology transformation in Pakistan.