



SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

FOR

**UPGRADATION, ACCREDITATION AND COMMERCIAL UTILIZATION OF
LABORATORY FACILITIES IN UNIVERSITIES OF DISTRICT SIALKOT
FOR RESEARCH MANAGEMENT, TESTING, QUALITY COMPLIANCE,
INNOVATION AND INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") is made and entered into on this 12th day of August, 2026
("Effective Date"),

BY AND BETWEEN

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SCCI)

A representative trade organization of the trade, industry and services sectors of Sialkot, having its office at Sialkot, Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as "SCCI", which expression shall include its successors and assigns.

PAKISTAN COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (PCSIR)

A statutory scientific research and development organization established under the laws of Pakistan, having its principal office at Lahore, hereinafter referred to as "PCSIR", which expression shall, where the context so permits, include its successors and assigns;

AND

THE UNIVERSITIES OF DISTRICT SIALKOT

Through their respective offices of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORICs)

Including:

1. **Government College Women University Sialkot;**
2. **University of Sialkot;**
3. **Grand Asian University, Sialkot;**
4. **University of Management and Technology, Sialkot Campus; and**

hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Universities", which expression shall include their respective successors and permitted assigns;

AND

BILTEHQEEQ

Center for Research Sustainable Development and Innovation, an industry-academia facilitation organization established to promote research commercialization, international compliance, innovation, testing infrastructure development and sustainable industrial growth.

PCSIR, the Universities and SCCI are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party".

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize the importance of strengthening laboratory infrastructure, quality assurance systems, research management, innovation, testing services and industrial support mechanisms within District Sialkot;

WHEREAS, the Parties acknowledge that internationally recognized laboratory accreditation and industry-oriented testing facilities are essential for enhancing product quality, export competitiveness, technological innovation and sustainable industrial development;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to collaborate for upgrading university laboratory facilities, promoting their commercial utilization, supporting accreditation initiatives and facilitating effective engagement between academia, research institutions and industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties record their mutual understanding as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a collaborative framework for the development, strengthening and commercialization of laboratory facilities within the Universities of District Sialkot.



The specific objectives shall include:

- 1.1. Upgrading laboratory facilities in accordance with internationally recognized standards, including ISO/IEC 17025 and other relevant accreditation requirements;
- 1.2. Promoting quality assurance, testing, calibration, inspection and certification-related services for industry;
- 1.3. Facilitating accreditation of selected laboratories through relevant national and international accreditation bodies;
- 1.4. Supporting research management, innovation and commercialization activities through the Universities' ORICs;
- 1.5. Providing accessible and cost-effective testing facilities to industry, particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs);
- 1.6. Strengthening collaboration among academia, research organizations and industry;
- 1.7. Enhancing export competitiveness through improved quality compliance and conformity assessment services;
- 1.8. Reducing reliance on foreign laboratories for testing and certification services; and
- 1.9. Promoting sustainable industrial development through applied research, innovation and technology transfer.

ARTICLE 2

SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

- 2.1 The Parties may cooperate in the following areas:
- 2.2 Laboratory assessment, upgradation and accreditation;
- 2.3 Research and development projects;
- 2.4 Testing and analytical services for industry;
- 2.5 Training and capacity-building programs;
- 2.6 Technology transfer and commercialization initiatives;
- 2.7 Development of industry-focused research agendas;
- 2.8 Joint funding proposals and resource mobilization activities;
- 2.9 Knowledge sharing and technical advisory services; and
- 2.10 Any other mutually agreed activity consistent with the objectives of this MoU.

ARTICLE 3

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PCSIR

PCSIR shall:

- 3.1 **Technical Consultancy for Accreditation Preparation**
Provide technical consultancy, professional guidance and expert support to participating university laboratories for establishing, implementing and improving quality management systems in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 and other relevant accreditation requirements.
- 3.2 **Training and Capacity Building**
Organize or facilitate training programs, workshops, seminars and awareness sessions for laboratory personnel, faculty members and technical staff on:
 - a. Quality assurance systems;
 - b. Laboratory documentation and record management;
 - c. Method validation and verification;
 - d. Measurement uncertainty;
 - e. Internal quality control;
 - f. Internal auditing procedures;
 - g. Accreditation requirements; and
 - h. Other relevant technical areas.
- 3.3 **Pre-Assessment and Technical Support**
Conduct gap analyses, pre-assessment visits and technical evaluations of laboratories and provide recommendations for corrective actions, improvements and accreditation readiness.



3.4 Technical Advisory Services

Provide scientific and technical advice regarding laboratory equipment, testing methodologies, quality assurance practices and operational requirements.

3.5 Collaboration in Research and Innovation

Support joint research, technology development and industrial problem-solving initiatives where feasible and mutually agreed.

3.6 This collaboration strengthen PCSIR's national role in laboratory accreditation consultancy, research and development, technology transfer, industrial consultancy, capacity building, commercialization of scientific services, and collaborative research initiatives. It also enhance PCSIR's institutional visibility, facilitate revenue generation through approved consultancy and training services, promote utilization of scientific expertise, and create opportunities for national and international collaborative projects and funding.

ARTICLE 4

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITIES

The Universities shall:

- 4.1 Provide laboratory facilities, technical personnel and institutional support necessary for implementation of this MoU;
- 4.2 Facilitate coordination through their respective ORICs;
- 4.3 Implement quality management systems and accreditation-related requirements within selected laboratories;
- 4.4 Nominate focal persons for coordination with PCSIR and SCCI;
- 4.5 Encourage faculty and researchers to participate in collaborative research and industrial projects;
- 4.6 Facilitate data collection, documentation and record maintenance required for accreditation processes;
- 4.7 Promote commercialization of laboratory services and research outputs; and Ensure compliance with applicable regulatory, academic and institutional requirements.

ARTICLE 5

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCCI

SCCI shall:

- 5.1 Serve as the primary liaison between industry and the participating institutions;
- 5.2 Identify industrial testing, certification, research and innovation needs;
- 5.3 Facilitate interaction between industrial enterprises and laboratory facilities established under this collaboration;
- 5.4 Promote awareness of available laboratory services among its members;
- 5.5 Support commercialization initiatives and industry outreach programs;
- 5.6 Facilitate stakeholder consultations and networking activities; and
- 5.7 Assist in identifying opportunities for funding, partnerships and collaborative projects.

ARTICLE 6

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BILTEHQEEQ

BILTEHQEEQ shall:

- 6.1 Identify testing, certification, inspection and compliance requirements of export-oriented industries;
- 6.2 Conduct industry needs assessments and compliance gap studies;
- 6.3 Facilitate alignment of laboratory capabilities with international regulatory requirements;
- 6.4 Promote laboratory testing services among industrial sectors.
- 6.5 Support commercialization of laboratory services and research outputs;
- 6.6 Facilitate technology transfer and industry-academia collaboration projects;
- 6.7 Assist exporters in identifying quality compliance requirements and testing needs.

ARTICLE 7

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

7.1 Joint Steering Committee

The Parties may establish a Joint Steering Committee comprising representatives of PCSIR, the Universities and SCCI.

7.2 Functions



The Committee may:

- a. Provide strategic direction for the implementation of this MoU;
- b. Review progress and performance periodically;
- c. Identify priority sectors and projects;
- d. Facilitate coordination among stakeholders;
- e. Resolve operational issues arising during implementation; and
- f. Recommend future collaborative initiatives.

7.3 Meetings

The Committee may meet at least twice annually or as mutually agreed by the Parties.

ARTICLE 8 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 8.1 Each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses incurred in connection with activities under this MoU. However, PCSIR official fees for consultancy services/ training etc. (as agreed by mutual understanding) and boarding & lodging expenses will be paid by the respective organization/ university.
- 8.2 Any project requiring financial commitments, procurement, grants, funding arrangements or revenue-sharing mechanisms shall be governed through separate written agreements executed by the concerned Parties.
- 8.3 The Parties may jointly develop proposals for national or international funding opportunities to support activities contemplated under this MoU.
- 8.4 No financial liability, budgetary commitment, procurement obligation, or utilization of PCSIR resources beyond its approved policies shall arise under this MoU unless specifically approved by the competent authority of PCSIR through a separate written agreement.

ARTICLE 9 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 9.1 Intellectual property developed independently by a Party shall remain the property of that Party.
- 9.2 Intellectual property arising from joint activities conducted under this MoU shall be governed through separate written agreements executed before commencement of the relevant project.
- 9.3 No Party shall use the name, logo or intellectual property of another Party without prior written consent.

ARTICLE 10 CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties shall maintain confidentiality of proprietary, technical, commercial or research information received from another Party and shall not disclose such information to third parties without prior written consent, except where disclosure is required by law.

ARTICLE 11 DURATION, REVIEW AND TERMINATION

- 11.1 This MoU shall remain effective for a period of **three (3) years** from the Effective Date.
- 11.2 The MoU may be extended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.
- 11.3 The Parties may review the implementation of this MoU annually.
- 11.4 Any Party may withdraw from this MoU by providing ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the other Parties.
- 11.5 Termination of this MoU shall not affect activities, projects or commitments already underway unless otherwise mutually agreed.

ARTICLE 12 AMENDMENTS

This MoU may be amended, modified or supplemented only through a written instrument signed by all Parties.

ARTICLE 13 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute arising out of or relating to the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall, in the first instance, be resolved amicably through mutual consultations among the Parties. Failing such resolution, the matter shall be referred to the heads of the respective institutions for final consideration.



ARTICLE 14 NON-BINDING NATURE

This MoU reflects the intentions and understanding of the Parties regarding collaboration and cooperation. Except for provisions relating to confidentiality, intellectual property and any separately executed agreements, this MoU does not create legally enforceable financial or contractual obligations upon the Parties.

ARTICLE 15 MISCELLANEOUS

- 15.1 Nothing contained in this MoU shall be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture, agency relationship or employment relationship among the Parties.
- 15.2 Each Party shall comply with applicable laws, regulations and institutional policies relevant to its participation under this MoU.
- 15.3 This MoU constitutes the entire understanding among the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding on the date first written above.

FOR SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Syed Ahtesham Mazhar
President

FOR PCSIR, LAHORE

Dr. Ijaz Ahmad
Director General

FOR GOVERNMENT COLLEGE WOMEN UNIVERSITY SIALKOT

Professor Dr. Shazia Bashir
Vice Chancellor

FOR UNIVERSITY OF SIALKOT

Dr. Brian Gagosh Nayyar
Director Oric

FOR GRAND ASIAN UNIVERSITY, SIALKOT

Dr. Syed Muhammad Nurulain
Dean Faculty Of Allied Health Sciences

FOR UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY, SIALKOT

Dr. Ali Abdullah
Convener Oric

FOR BILTEHQEEQ SIALKOT

Dr. Syed Raza-Ullah Shah
C.E.O