



PAJCCI's 3rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE
WAY FORWARD
Afghanistan In Transition: Looking Beyond 2014

Venue: Marriott Hotel, Islamabad (Marquee)

Date: April 30, 2014

Conference Time: 1000-1300

CONCEPT PAPER

Pakistan Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PAJCCI) as a part of its tradition is organizing its 3rd Annual Conference on an immensely significant theme of Afghanistan in Post 2014 scenario and expected contribution of Pakistan.

Over the next three years, Afghanistan will experience major security, economic and developmental transition whereby the drawdown of most international military forces and an expected accompanying decline in civilian aid will effect economic cooperation and development and bring the nation under increasing fiscal pressures. The decline in external assistance will have widespread ramifications for Afghanistan's political and economic landscape well beyond 2014.

It is to be observed that it is not the same Afghanistan as it was thirty years ago. It is now an increasingly urban, substantially more connected country than ever before in its long history. They are academically sound, ambitious and well-connected nation in contrast to previous years. The challenges do remain when transition is taken into consideration, nonetheless the international community would not disengage and leave the Afghans alone to hold the ground claimed with such exertion, cost, and sacrifice.

Pakistan's role in Afghanistan's development and stability is multidimensional. Pakistan has made tangible commitments to the Afghanistan's future and intends to continue the same in Post 2014 scenario.

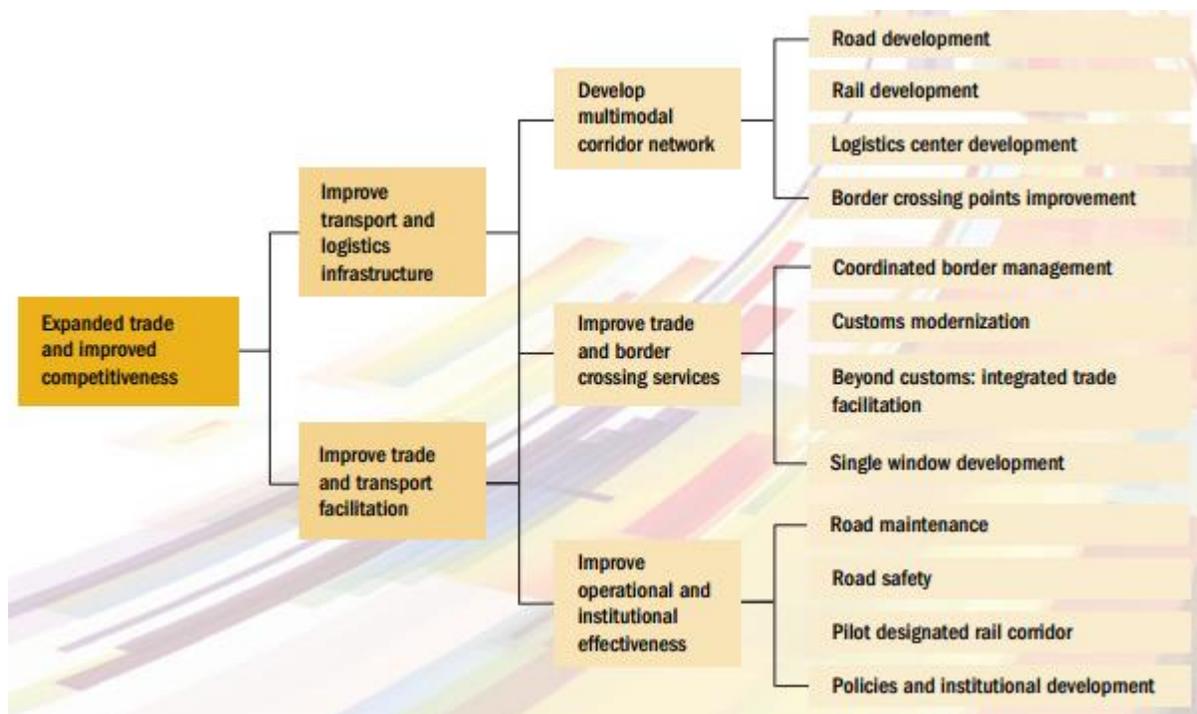
Conference Deliberations and Panelists:

PAJCCI has always engaged both officials and business community across the border at the same platform to deliberate and discuss way forward. Keeping the latest developments in terms of new governmental set-up in Pakistan, elections in Afghanistan, withdrawal of US troops and decline in civilian aid to Afghanistan, changing face of APTTA and policy framework, PAJCCI has organized the forum to delve into significance of such challenges and upcoming strategies to help stabilize the economic and peace developments throughout the region via Pakistan and Afghanistan corridors.

In the conference, panelists are invited from both the sides including Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and especially from FBR, Afghanistan Investment Support Agency, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan and Ambassador of Afghanistan to Pakistan to discuss and agree upon future course of action.

The conference will discuss the following sub-themes as a panel discussion:

- Existing Trade and Transit Situation – Tariff & Non-Tariff Barriers
- Post Election & Withdrawal of US Troop From Afghanistan: Reforms to Enhance Trade & Necessary Facilitation for Transit.
- Impact of Governmental Policies effective from March 17, 2014
- Confidence Building Measures (CBM) adopted by PAJCCI to Enhance trust and Image building
- Regional Trade & Transit Connectivity



The conference participants include Ambassadors and Commercial Attaches’, Chambers of Commerce, Custom and Governmental officials and most importantly business and trading community across the border.