

PBC ACTIVITY REPORT

APRIL TO JUNE 2021

This report summarizes the activities of the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) for the period April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021.

Major Activities During the Quarter

The PBC's public activities in the Quarter under review were once again influenced by the resurgence of the Covid-19 pandemic. The PBC continued its advocacy using a mixture of online and physical interactions.

PBC's major activities during the Quarter are summarized below:

Pre-Budget PBC Session with Mr. Shaukat Tarin, Finance Minister:

1

The PBC along with the American Business Council (ABC) and the Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce & industry (OICCI) had a Pre-Budget session with the finance minister. The finance minister was accompanied by the Advisor to the PM on Commerce and Investment, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Revenue and the Chairman FBR along with senior members of the FBR. The PBC emphasized the need for the budget to promote growth of the economy by adopting measures advocated in its Make-in-Pakistan initiative. The PBC also emphasized the need for consolidation of businesses by promoting Group Companies and for broadening the tax base.

Post-Budget Advocacy:

Though the Federal Budget failed to rectify the anomalies created in tax laws relating to Group Companies, the PBC welcomed the measures announced in the budget to promote growth in the economy. The PBC continued to provide input to the finance minister on the likely impact of the budget proposals on the ease of doing business in Pakistan. The CEO was nominated by the government on the Budget Anomalies Committee.

2

PBC Online Session with the Minister of Industries and Production:

3

The PBC participated in an online meeting with Makhdum Khusro Bakhtiar, Federal Minister of Industries and Production in the month of May. The Advisor to the PM on Commerce and Investment, Mr. Razak Dawood and the SAPM on Power Mr. Tabish Gauhar also participated. Agenda for the meeting was to discuss ways for accelerating reindustrialization in Pakistan.

PBC Webinar on Pakistan's Refrigerator Industry:

The PBC hosted a webinar as a follow-up to the study on Pakistan's refrigerator industry – "Enhancing the Competitiveness of Pakistan's Refrigerator Industry" - the panelists consisted of Mr. Almas Hyder, Chairman EDB, Mr. Umar Ahsan Khan, CEO Dawlance, Mr. Haroon Khan, CEO Waves-Singer & Mr. Samir Chinoy, COO International Steels Limited. Mr. Ehsan Malik CEO of the PBC acted as the moderator while the closing remarks were delivered by the Vice Chairman of the PBC Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb who is also President HBL.

4

PBC Webinar on Pakistan's Footwear Industry:

5

The PBC hosted a webinar as a follow-up to the study on Pakistan's footwear industry – “Enhancing the Competitiveness of Pakistan's Footwear Industry” as part of the PBC's Make-in-Pakistan initiative. The panelists comprised of Mr. Saquib Shirazi, Chairman PBC, Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb Vice Chairman PBC, Mr. Imran Malik Managing Director Bata Pakistan, Mr. Shahid Hussain CEO Service Sales Corporation & Col. Fawad Ahmad Secretary General PFMA. Mr. Ehsan Malik, CEO PBC acted as the Moderator.

PBC Webinar on Pakistan's Pharma Industry:

6

The PBC in collaboration with the Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR) hosted a webinar on the potential of Pakistan's Pharma industry. The Study on the pharma sector: “Unleashing the Potential of Pharmaceuticals in Pakistan” was commissioned by the PBC through CDPR. The panelists at the webinar were Mr. Saquib Shirazi, Chairman PBC, Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb Vice Chairman PBC, Dr. Ijaz Nabi Chairman CDPR, Mr. Khalid Mahmood MD & CEO Getz Pharma, Mr. Asif Jooma CEO ICI Pakistan, Mr. Usman Khan Adjunct Faculty LUMS & Ms. Nadia Mukhtar Faculty member LUMS. Mr. Ehsan Malik, CEO PBC acted as the Moderator.

Pakistan Regulatory Modernization Initiative (PRMI):

7

As part of PBC's ongoing support to the Board of Investment (BOI) in implementing the Pakistan Regulatory Modernization Initiative (PRMI), PBC contributed nearly 90% of the reform proposals under consideration to address cost and ease of doing business.

The PBC developed a concept note to implement a single window portal providing a one stop solution for registering, licensing and regulating food and non-food products.

Harmonization of Food Standards:

8

The Council of Common Interests (CCI) at its meeting held on 7th April 2021 gave a decision on harmonizing the system of formulating and enforcing food standards. The decision has been duly notified by the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination. National Food Standards will be formulated by PSQCA. The major points of the decision are: a) Labelling and Certification Marks will be issued by PSQCA & b) Registration of Food Products, Licensing of Factories, Enforcement and Monitoring shall remain the jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments.

PBC played a central role in achieving a decision which will improve the business climate for the food industry, and therefore benefit the economy of the country.

Update on the Counter-Illicit Trade (CIT) Committee:

9

PBC organized a meeting with the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department (FSC&RD) in which the following topics were discussed a) Protection of intellectual property rights of the seed breeders in Pakistan & b) Enforcement of the Plant Breeders Rights Act and Rules.

Update – PBC EDB Sector Studies:

The PBC & EDB are at the moment collaborating on two sector studies, a) Surgical Instruments & b) Fan industry. Field work has been completed for both sector studies and analysis is currently being done to come up with the recommendations.

10

Update – Study on Impact of Afghan Transit Trade on Domestic Industry - PIDE:

11

The contract for the Study had been signed with the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and the report is expected to be finalized in the First Quarter of the next financial year.

CEO's Activities to Promote the PBC's Agenda



World Bank

Navigating in Uncertain Times: Pakistan Development Update



BOI

PRMI Taskforce Meeting



BOI

Launch of the new PRMI Strategy



Sindh Investment Office

Review of the Pakistan – Australia FTA



US Economic Advisor

Briefing on the Pakistan Economy



SBP

Review of the Digital Banking Regulations



SBP

Review of the Online FX Portal



PIDE

Chief Economists Roundtable on Growth



PIDE

Pre-Budget Webinar



PIDE

Review of Export Promotion Schemes



Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department

Review of IP Laws



Singapore Business Federation

Prospects of Processed Foods Exports from Pakistan



US Economic Advisor

Briefing on the Pakistan Economy



Corporate Pakistan Group

Review of the Budget Proposals



US-Pakistan Track-II

On going

Briefings for Key Members of the Government's Economic Team and the Economic Advisory Council



Minister of Food Security

Agriculture Reforms



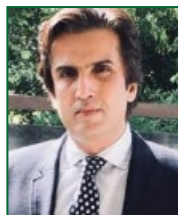
Minister of Finance

Key Growth Levers



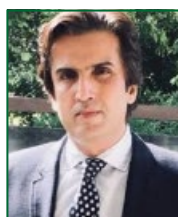
Minister of Energy

Power Sector Reforms



Minister of Industries & Production

Make-in-Pakistan

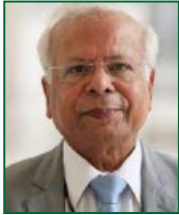


Minister of Industries & Production

US Investment and Trade Potential with Pakistan

**Mr. Muhammad Ali Tabbā – Member EAC**

Key Growth Priorities for EAC's consideration

**Dr. Ishrat Husain – Adviser to the PM on Institutional Reform**

What would it take to put the economy on a sustainable and sharper growth trajectory?

BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The 18th PBC HR Committee meeting was held during the Quarter at which the HR Committee reviewed the achievements against the goals for the year ending June 30th 2021.

The 79th Meeting of the PBC Board was also held during the Quarter at which among other matters the Board approved the key thrusts for the PBC for the ensuing year.

PUBLICATIONS DURING THE QUARTER

During the Quarter a total of Seven (7) publications was released by the PBC bringing the total number of publications released during the year to Twenty-One (21).



Second Review of the Indonesia Pakistan Preferential Trade Agreement

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/second-review-of-the-indonesia-pakistan-preferential-trade-agreement/>



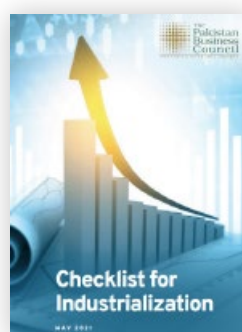
Unleashing the Potential of Pharmaceuticals in Pakistan

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/unleashing-the-potential-of-pharmaceuticals-in-pakistan/>



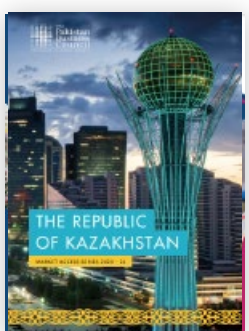
PBC Proposals for the Federal Budget 2021-22

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/Proposals-for-the-Federal-Budget-2021.pdf>



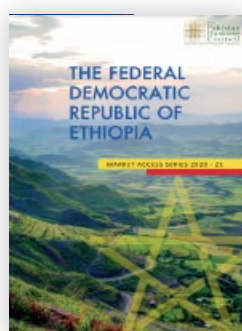
Checklist for Industrialization

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/checklist-for-industrialization/>



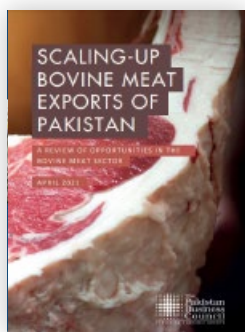
The Republic of Kazakhstan

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/market-access-series-2020-21-the-republic-of-kazakhstan/>



The Democratic Federal Republic of Ethiopia

<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/market-access-series-2020-21-the-federal-democratic-republic-of-ethiopia/>



Scaling-Up Bovine Meat Exports of Pakistan

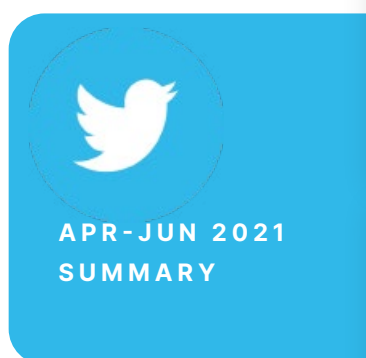
<https://www.pbc.org.pk/research/scaling-up-bovine-meat-exports-of-pakistan-a-review-of-opportunities-in-the-bovine-meat-sector/>

NEW PBC MEMBERS DURING THE QUARTER

During the Quarter, Airlink Communication Limited & DARAZ joined the PBC as its 86th & 87th members respectively.



TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS



49

TWEETS

1,030

NEW FOLLOWERS

13,240

PROFILE VISITS

107,700

TWEET IMPRESSIONS

29,200

TOP TWEET IMPRESSIONS

Activities of the Centre of Excellence in Responsible Business (CERB)



Awareness

CERB has launched a new website! Click [here](#) to access the publications, check past and upcoming events, browse through recorded webinars, and more.

CERB hosted a webinar on 'Creating Inclusive Livelihoods' on 21st April in collaboration with two PBC member companies. Soorty Enterprises Limited spoke on how women from their organization can be agents of change and are changing social norms through their 'Street Theatre' campaign. Nestle Pakistan addressed barriers to women employment and how the organization is creating livelihood opportunities for women in their value chain. British Asian Trust also shared the impact they have made on the lives of women through their Women Economic Empowerment Program.

CERB was invited to facilitate a webinar with WEF's Global Shapers Karachi Hub on 'Moving towards a Net Zero Economy' with Climate Experts Sobiah Becker and Saima Qadir on 27th May.



Identifying Good Practices

World Environment Day

To commemorate the World Environment Day, CERB and ACCA Pakistan collaborated to hold 'Conversations on Climate Action' with the top management in both manufacturing and services sectors on 7 June. There were a total 10 participants in the session involving the financial sector while 20 participants were involved in the second session, which was focused on the manufacturing sector. Participants included Soorty Enterprises Limited, Artistic Milliners, Forward Sports, K-Electric, International Industries Limited, and Bulleh Shah Packaging. The discussion follows on from the 'Call to Action' developed by in collaboration with ACCA and PICG in October 2020.

Impact of Covid-19

CERB has published a report 'Understanding the Impact of Covid-19 on Responsible Business Conduct through an ESG Lens' in May 2021. This report analyses the approaches by the business sector in Pakistan towards business sustainability and identifies where changes have been made to the 'business as usual approach'.

Pak-Investment Competitiveness project

In collaboration with IFC, CERB launched the Gender Disclosure Diagnostic Survey under the Pak-Investment Competitiveness project on 25th May. The project aims to bring together the government and the private sector to promote corporate disclosure of **gender diversity practices**. The diagnostic will promote the adoption of voluntary disclosure practices by companies, and foster regular reporting, supporting the increased participation of women in Pakistan's formal workforce. Responses to the survey were collected until 14th June. The data will be aggregated and leveraged to publish a report highlighting prevalent practices with respect to gender equality and women's employment in Pakistan.



Imparting Best Practices

SDG Training

CERB facilitated a full day workshop on 'Incorporating the SDGs in Business Model' at SICPA Inks, a PBC member company, on 25th June. The workshop focused on linking the company's business model with the SDGs.



In Progress

The SDG Leadership Programme, launched at the PBC's Pakistan Economic Forum V in Islamabad on Dec 13, 2018 has completed more than two years. The following PBC member companies have come forward as champions of the SDGs till date:



Dalda Foods and English Biscuits Manufacturers, SDG 3 'Good Health and Well-Being'



International Industries Limited, SDG 7 'Affordable and Clean Energy'



Engro Corporation, SDG 4 'Quality Education for all'



Indus Motor Company, SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth'



HBL, SDG 5 'Gender Equality'



Soorty Enterprises, SDG 9 'Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure'



Coca-Cola Pakistan, SDG 6 'Clean Water and Sanitation'



ICI Pakistan Limited, SDG 12 'Responsible Consumption and Production'



Packages Limited, SDG 13 'Climate Action'

Case Studies

3 case studies are in progress: 'Corporate Values' with English Biscuits Manufacturers, 'Achieving Prosperity and Sustainability through a Winning Culture' with Interloop Limited, and 'Make in Pakistan' with Dalda Foods Limited.

Upcoming Events:

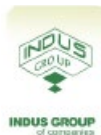
(tentative in view of the prevailing situation with respect to COVID-19)

- A two day workshop on 'Introduction to GHG Accounting'
- Training of Trainers on Anti-Harassment with HBL and Mehar Garh

ABOUT THE PBC

The PBC is a private sector business policy advocacy forum composed of Pakistan's largest businesses / groups including multinationals that have a significant investment in and a long-term commitment to the growth of Pakistan. Members turnover represents every ninth Rupee of Pakistan's GDP and together the members contribute 25% of tax revenues and 40% of exports. More information about the PBC, its members and its activities can be found on our website www.pbc.org.pk





THE PBC MEMBERS BY SECTOR

PBC currently has 87 members, whose businesses cover nearly all sectors of the formal economy. The sector wise representation (in alphabetical order) is detailed below:

Sector	Member Companies
Large-Scale Manufacturing	
Agro Industries	1
Cement	2
Chemicals / Fertilizer	10
Energy	2
Engineering	9
Fast Moving Consumer Goods	18
Packaging Material	2
Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare	6
Sports Gear	1
Textiles	10
Total Members in Large-Scale Manufacturing	61
Services	
E-Commerce	1
Financial service	12
Hospitality	1
Insurance	2
Logistics / Courier	2
Telecommunication	2
Utilities	1
Total Members in the Services Sector	21
Conglomerates	5

31 MNC'S FROM 13 COUNTRIES



USA



UK



UAE



Switzerland



Japan



31 MNC'S FROM 13 COUNTRIES



Netherlands



France



Bahrain



South Korea



Hong Kong



Germany



Sweden



Turkey



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