



# HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

## Global Engagement Division

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December 8, 2025

Subject: **10<sup>th</sup> Session of Pak-Russia Intergovernmental Commission (IGC)**

Reference is invited to the Ministry of Economic Affairs communique no. 12 (4) US-II/Russia 2025 dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 on subject matter cited above.

2. During the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pakistan-Russia Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) held on November 25-27, 2025, in Islamabad, the Governments of both countries reaffirmed their resolve to broaden cooperation and partnerships across multiple sectors, including higher education and scientific research. In pursuance of the decision points related to collaboration in the higher education domain, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are encouraged to explore potential avenues of partnership with their Russian counterparts and to share their respective proposals with this Commission. For ease of reference, a copy of the relevant protocol - specifically decision points 7.1 to 7.8 - is enclosed herewith.

3. Apropos to above, it is requested that the proposals, along with action plans, be shared at [szsial@hec.gov.pk](mailto:szsial@hec.gov.pk) & [raali@hec.gov.pk](mailto:raali@hec.gov.pk) by December 22, 2025, for onward sharing with Russian side through diplomatic channels.

Profound regards,

**(Muhammad Shahzeb Zafar)**

Assistant Director

### Director/In-Charge IC Offices

All Public & Private Sector Universities/HEIs/DAIs of Pakistan

### Copy for information:

- i. **ES to Executive Director**, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.
- ii. **Director General (GE)**, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.

## **PROTOCOL / MINUTES**

### **of the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pakistan–Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation**

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pakistan–Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) was held in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, Minister for Energy (Power Division) of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Co-Chair of the Pakistani Side of the Commission, and H.E. Sergei Tsivilev, Minister of Energy of the Russian Federation, Co-Chair of the Russian Side of the Commission.

The Meeting was attended by members and experts of the Commission from both Sides.

The Sides expressed satisfaction with the constructive nature of bilateral cooperation and reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the decisions of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commission.

The Sides welcomed the signing of the bilateral documents listed in Appendix I.

#### **I. Cooperation in the spheres of Trade and Economy**

1.1 The Sides agreed to hold the seventh meeting of the Pakistani-Russian Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment in May 2026 in Kazan, Russia.

1.2 The Sides agreed to finalize the Programme of Economic Cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Russian Federation for the period until 2030 by the end of the first quarter of 2026 and then to formally adopt it by the second quarter of 2026.

1.3 The Sides agreed that delegations from Primorski Krai and the Republic of Tatarstan of the Russian Federation and from Punjab and Sindh provinces of Pakistan will make reciprocal visits during 2026.

1.4 The Sides agreed to identify companies ready to participate in a pilot barter transaction before the end of the first quarter of 2026, after the Pakistani Side provides the Russian Side with clarification



6.4 The Pakistani Side agreed to provide by the second quarter of 2026 comments on the draft certificate for heat-treated beef and mutton exported from Pakistan to Russia for consideration by the Russian Side.

6.5 The Sides agreed to consider a possibility of establishing a Joint Working Group on Agriculture and conduct its first meeting by the end of the first half of 2026.

6.6 The Sides agreed to hold negotiations on enhancing cooperation and to begin joint research on hybrid seeds by the end of 2026.

6.7 The Pakistani Side agreed to assist Russian companies interested in supplies of mineral and organic fertilizers to establish direct business contacts and find potential partners in Pakistan. The Sides agreed to exchange the relevant lists of interested companies by the end of the first half of 2026.

## **VII. Cooperation in the field of Education, Science, Technologies and Youth Policy**

7.1 The Sides agreed to complete approval procedures, sign and implement the following agreements by the end of 2026:

- Intergovernmental Agreement on mutual recognition of academic degrees;
- Intergovernmental Agreement on science, technology and innovation cooperation;
- Intergovernmental Agreement on cooperation in the field of higher education;
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Federal Education and Vocational Training of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on cooperation in the field of general education, secondary vocational education and relevant additional professional education, professional training and other fields.

7.2 The Sides agreed to hold two sessions of Joint Working Group on Education by the end of 2026 to promote Russian language and culture in Pakistan and Urdu in Russia and to expand cooperation in Technical and Vocational Education and Training, creating educational centers,



improving science cooperation, expanding partnerships between universities and research institutes, improving higher education including strengthening of academic links, joint researches, online learning and digital educational technologies, promotion of Russian education opportunities for Pakistani students and exchanges of students, scientific leaders, university delegations and teachers.

7.3 The Sides agreed to encourage the conclusion of minimum five interuniversity agreements by the end of 2026.

7.4 The Sides agreed to exchange by the end of the first quarter of 2026 official letters with lists of educational conferences, seminars and exhibitions, which will be held in the territories of Pakistan and Russia during 2026.

7.5 The Pakistani Side agreed to send until the end of 2025 a list of schools for the organization of teaching Russian as a foreign language under the international humanitarian project "Russian Teacher Abroad", and also agreed to inform the Russian Side about the number of academic hours in schools, the number of Russian language teachers to be sent, and the living conditions for Russian teachers in Pakistan within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between National University of Modern Languages (NUML) and Center for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation.

7.6 The Russian Side made an intension to send through diplomatic channels invitations to the Pakistani Side to participate in the Professional Skills Championship "Professionals", High Technologies Championship, Abilimpix Championship by the end of the first quarter of 2026.

7.7 The Sides agreed to consider the possibility of establishing new centers for open education in Russian language and Russian language training in Islamabad and Karachi by the end of 2026. The Sides agreed to consider the possibility of renewal of the activities of the Center for Open Education, which was established in 2023 on the basis of Allama Iqbal Open University (Islamabad), in 2026, and to initiate by the end of 2026 a negotiation process involving representatives from both Sides.



7.8 The Sides agreed to organize by the end of 2026 mutual participation of Russian and Pakistani youth in joint youth projects and programs, including initiatives aimed at preserving and enhancing the heritage of the World Youth Festival.

#### **VIII. Cooperation in the fields of Energy and Water Resources**

8.1 The Pakistani Side agreed to review the technical restrictions for the Russian oil and gas equipment supply recognizing the INTI standards and conformity assessment and communicate the findings to the Russian Side by the end of the second quarter of 2026.

8.2 The Russian Side requested to organize before the end of the fourth quarter of 2025 online consultations between INTI, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and major oil and gas companies - Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGP), Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGC), Oil & Gas Development Company (OGDCL), Inter State Gas Systems (Private) Limited (ISGS) to discuss a prospective format for Russian-Pakistani cooperation in the field of harmonization and application of the INTI standards in Pakistan.

8.3 The Sides agreed to expedite Pakistan Petroleum Limited's review of Zarubezhneft JSC's preliminary proposal for participation in the Sui, Kandhkot, and Adhi oil and gas projects in Pakistan.

8.4 The Sides agreed that Zarubezhneft JSC will soon submit a preliminary proposal to Oil & Gas Development Company Limited for participation in the Chanda and Mela oil and gas projects.

8.5 The Sides agreed to continue discussions on organizing long-term LNG supplies from the project of "Gas processing complex within Ust-Luga ethane-rich gas processing cluster" to Pakistan, subject to the demand of LNG based on the National Integrated Energy Plan of Pakistan. The Sides support the continuation of direct negotiations between «RusChemAlliance LLC» (project operator) and Pakistani buyers, with the next meetings to be scheduled in 2026-2027.