



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Global Engagement Division

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No. AIC/10-1(79)/Turkey/2008/HEC/4310

October 13, 2025

Subject: **16th Session of Pak-Turkiye Joint Ministerial Commission**

Reference is invited to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' communique no. TUR-6/1/2025 dated 1st October 2025 on subject matter cited above.

2. During the 16th Session of the Pakistan-Türkiye Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) held on September 8–9, 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 Turkish 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 7.13 - is enclosed herewith.

3. Apropos to above, it is requested that the proposals, along with action plans, be shared at szsial@hec.gov.pk & raali@hec.gov.pk by October 30, 2025, for onward sharing with Turkish side.

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. **APS to Director General (GE)**, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.

**Agreed Minutes
of
16th Session of the
Joint Ministerial Commission
between
the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
and
the Republic of Türkiye**

6 Cooperation in the Field of Tourism

- 6.1 Recognizing the potential for growth in the tourism sector, Both Sides agreed to support B2B linkages and develop joint promotional strategies in tourism, through ways like business missions and forums.
- 6.2 Both Sides agreed to accelerate implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of the Republic of Türkiye on Cooperation in the Field of Development and Facilitation of Tourism.

7 Cooperation in the Field of Education and Higher Education

- 7.1 Both Sides agreed to promote academic cooperation by fostering institutional linkages between higher education institutions of the two countries, with a focus on collaborative academic initiatives, exchange of faculty and researchers, and joint capacity-building programs.
- 7.2 Both Sides encouraged the strengthening of cooperation in the field of vocational and technical education and to discuss about the possibility of establishment of sister school relations.
- 7.3 Both Sides reaffirmed their commitment to jointly finalize the implementation plan for establishing the Pakistan-Türkiye Textile Technology Centre at the National Textile University, Faisalabad, with the support of the Government of Türkiye under the framework of the already signed Memorandum of Understanding.
- 7.4 Both Sides agreed to ensure effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) of Pakistan and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), including exchange of technical expertise, training programs, and institutional support.
- 7.5 Both Sides emphasized the importance of signing the “Memorandum of Understanding between the Council of Higher Education of the Republic of Türkiye and the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the Establishment of Programs of Turkish Universities in Pakistan” as a concrete manifestation of scientific and academic cooperation between the two sides.
- 7.6 Both Sides will explore the possibility to promote students’ enrollments in each other’s higher educational institutions.
- 7.7 The Turkish Side emphasized the importance of informing the Council of Higher Education of the Republic of Türkiye about higher education fairs held in Pakistan.
- 7.8 The Turkish Side underlined the importance of increasing visits between countries with the aim of mutual cooperation in order to ensure better recognition of their universities and higher education systems.
- 7.9 Both Sides agreed to explore the possibilities to plan joint diploma programs and joint research projects in order to explore scientific and academic development opportunities and to promote academic mobility.

- 7.10 The Turkish Side stated that the “Türkiye-Pakistan Universities Forum,” which will bring together the rectors of Turkish and Pakistani universities, will contribute to cooperation between the universities of the two countries, particularly in the fields of artificial intelligence, information technology, and health education, as well as to the exchange of experiences.
- 7.11 Both Sides acknowledged the activities of the Turkish Maarif Foundation and reaffirmed their commitment for smooth implementation of MoU on merit and availability, and without prejudice to national priorities and to support the expansion of Turkish Maarif Foundation’s activities in line with mutual agreements.
- 7.12 Both Sides acknowledged and appreciated the activities of Pakistan Embassy International Study Group (PEISG) for more than 60 years, working under various bilateral agreements/ arrangements between the two countries, and to support and facilitate the working and expansion of PEISG, with the aim of enhancing bilateral educational cooperation in line with mutual agreements.
- 7.13 Both Sides expressed their readiness to discuss and finalize the MoU between the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities of the Republic of Türkiye, and the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

8 Cooperation in the Fields of Information and Communication Technologies and Postal Services

- 8.1 Both Sides expressed interest in strengthening cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and agreed to explore avenues for collaboration in areas such as digital transformation, e-governance, cybersecurity, software development, and capacity building.
- 8.2 Both Sides agreed to encourage institutional linkages between relevant public and private sector organizations to promote innovation, joint ventures, exchange of expertise, and development of digital skills through training programs and technical exchanges.
- 8.3 The Turkish Side expressed their intent to explore possibilities for extending technical support and sharing knowledge for development of IT Parks in Pakistan including R&D and support mechanism.
- 8.4 Both Sides also agreed to enhance collaboration in the field of postal services through capacity-building courses for postal officers of Pakistan’s Post with a view to improving efficiency and service delivery.
- 8.5 Both Sides agreed to establish and operationalize Türkiye-Pakistan IT Business Council by the end of 2025 as per the 7th HLSCC decisions.

9 Cooperation in Energy and Natural Resources

- 9.1 Both Sides have expressed their readiness to cooperate primarily in the fields of electricity policy & plans, regulatory collaboration, renewable energy (including