

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

TRADE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF PAKISTAN

SUBJECT: "EXPORTS OF AGRO AND FOOD PRODUCTS WILL CROSS US\$ 7 BILLION IN 2023-24 " Zubair Motiwalla, CE TDAP

During the first quarter of the financial year of 2023-2024, exports of Agro and Food products from Pakistan has been increased by 37.4% as compared to the same period during 2022-2023. Major increases were in export of Sesame seed (427%), Maize/corn (109%), Ethyl alcohol (559%), Meat (16%), Rice (14%), Fruits and Vegetables (11.8%), Fish and Fish products (3%).

2. Pakistan exported sesame seed worth US\$ 182.2 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 34 during July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 427.04%. The reasons for increase of sesame seed is the increased production in 2023 (2022 crop was destroyed by flood) and higher demand/rate from China and Japan. Similarly the exports of maize were US\$ 130 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 60.62 in July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 109.32%. Pakistan's maize exports have increased manifolds in value, as global prices of food commodities have increased due to the outbreak of Russian- Ukraine war. The major markets for are Vietnam, Malaysia, Korea and Oman.

3. Pakistan exported ethyl alcohol worth US\$ 126.81 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 19.23 during July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 559.1%. The reason for increase is the high global demand. In meat sector Pakistan exported worth US\$ 112.36 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 96.4 in July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 16.54%. The reasons for positive growth of meat sector is due to opening of new markets (Jordan, Egypt, Uzbekistan), and participation of many new companies for exporting meat to UAE, KSA & GGC Region. Additionally 3 more slaughter houses were approved for exporting/processing by Malaysia. Moreover, one Meat exporting company also got market access for exports of heat treated meat to China.

4. The exports of rice from were US\$ 407 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 357.4 in July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 14%. The reason for increase is due to India's rice export ban & increased production of rice in Pakistan. Pakistan exported fish and fish products worth US\$ 81.86 million during July-Sept, 2023-24 as compared to US\$ 79.5 in July-Sept, 2022-23 showing a positive growth of 3.04%. Similarly, crustaceans & molluscs show growth of 3.5%. The growth in export of seafood is due to increase in fisheries varieties for example cuttle fish etc. Moreover, Qatar has lifted ban on imports of seafood from Pakistan

4. Mr Zubair Motiwalla, Chief Executive TDAP has said that if this trends persists the exports of Agro and Food products from Pakistan will cross US\$7 billion in the year 2023-24.

