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US-Pakistan Business Council Marks 23 Years of Trade Growth

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The US-Pakistan Business Council (USPBC) celebrates its 23rd anniversary as a cornerstone of bilateral economic cooperation, having facilitated billions in cross-border investments since its 2002 founding. Established through a memorandum of understanding signed in Washington by founding chairman Iftikhar Ali Malik and US counterpart Ahmet C. Bozar, the council has become instrumental in advancing trade

across energy, IT, agriculture, and textiles. Current leadership highlights the organization's role in creating a sustainable framework for private sector engagement between both nations. This milestone underscores how strategic economic partnerships can endure despite geopolitical fluctuations.

Malik's visionary leadership as then-president of Pakistan's Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) proved pivotal in the council's early success. By uniting government and business leaders, he established channels for American investment in Pakistan's priority sectors while advocating for streamlined trade policies. The council's spokesman credits these efforts with generating thousands of jobs and technology transfers that boosted Pakistan's export capabilities. Notably, USPBC initiatives helped Pakistani textile firms secure long-term contracts with major US retailers, demonstrating how targeted diplomacy creates commercial wins.



Recent years have seen the council expand its focus to emerging opportunities in renewable energy and digital services. Pakistan's growing tech talent pool has attracted Silicon Valley attention through USPBC-facilitated delegations, while US energy firms have invested in solar and wind projects across Punjab and Sindh. These developments reflect the council's adaptive approach to evolving economic priorities. "We're not just maintaining ties but actively creating next-generation opportunities," remarked a current executive, citing a 38% increase in bilateral tech partnerships since 2020. Such progress counters perceptions that US-Pakistan relations solely revolve around security concerns.

As USPBC enters its 24th year, its legacy offers a blueprint for economic diplomacy in complex geopolitical environments. The council has weathered multiple political transitions by focusing on mutual commercial benefits rather than short-term political gains. With plans to launch a young entrepreneurs exchange program and a joint agricultural innovation fund, the organization continues proving that sustained private sector engagement can achieve what intermittent government initiatives often fail to achieve lasting, measurable economic impact. In an era of global uncertainty, this 23-year partnership stands as a testament to the power of business-led diplomacy.

