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PRESS RELEASE

KARACHI TAX BAR ASSOCIATION (KTBA) HOLDS PRODUCTIVE MEETING WITH HON'BLE CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL BOARD OF REVENUE (FBR)

Karachi, 15 October 2026 – The Karachi Tax Bar Association (KTBA) held a productive meeting with the Hon'ble Chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Mr. Rashid Mehmood Langrial, at the FBR office. Senior representatives of KTBA and FBR discussed key taxation, policy, and operational matters affecting taxpayers and tax practitioners across the country. KTBA President, Mr. Mehmood Bikiya, appreciated the FBR's initiative to engage regularly with KTBA.

Senior FBR officials participating in the meeting included Mr. Zubair Bilal, Member (Inland Revenue – Operations), and Mr. Zain ul Abideen Sahi, Chief Revenue Domain Officer (CRDO) at Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited (PRAL).

KTBA was represented by its President, Mr. Mehmood Bikiya; Vice President, Mr. Saud ul Hassan; General Secretary, Mr. Shams Mohiuddin; Joint Secretary, Mr. Abdul Wahab; and Librarian, Mr. M. Tarique. Other distinguished participants included Mr. Anwar Kashif Mumtaz, former President of the Pakistan Tax Bar Association, and Mr. Khalid Mahmood, former President of KTBA.

The discussions focused on taxpayer facilitation for both resident and non-resident taxpayers. In this context, KTBA identified the following key areas requiring appropriate guidelines and instructions from the Board to promote tax compliance and documentation:

Time-Bound Processing of Tax Refunds
KTBA highlighted the need for the timely issuance of income tax and sales tax refunds, noting that compliant taxpayers currently have limited visibility regarding the expected timing of refunds of excess taxes. The Chairman FBR directed the relevant officials to formulate a time-bound procedure for expediting the processing and issuance of income tax refunds.

Revision Applications in Respect of Tax Paid under Section 7E
KTBA informed the FBR that many taxpayers had filed applications to revise their returns to claim refunds of tax paid under section 7E, but those applications remained pending. It was emphasised that the instructions issued through the letter dated September 23, 2026, should be implemented in letter and spirit.

Facilitation for Foreign Investment
KTBA emphasised the need to facilitate and encourage foreign investment in Pakistan. To achieve this objective, procedural requirements should be streamlined, applied in accordance with the law, and made less burdensome where appropriate. Non-resident taxpayers should not be subjected to additional compliance obligations that are not expressly prescribed under the law.

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Issues in Sales Tax General Order No. 25/2026 Regarding the Movement of Goods

KTBA raised practical concerns regarding Sales Tax General Order No. 25/2026, under which registered persons are required to issue the prescribed Stock Transfer Note for the movement of goods between taxpayers' premises. The following situations were discussed in which neither a tax invoice nor a Stock Transfer Note can appropriately be issued:

- Transfer of Goods under Toll Manufacturing Arrangements
- Sales after dispatch of goods through Delivery Vans in FMCG Sectors
- Placement of Goods for Display

FBR officials acknowledged the concerns raised and indicated that the matters would be examined further through internal consultations.

Release of Seized Equipment and Records under the Sales Tax Laws

The Chairman FBR acknowledged the practical difficulties faced by businesses while their equipment and records remain in custody and emphasised the need to release such items at the earliest possible opportunity.

Coercive Recovery Measures for Advance Income Tax

KTBA emphasised the need to ensure due process and provide taxpayers with a reasonable opportunity and sufficient time to comply before initiating coercive recovery measures in respect of advance income tax. The FBR acknowledged the matter for consideration.

Deadline for Filing Returns

While appreciating the regular engagement of the FBR's technical and PRAL teams with KTBA, the Association highlighted delays in the issuance of notifications relating to returns, persistent challenges on the IRIS portal, and difficulties in uploading bulk data. To facilitate taxpayers and avoid unnecessary hardship, KTBA urged the FBR to provide an appropriate filing time that would enable taxpayers to complete and submit their returns accurately and in full compliance with the law.

KTBA expressed its appreciation to the Hon'ble Chairman and the FBR officials for their time, constructive engagement, and responsive approach. Both KTBA and FBR reaffirmed their commitment to sustained dialogue and closer coordination, with a shared objective of strengthening tax administration, improving taxpayer facilitation, and fostering voluntary compliance across Pakistan.

Issued by Karachi Tax Bar Association

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