## PRESS RELEASE

## **NOTICE TO TRADE**

Abdullah Farrukh Elected Chairman of All Pakistan Shipping Association (APSA) for 2024-2026

Karachi, 5th September 2024: Abdullah Farrukh from Pak Shaheen Group has been unanimously elected as the Chairman of the All Pakistan Shipping Association (APSA) for the term 2024-2026 during the Annual General Meeting held today. As a well-respected figure in the shipping industry, Mr. Farrukh is committed to addressing the key challenges facing Pakistan's shipping and ports sector, emphasizing the strategic significance of Pakistan as a gateway to Central Asia.

In his address, Mr. Farrukh underscored Pakistan's crucial role in regional trade, serving as a vital corridor for goods moving between South Asia and Central Asia. He highlighted Pakistan's strategic location as an essential access point for landlocked Central Asian countries, reinforcing its position as a critical hub in regional logistics and trade networks.

Mr. Farrukh discussed the need for modernization within the sector, pointing out that outdated infrastructure, port congestion, and regulatory inefficiencies are major hurdles that need addressing. He advocated for comprehensive reforms and stronger public-private partnerships to bolster Pakistan's role as a prominent transit point in the region.

Additionally, Mr. Farrukh highlighted the substantial investments APSA members have made in the shipping business, terminals, and off-dock terminals. These investments are not only enhancing the operational capacities and efficiency of Pakistan's maritime sector but are also pivotal in maintaining the economic stability and fostering future growth of the country.

Furthermore, it's noteworthy that members of APSA handle over 70% of Pakistan's sea trade, making their role indispensable in the national economy. This significant share underscores the vital contributions of APSA members in facilitating the majority of the country's exports and imports, thereby driving substantial economic activity.

APSA envisions transforming Pakistan into a vital gateway and a transshipment hub for the region, with enhanced sea, land, and rail connectivity. This strategic position is expected to leverage Pakistan's unique geographic advantage, boosting its role in

international trade and regional integration.

Alongside Mr. Farrukh's election, Mr. Salahuddin Kohro and Captain Abdul Shakoor were elected as Senior Vice Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively. The outgoing Chairman, Mr. Aasim A. Siddiqui, praised the new leadership and expressed confidence in their ability to advance the interests of the association and

its members.

For further inquiries:

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