THE UNIVERSITY OF AZAD JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Administration Block, Chellah Campus, Muzaffarabad-13100, AJK, Pakistan Website: <u>www.ajku.edu.pk</u>

No 1453/RgA/2024

dated: 11/04/24

Policy on Reducing Plastic Waste on Campus

Purpose:

This policy aims to reduce plastic waste on campus by minimizing the use of single-use plastics, promoting sustainable alternatives, and educating the campus community on the importance of waste reduction. This initiative aligns with the university's environmental sustainability goals and contributes to global efforts to reduce plastic pollution.

Scope:

This policy applies to all departments, dining facilities, vendors, and events on campus, as well as any university-affiliated activities that produce or use plastic products.

Policy Statement:

The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir is committed to minimizing its environmental impact by reducing plastic waste on campus. This includes decreasing reliance on single-use plastics, implementing recycling programs, and encouraging sustainable choices among students, faculty, and staff.

Objectives:

- 1. Eliminate Single-Use Plastics: The University will phase out single-use plastic items, including plastic cutlery, straws, cups, and bags, in favor of reusable or biodegradable alternatives.
- Promote Reusable and Biodegradable Options: The University will encourage the use
 of reusable products (such as water bottles, containers, and bags) and biodegradable
 materials to replace disposable plastics on campus.
- Recycling and Waste Management: The University will implement and maintain
 recycling stations across campus to collect and properly dispose of plastic waste. Clear
 signage will be provided to educate the campus community on proper recycling practices.
- 4. Awareness and Education Campaigns: The University will organize awareness programs to educate students, faculty, and staff about the environmental impact of plastic waste and how they can contribute to reducing it.
- Engagement with Vendors and Suppliers: The University will require vendors and suppliers operating on campus to minimize plastic packaging and provide sustainable options for food packaging, utensils, and other items.

Implementation and Monitoring: The Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), in collaboration with the Facilities Management

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Department, will oversee the policy's implementation. Specific actions include:

- Establishing guidelines for campus operations and events to reduce plastic use.
- Installing recycling bins in high-traffic areas and monitoring waste collection to ensure proper disposal.
- Partnering with local waste management organizations for effective recycling practices.

Registrar

University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir