

# CAREC Trade Policy: Implementation Progress and Updating the Action Plan

CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting  
Almaty, Kazakhstan  
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# Trade Policy: Implementation Progress

## ➤ Highlights from the 18th TPCC meeting:

- Continued implementation of the capacity-building and knowledge-sharing program
- Monitoring implementation of the TPSAP (TLI and IQI)
- WTO accession and training seminars
- Updating the TPSAP

## ➤ Key issues for consideration by the SOM:

- Reaffirming the guiding principles for the TPCC:
  - ✓ Trade liberalization through removal of both tariff and non-tariff barriers
  - ✓ WTO accession by all CAREC members
  - ✓ Bolstering the institutional environment for trade

# Trade Policy: Updating the Action Plan

- Key issues for consideration by the SOM (continued):
  - Updating the 2008 TPSAP:
    - ✓ Ensuring consistency with the strategic objectives of CAREC 2020
    - ✓ Taking account of progress achieved in the implementation of the existing action plan
    - ✓ Seeking further regional cooperation and integration
  - The updated TPSAP will also consider:
    - ✓ The changing nature and persistence of QRs
    - ✓ The Eurasian Customs Union and its impact on trade policy within CAREC member countries
    - ✓ The role of services in cross-border trade and the policy response (e.g. liberalization of trade in services)

# Finally: Reporting on the findings of a high level CCA conference (Bishkek)

- Organized by IMF/EBRD/Kyrgyz and Swiss authorities (May 19-20; Transition Journey and the Road Ahead)
- One key theme:
  - ✓ Regional cooperation and trade integration (including peer-to-peer interactions)
  - ✓ Renewed IFIs collaboration:
    - Knowledge transfer
    - Capacity building