

Update on Integrated Trade Facilitation in CAREC

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Trade Facilitation in CAREC

- Customs cooperation: where it all began
- investments by ADB and other development partners in Customs modernization, but...
- severe shortage of commensurate efforts to reform procedures, improve cooperation with other border management agencies, and respond to reasonable concerns raised by transport service providers



Making Progress, Moving Forward

What do we mean by commensurate efforts?

- Acceding to the Revised Kyoto Convention
- adopting key provisions of the World Trade
 Organization's Trade Facilitation negotiating
 text
- engaging other agencies and transport service providers in regular dialogue...

– it's not difficult to make progress and move forward.



Increasing vs Impeding Trade

CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring demonstrates clearly that Border Crossing Points are THE bottleneck, and that Customs clearance is one of the principal causes of delays in completing border formalities....and extorting unofficial payments



New Priorities

trade expansion and improving competitiveness = new strategic objectives for CAREC (CAREC 2020)

What needs to be done?

minimize the time taken to clear vehicles and goods for border crossing by:

- adopting best practice,
- modernizing procedures,
- •operating border crossing points 24/7, and
- •eliminating bribery and corruption

CFCFA need to develop a plan for engaging Customs and other border management agencies in regular dialogue to develop implementable solutions jointly



Amicable Conflict Resolution

National Joint Transport and Trade Facilitation Committees as a forum for airing and resolving grievances?



The Wuhan Plan

- Annex 2 provides a summary of envisaged Trade Facilitation activities designed to achieve the objectives of CAREC 2020
- Annex 3 presents an indicative menu of capacitybuilding measures that may be supported by CAREC Institute
- We will want your active involvement in the conduct of the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy Mid-Term Review
- You will be interested in trade logistics training and support for adopting FIATA standards



CFCFA Action Needed

Revenue generation (corporate sponsorship?)

- Banking arrangements (what does the Charter say?)
- ➢ Website administration (for information dissemination and revenue generation)

