

Session 2: Update on Trade Facilitation Deliverables

CONSULTATION MEETING WITH
CAREC NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN
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CAREC Advanced Transit System (CATS) Pilot Implementation

Pilot countries: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan; Presented the concept and progress at the WCO Global Transit Conference

- ▶ Focal Points appointed in all 3 pilot countries
- ▶ 3 working groups being organized comprised of customs officials and private sector
 - ▶ Legal and regulatory
 - ▶ Information technology
 - ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Nominees from private sector have been received
- ▶ Major output of working groups - Trilateral Agreement



CAREC Advanced Transit System (CATS) Pilot Implementation

► Timeline

- Blueprint for agreement to be submitted to governments by end Aug 2017 by consultancy team
- Working Groups to prepare Draft Trilateral Agreement before end of August 2017
- Workshop to discuss details of draft agreement and establish foundations for implementing Pilot Prototype - 25-26 September 2017, Almaty, KAZ
- **Final Trilateral Agreement by end 2017**
- **Implementation of pilot – Starts January 2018**



Information Common Exchange (ICE) Pilot Implementation

- ▶ Technical specification for the transit and pre-arrival message exchange being finalized.
- ▶ Message specification will be based on WCO DM XML Data Model v3.5; will be one of the first region-wide use of the WCO Data Model in the world.
- ▶ System will be demonstrated to working groups on 25-26 September in Almaty

Assessment of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Implementation

- ▶ TFA: for simplification of procedures for import, export and transit with a total of 3 sections, 23 articles, and 36 provisions
- ▶ Full implementation of TFA can reduce worldwide trade costs by between 12.5% and 17.5%
- ▶ Requirements upon entry into force
 - ▶ Categories A, B, and C designations notified to WTO
 - ▶ National Committee on Trade Facilitation
- ▶ Assessments:
 - ▶ most commonly notified measures in different categories;
 - ▶ Specific requirements by countries

Assessment of TFA Implementation: NCTFs

	NCTF	Status
Afghanistan		AFPRO defunct since 2009
People's Republic of China	Trade Facilitation Work Inter-ministerial Joint Conference Mechanism	Est. 2016; Vice-Premier (Chair); GACC head (1 of 4 Vice-Chairs)
Georgia	Current mechanisms: Working Group of GRS, Consultation Council, Investors Council, Advisory Council	Will establish NCTF in 2017
Kazakhstan	NCTF	Ministry of National Economy (Chair); Ministry of Finance (Customs' mother agency) is member
Kyrgyz Republic	Trade Facilitation Council	Government Resolution drafted; Ministry of Economy (Chair), Customs is member
Mongolia	NCTF	Est. 2017; Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Chair); Customs is member
Pakistan	NTTFC	Est. 1998; active since 2001; Board of Directors has 4 government agencies including Customs
Tajikistan	NCTF	Est. 2016; Ministry of Economic Devt and Trade (Chair); Customs (Dep Chair)
Non-WTO Members:		
Azerbaijan	AZERPRO	
Turkmenistan	none	
Uzbekistan	Working Group at agency level	

Technical Support for WTO TFA Implementation

- ▶ Common areas with most countries indicated designations
 - ▶ For immediate and effective implementation of Category A designations
 - ▶ To meet specific capacity building needs for Category B and C designations
- ▶ Selected additional areas with regional significance
 - ▶ Information transparency, result management, risk management, coordinate border management, single windows
- ▶ National Committee on Trade Facilitation

Through existing and new investment projects and TAs, in coordination with other development partners

New Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework

- ▶ New strategic framework , consistent with the new forthcoming CAREC Strategy 2030 and supports TFA implementation
 - ▶ **C**ontinue and deepen the existing areas of competence such as in customs and selected areas of integrated trade facilitation
 - ▶ **A**dopt and implement the latest global agenda on trade facilitation, i.e., WTO TFA
 - ▶ **R**each out to related existing and new sectoral, cross-sectoral and broader policy areas where trade facilitation plays key roles, such as transport, agriculture, SME development, cross-border finance, cross-border economic zone, regional and global value chain, and e-commerce, etc;
 - ▶ **E**valuate results objectively and continuously and strengthen implementation and adjust the program accordingly
 - ▶ **C**rush institutional silos for seamless exchange of information and effective coordination

Moving Forward

1. Implementation of the CATS and ICE pilots 1Q 2018
2. TFA implementation – collaboration with other donors to avoid overlaps
3. Investment and technical assistance projects
4. New strategic framework for trade facilitation
5. Establishment of CFCFA operational standards in consultation with CCC and other stakeholders with support from ADB and other donors