

Report of Senior Officials to the 6th Ministerial Conference

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3 November 2007

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Purpose of the Report

- To inform Ministers of progress since the 5th MC
- To seek your endorsements for key new initiatives (e.g. TTFS and CAREC Institute)
- To seek your endorsements of the work plans for 2008



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Urumqi Declaration: Key Decisions of 5th MC

- Comprehensive Action Plan: a strategic framework for coordinated action
- Broaden and deepen CAREC Program
- Endorsement of work programs/recommendations of sector committees



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Highlights of Progress Since 5th MC

- Development of sector strategies
- Increased infrastructure investments/technical assistance
- Capacity building
- Widening of CAREC partnerships



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Areas Requiring More Attention

- Mainstreaming regional cooperation
- Business participation
- Coordination with other development partners



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Sector Developments: Transport

- 7th meeting of TSCC, Manila, July
- Focus on sector strategy/six corridors/harmonizing regulations
- Review of infrastructure investments
- 2008 work plan focused on finalizing and implementing sector strategy

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Sector Developments: Trade Facilitation

- Trade Facilitation/CCC;
6th Meeting held in Manila
- Activities/achievements in 2007
- Summary: good cooperation,
international best practices,
bilateral agreements, capacity
building

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Sector Developments: Trade Policy

- 6th and 7th meetings of TPCC in Manila
- Recommendations re trade taxes, border trade and quantitative restrictions
- Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan
- Outreach activities
- Work program



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Sector Developments: Energy

- 6th meeting of ESCC held in Mongolia
- Outline of sector strategy
- Progress in energy cooperation
- Work program for 2008



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Second-Tier Activities

- Re human resource development
- Re research/outreach activities

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Participation and Coordination

- Step-by-step procedure re new countries and development partners
- Proposed CAREC Development Partners' Forum
- Istanbul meeting of regional organizations

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Endorsements Sought

- Adoption of Report of Senior Officials
 - including work plans and recommendations of sector coordination committees
- Adoption of the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy
- Approval of the CAREC Institute prospectus and work program
- Approval for organizing a Development Partners' Forum