

CAREC Trade Facilitation Progress Report: Brief Overview of June 2013 Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) and Status of Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy Midterm Review

CFCFA Annual Meeting
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
23 August 2013

Key Developments

Project

- Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS) Project in KGZ and TAJ approved in April 2013; MON in process

Knowledge Product

- Report on the Development of a Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Plan for the CAREC Countries published in May 2013

Institutional Support and Capacity Building

1. Customs cooperation

- 11th Customs Cooperation Committee Meeting, Chengdu, October 2012
- Workshop on WCO Revised Kyoto Convention, Astana, February 2013
- Customs Modernization & Risk Management Training for CAREC Countries, Shanghai Customs College, May 2013

2. Integrated trade facilitation

- SPS Measures Workshop, Bangkok, July 2012
- Working with the private sector: CFCFA-GMS FRET Meeting, Bangkok, December 2012
- CPMM Workshop: CAREC Experience and Future Prospects, Almaty, March 2013
- ITF "At the Border" and "Behind the Border": Reforms and Implementation, Georgia, April 2013

SOM Guidance

Priority projects

- Regional Upgrade of SPS Measures for Trade (RUST), Regional Improvement of Corridor Efficiency (RICE), RIBS 2
- RETAs
 - Aligning Customs Trade Facilitation Measures with Best Practices
 - Coordinated Border Management for Results
 - Facilitation of Regional Transit Trade
 - Promoting Cooperation in SPS Measures

Corridor monitoring

- Better coverage of rail, corridor alignments in PAK and TRK, logistics operations
- Time release studies
- Wider use of data

Cross-sector coordination and institutional strengthening

- Support for [RJC and] NJCs
- Regular government and private sector dialogue
- Regional SPS Working Group
- Single window regional information exchange and interoperability

CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy: Midterm Review

Anticipated Refinements

- Corridor Expansion and Realignment
- Harmonized with CAREC 2020
- Greater focus on
 - Multimodal Trade Logistics
 - Adoption of Risk Management tools, including Authorized Economic Operator programs
 - Regional railway development
 - Private sector engagement

Corridor monitoring-response

- New CPMM partners to cover TRK and railway movements
- Time release studies
- Wider use of data

Cross-sector coordination and institutional strengthening-response

- Support for [RJC and] NJCs
- Increased government and private sector dialogue

Next Steps

- Joint TSCC-CCC Meeting (Astana, 18-20 September)
- CAREC NFP Consultations (Bangkok, 27-28 September)
- Ministerial Conference (Astana, 24-25 October)