18th CAREC Energy Sector Coordinating Committee Meeting 4-5 September 2014, Beijing, People's Republic of China

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item	Action Taken
1. Session I.	Action Fundi
Key Points from the CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), 26-27 June 2014 – ADB reported that for the priority sector on energy, the SOM reviewed the progress made in the six elements of the Energy Work Plan 2013–2015 and endorsed the proposal for Energy Sector Coordinating Committee to commence formulation of the Energy Work Plan 2016–2020 and to discuss the initial steps at the next ESCC meeting.	The ESCC noted the presentation.
2. Session II. Updates on the ESCC Energy Work Plan 2013-2015	
Element 1: Developing the Central Asia – South Asia Energy Corridor	
World Bank reported on the progress of the different segments of the CASA 1000 project, i.e., construction of high-voltage transmission infrastructure; commercial agreements (finalization of the Master and Power Purchase Agreements); and community support program intended to benefit communities living along the corridor of transmission line.	The ESCC noted the updates presented on CASA 1000. World Bank to continue to provide updates on the project in subsequent ESCC meetings.
ADB presented on the addendum to the Afghanistan Master Plan which considered impact of CASA 1000 (approved on Feb 2014) on future development needs of Afghanistan. The addendum also considered the: (a) impact of delayed interconnection with Turkmenistan, (b) Tajikistan-Afghanistan rating corrected to 600MW, and (c) options for Afghanistan to synchronize with neighboring countries.	The ESCC noted presentation on results of the addendum to the AFG Master Plan.
Element 2: Resolving Regional Energy Dispatch and Trade Issues	
World Bank presented on the state of cross-border power trade in the region and proposed establishment of working groups on select topics and identification of country sector specialists for these working groups. The World Bank suggested that further details on regional energy trade be discussed at a CA power trade workshop on the margins on the CA Coordination Electricity Council in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in 2014.	The ESCC noted the presentation and endorsed the proposal on establishing working groups and identifying country sector specialists. Tajikistan to include a workshop in conjunction with the upcoming Coordination Electricity Council meeting to be held in Dushanbe in 2014.
For purposes of knowledge sharing, an overview of the interconnected systems in the Balkans region was presented, with focus on the lessons learned from the development of the regional power market in the Balkans region.	The ESCC appreciated the presentation.
<u>Element 3: Managing Energy-Water Linkages</u> – World Bank presented updates on Energy Vulnerability to Climate Change Study which seek to: (1) contribute better understanding of challenges and opportunities for effective regional coordination of climate change adaptation, (2) build on national-level work completed to identify adaptation priorities for CA countries, and (3) connect to and refine existing efforts at regional scale.	The ESCC appreciated the presentation of updates on the Energy Vulnerability to Climate Change study. CAREC member countries were requested to identify appropriate individuals at institutions which would be in the best position to review results of the study. The World Bank consultant will contact delegations of the 5 countries included in the scope of the study requesting a response in 3 weeks upon receipt of request.

Agenda Item Element 4: Mobilizing Funds for Building Energy Assets – ADB reported updates on the proposed CAREC Power Sector Financing Roadmap Study, including the envisioned TA approval by 2 nd week of September 2014 and engagement of consultants by year-end 2014. CAREC members were also informed of the required inputs from countries for TA implementation.	Action Taken The ESCC noted the updates presented on the proposed TA.	
Element 5: Implementation of Energy Sector Priority Projects – ADB presented on the updating activity of the priority projects list which as agreed in the ESCC meeting in Bishkek (April 2014) and endorsed by the SOM will not be presented at the SOM but continuously monitored and updated at the ESCC level. However, it was noted that aggregate figures derived from the list will be used to capture how CAREC's physical infrastructure expansion and rehabilitation operations contribute to energy security, energy efficiency, and the CAREC region's ability to enhance power trade as a result of completed projects (Development Effectiveness Review).	The Secretariat requested Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic and Pakistan to submit their inputs, if any, by end September 2014, and for countries to continuously update the Secretariat on projects which may be included in the working list of projects.	
Element 6: Capacity Building and Knowledge Management		
ADB reported on the implemented and planned activities under the CAREC Energy Sector Capacity Building and Knowledge Framework Program 2013-2015 and encouraged member countries to identify and inform of their training and capacity building needs which could be considered under the Program.	The ESCC noted the completed and upcoming activities. The suggestion of Coordinating Dispatch Center on possible capacity building activities on hybrid (e.g., hydro-solar generation) renewable energy projects which fits CA countries was duly noted and would be considered in planning for the Program's activities for 2015.	
USAID updated the meeting on the status of procurement for their Energy Links Project estimated to cost US\$20-25 million and run for five years ideally after the RESET project concludes by end September 2014. Activities under the project will continue to support CASA Secretariat, promote leadership on energy trade initiatives, provide technical workshops and trainings to government officials and energy companies and will also support ESCC capacity building activities.	The ESCC noted the updates presented on the project status. USAID to provide further updates on the Energy Links and RESET projects in the next ESCC meeting.	
3. Session III. Knowledge Sharing Session by the Energy Charter Secretariat		
The Energy Charter Secretariat (ECS) briefed the meeting on regional cooperation in the framework of the Energy Charter. It was noted that 8 out of 10 CAREC countries are members of the Charter, with the remaining 2 countries on observer status. An overview of the following ECS studies was also presented: (1) Electricity Transit Pricing Methodology, and (2) Power Sector Reform.	The ESCC noted the presentation. Links to reports of the two studies will be made available at the energy page of the CAREC website.	