



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

Reference Document
For the 20th Trade Policy Coordinating Committee
June 2014

Proposed Results Framework for Trade Policy Sector

**Trade Policy Coordinating Committee Meeting
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
25 June 2014
Manila, Philippines**

CAREC Bodies	CAREC Interventions	Sector Outputs	Sector Outcomes	Regional Impacts
TPCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for gap analysis and intended changes for WTO membership in place; WTO commitments implementation scheduled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations for WTO accession conducted WTO membership achieved; WTO commitments implemented 	Trade and business environment improved	Expanded trade and improved competitiveness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation plan for addressing remaining discrepancies between domestic taxes and imports that are not WTO compliant scheduled; Further tariff reduction schedule in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAT and excise taxes on domestic production and imports of goods in the same category uniformly applied; Average tariff reduced to 10% or less and maximum capped at 20% 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timeframe developed to abolish or tariffy the quantitative restraints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export quotas that are not WTO compliant abolished and import quotas and licenses that are not WTO-compliant abolished or tariffied 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action plan developed to adopt international standards on SPS measures and technical regulations on industrial goods; Work plan scheduled to promote mutual recognition of certification of accredited conformity bodies in trade partners; A comprehensive SPS strategy and action plan prepared to guide the gradual transition to WTO compliant system based on international standards Sustained review of new non-tariff measures and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency of technical regulations on industrial goods and SPS measures with WTO TBT and SPS agreements improved 		

	<p>of transition to international standards planned</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National studies conducted to assess key bottlenecks to expansion of trade in services • Schedules developed to apply the Services Trade Restrictiveness questionnaire in the four countries where it has not been implemented and every two years subsequently for all CAREC members; • Action plan developed to improve the quality of institutions, including addressing corruption, complexity in export procedures and labor market flexibility; • Key regulatory policy steps planned to liberalize telecommunications and other important sectors to encourage services exports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key bottlenecks identified by the national studies addressed (with the assistance of donors and IFIs); • Service Quality Restrictiveness Index questionnaire commissioned and scored for all CAREC countries; • Key regulatory changes from the national studies implemented on a voluntary basis; • Backbone services development and expansion of services exports streamlined into the national government's plan and technical assistance for implementation of the CAREC 2020 goals delivered 	<p>Cross-border service trade increased</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key regulatory reforms planned to encourage investment in backbone services such as telecommunications, transportation services, banking, insurance and professional services; • A technical team dedicated to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market access promoted and national treatment for foreign companies that would provide financial services, telecommunications, and transportation services applied; 	<p>Backbone service trade increased</p>	

	<p>carry out substantial analysis formulated to lead the dialogue into policy action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services regulations sustainably reviewed 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral Labor Agreement in place on a voluntary basis; Mutual recognition agreement of professional qualifications for some profession in place with at least one country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral Labor Agreement for some of the temporary movement of labor within CAREC used by interested parties 	<p>Temporary movement of labor within CAREC increased</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A training seminar on WTO accession and trade policy for development organized; A Knowledge Sharing Workshop on WTO membership issues and commitment implementation among CAREC member countries conducted; A seminar on expansion of trade in services organized Technical assistance for trade facilitation implemented Technical assistance for services development implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity and knowledge to address WTO accession and trade policy issues enhanced Capacity to further modernize SPS measures; to align custom procedures with the Revised Kyoto Convention, and to joint control the animal diseases in PRC and Mongolia strengthened Knowledge to streamline the services development goals into the national development plans acquired 	<p>*</p>	

CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, IFI = international financial institution, PRC = People's Republic of China, SPS = sanitary and phytosanitary, TBT = technical barriers to trade, VAT = value-added tax, WTO = World Trade Organization

* Outcome here is meant to support all the interventions listed above.