CAREC Trade Facilitation Action Plan: Implementation Progress and Key Issues

CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting
Bangkok, Thailand
17-18 June 2015

CAREC
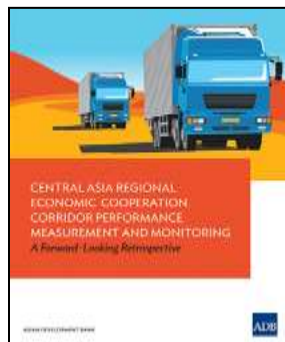Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

Customs Cooperation

14 regional and national workshops on customs cooperation, coordinated border management, regional transit, SPS; JCC and immigration studies

CPMM and CFCFA

CAREC CPMM till 2017

- A Forward-Looking Retrospective (released Nov 2014)

- Corridor segments in Pakistan included

- MOU with CFCFA member in Turkmenistan for signing

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Common Agenda (CA) for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)

- comprehensive national framework

Regional Investment Projects

1. RIBS

   - KGZ/TAJ implementation: SW component on-going in KGZ and TAJ; Start of construction: summer 2015 (TAJ), April 2016 (KGZ)

   - CPMM identified bottlenecks for next RIBS projects

2. RUST investments being identified/processed (e.g., Mongolia Upgrading of SPS Measures for Trade[MUST] Project)

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New Initiatives

1. 3rd Annual CAREC Trade Facilitation Learning Opportunity (2nd half 2015)
2. MON-PRC Coordinated Border Management - Immigration Agency Cooperation

Issues for Guidance

1. SPS Common Agenda:.

1. a. Consider possible initiation of a Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade Facilitation (CA-SPS) at the 14th Ministerial Conference
b. Report each country's feedback on the CA-SPS and determine the course of further actions at the special NFP meeting in August
c. Work with ADB and other development partners to formulate/implement investment and TA projects to modernize SPS measures.

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Issues for Guidance

2. Support sequel studies on movement of people for inclusion in TF agenda

3. Support for effective coordination mechanism between trade policy and facilitation groups

4. Encourage participation in planning for more RUST and RIBS projects