# CAREC Trade Policy Agenda What Next?

CAREC Meeting Islamabad, Pakistan October 25-26, 2016



# **Overview**

- > Taking stock: Where are we?
- CAREC member survey: Where to go?
- Post-2017 agenda: How to get there?



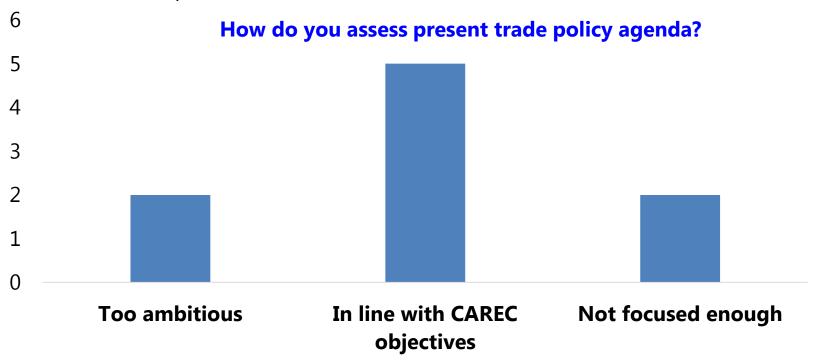
#### **Stocktaking: Where are We? Trade Policy Measures to Be Implemented by End-2015**

| Measures   | AFG            | AZE | CHN               | KAZ           | KGZ | MNG | PAK | TJK | TKM | UZB |
|--|----------------|-----|-------------------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| #1: Adopt legislation compliant with the SPS and TBT |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| agreements   |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #2: Prepare a SPS strategy and action plan to guide  |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| the gradual transition to WTO compliant systems      |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #3: Begin reviewing the existing and new regulations |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| by NJCs  |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #4: Start producing annual report of NJCs in 2015    |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| "4. Start producing annual report of NSCS in 2015    |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #5: Complete national studies to assess key          |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| bottlenecks to expansion of trade in services        |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #6: Confirm whether a bilateral agreement has been   |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| put in place for temporary labor movement            |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #7: Prepare annual report on regulatory              |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| improvements for trade in services                   |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| #8: Participate in the ADB' TA program for           |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| modernization of SPS measures                        |                |     |                   |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|  | Completed      |     |                   | Not completed |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|  | Not applicable |     | Not yet submitted |               |     |     |     |     |     |     |



# **Stocktaking: Where are We?** Member Country Views on Trade Policy Agenda\*

(Number of Responses)



\*Based on the responses from AFG, AZE, CHN, KGZ, MNG, TJK, UZB as of October 11, 2016.
\*\* Multiple responses possible (7 countries with 9 responses).



# **Stocktaking: Where are We?** Quality Of Trade Policy: International Rankings

#### **World Economic Forum Competitiveness Rankings:**

|     | Overall Ranking  |                      | Trade Fa         | cilitation <sup>1/</sup> | Trade Policy <sup>2/</sup> |                      |  |
|-----|------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
|     | Level<br>in 2016 | Change<br>since 2011 | Level<br>in 2016 | Change<br>since 2011     | Level<br>in 2016           | Change<br>since 2011 |  |
| AZE | 37               | 18                   | 85               | 20                       | 71                         | 57                   |  |
| CHN | 28               | -2                   | 55               | 1                        | 78                         | -15                  |  |
| KAZ | 53               | 19                   | 59               | 43                       | 67                         | 45                   |  |
| KGZ | 111              | 15                   | 93               | 41                       | 107                        | 23                   |  |
| MNG | 102              | -6                   | 98               | 24                       | 93                         | -1                   |  |
| ТЈК | 77               | 28                   | 64               | 35                       | 96                         | 26                   |  |
| PAK | 122              | -4                   | 113              | -15                      | 112                        | 3                    |  |
|     |                  |                      |                  |                          |                            |                      |  |
| GEO | 59               | 29                   | 12               | 15                       | 14                         | 23                   |  |

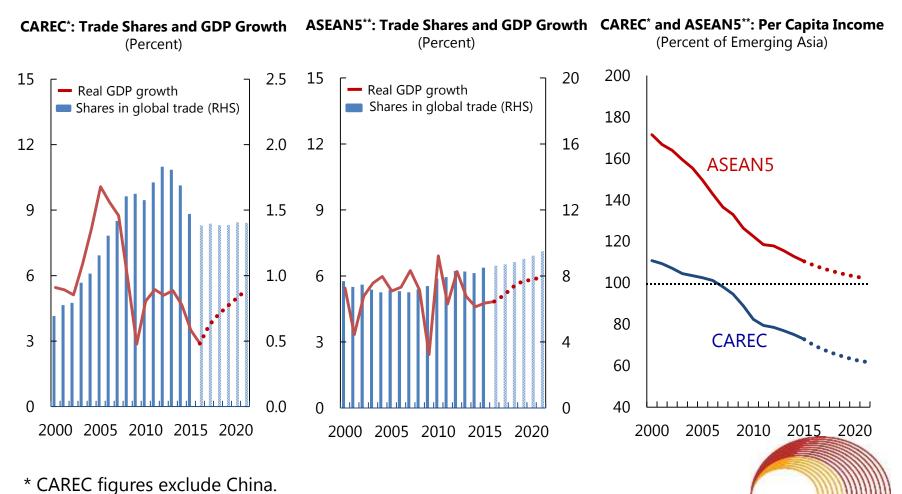
No rankings available for AFG, TKM, and UZB

1/ Refers to burden of customs procedures.

2/ Refers to prevalence of non-tariff trade barriers.



# Stocktaking: Where are We? Trade and Growth



\*\* ASEAN5 figures include Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. Source: IMF staff calculations.

# CAREC Member Survey: Where to Go? Post-2017 Trade Policy Priorities

- Survey listed eleven trade policy areas:
  - Tariff barriers: (1) tariff and duties; (2) charges and taxes
  - Non-tariff barriers: (3) SPS; (4) TBT; (5) pre-shipment; (6) licenses and quota; (7) anti-competitive practices
  - Structural barriers: (8) public procurement; (9) movement of labor; (10) business environment
  - Capacity building: (11) building trade policy capacity
- Countries were asked to pick five out of the eleven policy areas ordered by priority



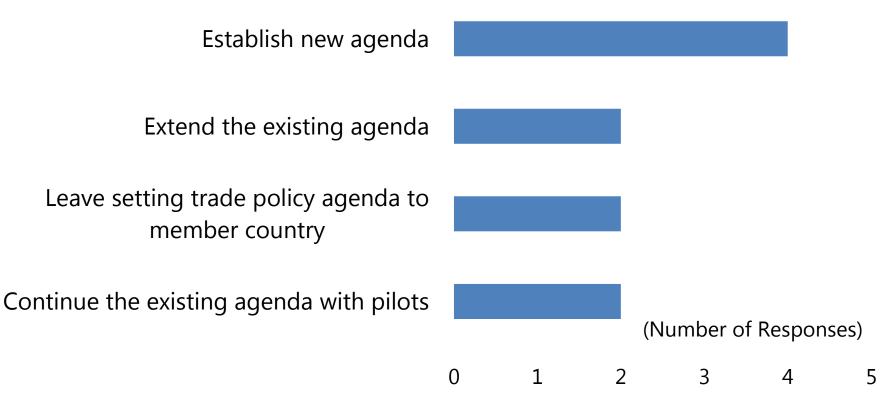
#### CAREC Member Survey: Where to Go? Survey Results on Trade Policy Priorities\*



\* Aggregate scores. Each country gave 5 points to its first priority, 4 points to its second priority, 3 points to the third, and so on.



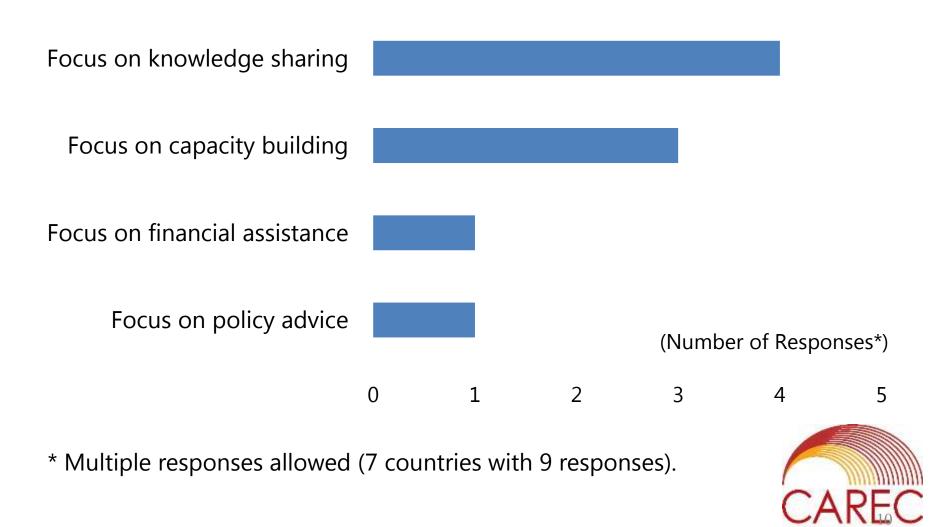
#### Post-2017 TPCC Agenda: How to Get There? Member Countries Views on How to Forge New Agenda\*



\* Multiple responses were possible (7 countries with 9 responses).



#### Post-2017 TPCC Agenda: How to Get There? Member Countries Views on Role of IFIs



### **Issues for SOM's Consideration**

- Where are we? Is SOM satisfied with the progress achieved in implementing the present trade policy agenda?
- Where to go? Does SOM see the survey results on policy priorities as a good starting point for the post-2017 agenda?
- How to get there? Does SOM have preferences on how to forge agreement on the post-2017 agenda?

