



**17th MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
ON CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**

AGENDA

15 November 2018

CAREC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

“CAREC 2030: Expanding Trade and Promoting Diversification”

0800–0845 Registration

**0900–1645 CAREC Ministerial Meeting
Venue: Conference Hall 1, Yyldyz Hotel**

Participants: CAREC Senior Officials from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the People’s Republic of China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan; and representatives from: Asian Development Bank (ADB), CAREC Federation of Carrier and Forwarder Associations, CAREC Institute, Eurasian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Union, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), US State Department, and the World Bank (WB).

Mr. Gochmyrat Myradov
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
Chair of the Ministerial Conference

To be assisted by the CAREC Secretariat:
Mr. Wencai Zhang
Vice President, ADB

0900–0930 Inaugural Session

0900–0920 Welcome Address on behalf of H.E The President of Turkmenistan
Mr. Gochmyrat Myradov
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
Chair of the Ministerial Conference

- 0920–0930 **Special Address**
Mr. Takehiko Nakao
President, ADB
- 0930–1015 *Signing Ceremony, Group Photo and Coffee Break*
- 1015–1300 Roundtable Discussion**
Topic: The New CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030 and CAREC 2030 Implementation
- 1015–1030 *ADB will set the context of the CITA 2030 by presenting the global and regional economic and trade outlook and its implications on the CAREC countries*
- 1030–1045 *CAREC Secretariat will present and request endorsement of the CITA 2030 and its 3-year rolling strategic action plan (RSAP) 2018–2020*
- 1045–1100 *CAREC Secretariat will present an update on CAREC 2030 implementation progress on the five operational clusters*
- 1100–1300 *CAREC Ministers will provide a brief statement (4 min. per country) with their insights and guidance on CAREC 2030 implementation and the endorsement of CITA 2030 and its embedded RSAP 2018–2020. Other participants may also provide their views and insights.*

1300–1430 Lunch
Venue: 4th Floor Restaurant, Yyldyz Hotel

- 1430–1615 Panel Discussion**
Topic: Export Diversification for Growth and Macroeconomic Stability
- Export diversification is associated with improved economic resilience, stabilized export revenues, and higher growth and investment rates. However, production of sophisticated products and related services that can compete in international markets are still limited in the CAREC region, which hampers countries' participation in global and regional value chains. This session will discuss directions and approaches for export diversification in CAREC countries and the role that CAREC can play in supporting this process.*

High-Level Panel Discussion

Moderator: Mr. Werner Liepach, Director General, Central and West Asia Department, ADB

Panelists:

- Mr. Batyr Bazarov, Minister of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan
- Mr. Wencai Zhang, Vice President, ADB
- Ms. Betsy Nelson, Vice President and Chief Risk Officer, EBRD
- Mr. Jamshid Khodjaev, Minister of Foreign Trade, Uzbekistan
- Mr. Nasir Ahmad Durrani, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Afghanistan

- Mr. Juha Kähkönen, Deputy Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department, IMF

The moderator will deliver short remarks to introduce the theme of the open forum. Panelists will provide their views and insights, followed by an interactive session with the audience and subsequent questions to the panelists.

1615–1630 **Consideration of the Joint Ministerial Statement**
CAREC Ministers will consider the draft Joint Ministerial Statement with a view to endorsing

1630–1645 **Closing Session**

Closing Remarks
Mr. Gochmyrat Myradov
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
Chair of the Ministerial Conference

1645-1845 **Visit to the Equestrian Centre** (*Transportation will be arranged by the Government of Turkmenistan*)

1900–2200 **Dinner Reception**
Hosted by the Government of Turkmenistan
Venue: 1st Floor Banquet Hall, Yyldyz Hotel