



Inaugural Meeting of the CAREC Regional Trade Group
 25-26 June 2018
 Pimarnman Room, 2nd floor, Anantara Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

AGENDA

Day 1 – Monday 25 June 2018	Co-Chairs: Turkmenistan ADB
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:20	Welcome and Opening Remarks Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamammedov, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan Mr. Hong Wei, Deputy Director General, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB
09:20–09:30	Introduction of the Agenda Mr. Ying Qian, Director, Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Cooperation Division (EAPF), ADB
09:30–10:00	Updates on the Formulation of CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 (CITA 2030) and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2018–2020 Moderator: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB Presenter: Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Regional Cooperation Specialist, EAPF, ADB <i>A series of stakeholder consultations for the development of CITA 2030 provided general affirmation that CITA is relevant, responsive comprehensive and aligned with national development priorities. This session will highlight the outcomes of the consultations, issues and suggested solutions.</i>
10:00–10:30	Group Photo and Coffee/ Tea Break
10:30–12:00	Open Forum on CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018–2020 Moderator: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB <i>Delegates will have the opportunity to seek clarification, suggest changes or additional information to be included in the CITA 2030 Working Paper, the RSAP 2018-2020 and the next steps. Invited international experts will be requested to provide short interventions and clarifications as required.</i>

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12:00–12:30	<p>CAREC Customs Cooperation Committee (CCC): Progress and Next Steps in Five Priority Areas</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Hong Wei, ADB</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Dovlet Bayryyev, Deputy Chairman of State Customs Service, Turkmenistan</p> <p><i>The presentation will give an overview of the CCC work including five priority areas, progress made and how to ensure that the CCC work program is consistent, included or reflected in the CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
12:30–14:30	<p>Lunch: Monthathip 3 (1st floor)</p>
14:30–15:00	<p>World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) – Implementation among CAREC countries</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Patrick Low, former Chief Economist, World Trade Organization and Asia Global Institute Fellow and Visiting Professor, The University of Hong Kong</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Loreli De Dios, Trade Facilitation Consultant, ADB</p> <p><i>The results of ADB’s assessment of status of compliance and early implementation by CAREC member countries on WTO’s TFA and areas to address identified challenges and capacity building needs will be presented. Activities supporting TFA implementation will be part of CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:00–15:30	<p>Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation in CAREC</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Clemens Boonekamp, Partner, IDEAS Centre and Former Director, Agriculture Division and Trade Policy Division, WTO</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Yuhua Zhang, Economics Affairs Officer, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p><i>The results of the United Nations Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation for nine CAREC member countries will be</i></p>

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	<p><i>presented. The session will consider how to further support CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020 including the promotion of digital trade, paperless transactions and single window initiatives in CAREC countries.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:30–15:45	Coffee Break
15:45–16:50	<p>Progress on CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures for Trade (CAST)</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Clemens Boonekamp</p> <p>Presenters: Mr. Robert Black, ADB Consultant (Lead SPS expert) Ms. Samjhana Shrestha, Senior Economist, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><i>An overview of the CAST, progress of its implementation, and outcomes of recent initiatives/projects will be presented including the regional workshop on SPS Measures on 29-30 May 2018 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Projects to support implementation of CAST are incorporated in CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020.</i></p> <p><i>The session includes a presentation on the proposed establishment of the CAREC Food Safety Network – identifying the benefits of regional networks from global experiences, providing some options on the functions of the proposed Network, introducing the planned food safety portal, and discussing next steps.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
16:50–17:00	<p>Synthesis of Day 1</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB</p>

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<p>Day 2 26 June 2018 Tuesday</p>	<p>Co-Chairs: Turkmenistan ADB</p>
<p>09:00–09:30</p>	<p>Export Diversification in CAREC</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Guoliang Wu, Unit Head, CAREC Secretariat, ADB</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Kevin Ross, Senior Economist, Middle East and Central Asia Department, International Monetary Fund</p> <p><i>The presentation will discuss the benefits of export diversification, options and approaches on diversification strategies including through innovation.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
<p>09:30–10:00</p>	<p>CAREC Federation of Carrier and Forwarder Associations (CFCFA): Role of private sector in trade sector development</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Yergali Dosmagambet, Deputy Director 2, CAREC Institute</p> <p>Presenters: Mr. Makhmadali Shokirov, Vice- Chairman, CAREC Federation of Carrier and Forwarder Associations</p> <p><i>CITA 2030 aims to enhance private sector participation in regional trade and global value chains. The presentation will give a brief background of the CFCFA and on-going projects including the CAREC Performance Measurement and Monitoring Project (CPMM) which are included in CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
<p>10:00–10:30</p>	<p>Continued Discussions on the CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018–2020 including Results Framework</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB</p> <p>Presenter: Dorothea Lazaro, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will discuss remaining issues, if any, from Day 1. Discussion may include technical barriers to trade (TBT), trade in services, border control and immigration reforms to facilitate movement of people, cross-border investments and other new areas included in the CITA 2030 and RSAP 2018-2020. There will be a brief introduction on CITA's results statements at the outcome and output levels to facilitate discussion.</i></p>

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	<i>Invited international experts will be requested to provide short interventions and clarifications as required.</i>
10:30–10:45	Coffee Break
10:45–11:45	<p>Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for Regional Trade Group (RTG)</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Patrick Low Presenter: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB</p> <p><i>The RTG as envisioned in CAREC 2030 will discuss and deliberate on the increasingly intertwined issues of trade policy and trade facilitation in a synergistic manner. An immediate task will be to finalize and recommend a trade strategic framework (CITA 2030) and ensure its phased implementation (RSAP 2018-2020). Customs cooperation functions related to trade facilitation will continue to be carried out by the standing CCC.</i></p> <p><i>Delegates will have the opportunity to seek clarifications, suggest changes or provide additional information in the draft TOR of the RTG.</i></p> <p>Q&A</p>
11:45–12:00	<p>Highlights of Trade Sector Report to CAREC Senior Officials Meeting</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will present the highlights of the Trade Sector Progress Report and Work Plan to SOM.</i></p>
12:00–12:30	<p>Issues for Resolution</p> <p>Co-Chairs: Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamuhammedov, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan</p> <p>Mr. Hong Wei, Deputy Director General, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><i>The Session will agree on the trade sector deliverables to 17th CAREC Ministerial Conference through SOM and NFPs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 (CITA 2030) and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2018-2020 • Establishment of the Regional Trade Group • Inter-subregional Forum on Enhanced Implementation of WTO TFA • CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) 2017 Annual Report



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementation of the CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade (CAST)
12:30–13:00	Wrap up and Closing Mr. Ying Qian, ADB
13:00–14:30	Lunch: Monthathip 3 (1st floor)