



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program and the CAREC Institute

**World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement:
Implementation Roadmap Workshop for CAREC Countries**
29 October 2018: Bangkok, Thailand

Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To share updated implementation by CAREC member countries of the provisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA); • To discuss identified capacity constraints and challenges for CAREC countries to effectively implement the WTO TFA, and areas of assistance required; • To share information and international best practice on developing national strategic roadmaps to implement the WTO TFA; and • To identify and share preliminary strategic roadmaps for WTO TFA implementation for CAREC countries.
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 participants from each CAREC member country nominated to attend the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Inter-subregional Forum on Enhanced Implementation of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement, to be held on 30-31 October 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand; to include one participant at senior technical level from (i) customs administrations; (ii) other trade-related agencies (e.g., ministries of economy, commerce, trade or sanitary-phytosanitary-related); and (iii) the private sector, preferably members of national committees for trade facilitation. • Resource person: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) • Asian Development Bank; CAREC Institute.
Date & Location	29 October 2018: Intercontinental Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Day 1 — 29 October	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:15	<p>Session 1: Opening Session – Welcome Remarks and Overview of the Workshop</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Ying Qian, Director, Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objectives of the Roadmaps for CAREC Countries Workshop</i> • <i>Link to the ADB Inter-subregional Forum on Enhanced Implementation of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement</i>
09:15-10:45 <i>(10 minutes each presentation)</i>	<p>Session 2: Country Reports on Implementation Status of TFA Provisions</p> <p><i>CAREC WTO member countries will briefly present the status of implementation of (i) Category A provisions, and (ii) all mandatory provisions, identifying in particular areas where assistance may be sought for implementation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghanistan • Georgia • Kazakhstan • Kyrgyz Republic • Mongolia • People's Republic of China • Pakistan • Tajikistan



	<p><i>Countries in accession or considering accession will share a brief update of accession status.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan • Turkmenistan • Uzbekistan <p>Moderator: Mr. Ying Qian, ADB</p>
10:45-11:00	Coffee/Tea Break and Photo Session
11:00-12:00	<p>Session 3: Preparing a National Roadmap for WTO TFA Implementation</p> <p><i>A national roadmap for WTO TFA implementation summarizes a national trade facilitation strategy to fulfill international commitments made to the WTO. It defines the overall strategic approach and main actions to be taken, and identifies lead agencies, timelines, monitoring mechanisms, and necessary institutional and capacity-building requirements. Session 3 will present the rationale and benefits of preparing a national roadmap for WTO TFA implementation and share international best practice.</i></p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Poul Hansen, Officer in Charge, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade Logistics Branch, UNCTAD</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Rosalind McKenzie, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p> <p>Q & A</p>
12:00-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:00	<p>Session 4: Group Work – Preparing Roadmaps for WTO TFA Implementation</p> <p><i>Participants will be grouped by country and prepare an indicative roadmap/action plan for the next 12-24 months, enumerating major activities with target dates to comply with Category A provisions, adjustments (if any) for Category B provisions, and assistance already secured or planned to be secured (including assistance from international organizations) for Category C.</i></p>
15:00 -15:30	Coffee/Tea Break
<p>15:30-16:30 (5 minutes each)</p>	<p>Sharing of Experiences</p> <p><i>Countries may share brief summaries of their indicative roadmaps, such as the anticipated actions needed, or challenges faced in developing a roadmap. They may also offer recommendations or suggestions on how developing their roadmap may provide assistance to other CAREC countries. CAREC countries that already have a WTO TFA implementation roadmap will share their experience.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Yergali Dosmagambet, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute</p>
16:30-17:00	<p>Closing Session</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Yergali Dosmagambet, CAREC Institute</p>