



**Inaugural Meeting of the CAREC Regional Working Group  
for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

24-25 June 2019

Ballroom I, Hyatt Regency Tashkent, Uzbekistan

*Agenda*

**Co-chairs:**

Mr. **Khurshid Rakhmanov**, Deputy Head, Department of Tariff and Non-Tariff Regulation Measures, Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade (MIFT), Uzbekistan

Mr. **Ying Qian**, Director, Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department (EARD), Asian Development Bank (ADB)

<b>Day 1: 24 June 2019</b>	
08:30–09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00–09:15	<p><b>Welcome Remarks by the Co-Chairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. <b>Ibrokhim Ergashev</b>, Chief, State Plant Quarantine Inspection (SPQI), Cabinet of Ministers, Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</li> </ul>
09:15–09:25	<p><b>Agenda of the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional Working Group (RWG) for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)</b></p> <p><i>The Meeting will consider and adopt the agenda of the meeting.</i></p> <p>Chair: Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</p>
09:25–10:10	<p><b>Session 1: Supporting SPS Modernization Efforts in CAREC and Beyond</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>The session will provide updates on global and regional initiatives supporting countries in aligning with international standards and specifically in implementing the CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Measures for Trade (CAST). This also includes progress of implementation of SPS-related priorities under the</i></p>

	<p><i>CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030 and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2018-2020.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. <b>Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), Agriculture and Commodities Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)</li> <li>• Ms. <b>Dorothea Lazaro</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, EARD, ADB</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
10:10–10:40	<b>Group photo and coffee break</b>
10:40–12:00	<p><b>Session 2: Plant Health Measures for Trade</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Giorgi Kobeshavidze</b>, Deputy Head, Department for International Relations, Revenue Service, Ministry of Finance, Georgia</p> <p><i>The objective of the session is to discuss and build pipeline projects on plant health for the CITA’s RSAP 2019-2021. The session will discuss the key outcomes of the CAREC Policy Dialogue on Regional Pest Surveillance Program (March 2019, Tbilisi) and some subregional and national initiatives on plant health. Proposals for regional pest surveillance and subregional programs (such as pest risk analysis trainings) among CAREC countries will be considered.</i></p> <p>Presenters/discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. <b>Robert Black</b>, SPS Lead Expert for TA 9500 (ADB Consultant)</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Andrei Orlinski</b>, Scientific Officer, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Sultan-Makhmud Sultanov</b>, Head, International Relations Department, SPQI, Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Ms. <b>Alfiya Musina</b>, Country Director, United States Agency for International Development Competitiveness, Trade, and Jobs in Central Asia (USAID-CTJ): <i>C5+1 Initiative</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
12:00–13:30	<b>Lunch</b>

13:30–14:15	<p><b>Session 3: Animal Health Measures for Trade</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Tolon Yrsaliev</b>, Head, Border Veterinary Control Department, State Inspectorate for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Safety, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>The objective of the session is to discuss and build pipeline projects on animal health for the CITA’s rolling strategic action plan 2019-2021. The session will discuss the key outcomes of the CAREC Policy Dialogue on Regional Program for Control and Prevention of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) (April 2019, Nursultan), some subregional initiatives and national reforms on animal health. A framework for regional cooperation on TADS among CAREC countries will be considered.</i></p> <p>Presenters/discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. <b>Mereke Taitubayev</b>, Head, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Subregional Office for Central Asia</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Khurshed Boboshoev</b>, Leading Specialist, Department of Veterinary Control and Prevention, Committee for Food Security under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
14:15–15:00	<p><b>Session 4: Food Safety Measures for Trade</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. <b>Rosalind McKenzie</b>, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, EARD, ADB</p> <p><i>The objective of the session is to discuss and build pipeline projects on food safety for the CITA’s rolling strategic action plan 2019-2021. The session will discuss the outcomes of the Workshop on CAREC Food Safety Network (May 2019, Tashkent), the proposal to establish CAREC Food Safety Network and potential to adopt a national plan to adopt simplified modern risk-based food safety management and inspection system.</i></p> <p>Presenters/discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. <b>Hojanazar Orazdurdyev</b>, Head, State Food Control and Certification Division, State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service, Ministry of Health and Medical Industry Turkmenistan</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Giap Minh Bui</b>, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</li> </ul>
15:00–15:15	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
15:15–16:00	<p><b>Session 5: Cross-cutting and Emerging Issues</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. <b>Dorothea Lazaro</b>, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will discuss cross-cutting issues and proposals including digitization of trade data, interagency coordination and information exchange,</i></p>

	<p><i>and information management system for risk profiling and assessment, and potential mutual recognition of SPS certificates.</i></p> <p>Presenters/discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. <b>Robert Black</b>, ADB Consultant</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Iskandar Abdullaev</b>, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Melvin Spreij</b>, WTO</li> <li>• Dr. <b>Mereke Taitubayev</b>, OIE Subregional Office for Central Asia</li> </ul>
16:00–17:00	<p><b>Session 6: Upgrading SPS Facilities to Facilitate Trade</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will share some experience and updates on upgrading border related facilities on SPS to support trade. Proposals for scoping studies for potential SPS investment projects for CITA's rolling strategic action plan 2019-2021 may be presented and/or requested during this session.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. <b>Giorgi Kobeshavidze</b>, Ministry of Finance, Georgia: <i>Upgrading of border inspection posts</i></li> <li>• Ms. <b>Omboosuren Erdenechimeg</b>, Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister, Mongolia: <i>Regional Upgrades of SPS Measures for Trade</i></li> <li>• Mr. <b>Jun Xu</b>, Director, Animal and Plant Quarantine Division, Urumqi Customs: <i>Facilitating trade of animal products through SPS biosafety channels between PRC and Kazakhstan</i></li> </ul>

<b>Day 2: 25 June 2019</b>	
09:00–10:15	<p><b>Session 7: Around the Table</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>The session will go around the table to deliberate on the ongoing and new SPS-related interventions for the CITA 2030 Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2019-2021. Each delegation may provide suggestions, comments, and proposals taking into consideration the outcomes of regional policy dialogues, national activities, and those specifically identified by the SPS NWGs and SPS regional working group.</i></p>
10:15–10:35	<p><b>Session 8: Institutional Issues and Implementation Approach</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will consider the terms of reference and structure of SPS regional working group, including developing and utilizing existing networks</i></p>

	<i>for animal health, plant health and food safety, and improving coordination with international organizations and other development partners involved with SPS issues.</i>
10:35–10:50	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:50–11:20	<p><b>Special Session:</b> Launch of ADB publication on <b><i>Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in CAREC: An Assessment and the Way Forward</i></b></p> <p>Remarks by Ms. <b>Maria Teresa Kho</b>, Deputy Director General, East Asia Department (EARD), Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Presentation: Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</p>
11:20–11:50	<p><b>Session 9: Key Outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the SPS RWG</b></p> <p>Co-Chairs:  Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan  Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</p> <p><i>The session will consider and endorse the following for reporting to the Regional Trade Group:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Adoption of the TOR of the SPS RWG</i></li> <li><i>2. Report on the key outcomes of the inaugural SPS regional working group meeting</i></li> <li><i>3. Establishment of SPS national working groups in all CAREC countries and progress of developing national SPS strategies and action plans</i></li> <li><i>4. SPS-related inputs to the CITA 2030 RSAP 2019-2021</i></li> <li><i>5. Knowledge product on CAREC SPS work</i></li> </ol>
11:50–12:00	<p><b>Closing Session by the Co-Chairs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. <b>Khurshid Rakhmanov</b>, MIFT, Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Mr. <b>Ying Qian</b>, ADB</li> </ul>