

FOURTH ALMATY–BISHKEK ECONOMIC CORRIDOR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN AND THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

27 November 2019, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Agenda

I. Introduction

The Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, Akimat of Almaty City and Bishkek City administration with the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), initiated work on the Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor (ABEC) in 2013. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between two cities during the 13th CAREC Ministerial Conference, held in Bishkek in October 2014.

The Kazakhstan-Kyrgyz Republic Intergovernmental Council, chaired by the prime ministers of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, established the ABEC Subcommittee in November 2016. The ABEC Subcommittee is responsible for all aspects related to the development and implementation of ABEC projects, as well as for the appointment of representatives to this Subcommittee. The first and third meeting of ABEC Subcommittee meetings were held on 25 September 2017 and on 22 February 2019 in Bishkek, whereas the second meeting was held in Almaty on 11 June 2018 with direct support and participation of ADB. During the third Subcommittee meeting, the following issues had been discussed: implementation of the second protocol, progress in the implementation of ongoing ABEC projects and initiatives, and next steps and use of ABEC technical assistance grants.

The Fourth meeting of ABEC Subcommittee will be held in Almaty on 26-27 November 2019 with support and participation of ADB.

II. Subcommittee Meeting Objectives

The fourth joint ABEC Subcommittee shall have the following three objectives:

- (i) Assessing the implementation status of the third ABEC Subcommittee protocol;
- (ii) Review current ABEC projects and initiatives in priority sectors of ABEC based on the meeting protocol of sector working groups; develop pipeline and priority projects in each area;
- (iii) Reach agreement on short- and medium-term steps towards further development of ABEC and formulating the fourth ABEC Subcommittee protocol.

Fourth Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor Subcommittee Meeting
26–27 November 2019, Rixos Almaty Hotel, Almaty, Kazakhstan

AGENDA

Day 1	Expert Meetings, Tuesday, 26 November 2019 Diamond Hall, Ground floor
09:30–10:00	Registration
10:00–11:00	<p>Session I: Expert Meeting on Health/ Regional Reference Laboratories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction and status update from KGZ, KAZ and ADB experts (<i>Ministries of Health/Education/Economy/Akimats</i>) 2. Review of the protocol of the 8th Kyrgyz-Kazakh Intergovernmental Council and the Third Subcommittee meeting regarding the development of regional potential in health sector 3. Review the draft action plan for the development of health reference laboratories for 2020-2023 4. Review of draft protocol for fourth Subcommittee Meeting <p style="text-align: center;">Discussion and revision of draft protocol</p>
11:00–11:20	Coffee break
11:20–12:30	<p>Session II: Expert Meeting on Transport Connectivity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction and status update from KGZ, KAZ and ADB experts (<i>Ministries of Transport/Industry/Economy/Tourism, Border Service</i>) 2. Review of the protocol of the Third Subcommittee meeting regarding the cross-border cooperation and transport sector, in particular the Almaty—Issyk-Kul alternative road economic impact assessment status, direct bus services, tourist pass visas, border crossing point modernization. 3. Review of draft protocol for fourth Subcommittee Meeting <p style="text-align: center;">Discussion and revision of draft protocol</p>
12:30–14:00	Lunch

<p>14:00–16:00</p>	<p>Session III: Expert Meeting on Tourism Sector</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction from KGZ, KAZ and ADB tourism experts <i>(Ministries of Tourism/Education/Infrastructure/Culture/Border Service/Akimats)</i> 2. Review of the protocol of the Third Subcommittee meeting 3. Review of sector working group protocols and protocol of the joint sector working group meeting on 20 August 2019 4. Discussion of the final draft ABEC Mountain spatial master planning and development of proposals for ADB on the implementation of joint investment projects in the region 5. Review of draft protocol for fourth Subcommittee Meeting <p>Discussion and revision of draft protocol</p>
<p>16:00–16:40</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>16:40–19:00</p>	<p>Finalization of a draft protocol of the 4th Subcommittee meeting for consideration by the Co-chairs</p>

Day 2	Fourth Subcommittee Meeting, Wednesday, 27 November 2019
08:30–09:15	Registration
09:15–10:20	Session I: Introduction and review of implementation of the third protocol
	<i>Moderator: Co-Chairman, Mr. Yeldos Ramazanov, Vice Minister of Culture and Sports, Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
09:15–09:30	Welcome speech <i>Co-Chairman: Mr. Yeldos Ramazanov, Vice Minister of Culture and Sports, Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
09:30–09:50	Welcome speech <i>Co-Chairman: Mr. Maksat Damir Uulu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic</i>
09:50–10:10	Launching the ABEC video and ABEC website Mr. Safdar Parvez, Director, CWRC, ADB
10:10–10:20	Review of the Implementation of the Third Protocol <i>Presenter: Mr. Kristian Rosbach, ABEC Team Leader, CWRC, ADB</i>
10:20–10:40	Photo Session and Coffee Break
10:40–12:30	Session II: Review of progress in the implementation of ongoing ABEC projects and initiatives
	<i>Moderator: Co-Chairman, Mr. Yeldos Ramazanov, Vice Minister of Culture and Sports, RoK</i>
10:40–11:00	Development of Regional Potential in Agriculture: Preparing the Modern Agriculture Wholesale Market Development Project <i>Presenters:</i> 1. Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration, KR 2. Department of Entrepreneurs and Investment, Akimat of Almaty City, RK 3. Presentation by Mr. Evgene Ryazanov, National Consultant Discussion and review of draft protocol, agriculture sector
11:00–11:20	Health Sector: Development of Regional potential in Health Sector: Regional Reference Laboratories <i>Presenters:</i> 1. Ministry of Healthcare, KR 2. Ministry of Healthcare, RK Discussion and review of draft protocol, health sector

11:20–12:45	<p>Tourism: Development of ABEC Mountain Tourism spatial Master Planning: Finalization of Master Plan</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Carlos Faria, ABEC Tourism Development Consultant 2. Tourism Department of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism, KR 3. Tourism Industry Committee, Ministry of Culture and Sport, RK 4. Tourism Department, Akimat of Almaty city, RK <p>Discussion and review of draft protocol, tourism section</p>
12:45–14:00	<p>Lunch hosted by ADB Brasserie Restaurant, 1st Floor, Rixos Almaty Hotel</p>
14:00–15:30	<p>Session III: Review of progress in the implementation of ongoing ABEC projects and initiatives</p>
	<p><i>Moderator: Co-Chairman, Mr. Yeldos Ramazanov, Vice Minister of Culture and Sports, RoK</i></p>
14:00–15:00	<p>Connectivity: Modernizing Border Crossing Points and Procedures, Direct Bus Service between Almaty and Bishkek</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Border Control Department, State Border Services, KR 2. Ministry of Transport and Roads, KR 3. Border Control Division, Border Service of the National Security Committee, RoK 4. Roads Committee, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructure Development, RoK <p>Presentation of Progress on the Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road Economic Impact Study Mr. Mark Sieber, ABEC International Transport consultant</p> <p>Discussion and review of draft protocol, connectivity sector</p>
15:30–15:45	<p>Coffee Break</p>
15:45–17:00	<p>Session IV: Finalization and Signing of Fourth ABEC Subcommittee Protocol</p>
	<p><i>Moderators:</i> <i>Mr. Maksat Damir Uulu, Deputy Minister, MCIT, KR</i> <i>Mr. Safdar Parvez, Director, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</i></p>
15:45–16:30	<p>Review and discussion of the Subcommittee Protocol</p> <p><i>Comments by the participants</i></p>

16:30–17:00	Closing remarks: <i>Co-chairman:</i> Mr. Yeldos Ramazanov, Vice Minister, Ministry of Culture and Sports, Kazakhstan <i>Co-chairman:</i> Mr. Maksat Damir Uulu, Deputy Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism, the Kyrgyz Republic
17:00	Signing of the Subcommittee Protocol
18:30–20:00	Dinner hosted by ADB, Lotus Hall, 2nd floor