

Enhancing Cooperation in Digital Trade

21-30 SEPTEMBER 2021



4th Meeting of the CAREC Regional Trade Group (RTG)

30 September 2021, Thursday
1400-1700H (Manila time)

Objectives

The 4th Regional Trade Group (RTG) Meeting will: (i) review the progress of implementation of CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA 2030) and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2021-2023; (ii) discuss the outcomes of the webinars and conference at the sidelines of the RTG and Customs Cooperation Committee (CCC) meetings; and (iii) agree on trade sector deliverables for reporting to the 20th Ministerial Conference through the National Focal Points' Meeting.

Participation (by invitation only)

Focal points to the Regional Trade Group (RTG) and Customs Cooperation Committee (CCC), other relevant officials, experts, and development partners.

Chair: Azerbaijan

Co-Chair: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

1330 – 1400	Logging in the zoom meeting Group Photo
1400 – 1415	Opening Session Gulchin Alasgarova , Deputy Head, Trade Policy and World Trade Organization Department, Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan Emma Fan , Director, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division (EAPF), East Asia Department, ADB <i>The Country Chair will introduce the agenda and add new agenda item, if any, to the meeting.</i>
1415 – 1435	Session 1: CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030 and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2021–2023 <i>The session will provide update on progress of RSAP activities, CAREC trade knowledge products, Trade Information Portal, and Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring Web Portal.</i> <i>ADB will also report on the highlights of the webinars held during the CAREC Trade Week and request for proposals to accelerate digital trade.</i> Presenter: Dorothea Lazaro , Regional Cooperation Specialist, EAPF, East Asia Department, ADB

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1435 – 1445	<p>Session 2.a: Capacity Building on Free Trade Agreement</p> <p><i>ADB will report the highlights of the TA activities including the virtual Inception Workshop on CAREC FTA held on 19 May 2021 and Virtual Country Consultation Meeting on CAREC FTA on 7 September 2021 and planned activities.</i></p> <p>Presenter: Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, EAPF, East Asia Department, ADB</p>
1445 – 1455	<p>Session 2.b: Study on Technical Regulations and Standards</p> <p><i>ADB will present preliminary analysis from the study</i></p> <p>Presenter: Gloria Pasadilla (ADB consultant)</p>
1455 – 1510	<p>Questions on Sessions 1 and 2</p> <p>The <i>Country Chair</i> will invite questions or feedback from CAREC delegates on the 3 presentations.</p>
1510 – 1620	<p>Session 3: Around the Table</p> <p><i>Each CAREC country will be requested to delegate a speaker to make a brief 5-minute intervention or reaction on the presentations, the outcomes of the sideline activities and reports on e-commerce, as well as suggestions for the CITA RSAP 2021-2023.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Gulchin Alasgarova, Deputy Head, Trade Policy and World Trade Organization Department, Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan</p>
1620 – 1650	<p>Session 4: Development Partners Intervention</p> <p>Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</p> <p>Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director 2, CAREC Institute</p> <p>Geoff Wright, Director, Asia Economic Region, DAI</p> <p>Carmen Maria Ramirez Ortiz, Consultant, Trade and Supply Chain Finance, ADB</p>
1650 – 1700	<p>Wrap up and Closing Session</p> <p>Gulchin Alasgarova, Deputy Head, Trade Policy and World Trade Organization Department, Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan</p> <p>ADB</p>