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Update/Progress Report

CAREC Business Development Forum (BDF)

**Senior Officials' Meeting
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation**

August 28-29, Urumqi, PRC



Context

Build on the Bishkek Action Plan

Regional Business
Roundtable 2005

Bishkek Action Plan

4th Ministerial
Conference

CAREC BDF 2006

Strategic Action Plan

5th Ministerial Conference

Broader business sector
involvement in CAREC initiatives

Objectives of the CAREC BDF

- (i) To enhance business involvement in regional projects and cooperation programs and identify possible joint initiatives in the priority sectors of development
- (ii) To facilitate regional trade and investment and enhance business environments
- (iii) To stimulate public-private partnerships towards meeting Central Asia's infrastructure needs
- (iv) To build private sector networks and provide business a voice in the development of the region

Role of CAREC BDF

- Public-private intermediary
- Hub for networking in the business community
- Information gateway for opportunities, projects and common challenges
- Provide “Economies of scale” in investment and business-related efforts
- Provide linkages to major international organizations supporting CAREC

CAREC BDF

- Dates/Venue October 16-17, 2006
 Yin Du Hotel
 Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous
 Region, People's Republic of China
- Organizers:
 - The Government of the People's Republic of China
 - The Asian Development Bank
 - The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

CAREC BDF

- 250 Participants:
 - Senior businesspersons and policymakers from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan;
 - Major banks active in the CAREC region;
 - Business participants from outside the region; and
 - Representatives from multilateral institutions.

Basic Coverage

- Five priority sectors:
 1. Energy
 2. Mining
 3. Agribusiness
 4. Finance Sector
 5. Tourism and Related Services
- Special sessions on:
 1. Trade and Investments
 2. Public-Private Partnership in Addressing Infrastructure Needs

Meeting Structure

DAY 1: OCTOBER 16, 2006

08:30-09:00 Registration

09:00-09:45 Opening Session

10:00-11:00 Panel Discussion 1: Enhancing Trade and Investment in Central Asia and the Business Sector's Involvement in Regional Projects

11:00-12:00 Panel Discussion 2: Infrastructure, Financing, and Public-Private Partnerships: Moving Central Asia Forward

13:45-16:45 Discussion Groups on the Five Industry Sectors

17:00-18:00 Plenary Presentation of Key Findings from the Discussion Groups

DAY 2: OCTOBER 17, 2006

09:00-11:00 Networking and Discussions on Specific Projects/Initiatives

11:00-12:00 CAREC BDF Conclusions



Preparations Update

1. Participants:

- More than 350 invitees
- invitations will be sent out via email, website announcement, direct mail, fax

2. Speakers:

- participation funded by ADB
- Plenary sessions, 5 discussion groups (panelists)

Preparations Update

3. Venue:

- Yin Du Hotel, Urumqi, Xinjiang, PRC

4. Promotions done through:

- CAREC BDF website (hosted at ADB website)
- Online registration facility
- Media relations activities
- Networking and Communications by Organizers

CAREC BDF Preparation Update

5. Materials: Five sector “Background Briefs”

- to support the activities of the sector Discussion Groups
- includes compilations and analysis of available information that are of value to business
- includes an explicit identification of the key issues and questions for each of the sectors to guide the deliberations of the Discussion Groups

Contact Details

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Thank You