# CAREC Trade Policy: Progress Report and Issues for Consideration

CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting Islamabad, Pakistan 19-20 July 2016



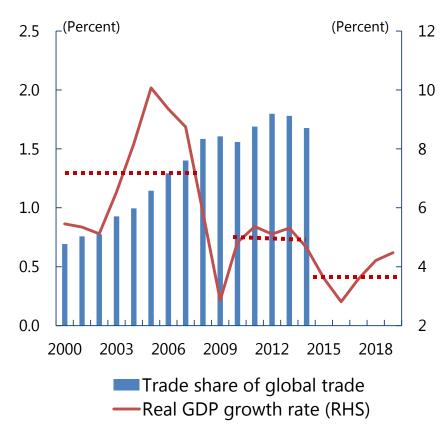
### **Highlights from the 23rd TPCC Meeting**

- > Stocktaking: Where are we?
- Knowledge sharing: What's new?
- Looking ahead: What's next?



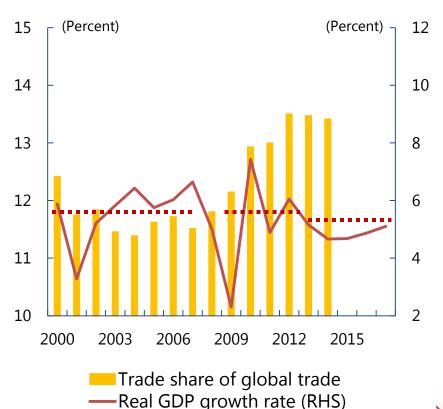
# Stocktaking: Where are We? Growth and Trade: Need to Reboot CAREC?

#### **CAREC**(minus China): Growth and Trade



Source: IMF staff calculations

#### **ASEAN: Growth and Trade**





## Stocktaking: Where are We? Trade Measures to Be Implemented by end-2014

Measures	AFG	AZE	CHN	KAZ	KGZ	MNG	PAK	TJK	TKM	UZB
#1: Eliminate any remaining discrepancies between taxes applied to domestic production and imports										
#2: Eliminate, or incorporate into tariffs, all miscellaneous taxes and fees applied to imports										
#3: Reduce the average tariff to 10 percent or less										
#4: Implement tariff cuts to achieve the 20 percent cap										
#5: Eliminate or tariffy import quantitative restrictions and licenses										
#6: Formally acknowledge the importance of WTO SPS and TBT agreements										
#7: Form a NJC permanent secretariat										
#8: Conduct a knowledge sharing workshop on WTO accession related issues										
#9: Participate in ADB's training and TA related to the Revised Kyoto Convention										

Completed

Not completed

Not yet submitted

### Stocktaking: Where are We? Trade Measures to Be Implemented by end-2015

Measures	AFG	AZE	CHN	KAZ	KGZ	MNG	PAK	TJK	TKM	UZB
#1: Adopt legislation compliant with the SPS and TBT agreements										
#2: Prepare a SPS strategy and action plan to guide the gradual transition to WTO compliant systems										
#3: Begin reviewing the existing and new regulations by NJCs										
#4: Start producing annual report of NJCs in 2015										
#5: Complete national studies to assess key bottlenecks to expansion of trade in services										
#6: Confirm whether a bilateral agreement has been put in place for temporary labor movement										
#7: Prepare annual report on regulatory improvements for trade in services										
#8: Participate in the ADB' TA program for modernization of SPS measures										

Completed

Not applicable

Not completed

Not yet submitted

### **Knowledge Sharing: What's New?**

- Presentations on WTO accession and post-accession adaptation (AFG, KAZ, TJK)
- Presentation on special economic zones and industrial parks (ADB)
- Presentation on cross-border e-commerce (WTO)



### Looking Ahead: What's Next? Issues for SOM's Consideration

- Clear backlog of past due trade measures
  - ✓ TPCC meeting has identified bottlenecks and challenges
- Implement trade measures from updated TPSAP for 2016
  - ✓ In addition, launch of regional food safety initiative (ADB)
- Post-2017 action agenda still to be pinned down
  - ✓ Consultation underway

