



High-level Dialogue: Strengthening Cooperation in SPS Measures in the Post-COVID era

19 April 2021

AGENDA

Objectives: The dialogue will set the scene to discuss emerging issues in agricultural trade arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and deliberate on how global and regional cooperation initiatives could help countries respond better with the objective of (i) enhancing market access and facilitating safe trade, (ii) developing agriculture value chains, and (iii) improving sustainability and resilience to transboundary pests and diseases.

Co-chairs:

Azerbaijan
World Trade Organization (Standards and Trade Development Facility)
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Participants:

Members of CAREC SPS Regional Working Group and CAREC Regional Trade Group
Development partners working on SPS in the CAREC region

13:30 – 14:00 (Manila time)	Zoom log-in time (and group photo)
14:00 – 14:15	Opening Remarks M. Teresa Kho , Deputy Director General, East Asia Department, ADB Elkhan Mikayilov , Head of Administration, Food Safety Agency of Azerbaijan
14:15 – 14:30	Introduction to the CAREC SPS Week and SPS Work Plan for CITA 2030 Rolling Strategic Action Plan 2021-2023 (<i>Presentation on CAREC SPS video</i>) Dorothea Lazaro , Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB
14:30 – 14:50	Session 1: Emerging Global Issues in SPS and Trade Melvin Spreij , Head of Standards and Trade Development Facility, World Trade Organization
14:50 – 15:30	Session 2: Challenges and Lessons from COVID-19 from CAREC Members (Country Statements) Samson Uridia , Head of Department for International Relations, Revenue Service, Ministry of Finance of Georgia

	<p>Bakyt Shabdanov, Head of the Technical Regulation Department, Ministry of Economy and Finance of Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p>Muhammad Sohail Shahzad, Director, Technical Quarantine, Department of Plant Protection, Ministry of National Food Security and Research of Pakistan</p> <p>Avaz Makhmudov, Deputy Head of Department to Improve Customs-Tariff Regulation, Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade</p> <p>Moderator: Elkhan Mikayilov, Head of Administration, Food Safety Agency of Azerbaijan</p>
15:30 – 15:50	<p>Session 3: Development Partners' Interventions and Reactions</p> <p>Sabit Narbayev, C5+ 1 Lead, US Agency for International Development Competitiveness, Trade and Jobs activity in Central Asia</p> <p>Mereke Taitubayev, Head of Sub Regional Office for Central Asia, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)</p> <p>William Kent, Attorney Advisor, International Commercial Law Development Program, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce</p> <p>Ghulam Samad, Senior Research Specialist, CAREC Institute</p> <p>Moderator: ADB</p>
15:50 – 16:00	<p>Closing</p> <p>Melvin Spreij, Head of Standards and Trade Development Facility, World Trade Organization</p> <p>Elkhan Mikayilov, Head of Administration, Food Safety Agency of Azerbaijan</p>