

*Statement by the Director,  
International Cooperation Department of the MTC  
of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Bibasov M. M.  
at the UNESCAP-ADB meeting on CAREC National Joint  
Transport and Trade Facilitation Committees  
January 28, 2011, Bangkok, Thailand*

**Dear ladies and gentlemen!**

First of all I would like to welcome the participants of the meeting, as well as to express my appreciation to the ADB and UNESCAP staff for the opportunity to make a statement on the progress in operations of the National Joint Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Commission on Transit Development was established by Resolution № 583 of the Government of the Republic Kazakhstan as of June 13, 2008, which in fact acts as the National Joint Committee.

The Commission consists of representatives from all government agencies responsible for transport and border crossing issues (*the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance – Customs, the Ministry of Health, the National Security Committee*), as well as private sector groups (*JSC "NC "Samruk-Kazyna", CPA Transport and Communications Research Institute, the Association of National Forwarders of the RK, the Union of International Road Carriers of the RK, OJSC "Kazakhstan Temir Joly" (Kazakhstan Railways) and others*).

Key objectives of this Commission:

1. Preparing proposals for further development and efficient utilization of the transit and transport capacity of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
2. Preparing proposals on coordination of operations of government agencies, businesses and non-governmental organizations for development of international transport corridors and removal of barriers in international transit processes;
3. Preparing proposals for improvement of transit-related legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan aimed at removing barriers faced at border crossings (tariff policy, taxation, insurance, licensing, certification, standardization);
4. Preparing proposals on accession to multilateral agreements regulating transit transport instead of the current bilateral intergovernmental agreements;
5. Preparing proposals for further development of multimodal transport and transport and logistics services.

In general, the work of the Commission is implemented at two levels:

Level 1 – a top-level Working Group (chaired by a Vice Prime Minister of the RK) consisting of: the MTC, MINT, MEDT, MJ, MI, MH, MA, CCC under the MF, Frontier Service of the NSC, JSC NC "Samruk-Kazyna", CPA T&CRI, the Association of National Forwarders of Kazakhstan and other.

Level 2 – a functional group headed by the Director of the International Cooperation Department of the MTC. It consists of structural subdivisions of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the RK: the Road Committee, the Customs Control Committee, the Transport and Communications Committee, the Department of Strategic Planning and

Development of the Transport and Communications Complex, the International Cooperation Department, etc.

Thus, this agency will supervise the corridor performance measurement and monitoring work. Associations of forwarders and logistic services will be engaged to collect data necessary for sub-corridor "time-cost-distance" studies to be conducted on a quarterly basis. Using the collected data the Commission will conduct the analysis applying this methodology, as well as review the findings, assess the scope of barriers and take corrective actions to remove them. Based on the "time-cost-distance" study findings, the Commission will periodically evaluate the release time at specific border crossing points and evaluate the efficiency of logistics systems.

On this basis the following key functions of the NJC in Kazakhstan should be emphasized:

- 1) identification and removal of barriers (border-crossing, technical, fiscal, bureaucratic) to international road transport;
- 2) monitoring of the status and development perspectives of CAREC corridors crossing the territory of Kazakhstan and alternative (competing) corridors;
- 3) development of minimum requirements necessary to guarantee the implementation of legislation on secure and safe transportation of goods across the territories of CAREC countries and other.

These are our plans and realities of NJC development in Kazakhstan. In this context it is important to improve and harmonize the legal frameworks, border crossing procedures, tariff policies, institutional capacity building, as well as transport infrastructure development.

The Republic of Kazakhstan intends to provide further support to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation.

I am sure that only coordinated efforts will enable us to successfully integrate national transport systems of our countries into the global transport network, and new infrastructure projects will help in developing transport communications among the states of the Central Asian region.

There is no doubt that this meeting will make a considerable contribution to strengthening regional and interregional cooperation in the sphere of transport.

In the conclusion, once again I would like to thank the CAREC Secretariat and the UNESCAP for the warm hospitality and excellent organization of the event, and wish a fruitful work and positive results to everyone.