

3RD MEETING OF THE  
**CAREC Regional Working Group**  
**on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**  
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS PLANNING  
AND TA 9500 CLOSING WORKSHOP

23–25 JANUARY 2023  
TBILISI, GEORGIA

### Agenda

**Objectives:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Regional Working Group (RWG) on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) will (i) discuss the implementation progress of the CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade (CAST), specifically the activities implemented under the CAREC TA: Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade; and (ii) deliberate on SPS initiatives to enhance market access, facilitate safe trade and help countries participate in global value chains. The meeting will endorse the SPS Workplan and priorities, which will be incorporated in the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030's Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 2023-2025.

**Participants:** Members of the CAREC SPS RWG; policymakers and specialists from veterinary services, national plant protection agencies, food safety agencies, customs, and trade ministries; and development partners are invited to participate in the workshop and meeting.

**Register here:**

<https://adb-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpfuorj4uHdSVrUXA3N2Mng75i1GGkANg>



Chair: **Samson Uridia**, Head of International Relations Department, Georgia Revenue Service

Day 1: 23 January (Workshop)	
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Registration</b>
10:00 – 10:20 (Tbilisi time)	<b>Opening Session</b>  <b>Ekaterine Guntsadze</b> , Deputy Minister of Ministry of Finance, Georgia  <b>Tengiz Kalandadze</b> , Head, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia  <b>M. Teresa Kho</b> , Director General, East Asia Department, Asian Development Bank ( <i>virtual</i> )
10:20 – 10:50	<b>Group Photo and Coffee Break</b>
10:50 – 11:20	<b>Session 1: Introduction of the Agenda and Setting the Strategic Direction on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures Interventions under the CAREC Program</b>  <b>Samson Uridia</b> , Head of International Relations Department, Georgia Revenue Service

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	<p><b>Lyaziza Sabyrova</b>, Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dorothea Lazaro</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p>
11:20 – 12:30	<p><b>Session 2: Global and Regional Developments on SPS Measures</b></p> <p><i>Global Trends, Issues and Initiatives on SPS: Impact on CAREC Countries</i>  <b>Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization</p> <p><i>CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030</i>  <b>Dorothea Lazaro</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><i>CAREC 2030 Strategy and Sector Strategies Linkages with SPS work</i>  <b>Saad Abdullah Paracha</b>, CAREC Unit Head, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><b>Open Discussions and Feedback from Countries and Development Partners</b></p> <p><b>Moderator: Samson Uridia</b>, Head, Department of International Relations, Georgia Revenue Service</p>
12:30 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 15:15	<p><b>Session 3: Enhancing Phytosanitary Measures for Trade</b></p> <p><b>Country Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Azerbaijan: Vafa Rustamova</b>, Head of the Risk and Crisis Management Division, Plant Health Department, Food Safety Agency (<i>Establishing Pest Free Areas for Market Access</i>)</p> <p><b>Uzbekistan: Odilbek Tursunkhujaev</b>, Chief Specialist, Plant Protection and Quarantine Agency (<i>Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation and Reforms</i>)</p>

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	<p><b>Insights from Development Partners:</b>  <b>Sabit Narbayev</b>, Lead for Regional Trade Development, USAID Trade Central Asia Activity (TCA) (<i>ADB-USAID TCA's capacity building activities on enhancing phytosanitary measures</i>)</p> <p><b>Moderator: Craig Fedchock</b>, Senior Advisor and Manager of the ePhyto Solutions, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat</p>
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:30 – 17:00	<p><b>Session 4: The ePhyto Solution</b></p> <p><b>Country Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Pakistan: Syed Shakeel Shah</b>, Director General, Reforms and Automation, Federal Board of Revenue, Pakistan (<i>PSW</i>)</p> <p><b>Tajikistan: Mahmudi Shirinjonzoda</b>, First Deputy Chairman of the Food Safety Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Uzbekistan: Sultan-Mahmud Sultanov</b>, Head of International Relations Department, Agency of Plant Protection and Quarantine and Vice President, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization</p> <p><b>Insights from Development Partners:</b>  <b>Craig Fedchock</b>, Senior Advisor and Manager of the ePhyto Solutions, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat</p> <p><b>Moderator: Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization</p>

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Day 2: 24 January (Workshop)	
9:30 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 5: Enhancing Veterinary Services for Trade</b></p> <p><b>Country Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Kazakhstan: Kyzgaldak Zhubatkanova</b>, Chief Expert, Division of Food Safety and Inspection Work, Committee for Veterinary Control and Supervision, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan (<i>Foot-and-Mouth Disease-free Cooperation with the PRC</i>)</p> <p><b>Georgia: Zviad Asanishvili</b>, Head, Identification and Registration Division, National Food Agency (<i>National Animal Identification and Traceability System</i>)</p> <p><b>Insights from Development Partners:</b></p> <p><b>Mereke Taitubayev</b>, Head, Subregional Office for Central Asia, World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)</p> <p><b>Dragan Angelovski</b>, Chief Technical Advisor, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Georgia (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Moderator: Zurab Zurashvili</b>, Head, International Relations Department, National Food Agency, Georgia</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:50 – 12:00	<p><b>Session 6: Promoting Food Safety in CAREC Countries</b></p> <p><b>Country Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Kyrgyz Republic: Marat Asypbekov</b>, Deputy Director of the Department of Chemicalization, Plant Protection and Quarantine under the Ministry of Agriculture (<i>Guidelines for Importing Food Products</i>)</p> <p><b>Turkmenistan: Annakerim Annamyradov</b>, Head of State Food Control and Certification Division, State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service, Ministry of Healthcare and Medical Industry (<i>Simplified Modern Risk-Based Food Safety Management and Inspection System</i>)</p> <p><b>Insights from Development Partners:</b></p> <p><b>Mary Kenny</b>, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (<i>on food safety projects including STDF-supported ones in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic</i>) (<i>virtual</i>)</p>



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	<p><b>Moderator: Zulfia Karimova</b>, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p>
12:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:00 – 15:15	<p><b>Session 7: Risk Assessment and Inspection: Experience and Initiatives in Integrating SPS Border Measures with Customs Control</b></p> <p><b>Panel Discussion:</b></p> <p><b>Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility, World Trade Organization</p> <p><b>Zurab Kikalia</b>, Head, SPS Border Control Division, Georgia Revenue Service</p> <p><b>Elisabeth Tuerk</b>, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, United Nations Economic Cooperation for Europe (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Shane Sela</b>, Senior Trade Facilitation Specialist, World Bank (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Gennadijs Maskovs</b>, Customs and Borders Team Lead, USAID Trade Central Asia Activity</p> <p><b>Moderator: Dorothea Lazaro</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p>
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:30 – 16:30	<p><b>Open Discussions on Strategic Direction for CAREC SPS work</b></p> <p><b>Session 8: Insights from Development Partners</b></p> <p><b>Kabir Jurazoda</b>, Director, CAREC Institute (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Elisabeth Tuerk</b>, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, United Nations Economic Cooperation for Europe (UNECE) (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Mary Kenny</b>, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Eran Raizman</b>, Senior Animal Health and Production Officer, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO</p>

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	<p><b>Sabit Narbayev</b>, Lead for Regional Trade Development, USAID Trade Central Asia Activity (TCA) (<i>ADB-USAID TCA's capacity building activities on enhancing phytosanitary measures</i>)</p> <p><b>Mereke Taitubayev</b>, Head, Subregional Office for Central Asia, World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)</p> <p><b>Craig Fedchock</b>, Senior Advisor and Manager of the ePhyto Solutions, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat</p> <p><b>Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization</p> <p><b>Moderator: Samson Uridia</b>, Head, Department of International Relations, Georgia Revenue Service</p>
16:45 – 17:00	<p><b>Wrap Up and Key Messages</b></p> <p><b>Samson Uridia</b>, Head, Department of International Relations, Georgia Revenue Service</p>

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Day 3: 25 January	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of CAREC Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Regional Working Group	
10:00 – 10:15	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction to the Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Tengiz Kalandadze</b>, Head, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture</p> <p><b>Emma Fan</b>, Director, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB (<i>virtual</i>)</p>
10:15 – 10:30	<p><b>Recap of SPS Workshop Outcomes, Highlights of SPS Interventions Delivered and SPS Action Plan</b></p> <p>Presentation: <b>Dorothea Lazaro</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:50 – 12:15	<p><b>Country Statements and Proposals (5-minute interventions)</b></p> <p><b>Azerbaijan: Vafa Rustamova</b>, Head of the Risk and Crisis Management Division, Plant Health Department, Food Safety Agency</p> <p><b>PRC: Yi Han</b>, Director, Bureau of Import and Export Food Safety, General Administration of China Customs (GACC) (<i>Virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Georgia: Tengiz Kalandadze</b>, Head, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture</p> <p><b>Kazakhstan: Mukhtar Zhanabayev</b>, Chief Expert, Department of Plant Quarantine and Digitalization Committee of the State Inspection in the Agro-Industrial Complex of the Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p><b>Kyrgyz Republic: Marat Asypbekov</b>, Deputy Director of the Department of Chemicalization, Plant Protection and Quarantine under the Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p><b>Mongolia: Tumurbaatar Tegshbayar</b>, Senior Quarantine Officer, Customs Quarantine Department, Mongolia Customs General Administration</p> <p><b>Pakistan: Allah Ditta Abid</b>, Director General, Department of Plant Protection, Ministry of National Food Security and Research</p>

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	<p><b>Tajikistan: Mahmudi Shirinjonzoda</b>, First Deputy Chairman of the Food Safety Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Turkmenistan: Toyly Kakajanov</b>, Head of External Quarantine Division, State Plant Quarantine Service, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection</p> <p><b>Uzbekistan: Odilbek Tursunkhujaev</b>, Chief Specialist, Plant Protection and Quarantine Agency</p> <p><b>Moderator: Tengiz Kalandadze</b>, Head, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture</p>
12:15 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 15:15	<p><b>Development Partners' Interventions</b> (5-minute interventions)</p> <p><b>Kabir Jurazoda</b>, Director, CAREC Institute (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Giap Minh Bui</b>, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division, Central and West Asia Department, ADB (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Elisabeth Tuerk</b>, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, United Nations Economic Cooperation for Europe (UNECE) (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Mary Kenny</b>, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO (<i>virtual</i>)</p> <p><b>Melvin Spreij</b>, Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization</p> <p><b>Craig Fedchock</b>, Senior Advisor and Manager of the ePhyto Solutions, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat</p> <p><b>Mereke Taitubayev</b>, Head, Subregional Office for Central Asia, World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)</p> <p><b>Sabit Narbayev</b>, Lead for Regional Trade Development, USAID Trade Central Asia Activity (TCA)</p>



