

**5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on  
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation  
20 October 2006  
Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China**

**Opening Statement and Views on the CAREC Comprehensive Action Plan  
Mr. D. Usenov, First Vice-Prime-Minister  
(Kyrgyz Republic)**

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Dear participants of 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial conference of CAREC program.

First of all, I would like to thank sincerely the Government of the People's Republic of China, and also the Asian Development Bank for cordial hospitality and excellent arrangement of our meeting.

CAREC program becomes one of the real practical instruments on strengthening regional cooperation. The Comprehensive Action Plan, submitted today for approval, aims to make more efficient the implementation of our common goals and tasks, directed to deepening of our interaction.

In this connection, I would like to thank the CAREC Secretariat, which prepared with the support of national coordinators such impressive document.

We support the format of the Plan, oriented to the top-priority achievement of set objects in the key sectors of CAREC program.

In this connection, I would like to note several notable projects for the Kyrgyz Republic, such as building and implementation of transport corridors, which are aimed to transform our country into the real transit power. Particularly by this time, we can mark out projects such as south transport corridor-road rehabilitation project of Osh-Sarytash-Irkeshtam route, implemented with the financial support of ADB, Islamic Bank and Government of the People's Republic of China. We are optimistic of the road rehabilitation project of Balykchy-Torugart route, which will permit to increase greatly the goods turnover between our countries. Also, I must note the implementation of the project on building the Uzbekistan-Kyrgyzstan-People's Republic of China railway. This project was discussed during the recent visit of our President, H.E. Mr. Bakiev K.S. to the Chinese People's Republic and Uzbekistan.

In the energy sector, we hope for the growth of our hydroelectric potential and accordingly for the increase of energy selling not only to the neighboring countries, but to Afghanistan, India, Pakistan. For that, we need to complete building of our biggest hydroelectric power stations Kambar-Ata 1 and 2. Toward this end, we conduct the intensive negotiations with the potential investors.

But for beginning of these large projects we ourselves must make spirited steps on reforming of energy sector, particularly acceleration of the process of denationalization and reorganization.

In the sphere of trade policy and simplification of customs procedures, being the member of WTO, would like also to inform the participants of conference, that in one of these

days it was successfully considered the report on the first stage of membership of the Kyrgyz Republic in Geneva, we maximally interested in continuation of harmonization of trade legislation, decrease of trade barriers in our region of Central Asia.

At the same time we would like to ask our donors to consider the possibility of more active participation in CAREC sectors, determined in the second level of Comprehensive Action Plan, particularly in such directions as agriculture, ecology and tourism.

We also agree with the importance of principle of build-up of potential and knowledge in the sphere of regional cooperation in our region. In this connection unification of research initiatives, creation of CAREC Institute, Committee on Strategic Management, training of officials must play its key role in the implementation of set objects.

One of the distinctive advantages of our plan is the harmonization of our financial needs and possibilities of our donors on its financing. At the same time we cannot ignore the necessity and importance of private investment in the implementation of regional projects of CAREC countries. In this connection, it is extremely necessary to conduct forums such as business development forum, which was held before the 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference CAREC. We would be glad to see more active participation of private business in the implementation of the Comprehensive Action Plan.

We also welcome the principle of CAREC Comprehensive Action Plan on coordination with the other regional organizations such as The Shanghai Cooperation Organization and EuroAsian Economic Community. The Kyrgyz Republic, being the active participant of these organizations pays big attention to the successful implementation these objectives. I would like to remind that in 2007, the Kyrgyz Republic will host the next summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and commits to conduct it on the highest level.

To summarize, I would like to note that the Comprehensive Action Plan must be a dynamic document which corresponds with the national priorities of regional development, and its successful implementation will first of all depend on our countries.

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