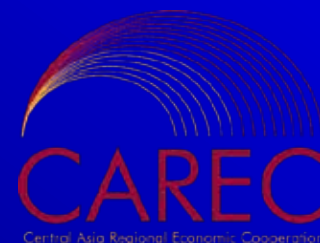


Roundtable Seminar on Ways Forward for Corridor-Based Transport Facilitation Arrangements in the CAREC Region

Considerations for a
"Model" Corridor-Based Transport
Agreement

2-3 July 2012

Beijing, PRC



Introduction: Transport Facilitation

- Concept: tool
 - for efficient cross-border movement
 - not for trade/immigration policy
- Scope: mode, subject matter, type of operation, corridor or territory
- Goals: efficiency - time, effort, cost reduction

Achieving Transport Facilitation

- Giving up some national sovereignty/identity to overcome social and economic isolation
- Giving up some control by authorities, but set off by other safeguards of national interest

General Principles Transport Facilitation

- Cost related charges only:
 - no trade policy instrument
 - no income generating source
- Customs union does not cover all aspects
- Supranational instrument only sets minimum
- No discrimination

Transport Facilitation Elements

- People: visas + driving licenses + health
- Vehicles: registration + technical standards + roadworthiness + insurance + customs temporary admission
- Transport operators:
 - quota if necessary
 - no permits

Transport Facilitation Elements

- Goods:
 - definition prohibited/restricted
 - (phyto)sanitary
 - customs transit
- Procedures + documents:
harmonization and simplification
- Interchangeable language, measurement, ICT, currency

Transport Facilitation Elements

- Institutional arrangement:
 - supervision
 - collecting user complaints
 - discussion platform
- Infrastructure, facilities, equipment:
harmonization
- General political-social-economic environment
for safety, fighting of corruption,
transparency regulation

Transport Facilitation Public-Private Sector Relationship

- Authorities at the service of the users
- Private sector:
 - involvement in legislative process
 - representation in institutional arrangements

Choice between bilateral/regional /international instruments

- International:
 - opening to world
 - but too onerous
- Bilateral:
difficult to organize three-country transit
- Regional:
 - tailor made
 - light version of international model

Transport Facilitation

Other Issues

- Dissociation from other political ambitions, international interests, trade and immigration policy
- No unrealistic reliance on ICT
- Willingness to change national legislation
 - clear commitments
 - no reference of unresolved issues to other instrument or forum
 - no sidetracking of normal domestic approval procedure