

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

Lessons Learned

2-3 July 2012

Beijing, PRC

Importance of Transport Facilitation

Transport facilitation is especially important for the CAREC region, which is at a strategic crossroads, and which has seven landlocked countries

Inefficient Functioning of CAREC Corridors

CAREC corridors are not functioning efficiently
(CPMM, 2011)

Effectiveness of Transport Facilitation in Other Regions

Transport facilitation has effectively contributed to cross-border movement in other regions and therefore could be expected to be effective in the CAREC region

Overlapping Agreements

- There are a number of existing, overlapping cross-border transport facilitation agreements in the CAREC region
- However, the pace of implementation varies, and in many cases implementation has not always been effective
- Capacity needs to be strengthened

Some Harmonization is Required

- A multi-track approach in scattered and differential agreements is problematic
- On the other hand, the ideal of total harmonization is unrealistic in the short term
- There are conflicting interests in this respect

A Way Forward

- Pursue on a pilot basis corridor-specific agreements that adhere to certain principles but which over time will pave the way for the countries to effectively implement a wider regional agreement
- As long as there is no harmonization on a regional level, a corridor approach offers the only feasible solution