

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC)

Progress Report on Implementing the “Comprehensive Action Plan”

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Purpose and Process

- Report to Ministers on progress in implementing the CAP since its endorsement in 2006 (Urumqi, 5th MC)
- Consultative workshops in each CAREC country, led by NFPs or designate and co-chaired by ADB

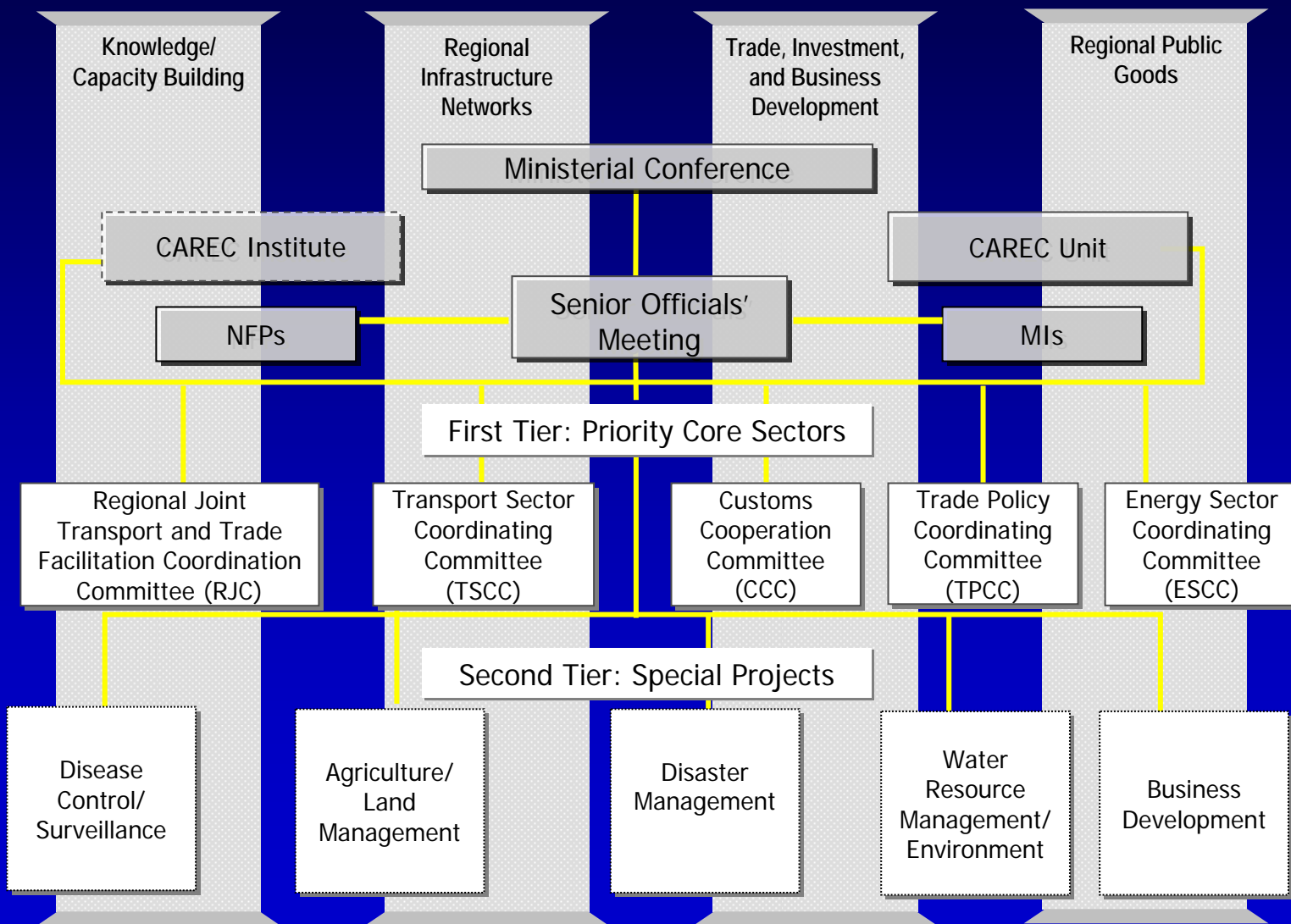
Main Features of CAP

- Long-term Vision: 3 Gs
- Goal: Development through cooperation
- Guiding principles: pragmatism, results, ownership, consensus, partnership
- Simplicity of objectives/outputs e.g. reduce/remove trade barriers
- Strategic framework: four action pillars
- Strategic direction: sector strategies/action plans

Main Features of CAP Con't

- First tier focus: transport/trade/energy
- Second tier: project specific activities
- Performance indicators
- Mainstreaming regional cooperation
- Resource mobilization
- Coordination with SCO/EurAsEC
- Periodic updating

CAREC: Overall Institutional Framework



Overall Assessment: Good Progress to Date

- Strategic direction achieved:
 - Sector strategies/action plans completed
 - MC/SOM more decisive: NFP support
 - Growing trust, confidence in Program
 - Mainstreaming of regional cooperation
 - CAREC as a catalyst/bilateral initiatives

Overall Assessment: Good Progress to Date

- Sector strategies key accomplishment:
 - Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy/Action Plan
 - Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan
 - Strategy for Regional Cooperation in the Energy Sector
 - Performance indicators

Progress to Date Con't

- Results-based outcomes:
 - transport corridors taking shape
 - trade facilitation/trade logistics/trade expansion
 - transport/trade coordination
 - trade policy agreements e.g. trade taxes
 - energy developments e.g., CASAREM
 - performance indicators identified/baseline data

Progress to Date Con't

- Resource mobilization another key accomplishment:
 - Prior to 2007, low level of loans
 - 2007: loans/grants almost \$1 billion
 - 2008: loans/grants about \$3.7 billion
 - Pipeline to 2012: \$13.9 billion for transport
 - TA support now about \$30 million annually
 - CAREC countries/MI partners increasingly engaged
 - Preparations for CAREC Partner's Forum

Progress to Date Con't

- Capacity building/research/outreach
 - training workshops: active program in 2007 and 2008; schedule/funding for 2009 and beyond
 - sector training: CERF/agriculture trade
 - research program: small grants program
 - outreach activities: Tokyo seminar/trade policy
 - CAREC Institute: work program/funding

Areas of Concern

- Business partnership
 - business forum lapse
 - PPP workshop well appreciated
- Pillar concept of strategic framework
 - trade/investment/business development pillar: missing components
 - regional public goods pillar: limited activity
- Second tier: many suggestions, little follow-up
- CAREC Institute: slow start
- Coordination with SCO/EurAsEC etc. weak

New Areas of Interest

- Turkmenistan/Inner Mongolia participation
- Water resource management
- Agriculture/irrigation/food security
- Business climate
- Business development
- Investment partnership/PPP
- Training re role in a market economy
- Policy/regulatory steps in support of infrastructure investments

THANK YOU

СПАСИБО

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