



Terms of Reference
National Training Activity on Preparing to Negotiate a potential CAREC-wide FTA
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan

TA-6558 REG: Strengthening Knowledge and Capacities for the Design and Implementation of Free Trade Agreements (FTA) Involving Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Countries (CAREC)

Name and type of the event: National Training Activity for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan on preparing to negotiate a potential CAREC-wide FTA.

Objectives of the event, expected results:

This training activity is being organized at the request of the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan and is currently scheduled to take place in Almaty on 4-5 May 2023. It is a capacity building exercise intended to provide a brief overview of both the substantive and procedural/organizational/strategic aspects of preparing for and successfully completing trade negotiations in a specific area of policy expertise (in this case E-Commerce and Investment-Related Provisions of FTAs, and Trade in Services).

The training activity will be led by the capacity-building team, based on resources such as the CAREC FTA Negotiating Guidelines that have already been prepared and distributed.

Expected number of participants: 8 to 10 participants per country for a total of between 24 and 30 participants.

Who should participate (possible agencies, level of participants):

Junior and mid-level government officers from the three participating CAREC countries, comprising officials already working on these issues in ministries and agencies such as the Ministry of Trade and Integration, Ministry of Justice, financial services regulator, the telecoms regulator, the Ministry of Health, investment promotion agency, transport regulator, and other relevant agencies dealing with either digital transformation, e-commerce and/or investment and trade in services.

Coverage of the event: KAZ, KGZ, TAJ

Duration and format of the event: 6 hours per day over two days / Hybrid format

Proposed date and time: 4 May 2023, from 09:30 to 17:00 (Almaty time)

5 May 2023, from 09:00 to 16:30 (Almaty time)

Proposed location: Almaty



Draft

Agenda
National Training Activity on Preparing to Negotiate a Potential CAREC-wide FTA
4-5 May 2023, Almaty

Day 1 - 4 May 2023

09:30 am – 17:00pm (Almaty time)

Duration: 6 hours

Time	Session
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-09:40	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ADB (<i>tbc</i>).▪ Government Representative from the host government (KAZ) (<i>tbc</i>).
09:40-09:45	
09:45-10:30	Session 1: An Introduction to Trade in Services Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
10:30-10:45	Group photo and Coffee-Break
10:45-11:30	Session 2 Trade in Services in FTAs – Positive and Negative List Architectures Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
11:30-11:40	Break
11:40-12:30	Session 3 Preparing for Negotiations Process, Organization and Strategic Considerations Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
12:30-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-15:15	Session 4: Exercise on Preparing for Services Negotiations in a CAREC-Wide FTA Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
15:15-15:30	Coffee-Break
15:30-16:15	Session 5 Investment as an Issue in FTAs Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
16:15-16:20	Break
16:20-17:00	Session 6 – Exercise on Drafting Non-Conforming Measures and Reservations for Investment Schedules in FTAs Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
17:00	END OF DAY ONE

Day 2 - 5 May 2023

09:00 am – 16:30 pm (Almaty time)

Duration: 6.5 hours

Time	Session
09:00-10:00	Session 1: An Introduction to Digital Trade Provisions in FTAs Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
10:00-10:15	Coffee-break
10:15-11:00	Session 2 A Review of Government Objectives in Regulating the Digital Economy Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
11:00-11:15	Break
11:15-12:00	Session 3 Mapping Regulatory Readiness to Engage in E-Commerce Negotiations Instructor: Mr. Mikheil Janelidze, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG (virtually)
12:00-13:00	LUNCH
13:00-14:30	Session 4: Exercise on Identifying Regulatory Gaps and Stakeholders for Filling Them Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
14:30-14:45	Coffee-break
14:45-16:00	Session 5 Exercise Preparing for Negotiations on Digital Trade Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
16:00-16:15	Break
16:15-16:30	Session 6 – Summing up and Wrapping Up Instructor: Mr. Simon Lacey, Capacity Building Project Team, PMCG
16:30	END OF TRAINING

Attachment(s):

- CAREC Negotiating Guidelines