

Welcome note

By Vice-Minister of Economy and Budget Planning of the Republic of Kazakhstan

«Diversification and structural changes in Kazakhstan's economy: opportunities and challenges»

Workshop
September 12, 2008

Dear guests and participants! I am pleased to welcome you all to the workshop called «*Diversification and structural changes in Kazakhstan's economy: opportunities and challenges*», which has a special meaning in the context of the current strategic goals of the economic policy of our government.

I am sure that the materials to be presented at this workshop by ADB's representatives will be of benefit to public servants of the Ministries', researchers and representatives from other organizations. The representative from Ministries and development institutes of Kazakhstan will in turn speak about Kazakhstan's experience in economic diversification.

Cooperation with international organizations gives us an opportunity to learn from the world's leaders, look at the processes in the country from different perspective and to realistically evaluate our advantages and opportunities. During the workshop, ADB's latest research findings of comparative analysis of economic structures of Kazakhstan and its neighboring countries will be presented. The research on using technological and social opportunities in order to diversify and increase production will be presented as well.

Whether an effective model of Kazakhstan's economy, which allows for effective management of increasing national competitiveness, will be developed will mostly depend on the priorities of further development of the country, particularly on the diversification of the economy. Today we need to achieve competitiveness that is based on more progressive sectors and spheres, not on the usage of mineral resources.

In conclusion, I would like to wish all the participants fruitful work and success in the future!