

CAREC Trade Policy: Implementation Progress and Updating the Action Plan

CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting
Almaty, Kazakhstan
27 – 28 June 2013

Trade Policy: Implementation Progress

➤ Highlights from the 18th TPCC meeting:

- Continued implementation of the capacity-building and knowledge-sharing program
- Monitoring implementation of the TPSAP (TLI and IQI)
- WTO accession and training seminars
- Updating the TPSAP

➤ Key issues for consideration by the SOM:

- Reaffirming the guiding principles for the TPCC:
 - ✓ Trade liberalization through removal of both tariff and non-tariff barriers
 - ✓ WTO accession by all CAREC members
 - ✓ Bolstering the institutional environment for trade

Trade Policy: Updating the Action Plan

- Key issues for consideration by the SOM (continued):
 - Updating the 2008 TPSAP:
 - ✓ Ensuring consistency with the strategic objectives of CAREC 2020
 - ✓ Taking account of progress achieved in the implementation of the existing action plan
 - ✓ Seeking further regional cooperation and integration
 - The updated TPSAP will also consider:
 - ✓ The changing nature and persistence of QRs
 - ✓ The Eurasian Customs Union and its impact on trade policy within CAREC member countries
 - ✓ The role of services in cross-border trade and the policy response (e.g. liberalization of trade in services)

Finally: Reporting on the findings of a high level CCA conference (Bishkek)

- Organized by IMF/EBRD/Kyrgyz and Swiss authorities (May 19-20; Transition Journey and the Road Ahead)
- One key theme:
 - ✓ Regional cooperation and trade integration (including peer-to-peer interactions)
 - ✓ Renewed IFIs collaboration:
 - Knowledge transfer
 - Capacity building