CAREC INSTITUTE 1ST GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region People's Republic of China 2-3 March 2015

I. Introduction

- 1. The First Governing Council Meeting of the CAREC Institute (CI) was held in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the People's Republic of China (PRC) on 2-3 March 2015. Mr. Surenjav Purev, Vice Minister, the Ministry of Finance, Mongolia, chaired the Meeting, with Mr. Ayumi Konishi, Director General, East Asia Department (EARD), ADB, as Co-Chair.
- 2. Nine (9) member countries were represented in the Governing Council Meeting. Turkmenistan was not able to send its representative. Following the principle of consensus, the Co-Chair announced that all decisions of the Meeting will be referred to Turkmenistan and its concurrence sought within two weeks from the date of referral, before these are considered adopted.

II. Highlights

Appointment of Director and Deputy Director 1

- 3. In accordance with the Recruitment and Selection Plan endorsed by the CAREC National Focal Points Meeting on 25-26 September 2014, the Ministry of Economy (MOE) of the Kyrgyz Republic (KYR) initiated the job posting for the position of Director, for selection from among the nationals of the KYR; and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) took steps to advertise the position of the Deputy Director 1 (DD1), for selection from among the nationals of the PRC, in mid-November 2014.
- 4. Both concerned ministries of KGZ and PRC have been provided with selection guidelines to facilitate the review of applications taking into account the suggested selection criteria such as: (i) overall suitability and capability for the position applied, (ii) leadership and managerial skills, (iii) education and technical skills (and their relevancy to the position concerned), (iv) international and regional experience, and (v) communication and interpersonal skills. After careful consideration, the MOE of KGZ completed the selection process in mid-December 2014 and recommended that Mr. Kubat Umurzakov be considered for the Director position. In the case of the MOF of PRC, the 3-person team from the Department of International Economic and Financial Cooperation, identified on 30 November 2014, Mr. Ziqian Liang as most suitable candidate for the DD1 position.
- 5. The Governing Council noted that both MOE of KGZ and MOF of PRC have followed due process leading to the successful selection of the most suitable candidate for the respective positions of Director and Deputy Director 1. On this basis, the Governing Council agreed to appoint Mr. Kubat Umurzakov, national of the Kyrgyz Republic, as Director for a fixed-term of two years; and Mr. Ziqian Liang, national of the People's Republic of China as Deputy Director 1 for a term of three years. Mr. Umurzakov and Mr. Liang acknowledged their respective appointments. Both appointments will be effective upon acceptance by the appointees of the terms and conditions of employment.

Establishment of the Recruitment and Selection Committee and the Budget and Audit Committee.

8. The CAREC Secretariat provided the background and basis for the establishment of the Recruitment and Selection Committee (RSC) and the Budget and Audit Committee (BAC) and presented the proposed Terms of Reference of the two committees. The RSC and the BAC would be composed of five members each and would have a term of three years. A self nomination approach was taken in determining the composition of the two Committees, with eight countries indicating their choice of a committee. At the Secretariat's recommendation, the Governing Council endorsed the Terms of Reference of the RSC and the BAC and the composition and chairmanship of the two committees as follows:

RSC

- Azerbaijan –Chair
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Mongolia
- Pakistan
- Uzbekistan

BAC

- PRC -Chair
- Afghanistan
- Kazakhstan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan

Adoption of Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council

9 The Governing Council adopted the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council as prepared by the CAREC Secretariat covering among others (i) the conduct of meetings (frequency, notice, agenda, and decisions); (ii) the establishment of committees and the responsibilities of the Chairperson; (iii) the designation of the Secretary and preparation of minutes; and (iv) publicity and working language.

Other Matters

- 10. The PRC provided the following updates on the Legal Status of the CI:
 - A draft of the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) has been prepared with the assistance of the CAREC Secretariat which could serve as a basis for internal consultation and discussion among the CAREC countries;
 - Under the PRC internal regulations, a minimum of four countries would be required to be signatories to the IGA for the Institute's registration as an IGO in the PRC. It was clarified and reconfirmed that regardless of the signing of the IGA, all the CAREC member countries shall have the same rights in terms of their representation in the GC and/or enjoy the same benefits from the activities of the CI.
- 11. The CI was requested to develop its first work plan for discussion at the next Governing Council Meeting.