

## 24th CAREC Ministerial Conference

### Green and Digital CAREC

20 November 2025

Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic



07:30–08:30	<b>Registration and Security Check</b>
08:45–08:55	24th CAREC Ministerial Conference Video Presentation
09:00–09:30	<b>Inaugural Session</b>
09:00–09:03	<b>Introduction</b> Mr. Bakyt Sydykov, Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyz Republic
09:03–09:10	<b>Welcome Address</b> Mr. Adylbek Kasymaliev Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic– Head of the Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic
09:10–09:17	<b>Keynote Address</b> Mr. Masato Kanda President Asian Development Bank (ADB)
09:17–09:30	<b>Setting the Stage: CAREC Program – Progress and Impact</b> Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB
09:30–09:55	<b>Signing Ceremony and Group Photo</b>
	<p><b>Documents to be signed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Bishkek Ministerial Declaration on the Launch of Negotiations for the CAREC Trade and Investment Facilitation (CARTIF) Partnership Agreement</li> <li>ii. Loan Agreement: Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor Regional Improvement of Border Services Project</li> </ul> <p><b>Group Photo</b></p>
09:55–10:05	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:05–11:20	<b>CAREC Country Statements</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Mr. Yingming Yang, Vice-President (South, Central, and West Asia), ADB</p> <p><b>Country Statements</b> All CAREC Ministers / Heads of Delegations (5 min per country)</p>
11:20–11:50	<b>Session 1: Physical Infrastructure and Regional Connectivity</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Mr. Hiroaki Yamaguchi, Senior Director, Sectors Department 1, ADB</p> <p><b>Transport and Economic Corridor Development</b> <b>Midterm Review of CAREC Transport Strategy 2030 and CAREC Corridor 2 Strategic Projects (10 min)</b></p>

	<p>Presenter: Mr. Masahiro Nishimura, Principal Transport Specialist, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, ADB</p> <p><b>Key Initiative: Border Upgrades for Integration, Logistics, and Development (BUILD) Facility</b> (5 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Ari J. Kalliokoski, Principal Transport Specialist, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, ADB</p> <p><b>Energy</b></p> <p>Key Initiative: <b>Caspian Green Energy Corridor</b> (3 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Altynay Arapova, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><b>Reactions/Interventions from CAREC Ministers</b> (15 min)</p>
11:50–13:00	<b>Session 2: Soft Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Mr. Azamat Zhamangulov, Minister of Digital Development and Innovative Technologies of the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Digital Connectivity</b></p> <p><b>Midterm Review of the CAREC Digital Strategy 2030</b> (5 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Khalid Umar, Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p>Key Initiative: <b>Developing CAREC Digital Corridor</b> (5 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Antonio Zaballos, Director, Digital Sector Office, Sectors Department 2, ADB</p> <p><b>Trade</b></p> <p><b>Midterm Review of the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 and ECTGE</b>" Rctvpgtuj k 'hqt'Vtcf g.'Erlo cvg'cpf '1ppqxcVqp (7 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p>Key Initiative: <b>CARTIF Partnership</b> (3 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><b>Reactions/Interventions from CAREC Ministers</b> (20 min)</p> <p><b>Launch or Signing Ceremonies</b> (15 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. MoU on Implementing the Testing Phase of the Expanded CAREC Advanced Transit System and Information Common Exchange (CATS/ICE)</li> <li>ii. CAREC Digital Corridor</li> <li>iii. MoU on CAREC Innovation and Venture Investment Catalyst (CIVIC) Facility</li> <li>iv. MoU on CAREC Pilot Project on Electronic Exchange and Mutual Recognition of Conformity Certificates</li> </ul>
13:00–14:00	<b>Lunch</b> (venue: Legend, 5th floor)
14:00–14:30	<b>Session 3: People-to-People Connectivity and Human Capital Development</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Ms. Leah Gutierrez, Director General, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><b>Green Skills</b></p> <p>Key Initiative: <b>CAREC Agricultural Universities' Accelerator Program</b> (5 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p>

	<p><b>Health-Climate Nexus</b></p> <p><b>Regional Decarbonization Strategy for Health and Regionally–Agreed Minimum Requirements for Climate-Resilient Health Facilities</b> (5 min)</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Kirthi Ramesh, Senior Social Sector Specialist, Human and Social Development Office, Sectors Department 3, ADB (virtual)</p> <p><b>Reactions/Interventions from CAREC Ministers</b> (10 min)</p> <p><b>Signing Ceremony</b> (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. MoU on the Kyrgyz Republic–Uzbekistan Cross-Border Sustainable Tourism Cluster Development</li> <li>ii. MoU on CAREC Regional Tourism Development</li> </ul>
14:30–15:00	<b>Session 4: Responding to Climate Change and Disaster Risks</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Mr. Muhammad Ehsan Khan, Director General, East Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><b>CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF)</b> (5 min) Presenter: Ms. Altynay Arapova, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><b>Risk-Layered Disaster Relief Finance Sector Development Program for the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan</b> Video presentation (3 min)</p> <p><b>Glaciers to Farms Regional Program</b> (5 min) Presenter: Ms. Kathleen Anne C. Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, Climate Change and Sustainable Development (CCSD), ADB (virtual)</p> <p><b>Reactions/Interventions from CAREC Ministers</b> (15 min)</p>
15:00–15:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:15–16:00	<b>Session 5: Knowledge Sharing Session</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b> Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><b>Presentation: Economic Integration and Long-Term Growth in the Caucasus and Central Asia</b> Presenter: Mr. Subir Lall, Deputy Director, Middle East and Central Asia Department, International Monetary Fund (10 min)</p> <p><b>Knowledge-Sharing on recent ADB Studies on CAREC Countries</b> Presenters: Mr. Kiyoshi Taniguchi, Regional Lead Economist, CWRD, ADB (10 min) Mr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Regional Cooperation Economist, CWRD, ADB (10 min) Mr. Virender Kumar Duggal, Unit Head, Carbon Markets, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB (virtual) (5 min)</p> <p><b>Open Discussion</b> (10 min)</p>

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16:00–16:30	<b>Session 6: Development Partners Interventions</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b>  Mr. Bakyt Sydykov, Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Intervention by High-Level Heads of Delegations of Development Partners</b></p>
16:30–17:00	<b>Session 7: Adoption of Joint Ministerial Statement and CAREC Program's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026</b>
	<p><b>Moderator</b>  Mr. Bakyt Sydykov, Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Adoption of Joint Ministerial Statement</b></p> <p><b>Reactions/Interventions from CAREC Ministers (10 min)</b></p> <p><b>2026 Host Country Statement</b>  Mr. Batkhuu Idesh, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Development  Video and speech (8 min)</p> <p><b>Statement from the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  Mr. Bakyt Sydykov, Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce</p> <p><b>Closing Remarks from ADB</b>  Mr. Yingming Yang, Vice-President (South, Central, and West Asia), ADB</p>
18:30–20.00	<b>Dinner Hosted by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic</b> Venue: Supara Ethnocomplex