

7th Meeting of the CAREC Regional Trade Group (RTG)

13 June 2025, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic



Objectives: The RTG Meeting will discuss the midterm review of the *CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030* as part of the recommendations of the CAREC 2030 Midterm Review. The meeting will also deliberate on priority activities or projects for the CITA Rolling Strategic Action Plan 2025-2027 for reporting to the Senior Officials' Meeting on 17-20 June 2025.

Participants: Appointed Representatives of Countries to the CAREC Regional Trade Group, Development Partners, experts

Chair: Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyz Republic

Co-Chair: Asian Development Bank

Agenda

13 June 2025, Friday	
09:15-09:30 (15 mins)	Registration
	Opening Session
09:30-09:45 (15 mins)	Mr. Sanzharbek Bolotov , Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce and CAREC National Focal Point for the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Zheng Wu , Country Director, ADB Resident Mission in the Kyrgyz Republic
09:45-10:00 (15 mins)	Group photo and coffee break
	Session 1: Midterm Review of the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 <i>The session will discuss the progress of implementation of CITA 2030 since its endorsement (including most recent activities implemented since the 6th RTG Meeting in April 2024) and outcomes of country consultations of the ongoing midterm review.</i>
	Moderator: Mr. Tynychbek Ermatov , Customs Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Commerce.
10:00-11:30 (90 mins)	Presentation: (15 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC• Mr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Economist, CWRC• Mr. Bahodir Ganiev, Resource Person
	Tour de Table: CAREC Member Countries (5 mins per country) <i>Country interventions will focus on continued relevance and responsiveness of CITA 2030 against country priorities, and how can CITA more effectively expand, diversify and promote sustainable trade and deepen regional integration.</i>
	Development Partners Perspectives

	<p><i>Invited development partners will share their feedback and proposals of aligning their ongoing initiatives to support CAREC trade work.</i></p>
11:30-12:30 (60 mins)	<p>Session 2: Updates and Lessons from Specific CAREC Trade Initiatives</p> <p><i>The session will share completed and ongoing projects and initiatives, with significant impact and potential for replication or expansion, including Regional Improvement of Border Services, Trade Program, Customs Modernization and Single Window, and CAREC Advanced Transit System. The session will also discuss the outcomes of the Workshop on CAREC Trade and Investment Facilitation Partnership, cross-sectoral linkage of CAREC trade and the progress of CAREC Partnership for Trade, Climate, and Innovation.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Economist, CWRC</p> <p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC • Ms. Pramila Crivelli, Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, Economic Research and Development Impact Department • Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC <p>Country Speakers</p>
12:30-13:30 (60 mins)	<p>Lunch</p>
13:30-14:30 (60 mins)	<p>Session 3: Country Proposals for Regional Trade Projects and Interventions</p> <p><i>The session will discuss projects proposals or opportunities for investment projects, including Policy-based loans or Sector programs related to trade. The session will also share available resources (technical assistance, RCI set aside, or project preparation facility).</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Syiyadat Ormonova, EAEU Coordination Department, Ministry of Economy and Commerce</p> <p>Tour de Table: CAREC member countries</p>
14:30-14:45 (15 mins)	<p>Coffee Break</p>
14:45-16:30 (105 mins)	<p>Session 4: Development Partners Perspectives</p> <p><i>Invited development partners will share their feedback and proposals of aligning their ongoing initiatives to support CAREC trade work.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Charymuhammet Shallyyev, Director, CAREC Institute (<i>virtual</i>) • Mr. David Knight, Lead Country Economist and Program Leader, Central Asia, World Bank (<i>virtual</i>) • Mr. Simon Padilla, Economic Affairs Officer, Standards and Trade Development Facility, World Trade Organization (<i>virtual</i>) • Ms. Adelina Harunjen, Trade Facilitation Officer, Business-driven Trade and Investment Facilitation Division of Market Development, International Trade Centre (<i>virtual</i>) • Ms. Judith Blank, Head of Programme "Trade Facilitation in Central Asia", GIZ • Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier, Head, Trade, Environment & Climate Change, International Trade and Commodities Division, UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (<i>virtual</i>)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Alexey Kravchenko, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section of the Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) (virtual) • Mr. Luca Castellani, Legal Officer, Secretariat, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) (virtual) • Mr. Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (virtual) • Mr. Sung Heun (Rama) Ha, Director of International Business and Cooperation, Korea Trade Network (KTNET) (virtual) <p>Open discussion</p>
<p>16:30-16:45 (15 mins)</p>	<p>Session 5: CITA Rolling Strategic Action Plan 2025–2027 and Recommendations</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the strategic direction for the next phase of CITA 2030 from 2025 to 2030, pursuing Green and Digital CAREC and hear country perspectives on how to make CITA more impactful.</i></p> <p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC
<p>16:45-17:00 (15 mins)</p>	<p>Closing Session</p> <p>Ministry of Economy and Commerce (<i>tbc</i>)</p> <p>Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC</p>

