



Workshop on Navigating Trade Issues and WTO Transparency Requirements
Astana, Kazakhstan, 8-10 April 2026

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 8 April 2026	
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Azamat Zholmanov, Rector, Academy of Public Administration • Mr. Kairat Torebayev, Chair of the Trade Policy Review Body of the World Trade Organization, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the WTO and International Economic Organizations • Dr. Utsav Kumar, Country Director, Kazakhstan Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB) • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, Head, Regional Desk for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus, Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (WTO)
09:30 – 10:40	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Recent Trends in the Multilateral Trading System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Presentation 2026 Asian Economic Integration Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Rolando Avendano, Economist, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, ADB <p>Moderator: Mr. Kairat Torebayev, Chair of the Trade Policy Review Body of the World Trade Organization, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the WTO and International Economic Organizations</p> <p>Open Discussions</p>
10:40 – 11:00	Group Photo and Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Overview of Kazakhstan's Trade Policy Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Kairat Torebayev, Kazakhstan • Mr. Ali Usman Khilji, WTO <p>Moderator: Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Regional Cooperation Economist, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p>Open Discussions</p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Transparency Mechanisms in the WTO: Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p>

	Q&A
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:00	<p>WTO Notification Requirements: Background and Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:00 – 15:30	<p>Overview of Existing WTO Online Notification Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:30	<p>Notification Requirements: Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
Thursday, 9 April 2026	
09:00 – 10:00	<p>Notification Requirements: Agriculture (cont'd)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
10:00– 11:00	<p>Notification Requirements: Market access (Integrated Database, Customs Valuation, Import Licensing, Rules of Origin, Trade Facilitation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ali Usman Khilji, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
11:00– 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15– 13:00	<p>CAREC Trade Facilitation and Digitalization Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Regional Cooperation Economist, Central and West Asia Department, ADB • Dr. Rolando Avendano, ADB • Mr. Nurlan Kulbatyrov, Managing Director for Tariff and Non-Tariff Affairs, QazTrade Center for Trade Policy Development • Sharing of experience from other CAREC countries

	<p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Open Discussions</p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:00	<p>Dedicated session: Renegotiation of Schedules (via videoconference)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Marti Darlan, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:00–15:30	<p>Notification Requirements: Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade (SPS/TBT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
15:30–15:45	Coffee Break
15:45–16:30	<p>Notification Requirements: SPS/TBT (cont'd)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO • Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, ADB <p>Moderator: Mr. Kairat Torebayev, Chair of the Trade Policy Review Body of the World Trade Organization, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the WTO and International Economic Organizations</p> <p>Q&A</p>
Friday, 10 April 2026	
09:00–10:00	<p>Notification Requirements: Trade Remedies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ali Usman Khilji, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
10:00–11:00	<p>Notification Requirements: Trade in Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
11:00–11:15	Coffee break
11:15–12:00	<p>Services Trade in Asia and the Pacific: Regional Developments and Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Rolando Avendano, ADB

	<p>Moderator: Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, ADB</p> <p>Q&A</p>
<p>12:00– 13:00</p>	<p>Intellectual Property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ali Usman Khilji, WTO <p>Moderator: WTO</p> <p>Q&A</p>
<p>13:00– 14:00</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>14:00– 15:30</p>	<p>Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs): Transparency Mechanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenza Le Mentec, WTO <p>Regional Trade Agreements in Asia and Pacific: Approaches and Emerging Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Rolando Avendano, ADB <p>WTO and RTA Simultaneous Membership: Experience from the Caucasus and Central Asia and the proposed CAREC Trade and Investment Facilitation (CARTIF) Partnership Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, ADB <p>Moderator: Mr. Kairat Torebayev, Chair of the Trade Policy Review Body of the World Trade Organization, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the WTO and International Economic Organizations</p> <p>Open Discussions</p>
<p>15:30– 16:00</p>	<p>Wrap-up and Evaluation</p>
<p>16:00– 16:30</p>	<p>Closing Ceremony</p> <p>Certificate Awarding Ceremony</p>