

# Key Messages for Discussion

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# CI is a Regional Institution

- CI was founded as a regional institution, and an integral component of CAREC Program. Although during its initial years it has functioned as a “virtual” entity, such institutional arrangement has always been considered as temporary.

# CI supports CAREC 2020

- CI is identified as one of the seven operational priorities of CAREC 2020.
- The CI Strategic Knowledge Framework 2013-2017 (the SKF), endorsed at the SOM in June 2012, lays out the framework in which to enhance CI in support of achieving CAREC 2020 objectives.

# Strengthening Country Ownership

- This changing environment and context requires CI to do better, to become a knowledge powerhouse, to support achievement of CAREC 2020 goals.
- Most essential is the strengthening of CAREC countries' ownership of CI.

# Need for a CI assessment

- It was in this spirit that the June SOM requested ADB as Secretariat to conduct a CI assessment on how best to move forward, including the issue of best institutional arrangement.

# Moving Forward

- Should CI continue to operate as it has been under ADB care-taking, or should it assume its own entity, and become a full-fledged regional institution of the countries?

- This assessment highlights:
  - Strategically, moving CI into the region would send a powerful message of country ownership.
  - Operationally, SKF requires capacity building for CI, which is impossible to do without a physical base or own staffing.
  - Business wise, if CI is to move in to the region in the physical modality, it would enable CI to build a reputation as a knowledge powerhouse on cooperation.

- Do you agree with the comparisons of the pros and cons of “virtual” versus “physical” modality in Table 1 of the assessment?
- What are views of the countries?

# Build up CI in the Region

- If a decision is made to move CI physically into the region, what would be needed to build up CI? There are a range of measures, some immediate and some over time, that need to be taken to ensure CI will be effective, sustainable, and regional.

# Basic Factors

- Regionality
- Accessibility
- Infrastructure

# Institutional Factors

- Legal status
- Governing body
- Director appointment
- Staffing

# Costings and Financing Factors

- Capital costs
- Operating costs
- Financing
  - Host country contribution
  - Member country contribution
  - MI contributions
  - others

# Next Step: Time-bound Action Plan

- Location decision
- Business model/plan
- Legal status
- Governance structure
- Management and Staff
- Financing

# Measures and Readiness

- Are there other important measures that should be added?
- Is there readiness to address these measures?
- What are countries' views?

**Thank you**