



Asian Development Bank
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program
CAREC Institute
Implementing a Common Agenda for
Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures:
Revising Turkmenistan's SPS Legislation and
Identifying Needs to Support its Implementation
29-30 June 2015
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

Draft Program

29 June 2015 Monday	Participants: Approximately 30 participants from Turkmenistan SPS agencies, ADB staff and consultants, and resource persons from WTO STDF, FAO, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Azerbaijan.
0830 – 0900	Registration
0900 – 0910	Welcoming Remarks Speaker: Mr. Vepa Abdylhekimov, Minister of Economy and Development (CAREC National Focal Point) Mr. Plamen Bozakov, Director, Turkmenistan Resident Mission, ADB
0910 – 0915	Opening Remarks Speakers: Mr. Ying Qian, Director, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, EARD, ADB Mr. Wang Hong, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, CAREC Unit Head, CWRD, ADB
0915 – 0930	An Overview of Turkmenistan's Trade Subject to the Application of Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures Speaker: Mr. Vepa Abdylhekimov, Minister of Economy and Development (CAREC National Focal Point) Highlights of Turkmenistan's international trade in goods and commodities subject to the application of SPS measures, describing significant imports, exports, trading partners, and providing a summary of the main SPS-related issues facing Turkmenistan's trade (whether imports or exports).
0930 – 1030	Introducing the SPS Agreement: Framing the Transition from GOST Speaker: Dr Kenza Le Mentec, Economic Affairs Officer, Standards and Trade Development Facility, Agriculture and Commodities Division, World Trade Organization Discussion (15 minutes)
1030 – 1045	Coffee Break and Photo Session
1045 – 1200	Establishing a Legal Foundation for Modernizing SPS Measures: Guidelines for Revising SPS Legislation Speaker: Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Plant Production and Protection Officer and Ms. Ariella Glinni, Senior Policy Officer, UN Food

	and Agriculture Organization, Sub Regional Office for Central Asia Discussion (15 minutes)
1200 – 1300	<p>Initial Experience in Modernizing SPS Measures: Panel Presentation</p> <p>Panelists: Representatives of the SPS transition teams from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Azerbaijan</p> <p>Three 15-minute presentations: Overviews of each country's experience in modernizing SPS measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current status of revising legislation and adjusting institutional arrangements • most challenging aspects of the transition to date • extent of private sector involvement/consultation • how resistance to reform is being handled • how transition costs are being funded • what can be done better
1300 – 1430	LUNCH
1430 – 1515	<p>Introducing the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)</p> <p>Speaker: Dr Kenza Le Mentec, WTO</p>
1515 – 1600	Coffee Break, featuring STDF film: "Trading Safely: Protecting health, promoting development"
1600 – 1730	<p>Institutional Arrangements for Developing and Applying SPS Measures: Good Practice in implementing the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures</p> <p>Speakers: Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Ms. Ariella Glinni, and Dr Kenza Le Mentec</p> <p>Outlining the elements of a good SPS system to ensure plant health, animal health and food safety, to include institutional arrangements, coordination, information flow within and between institutions, participation of private sector, participation in standard-setting and harmonization (i.e., basing measures on international standards) and in the SPS Committee. Showcasing models for possible replication by Turkmenistan.</p> <p>Discussion (30 minutes)</p>
1900	Dinner
30 June 2015	
0900 – 0930	<p>Initial Findings of RETA 8386 & Overview of CAREC Common Reform Agenda</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Jeff Procak, Regional Cooperation Specialist, CAREC Trade Facilitation team, East Asia Department, ADB</p> <p>Overview of ADB support for SPS Modernization in CAREC, presentation of RETA 8386 findings, and introduction of CAREC Common Reform Agenda for Modernizing SPS Measures.</p>
0930 –1030	Roles of OIE, IPPC, CODEX in Moving towards a WTO-SPS based System

	<p>Speakers: Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Ms. Ariella Glinni, and Dr Kenza Le Mentec</p> <p>Providing an overview of international standard-setting bodies and identifying coordinator functions.</p>
1030 – 1045	Coffee Break
1045 – 1130	<p>Update on Turkmenistan’s Membership in and Accession to Trade- and SPS-Related International Organizations</p> <p>Speaker: Ms. Ayna Kurbanova, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations (CAREC Trade Policy Focal Point) Ms. Leyli Shamuradova, Deputy Minister of Health Care and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan and Chief of the State Sanitary-Epidemiological Service Mr. Yagmyr Amandurdiyev, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Turkmenistan</p>
1130 – 1230	<p>Developing Capacity to Implement SPS Modernization</p> <p>Speakers: Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Ms. Ariella Glinni, and Dr Kenza Le Mentec</p> <p>Outlining a series of capacity development measures, based on comprehensive needs assessments, of existing capacity to implement Turkmenistan's membership commitments in the international standard setting bodies; taking into account high growth potential value chains and sectors.</p>
1230 – 1400	Lunch
1400 – 1500	<p>Prioritizing Investments to Support SPS Modernization</p> <p>Speakers: Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Ms. Ariella Glinni, and Dr Kenza Le Mentec</p> <p>Introducing the SPS Market Access Prioritization Tool (SPS-MAP) developed by the STDF to help countries prioritize different SPS investment options for market access.</p>
1500 – 1515	Coffee Break
1515 – 1615	<p>Development Partner Presentations on Support for SPS Modernization: Experience Elsewhere and Willingness/Ability to Consider CAREC and Turkmenistan Proposals</p> <p>Speakers: WTO STDF, FAO, JICA, USAID/CLDP, GIZ</p>
1615 – 1700	<p>Proposed Next Steps</p> <p>Moderators: ADB and Turkmenistan SPS officials</p> <p>An open forum to (i) consider what Turkmenistan might do to accelerate its SPS modernization efforts and (ii) identify ways in which development partners might support these efforts.</p>
1700 – 1715	<p>Concluding Remarks and Observations</p> <p>Ministry of Economy and Development of Turkmenistan</p>

