

Welcome Speech of Sub-Administration Official on CAREC JCC  
Workshop

(Feb. 27, 2009, 9am)

Distinguished Vice Minister Sun Songpu,

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

Good morning. First, on behalf of Guangdong Sub-Administration of China Customs, please allow me to extend a very warm welcome to you all!

I am very glad to having received colleagues and friends from CAREC customs. We will take full advantage of this precious chance to improve our understanding, exchange our work experiences and become close friends.

Guangdong Province is neighboring Hong Kong and Macau, with numerous ports and cities, which are well developed economically. Since 1986, the foreign trade volume of Guangdong province has been the biggest among all Chinese provinces for 22 consecutive years, accounting for 30%-40% of the country's total foreign trade volume. Meanwhile, Guangdong Customs has the biggest number

of employees among all customs in China. There are 7 customs in Guangdong that are directly under the General Administration of Customs. Customs employees of Guangdong count for 20% of total customs employees in China. In 2008, value of import/export cargo via Guangdong Customs totaled 753.32 billion USD, up by 10.4% on previous year. 18.39 million vehicles and 26.08 million containers were monitored travelling via Guangdong Customs. 17.88 million declarations were received. 290 million person/time travelers passed via Guangdong Customs. RMB 173.94 billion yuan of revenue was collected by Guangdong Customs, accounting for 19% of total customs revenue collected in China.

Guangdong Sub-administration of China Customs is a local agency of the General Administration of China Customs. The Sub-Administration has been actively providing services and making contributions to economic development of Guangdong, by providing coordination and guidance, assisting administration, monitoring and auditing. We have established close cooperation mechanism with Hong Kong Customs and Macau Customs, in areas of customs clearance facilitation, anti-drug smuggling, IPR, etc, with great achievements.

We believe that the improvement of professionalism and efficiency of customs, the facilitation of regional customs clearance, the enhancement of trade security and the economic prosperity through international customs cooperation, are aspirations we all share.

In this workshop, we will have experts from WCO and UNESCAP to provide presentations and guidance. Representatives of ADB will review and summarize the development of Joint Customs Control in CAREC region. We will also have representatives from different customs to share with us their successful stories and experiences, and we will join together to discuss solutions. Representatives of 6 China Customs administrations will also take part in the workshop. I believe that, through this meeting, we will have a better understanding and a closer friendship, which will serve as a solid foundation for future bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Guangzhou City is the provincial capital of Guangdong Province. Located in sub-tropical zone, Guangzhou City is also called “the city of flowers” with green trees and blossoms all around the year. Now it is warm spring in Guangzhou and the season for flowers. I hope that you will enjoy the natural beauty and the local hospitality

of Guangzhou. As the host of this workshop, we will do our best to cater your stay during the meeting. I wish this workshop a very successful one and hope you will enjoy your stay in Guangzhou.

Thank you.