

**CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (CAREC)**  
**ACTION PLAN FOR HARMONIZING REGIONAL TRANSPORT REGULATIONS AND CROSS-BORDER AGREEMENTS**  
(Endorsed at the 6<sup>th</sup> Transport Sector Coordinating Committee Meeting on 24 August 2006 in Urumqi, People's Republic of China)

**Objectives:** Promotion of sustainable economic growth in CAREC countries by facilitating cross-border and transit transport by roads, railways, and civil aviation.

**Principles:** (i) strong leadership and active participation of CAREC countries;  
(ii) outputs focused with support of implementation and monitoring mechanisms; and  
(iii) coordinated and complimentary approach with trade facilitation activities in CAREC countries.

Key Results	Actions	Responsibility	Target Date for Completion
1. Rationalized regional road transport agreements	1.1 Confirm that multilateral agreements are the primary engagements in CAREC countries for regional road transport.	TM, MOC	August 2006
	1.2 Review and prioritize the multilateral agreements relating to road transport, and prepare a list of regional road transport agreements for consolidation.	TM, MOC, TSCC Secretariat	April 2007
	1.3 Develop a plan for implementing prioritized multilateral agreements, making amendments to existing agreements, and rescinding superfluous agreements.	TM, MOC	April 2008
	1.4 Submit the plan to the Ministerial Conference (via Senior Officials' Meeting).	TSCC	October/November 2008
	1.5 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC	April 2009
	1.6 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, TSCC	September 2009

Key Results	Actions	Responsibility	Target Date for Completion
2. Streamlined tariff and fee framework on regional road and railway transport	<b><u>Roads</u></b>		
	2.1 Develop principles and specific measures for fees and user charges on cross-border and transit road transport.	TM, MOC	September 2007
	2.2 Submit proposed framework on fee and user charges on cross-border and transit transport to the Ministerial Conference (via Senior Officials' Meeting), after preliminary endorsement of CAREC member countries.	TSCC	October/November 2007
	2.3 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC	April 2008
	2.4 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, TSCC	September 2009
3. Harmonized weights and dimensions of vehicles	<b><u>Railways</u></b>		
	2.5 Review existing railway tariffs and make possible recommendations on harmonization of tariff-setting principles.	TM, MOR	April 2008
	3.1 Confirm the weights and dimensions of vehicles in the Minsk Agreement of 1999 as the ruling standards for CAREC countries, except for the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Uzbekistan	TM, MOC	August 2006
	3.2 Consider the possibility to adopt the EU standards on weights and dimensions of vehicles (EC96/53) in CAREC countries.	TM, MOC	April 2007
	3.3 Consider the possibility to adopt the Cholpon-Ata Agreement on weights and dimensions certification.	TM, MOC	September 2007
	3.4 Submit the agreed standards to the Ministerial Conference for approval (via Senior Officials' Meeting).	TSCC	October/November 2007
3.5 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC	April 2008	
3.6 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, TSCC	September 2009	

Key Results	Actions	Responsibility	Target Date for Completion
4. Harmonized regulations on vehicle emissions	4.1 Confirm that EURO standards are the ultimate goal of regulation on vehicle emission in CAREC countries.	TM, MOC	August 2006
	4.2 Develop a plan for implementing harmonized regulations on vehicle emissions, including staged adoption of EURO standards for cross-border and transit traffic.	TM, MOC	September 2007
	4.3 Submit the plan to the Ministerial Conference for approval (via Senior Officials' Meeting).	TSCC	October/November 2007
	4.4 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC	March/April 2008
	4.5 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, TSCC	September 2009
5. Improved regional transport safety	5.1 Review the status of regional road, railway, and air transport safety.	TM, MOC, MOR, civil aviation authorities	September 2007
	5.2 Based on the review, develop a plan of improving road, railway, and air transport safety (including accession to international conventions).	TM, MOC, MOR, civil aviation authorities	April 2008
	5.3 Submit the plan to the Ministerial Conference (via Senior Officials' Meeting).	TSCC	October/November 2008
	5.4 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC, MOR, civil aviation authorities	April 2009
	5.5 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, MOR, civil aviation authorities, TSCC	September 2009

Key Results	Actions	Responsibility	Target Date for Completion
6. Reduced delays at border crossings	6.1 Identify the barriers (physical, administrative, and logistical) for road and railway border crossings, and make recommendations for improvement.	TM, MOC, MOR	April 2008
	6.2 Based on the review, develop a plan to improve border crossing for road and railway transport.	TM, MOC, MOR	September 2008
	6.3 Submit the plan to the Ministerial Conference (via Senior Officials' Meeting).	TSCC	October/November 2008
	6.4 Develop country specific action plans for implementation.	TM, MOC, MOR	April 2009
	6.5 Review implementation progress.	TM, MOC, MOR, TSCC	September 2009

CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation; MOC = Ministry of Communications in the People's Republic of China; MOR = Ministry of Railways in the People's Republic of China; TM = Transport Ministries or equivalent agencies in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan; TSCC = Transport Sector Coordinating Committee.