

**SECOND MEETING OF ALMATY–BISHKEK
ECONOMIC CORRIDOR SUBCOMMITTEE
BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAHSTAN
AND THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

11 June 2018 in Almaty, Kazakhstan

PROGRAMME AND AGENDA

I. Introduction

The Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, the *akimat* of Almaty city and Bishkek city administration with support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), initiated work on the Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor (ABEC) in 2013. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between two cities during the 13th CAREC Ministerial Conference, held in Bishkek in October 2014. The Investment Framework, which was subsequently endorsed by all stakeholders, became the basis for further development of the economic corridor that included a conceptual plan, strategic initiatives, aspects of institutional and infrastructure development, capacity building.

The Kazakhstan-Kyrgyz Republic Intergovernmental Council, chaired by the prime ministers of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, established the ABEC Subcommittee in November 2016. The ABEC Subcommittee is responsible for all aspects related to development and implementation of ABEC projects, as well as for the appointment of representatives to this Subcommittee. The first meeting of ABEC Subcommittee was held on 25 September 2017 in Bishkek. ADB, within the framework of its regional technical assistance provided grant funding to support the implementation of ABEC projects for the period of 2018–2020.

The second meeting of ABEC Subcommittee will be held in Almaty on 11 June 2018 with direct support and participation of ADB.

II. Subcommittee Meeting Objectives

The second joint ABEC Subcommittee meeting shall have the following three objectives:

- (i) Assessing implementation status of the first ABEC Subcommittee protocol;
- (ii) Review of current ABEC projects; development of forward pipeline, and prioritization of projects;
- (iii) Reaching agreement on short- and medium-term steps towards further development of ABEC and formulating the second ABEC Subcommittee protocol.

ALMATY–BISHKEK ECONOMIC CORRIDOR Second Subcommittee Meeting

11 June 2018, The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty, Kazakhstan

PRIMARY AGENDA

11 June, Monday	
08:30–09:30	Registration
09:30–10:10	Session I: Introduction to the agenda and review of implementation of paragraphs of the first protocol
	<i>Moderator: Co-Chairman, Mr. Ruslan Dalenov, First Vice-minister, MNE, the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
09:30–09:40	Welcome speech Co-Chairman: Mr. Ruslan Dalenov, First Vice Minister of National Economy/CAREC National Focal Point, the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:40–09:50	Co-Chairman: Mr. Almaz Sazbakov, Deputy Minister of Economy/CAREC National Focal Point, the Kyrgyz Republic
09:50–10:00	Introduction to the agenda <i>Presenter: Mr. Safdar Parvez, Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (CWRC), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB</i>
10:00–10:10	Review of implementation of paragraphs of the first protocol and information on current regional projects and ongoing reforms <i>Presenter: Mr. Kristian Rosbach, ABEC Team Leader, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</i>
10:10–14:25	Session II: Review of progress in the implementation of ongoing ABEC projects through ADB's technical assistance
	<i>Moderator: Mr. Ruslan Dalenov, First Vice-minister, MNE, the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
10:10–10:30	Agriculture: Project Concept Presentation of ABEC Agriculture Wholesale Markets <i>Presenter: Mr. Hans Woldring, Senior Agriculture Specialist, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division, CWRD, ADB</i>
10:30–10:40	Discussion of the agriculture project and review of draft protocol
10:40–11:05	Photo Session and Coffee Break

	<i>Moderator: Ms. Bibigul Maserbayeva, Head of the Foreign Aid Coordination Division, MNE, the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
11:05–12:05	Tourism: Regional Tourism, Skill Gaps, Possible Future Projects, and Planned Investments within ABEC <i>Presenters (time limit – 15 minutes per each):</i> 1). Mr. Fabian Mayr, ADB International consultant 2). Mr. Carlos Farias, ADB International consultant 3). Mr. Timur Duisengaliyev, Deputy Chair of the Board, “Kazak Tourism” National Company, Kazakhstan 4). Mr. Azamat Zhamankulov, Deputy Minister/Director of Tourism Department, Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism, the Kyrgyz Republic
12:05–12:15	Discussion of the tourism projects and review of draft protocol
12:15–12:30	Modernizing Border Crossing Points and Procedures <i>Presenter: Mr. Oleg Samukhin, Transport Specialist, Transport and Communications Division, CWRD, ADB</i>
12:30–12:40	Discussion of border-crossing points and review of draft protocol
12:40–14:00	Lunch hosted by ADB Vista Restaurant, 30th Floor, Ritz-Carlton Hotel
14:00–14:15	Almaty–Issyk-Kul Economic Impact Study <i>Presenter: Mr. Kristian Rosbach, ABEC Team Leader, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</i>
14:15–14:25	Discussion of the Almaty–Issyk-Kul Road and review of draft protocol
14:25–15:25	Session III: The new areas for development and identification of further specific ABEC projects
	<i>Moderator: Ms. Bibigul Maserbayeva, Head of the Foreign Aid Coordination Division, MNE, the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
14:25–15:00	Further institutionalization of ABEC <i>Presenter: Mr. Pradeep Srivastava, Country Director, Tajikistan Resident Mission, ADB</i>
15:00–15:10	Discussion of the ABEC Institutionalization and review of draft protocol
15:10–15:20	Discussion of future ABEC Projects, Reforms and Initiatives and review of draft protocol
15:20–15:35	Coffee Break
15:35–18:00	Session IV: Summarizing the discussion and signing of the Second ABEC Subcommittee Protocol

	<i>Moderator: Mr. Safdar Parvez, Director, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</i>
15:35–15:45	Key remarks Mr. Giovanni Capannelli, Country Director, KARM, ADB
15:45–15:55	Signing of the Subcommittee Protocol
15:55–16:15	Closing remarks: Co-Chairman: Mr. Ruslan Dalenov, First Vice Minister, Ministry of National Economy/ CAREC National Focal Point, the Republic of Kazakhstan Co-Chairman: Mr. Almaz Sazbakov, Deputy Minister of Economy/CAREC National Focal Point, the Kyrgyz Republic
18:00–20:00	Dinner hosted by ADB Restaurant (tbc), Ritz-Carlton Hotel