

**THE 8th ALMATY–BISHKEK ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
AND THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

**28–29 May 2024
Astana, Kazakhstan**

AGENDA

I. Introduction

The governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, Akimat of Almaty City and the Bishkek City administration and with the 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 the two cities during the 13th CAREC Ministerial Conference held in Bishkek in October 2014. In November 2016, the Intergovernmental Council between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan, chaired by both countries' Prime Ministers, established the ABEC Subcommittee. The ABEC Subcommittee is responsible for all aspects related to the development and implementation of ABEC projects, as well as for appointing representatives to this Subcommittee.

The 8th Joint ABEC Subcommittee meeting shall have the following three objectives:

- (i) Assess the implementation status of the 7th ABEC Subcommittee minutes as signed on 17 February 2023 in Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic;
- (ii) Review current ABEC projects and initiatives based on the meeting minutes of sector working groups; identify short- and medium-term priority projects;
- (iii) Agree on joint actions between the two parties to further develop the ABEC and formulate and sign the 8th ABEC Subcommittee minutes.

8th Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor Experts Meeting

28 May 2024

The St. Regis Astana, Ballroom, Astana, Kazakhstan

AGENDA

Day 1	Experts Meetings
8:30–9:00	Registration
9:00–11:00	<p><i>Moderator: MNE RoK</i></p> <p>Session I: Expert Meeting on Connectivity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction and status update from KAZ, KGZ, and ADB experts2. Review of the minutes of the 7th Subcommittee meeting regarding border crossing point modernization and procedures, Almaty-Issyk-Kul alternative road, and direct bus services.3. Review of ABEC Joint Kazakh-Kyrgyz Working Group Meeting on Transport and Infrastructure Development on 27 February 2024.4. Discussion and revision of draft minutes for the 8th Subcommittee Meeting. <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Mr. Oleg Samukhin (Senior Transport Specialist, ADB) ABEC RIBS project, ABEC Report “Master plan to improve long-term connectivity between KZ and KG”, Concept for Development of the Joint Border-Crossing Point (JBCP) between two countries</i>2. <i>Mr. Almazbek Galiev (Principal PPP Specialist) Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road PPP Project</i>3. <i>Ms. Caroline Sun, (Markets Development Advisory Specialist, ADB) Electric Bus Service between Almaty and Bishkek</i> <p>Open discussion</p>
11:00-11:20	Coffee break
11:20–12:30	<p><i>Moderator: MNE RoK</i></p> <p>Session II: Expert Meeting on Air Quality and Disaster Risk Management (DRM)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction from KAZ, KGZ, and ADB air quality and DRM experts2. Review of the minutes of the 7th Subcommittee meeting3. Presentation of the initial findings from DRM consultants4. Experience exchange on air quality monitoring and low emission zone development5. Discussion and revision of draft minutes for the 8th Subcommittee Meeting. <p><i>Presenters: MES RoK/ MES KR, National Hydromets Agencies DRM Consultant Team</i></p>

12:30–13:30	Lunch <i>Venue: Asakusa Restaurant, Level 2</i>
13:30–14:30	<p><i>Moderator: MNE RoK</i></p> <p>Session III: Expert Meeting on Health Sector and Establishment of a Regional Reference Center</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction from KAZ, KGZ 2. Review of the minutes of the 7th Subcommittee meeting 3. Presentation on the progress towards the ABEC Regional Health Action Plan 4. Discussion and revision of draft minutes for the 8th Subcommittee Meeting <p><i>Presenters: MOH RoK/ MOH KR</i></p>
14:30–16:00	<p><i>Moderator: MNE RoK</i></p> <p>Session IV: Expert Meeting on the Tourism Sector</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction from KAZ, KGZ 2. Review of the minutes of the 7th Subcommittee meeting 3. Review of ABEC Joint Kazakh-Kyrgyz Tourism Working Group Meeting on 28 Feb 2024 4. Presentation on ABEC Accommodation Classification System implementation progress 5. Exploration of Joint Sustainable Tourism Initiatives and Projects 6. Discussion and revision of draft minutes for the 8th Subcommittee Meeting <p><i>Presenters: Ministries of Tourism and Sports RoK/ Tourism Department KR</i></p>
16:00–16:30	Coffee break
16:30–18:30	Preparation of the draft Minutes of the 8th Subcommittee Meeting
19.00	Dinner hosted by ADB <i>Venue: La Riviere Restaurant, Level 2</i>

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29 May 2024

The St. Regis Astana, Ballroom, Astana, Kazakhstan

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Day 2	Subcommittee Meeting
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:15	Session I: Opening of the Workshop
	<i>Moderator: Co-Chairman:</i> Mr. Timur Zhaksylykov, First Vice-Minister of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:00–09:10	Welcome Remarks <i>Co-Chairman:</i> Mr. Timur Zhaksylykov, First Vice-Minister of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan <i>Co-Chairman:</i> Mr. Iskender Asylkulov, Deputy Minister of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic
09:10–09:15	Key Remarks Mr. Yevgeniy Zhukov, Director General for Central and West Asia Department, ADB
09:15–12:15	Session II: Review of Ongoing ABEC Projects
	<i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Timur Zhaksylykov, First Vice-Minister of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:15–09:25	Review of the 7th ABEC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes and Progress of Ongoing ABEC Projects <i>Presenter:</i> Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist, ADB
09:25–10:50	Connectivity Sector <i>Presenters:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mr. Oleg Samukhin (Senior Transport Specialist, ADB) ABEC RIBS project, ABEC Report on Border Procedures, ABEC Trade Facilitation Master Plan2. Mr. Almazbek Galiev (Principal PPP Specialist, ADB) Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road Project3. Ms. Caroline Sun, (Markets Development Advisory Specialist, ADB) Electric Bus Service between Almaty and Bishkek <i>Comments:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Roads and Transport Committees, Ministry of Transport, RoK2. Ministry of Transport and Communication, KR3. PPP center of the RoK / PPP center of the KR4. Border Service of the National Security Committee, RoK5. Border Services of the State Committee of the National Security, KR Open Discussion
10:50–11:05	Group Photo and Coffee Break

11:05–11:55	<p>Climate Change and Environment Sector</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Akbayan Zhandildina, Director of the Ecological Monitoring Department, “KazHydromet” RSE on air quality monitoring in Almaty; 2. Ms. Aigerim Zhusupova, Head of Air Pollution Observation Division, KyrgyzHydromet, Presentation on Air Quality Monitoring in Bishkek 3. Mr. Abdumalik Uulu Chyngyzbek, Chief Specialist of the Atmospheric Air Protection Department, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision on air quality in Bishkek; 4. Mr. Bolat Kussainov, Senior Expert of the Department for the Prevention of Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan; 5. Ms. Begimai Anarbekova, Head of Investment Attraction and International Cooperation Unit, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Emergencies of the Kyrgyz Republic on DRM 6. Mr. Eduardo García Alonso, Team Leader, ABEC DRM Team; <p>Open Discussion</p>
11:55–12:05	<p>Health Sector</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Ainagul Kuatbayeva, Director of the RSE “Scientific and Practical Center for Sanitary and Epidemiological Expertise and Monitoring”, the Sanitary and Epidemiological Control, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan 2. Ms. Gulnara Amankulova, Head of the AMR Reference Laboratory, Department of Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance, Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic
12:05–12:15	<p>Tourism Sector</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Nurtas Karipbayev, Chairman of the Tourism Industry Committee, Ministry of Tourism and Sports, RoK 2. Ms. Aleksandra Abdykaparova, Head of the Department of Legal Support and Marketing, Tourism Department of the Minister of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic
12:15–13:00	Session III: Preparation and Approval of the Minutes of the 8th ABEC Subcommittee Meeting
	<i>Moderator: Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, RCI, CWRD, ADB</i>
12:15–12:45	Protocol Finalization and Signing
12:45–13:00	<p>Closing Remarks:</p> <p><i>Co-Chairman:</i> Mr. Iskender Asylkulov, the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>Co-Chairman:</i> Mr. Timur Zhaksylykov, the Republic of Kazakhstan</p> <p>Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration, CWRD, ADB</p>
	End of the 8th meeting of the ABEC Subcommittee
13:00	<p>Lunch (hosted by ADB)</p> <p><i>Venue: Asakusa Restaurant, Level 2</i></p>