

## Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2011

ADB Asian Development Bank

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# Central and East Asia Breakout Session: "Making Real Progress and Measuring Performance on Trade Facilitation"

### **Chairperson Summary Report**

Igbal Babayev, Chief, State Customs Committee, Azerbaijan

Summary of Discussions and Recommendations, APTFF 2011

## Overview of Issues Discussed by international Organizations

- Measuring progress in trade facilitation is important to ensure sustained support
- A priority in Central and East Asia is the development of facilitated transport corridors
- International organizations have developed a set of tools to measure trade facilitation
- International organizations conduct trade facilitation assessments to support the identification of bottle necks and needs

#### **Overview of Country Reports**

- Azerbaijan implemented the national Single Window project and now starts a project on electronic Customs services introducing paperless technology in the Customs sphere
- China reported on extensive link of electronic document exchange with trade partner countries
- Kazakhstan established this year a high level steering committee to develop a master plan for its Single Window implementation
- Kyrgyzstan participates in the WTO Trade Facilitation negotiations and peruses its Single Window project plans
- Mongolia developed a Customs modernization project and Single Window Master Plan and prepares for implementation
- Tajikistan officially adopted concept to implement a national Single Window
- Turkey concluded bilateral agreements on border crossing facilitation with neighboring countries and launched the Silk Road customs initiative

#### Recommendations

- Countries should take full advantage of the available data and reports to analyse and assess the national TF situation
- Trade facilitation implementation should integrate work already done by relevant subregional organizations such as ECO, SCO et al
- Countries should undertake regular Business Process Analysis studies to analyse, simplify and automate business processes and data.
- In Central Asian countries trade facilitation instruments must support the efficiency of border post operations and transport corridors
- A common methodology to measure release times in Single Window operations should be applied

#### lations

ment of a regional framework for Single jects and assessment could provide pport to the national trade facilitation

tation must be based on broad support by agement in the national administrations. This oing capacity building, networking and best practice on the regional level. The UN Experts for paperless Trade should continue apacity building services and support reparing for SW implementation.

Facilitation Forum 2011 & Side Events: 3 - 8 October, Seou

