



**UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL PROGRAMME
FOR THE ECONOMIES OF CENTRAL ASIA (SPECA)**

FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF THE 2010 SPECA ECONOMIC FORUM

**“Developing a Plan of Action to Strengthen Stability and Sustainable Development
of Afghanistan through Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia”**

(Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 7-8 June 2011)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

7 June 2011

08.30-09.30 Registration of participants

09.30-11.00 Opening session

Chairperson: High-level representative of the host country

Opening statements by:

- H.E. Mr. Rashid MEREDOV, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan
- Mr. Jan KUBIŠ, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- H.E. Mr. Miroslav JENČA, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

Statements by the Heads of Delegation of SPECA member countries:

- Mr. Daud YAAR, Director General for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- Mr. Fikrat BABAYEV, Head of Department of International Relations, Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- H.E. Mr. Omirtay BITIMOV, Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- H.E. Mr. Avazbek ATAKHANOV, Ambassador at Large, Head of the Secretariat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic and Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic
- H.E. Mr. Toshmat NOZIROV, Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
- H.E. Mr. Sherzod FAYZIYEV, Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Turkmenistan

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 Plenary session: “Joining forces in promoting regional dialogue and cooperation”

Moderator: Mr. Andrey VASILYEV, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

Summary of discussions at the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum by the Moderator

Presentations:

- Keynote statement by Mr. Daud YAAR, Director General of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- H.E. Mr. Pierre LÉBOVICS, Ambassador of France to Turkmenistan (on behalf of the French G8 Presidency)
- Representative of the European Union (tbc.)
- Mr. Vadim NAZAROV, Chief Political Affairs Officer, UNAMA

Discussion

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

15.00-16.30 Session A: “Energy: a main driver of economic development in the region”

Moderator: Mr. Marton KRASZNAI, Regional Adviser, UNECE

Summary of discussions at the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum by the Moderator

Presentations:

- Representative of Turkmenistan (“TAPI project”)
- Ms. Daryl FIELDS, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Energy Unit, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank
- Ms. Joellyn MURPHY, USAID, RESET Program Leader

Presentation of project by Mr. Adam SEK, UNECE Regional Adviser:

A1: Energy poverty mitigation

Discussion

16.30-17.00 Coffee break

17.00-18.00 Session B: “Building virtual bridges: facilitating information flows, improving statistics and supporting regional networks”

Moderator: Mr. Rumen DOBRINSKY, Director of the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, UNECE

Summary of discussions at the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum by the Moderator

Presentation:

- Mr. Fikret BABAYEV, Head of Department of International Relations, Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan (“Euro-Asian Information Highway”)

Presentation of projects by Mr. Rumen DOBRINSKY, Director of the UNECE Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, and Mr. Mario APOSTOLOV, UNECE Regional Adviser:

B2: Integrated management of trade information flows; B3: Streamlining statistical data production; B4: Capacity-building on economic statistics; B5: Strengthening statistics on international migration; B6: Institutional support for women entrepreneurs.

Discussion

Cultural programme or Reception by the host country

8 June 2011

09.30-11.00 Session C: “Promoting trade, transport, services and private investment”

Moderator: Mr. Rumen DOBRINSKY, Director of the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, UNECE

Summary of discussions at the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum by the Moderator

Presentations:

- Ms. Elena BOUTRIMOVA, Chief, Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, ITC
- Mr. Cafer BICER, Country Officer, Islamic Development Bank
- Mr. Sebastien THIAM, Senior Advisor, International Affairs – Private Sector Investment, ISAF HQ, Afghanistan (“Prospects for International Investments in Afghanistan”)
- Mr. Alexey STUKALO, Deputy Coordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE

Presentation of projects by Mr. Rumen DOBRINSKY, Director of the UNECE Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, and Mr. Mario APOSTOLOV, UNECE Regional Adviser:

C1: International transport of dangerous goods; C2: Adoption of a unified railway law for SPECA member countries; C3: Vehicle safety; C4: SPECA Aid-for-Trade Implementation Council; C5: Support for the development of free-trade agreements; C6: Capacity-building for joining multilateral trading systems, in particular WTO; C7: Trade promotion in SPECA member countries; C8: Public-Private Partnership Readiness Assessment.

Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 Session D: “Joint management of shared resources, particularly water”

Moderator: Mr. Marton KRASZNAI, Regional Adviser, UNECE

Summary of discussions at the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum by the Moderator

Presentations:

- Mr. Saghit IBATULLIN, Chairman of the Executive Committee of IFAS
- Ms. Erin McKEE, USAID Mission Director for Central Asia
- Mr. Volker FROBARTH, Programme Director, GIZ

Presentation of projects by Ms. Iulia TROMBITCAIA, UNECE Environmental Affairs Officer:

D1: Cooperation on dam safety; D2: Dialogue and cooperation on water resources management in Central Asia; D3: Cooperation on trans-boundary watershed management between Afghanistan and Tajikistan; D4: Water quality in the Amudarya basin.

Discussion

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

15.00-16.00 Closing session: “Outlining a SPECA Plan of Action to Strengthen Stability and Sustainable Development of Afghanistan through Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia”

Chairperson: Representative of the host country

Summary of discussions at sessions B and C (Mr. Rumen Dobrinsky)

Summary of discussions at sessions A and D (Mr. Marton Krasznai)

Adoption of Conclusions

Closing statement:

- Mr. Andrey VASILYEV, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE
