25th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

"Greening the Economy and Building Partnerships for Security in the OSCE Region" Concluding Meeting

Prague, 6-8 September 2017

Session V: Promoting Connectivity and Building Trust and Business Partnerships in the OSCE Area

ENGLISH only

POiD promotes implementation of the Hamburg Ministerial Council decision by strengthening connectivity through transport and trade facilitation

Ambassador Tuula Yrjölä

7 September, 2017



1

Major economic challenges of the Central Asian states Uneven economic growth of the Central Asian states Foreign trade barriers (customs duties, high transport costs, infrastructure, geography, bureaucracy) Intense labour migration from poorer to richer countries (mostly to Russia and Kazakhstan) Dependence on exports of natural resources and technological dependence on foreign countries OSCE Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Programme Office in Dushanbe

Suggestions on improving the intra-regional economic connectivity

Improvement of bilateral and multilateral economic collaboration, including through involvement of other international and regional organizations

Simplification and approximation of trade, customs and passport control procedures and improving the transport and logistics infrastructure

Collaboration on transboundary water and energy/ commodity trade issues, improving joint activities on environmental protection of common resources

Enhancement of the utilization of the geographic advantage of the region to serve as a major transit hub between Asia and Europe



3



Low competitiveness

Corruption

Weak SME Sector and limited access to finance

Rising foreign debt

Brain and labour drain

Insufficient inflow of FDIs

High unemployment rate coupled with growing population

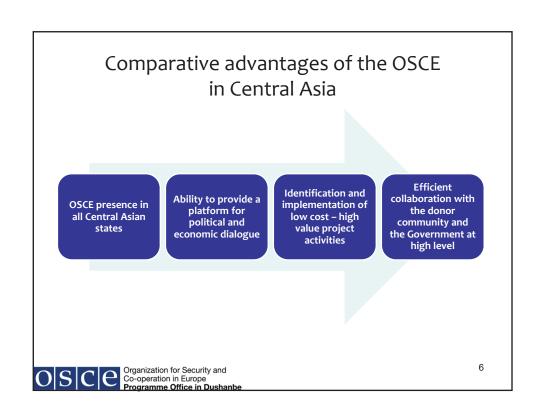
Considerable trade deficit

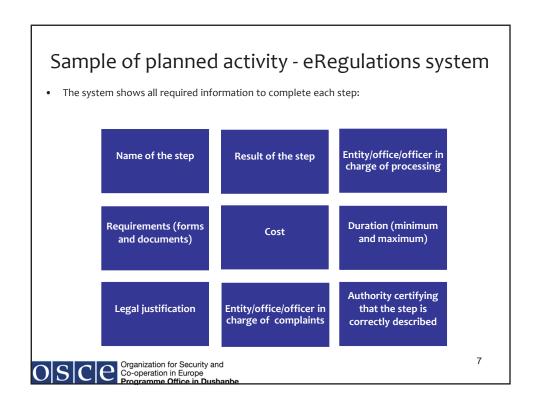
Underdeveloped industrial sector

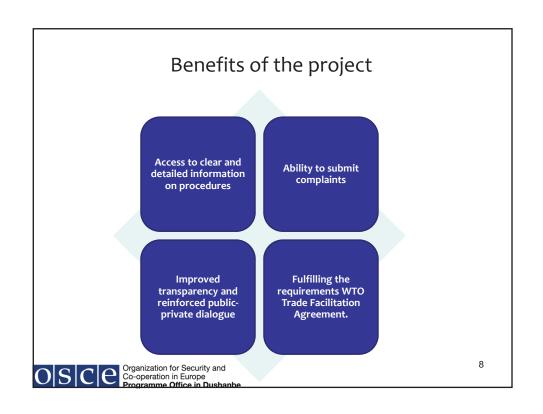
OSCPOganization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Programme Office in Dushanbe

4









Participants Government of Tajikistan OSCE UNCTAD and ITC Ownership and maintenance Coordination of the project Acting as a liaison OSCE UNCTAD and ITC Trainings, guidelines and manuals

