



**Regional Conference on
Promoting Good Governance in Customs
in Central Asia**

DRAFT AGENDA

25-26 July 2007

Hyatt Regency Almaty, Rahat Palace Hotel
29/6 Satpaev Avenue, Almaty, Kazakhstan

WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY

08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 10:45 **SESSION ONE – OPENING AND FRAMING REMARKS**

09:00 – 10:15 **Welcoming Remarks**

Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of OSCE Centre in Almaty

The Role of the OSCE in promoting good governance in border management and in the customs and transport sector

Mr. Henry Bolton, Senior Border Issues Adviser, Borders Unit, Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC), OSCE

Mr. Gabriel Leonte, Economic and Environmental Officer, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), OSCE

Central Asia: Increasing Gains from Trade through Regional Cooperation in Transport, Customs Administration, and Border Management

Mr. Bahodir Ganiev, Economist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The EC's Response to Improving Border Security and Trade & Transit Facilitation in Central Asia: BOMCA

Ms. Anna Bramwell, Head of Operations Section, Delegation of the European Commission in Kazakhstan

Challenges to Good Governance in Customs – Better Laws Are Not Enough

Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

10:15 – 10:45 **Plenary Discussion**

Facilitator: Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of OSCE Centre in Almaty (tbc)

10:45 – 11.15 **Coffee Break**

- 11:15 – 13:00** **SESSION TWO – KEY ISSUES IN GOOD GOVERNANCE**
- 11:15 – 12:30** **Harmonizing Legislation with Internationally Accepted Standards and Best Practices and Increasing Transparency/Accessibility in Customs Laws, Regulations, Rulings, Customs Rates and Taxes**
Mr. Hui Fu, Technical Officer, World Customs Organization (WCO)
- TIR Convention: an example of Public Private Partnership**
Mr. Konstantin Glukhenkiy, Customs Expert, Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Mechanisms for Maintaining Integrity in Customs Systems**
Mr. Hui Fu, Technical Officer, World Customs Organization (WCO)
- Human Resources Management Issues – Remuneration, Recruitment, Promotion, Rotation, Relocation, Training and Code of Ethics**
Mrs. Mari Novak, KNO Worldwide
- Interagency Co-operation and Collaboration with the Private Sector**
Mr. Peter Krausz, Head of Goods, Transport and Facilitation Department, International Road Transport Union (IRU)
- 12:15 – 13:00** **Plenary Discussion**
Facilitator: Mr. Henry Bolton, CPC Border Unit, OSCE
- 13:00 – 14:30** **Lunch**
- 14:30 – 15.45** **SESSION THREE – POSITIVE EXAMPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN CUSTOMS IN CENTRAL ASIA**
- Support of Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia Project**
Mr. Artjom Kortschagin, Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) Project Coordinator, Kazakhstan
- Joint Customs posts between Russian Federation and Kazakhstan bordering regions (OSCE Centre in Almaty/Eurasia Foundation, 2003 Project)**
Mr. Nurlan Mukhambetov, Deputy Director of Atameken Association, Aktobe branch and Mr. Victor Korshunov, Chairman of SME Association Opora Rossii
- Government Representatives: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan (tbc)**
- 15:15 – 15:45** **Plenary Discussion**
Facilitator: Mr. Hui Fu, Technical Officer, WCO
- 15:45 – 16:15** **Coffee Break**

16:15 – 17:15 **SESSION FOUR – REVIEW OF REGIONAL CHALLENGES**

Challenges and obstacles in the customs sector in Central Asia

Mr. Sabirzhan Jangozin, Expert, Kazakh Union of Custom Declarants

Mr. Genadiy Shestakov Chairman of the Council, Association of Custom Brokers

Integrity in Customs

Mr. John T. Kelly, US Customs

Border crossing infrastructure and improved cross-border cooperation between agencies

Mr. Henry Bolton, Senior Border Issues Adviser, Borders Unit, Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC), OSCE

Better integrated border management / harmonization of documents and procedures

Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

16:45 - 17:15 **Plenary Discussion**

Facilitator: Mr. Roel Janssens, Economic and Environmental Adviser, OCEEA

17:15 **Day One of the Conference Ends**

17:30 **Reception**

THURSDAY, 26 JULY

09:00 – 10:15 **SESSION FIVE – INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES**

Experience of Polish Customs

Mr. Jerzy Adam Szczawinski, Deputy Director, Customs Chamber in Bialystok, Poland

Green Corridor Project between the Russian Federation and Finland

Federal Customs Service, Russian Federation (tbc)

Experience of Ukrainian Customs

State Customs Service of Ukraine (tbc)

10:15 – 10:45 **Plenary Discussion**

Facilitator: Mr. Gabriel Leonte, Economic and Environmental Officer, OCEEA

10:45 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 13.30 **SESSION SIX – FACILITATED COUNTRY BREAK-OUT SESSIONS TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Groups will be broken down by country or by custom check point

- 13:00 – 13:30** **Groups Report Back/ Q&A Session**
- 13:30 – 14:30** **Lunch**
- 14:30 – 16.00** **SESSION SEVEN – MODE SPECIFIC APPROACHES**
- Customs procedures in train transport in Central Asia**
International Union of Railways (UIC)
- Customs procedures in road transport in Central Asia**
*KAZATO, Union of International Road Carriers of the Republic of Kazakhstan,
IRU association*
- 16:00 – 16:15** **Coffee Break**
- 16:15 – 17:00** **Plenary Discussion**
Facilitator: Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE
- 17:00** **Conference Wrap-up**



Expert Meeting
Progress made with regard to the implementation
of the 2003 Almaty Programme of Action

DRAFT AGENDA

27 July 2007

(Selected audience)

Hyatt Regency Almaty, Rahat Palace Hotel
29/6 Satpaev Avenue, Almaty, Kazakhstan

FRIDAY, 27 JULY

08:30 – 09:00 **Coffee and registration**

09:00 – 10.00 **SESSION I: FRAMING REMARKS**

The role of the OSCE in transport dialogue and in addressing the specific problems of landlocked developing countries

Mr. Gabriel Leonte, Economic and Environmental Officer and Mr. Roel Janssens, Economic and Environmental Adviser, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), OSCE

Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries

Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Role of UN Regional Commissions: ESCAP

Representative of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

10:00 – 11.00 **SESSION II: PRESENTATIONS BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON CURRENT TRANSIT TRANSPORT POLICIES – PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALMATY PROGRAMME OF ACTION – IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS AND PRIORITIES**

Facilitator: *Mr. Konstantin Glukhenkiy, Customs Expert, Transport Division, UNECE*

Speakers: *Government Officials from the Ministry of Transport and/or Trade*

Kazakhstan: *TBD*

Kyrgyzstan: *TBD*

Tajikistan: *TBD*

Turkmenistan: *TBD*

Uzbekistan: *TBD*

- 11:00 – 11.15** **Coffee Break**
- 11:15 – 12:15** **Plenary Discussion**
- 12:15 – 13.30** **Lunch**
- 13:30 – 15.30** **SESSION III: PRESENTATIONS BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON CURRENT CUSTOMS AND BORDER POLICIES – PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALMATY PROGRAMME OF ACTION – IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS AND PRIORITIES**

Facilitator: *Representative of UNESCAP*

Speakers: *Government Officials from the Ministry of Finance (Customs) and/or Border Agencies*

Kazakhstan: *TBD*

Kyrgyzstan: *TBD*

Uzbekistan: *TBD*

Tajikistan: *TBD*

Turkmenistan: *TBD*

- 14:30 – 15:30** **Plenary Discussion**
- 15:30 – 16.00** **Coffee Break**
- 16:00 – 17.00** **PANEL DISCUSSION: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Facilitator: *Representative of OSCE*

Speakers: *UNECE and UNESCAP representatives*

Questions & Answers

- 17:00** **Meeting Wrap-up**
- 17:15** **Reception**