



Islamic Republic  
of Afghanistan  
Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs

Kabul, 3-4 September 2015

**RECCA**

The Silk Road through Afghanistan  
6<sup>th</sup> Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan

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## Academic Forum

3 September 2015, Kabul

### Draft Agenda

08:45	<b>Arrival</b>
09:00	<b>Opening Prayer</b>
09:05	<b>Welcoming Speech by H.E. Salahuddin Rabbani</b> Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
09:15	<b>Keynote Address</b> on "Connecting People and Regions: Building the Silk Road through Afghanistan", Speaker TBD
10:00	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>
10:45	<p><b>Roundtable I</b> on Regional Energy &amp; Natural Resources Cooperation</p> <p><b>Presentations will address the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What is the current status of the Regional Energy &amp; Natural Resource projects and how the implementation flows?</i></li> <li>• <i>How to foster greater coordination between regional organizations seeking to rationalize and improve coherence on regional energy and natural resources between the regional economic policies of Afghanistan and its neighbors?</i></li> <li>• <i>What role could the larger economies in the region play in implementation of the RECCA projects?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can RECCA projects contribute in the regional economic integration?</i></li> </ul>
12:15	<b>Lunch</b>
13:15	<p><b>Roundtable II</b> on Regional Connectivity</p> <p><b>Presentations will address the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What are the most effective mechanisms to modernize and streamline transportation and customs procedures, particularly at the border crossings of Afghanistan's neighboring countries?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can existing road and railways infrastructure in Central Asia facilitate trade with South and Middle-East through Afghanistan?</i></li> <li>• <i>What role IFIs and regional financial institutions could play in greater infrastructure development in Afghanistan and the region?</i></li> <li>• <i>How the regional Silk Road initiatives contribute to improvement of infrastructure and regional connectivity?</i></li> </ul>
14:45	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>

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15:00	<p><b>Roundtable III</b> on Promoting Regional Trade, Private Sector Development, and Business-to-Business Cooperation across Asia through Afghanistan</p> <p><b>Presentations will address the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How to attract and strengthen private sector capabilities of the region and intra-region to work in favor of regional economic cooperation and inclusive development?</i></li> <li>• <i>How to improve coordination for implementation of the trade, commerce and investment Confidence Building Measures' of Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process action plans?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can the private sector of the neighboring countries contribute in development of cross border economic zones?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can the RECCA partner governments collaborate in bringing harmonization, simplification &amp; modernization in the customs procedure and how would it help the Trade and Transit across the region?</i></li> </ul>
16:30	<p><b>Closing Session</b> chaired by H.E. Hekmat Khalil Karzai, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Report from Roundtable I</b> on Regional Energy &amp; Natural Resources Cooperation</li> <li>- <b>Report from Roundtable II</b> on Regional Connectivity</li> <li>- <b>Report from Roundtable III</b> on Promoting Regional Trade, Private Sector Development, and Business-to-Business Cooperation across Asia through Afghanistan</li> </ul>
17:30	<b>Closing and Vote of Thanks</b>
18:00	<b>Reception</b> with RECCA-VI participants from government, the private sector and academics hosted by the President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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