



Islamic Republic
of Afghanistan
Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

Kabul, 3-4 September 2015

RECCA

The Silk Road through Afghanistan
6th Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan

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Academic Forum

3 September 2015, Kabul

Draft Agenda

08:45	Arrival
09:00	Opening Prayer
09:05	Welcoming Speech by H.E. Salahuddin Rabbani Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
09:15	Keynote Address on "Connecting People and Regions: Building the Silk Road through Afghanistan", Speaker TBD
10:00	Tea/Coffee
10:45	<p>Roundtable I on Regional Energy & Natural Resources Cooperation</p> <p>Presentations will address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the current status of the Regional Energy & Natural Resource projects and how the implementation flows?</i> • <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> • <i>What role could the larger economies in the region play in implementation of the RECCA projects?</i> • <i>How can RECCA projects contribute in the regional economic integration?</i>
12:15	Lunch
13:15	<p>Roundtable II on Regional Connectivity</p> <p>Presentations will address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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> • <i>How can existing road and railways infrastructure in Central Asia facilitate trade with South and Middle-East through Afghanistan?</i> • <i>What role IFIs and regional financial institutions could play in greater infrastructure development in Afghanistan and the region?</i> • <i>How the regional Silk Road initiatives contribute to improvement of infrastructure and regional connectivity?</i>
14:45	Tea/Coffee

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15:00	<p>Roundtable III on Promoting Regional Trade, Private Sector Development, and Business-to-Business Cooperation across Asia through Afghanistan</p> <p>Presentations will address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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> • <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> • <i>How can the private sector of the neighboring countries contribute in development of cross border economic zones?</i> • <i>How can the RECCA partner governments collaborate in bringing harmonization, simplification & modernization in the customs procedure and how would it help the Trade and Transit across the region?</i>
16:30	<p>Closing Session chaired by H.E. Hekmat Khalil Karzai, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report from Roundtable I on Regional Energy & Natural Resources Cooperation - Report from Roundtable II on Regional Connectivity - Report from Roundtable III on Promoting Regional Trade, Private Sector Development, and Business-to-Business Cooperation across Asia through Afghanistan
17:30	Closing and Vote of Thanks
18:00	Reception with RECCA-VI participants from government, the private sector and academics hosted by the President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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