DEEPENING
CONNECTIVITY &
EXPANDING
TRADE THROUGH
INVESTMENT IN
INFRASTRUCTURE
& IMPROVING
SYNERGY

RECCA-VII AT A GLANCE

ASHGABAT, 14-15 NOVEMBER 2017







INTRODUCTION

14-15 NOVEMBER 2017 • ASHGABAT, TURKMENISTAN

SEVENTH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISAN



he Seventh Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA VII) will be held at the ministerial level with the participation of ministers (Ministers of Foreign or Economic Affairs) and heads of regional and international organizations in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on November 14-15, 2017.

Since its inception in 2005, RECCA has grown considerably in structure, the number of participating countries and organizations, as well as in the scope of activities. Its structure now includes academic, business, and youth forums and thematic events held on the sidelines of the biennial ministerial meetings, as well as ambassadorial coordination meetings, national focal points meetings, inter-ministerial meetings and other special events convened in between the ministerial meetings.

RECCA has also grown to include an ever larger number of regional and partner countries and organizations, reaching a record of 40 countries and 30 regional and international organizations at RECCA VI held from 3-4 September 2015 in Kabul. The scope of work under RECCA has also gradually expanded and includes areas such as energy; transport networks; trade and transit facilitation; communications; B2B partnership and labor support.

RECCA is now a leading regional cooperation framework and plays an important role in promoting and facilitating the implementation of regional priority investment projects in the above-mentioned areas, each projected to increase economic growth, job creation, public revenue generation, and confidence-building across Central, South and Southwest Asia and beyond.

PREVIOUS RECCA MEETINGS



2005 • KABUL

FIRST REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN



SECOND REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN



2009 • ISLAMABAD

THIRD REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN



2010 • ISTANBUL

FOURTH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

2012 • DUSHANBE

FIFTH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN



2015 • KABUL

SIXTH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

PRIORITY PROJECTS

REGIONAL COOPERATION & INVESTMENT PROJECTS



Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India Natural Gas Pipeline (TAPI)



Central Asia—South Asia Regional Energy Market (CASA-1000)



Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan 500KV Line



f 4 The Belt & Road Initiative and Afghanistan



Lapis-Lazuli Transit, Trade & Transport Route Agreement



Chabahar International Transport & Transit Corridor



Five Nations Railway Corridor



8 Afghanistan Rail Network



Trans-Hindukush Road Connectivity Project

PRIORITY PROJECTS

REGIONAL COOPERATION & INVESTMENT PROJECTS

10 Cross Border Transport Agreement, and TIR Convention



11 Special Economic Zones/ Multimodal Transport & Logistics Facilities



12 Regional Trade, Customs & Border Management Cooperation



13 Digital Silk Road



14 Enhancing Regional Business-to-Business Partnerships



15 Women's Economic Empowerment through Regional Economic Cooperation through a RECCA Chamber of Commerce & Industries



16 Regional Agro Food Industry Development



17 Labor Exchange and Remittances



18 RECCA Center for Research & Evaluation



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

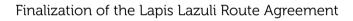
SINCE RECCA-VI (September 2015)



Inauguration of the TAPI gas pipeline project

Commencement of the implementation phase of CASA-1000 electricity transmission

Completion of the feasibility studies of TAP-500KV



Signing of the Chabahar International Transport and Transit Agreement

Inauguration of the Atamurad-Imamnazar-Aqina Railway Line

Ongoing work on the third section of Khaf-Herat railway

Commencement of the feasibility studies on Sheberghan-Herat Railway as part of the Five Nations Railway project

The establishment of cargo train between China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan as part of the Belt and Road Initiative

The inauguration of air cargo between Afghanistan and India as part of the efforts to improve regional air connectivity







RECCA-VII OBJECTIVES

Building on the outcomes of the previous RECCA meetings, RECCA VII will provide an opportunity to:

Take stock of the progress made since RECCA VI in Kabul through a comprehensive review of the regional priority investment projects, including the actions recommended in the RECCA Annual Review of Progress 2016:

Discuss the challenges and bottlenecks, as well as the financing and investment needs, with respect to both current and new

- regional priority investment projects in the key economic sectors of energy; transport networks; trade and transit facilitation; communications; and B2B and labor support.;
- Build consensus around concrete steps that need to be taken by governments, the private sector, and international organizations in the context of ongoing projects;
- Present possible new "bankable" (attracting private and public sector) investment project concepts or reform initiatives under the abovementioned economic sectors;
- Further promote synergies and cooperation between RECCA, the Heart of Asia- Istanbul Process and other regional cooperation platforms in the wider region.













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