

Minutes of the First Trilateral Expert Level Meeting among Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan held on 3rd January, 2015 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad

First Trilateral Expert Level Meeting among Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan was held on 3rd January, 2015 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Mohammad Shehzad Arbab; Secretary, Commerce, Government of Pakistan, Mr. Mozamil Shinwari; Acting Minister for Commerce & Industries, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Mr. Nazriev S.R.; Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Trade, the Peoples of Tajikistan.

2. Representatives from various government departments attended the meeting and participated in the discussions. The lists of Afghan and Pakistan delegations is at **Annex-I & II** respectively.

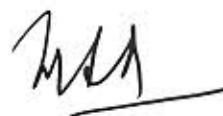
3. The co- chairs highlighted the significance of regional integration and commercial connectivity for enhanced cooperation, economic development and prosperity of the region. The co-chairs also stated that trade and transit agreement among three countries would enhance trade through facilitation, removal of barriers, unnecessary delays and reduction in cost of doing business. They hoped that the agreement would be a win-win situation for all three countries and will lay the foundation for greater and deeper regional economic cooperation.

4. The following decisions were made during the meeting;

- I. Each member nominated one focal person for future coordination and communication with other members ; Mr. Muhammad Rahim Momand, Director General, International Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industries Afghanistan, Mr. Farukh Soliev, Head of the Foreign Economic Cooperation Department, Tajikistan and Mrs. Robina Ather, Additional Secretary, Ministry




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of Commerce. Mrs. Robina Ather, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce would coordinate with other focal persons.

- II. Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan would share the draft on Trilateral Transit Trade Agreement with the other members and seek their view/comments.
- III. On receipt of input from member countries, first draft would be prepared by the end of February.
- IV. Second Trilateral meeting would be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in the mid week of March, 2015 where the first draft of the agreement would be presented for discussion and final draft.
- V. The Agreement would be presented for signing in the third meeting which will be held in Kabul, Afghanistan in the end March, 2015.


5. *Done and signed on the 3rd January, 2015 at Islamabad, Pakistan..*



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Acting Minister for
Commerce & Industries,
Islamic Republic of
Afghanistan



**MOHAMMAD
SHEHZAD ARBAB**
Secretary Commerce,
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NAZRIEV S.R
Deputy Minister for
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