



**Roundtable Meeting for SAARC Study on “SAARC
Regional Economic Integration (Phase II)
41st Floor Magellan Room, Discovery Suites
Manila, Philippines
24-25 March 2014**

24 March 2014

0800 – 0830	Registration
0830 – 0845	SESSION 1: OPENING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deputy Director General, Hun Kim, South Asia Department, ADB• Ms. Lakshmanan Savithri, SAARC Director for Trade and Finance
0845 – 0900	Group Photo
SESSION 2: MOVING TOWARDS SOUTH ASIAN ECONOMIC UNION	
0900 - 0930	Presentation 1: Background and Outline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background of the Study• Outline of the Study “Moving Towards South Asia Economic Union” Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Cuong Minh Nguyen, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB• Dr. Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Executive Director, SANEM
0930 – 1015	Presentation 2: SAFTA Liberalization – Progress, Challenges, and Prospects Moderator: Ms. Lakshmanan Savithri, SAARC Director for Trade and Finance Speaker: Dr. Ather Maqsood Ahmed, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan (To be presented by Dr. Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Executive Director, SANEM) Discussant: Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh Open Discussion
1015 - 1030	Coffee break

1030 – 1115	<p>Presentation 3: Informal Trade in SAARC Moderator: Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Nisha Taneja, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), India Discussant: Dr. Binti Ferdous, SANEM Fellow, South Asian Network on Economic Modeling, Bangladesh</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1115 – 1200	<p>Presentation 4: Services Liberalization Moderator: Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute for Policy Studies of Sri Lanka</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Rupa Chanda, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, India (To be presented by Dr. Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Relations (ICRIER), India) Discussant: Ms. Loreli de Dios, Executive Director, Center for the Advancement of Trade Integration and Facilitation (CATIF), Philippines</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1200 - 1400	Lunch (22 nd Floor, Serendipity Lounge)
1400 – 1445	<p>Presentation 5: Regional Investment Cooperation Moderator: Dr. Mohammad A. Razzaque, Adviser and Head, International Trade and Regional Cooperation, Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Additional Research Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh Discussant: Dr. Rashmi Banga, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1445 – 1530	<p>Presentation 6: Labor Mobility and Remittances Moderator: Dr. Mostafa Abid Khan, Director, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), India Discussant: Dr. Guntur Sugiyarto, Senior Economist, ADB</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1530 – 1545	Coffee Break
1545 – 1630	<p>Presentation 7: Trade Facilitation and Transport Connectivity Moderator: Mr. Ahmar Ismail, SAARC Director for Transport/Energy</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Prabir De, Senior Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India Discussant: Mr. Puspa Sharma, Research Director, South Asia Watch on Trade Economics and Environment (SAWTEE)</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>

1630- 1715	<p>Presentation 8: Economic Corridors and Subregional Cooperation Moderator: Mr. Cuong Minh Nguyen, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Prabir De, Senior Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India Discussant: Dr. Mostafa Abid Khan, Director, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1715 – 1730	<p>Closing Day 1 Mr. Ronald Antonio Q. Butiong, Unit Head, South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation, ADB</p>
1800 - 2000	Cocktails (42 nd Floor, Columbus)

25 March 2014

SESSION 3: MOVING TOWARDS SOUTH ASIAN ECONOMIC UNION	
0845 - 0915	<p>Recap of Day 1 Discussion and Agenda for Day 2 Dr. Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Executive Director, SANEM</p>
0915 - 1000	<p>Presentation 9: Regional Integration and Poverty Reduction Moderator: Mr. Dhan B. Oli, SAARC Director for Social Issues and Poverty</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute for Policy Studies of Sri Lanka Discussant: Dr. PV Srinivasan, Evaluation Specialist, IED2, ADB</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1000 - 1015	Coffee Break
1015 - 1100	<p>Presentation 10: Identification of Priority Sectors for Fast Track Liberalization and Quantitative Assessment Of Phases Of Regional Economic Integration Moderator: Dr. Guntur Sugiyarto, Senior Economist, ADB</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Executive Director, SANEM Discussant: Dr. Jayant Menon, Lead Economist (Trade and Regional Cooperation), ADB</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1100 – 1145	<p>Presentation 11: Integrating South Asia with the Regional and Global Value Chain Moderator: Dr.Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Executive Director, SANEM</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Nobuaki Yamashita, Senior Lecturer, La Trobe University, Australia Discussant: Dr. Mohammad A. Razzaque, Adviser and Head, International Trade and Regional Cooperation, Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>

1145 - 1400	Lunch (22 nd Floor, Serendipity Lounge)
1400 – 1445	<p>Presentation 12: Capital and Financial Markets Moderator: Dr. Sabyasachi Mitra, Principal Economist, ADB</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Stephen Wells, Independent Consultant Discussant: Ms. Jennifer Romero Torres, Financial Sector Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1445 – 1530	<p>Presentation 13: Energy Cooperation Moderator: Mr. Ahmar Ismail, SAARC Director for Transport/Energy</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. PN Fernando, Independent Consultant, Sri Lanka Discussant: Dr. Priyantha Wijayatunga, Principal Energy Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1530 - 1545	Coffee Break
1545 - 1630	<p>Presentation 14: Political Economy of Regional Integration in South Asia Moderator: Mr. Dhan B. Oli, SAARC Director for Social Issues and Poverty</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Amitav Acharya, UNESCO Chair in Transnational Challenges and Governance, American University, USA (To be presented by Dr. Sabyasachi Mitra, Principal Economist, ADB) Discussant: Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute for Policy Studies, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
1630 - 1715	<p>Presentation 15: Institutional Arrangement for SAEU Moderator: Mr.Tareque Muhammad, SAARC Director for Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>Speaker: Mr.Cuong Minh Nguyen, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB Discussant: Dr. Mostafa Abid Khan, Director, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute</p> <p>Open Discussion</p>
SESSION 4: CLOSING	
1715:1730	<p>Closing Remarks Sekhar Bonu, Director, SARC, ADB</p>