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Second Meeting of the SASEC Customs Subgroup (SCS-2)
22-23 May 2014
Kathmandu, Nepal
AGENDA
 (as of 19 May 2014)

Chair:
Mr. Surya Prasad Acharya, Director General
Department of Customs
Ministry of Finance
Government of Nepal

Expected participants:	SASEC Customs Officials (Director General [DG]/ Deputy DG level), ADB, World Customs Organization (WCO)
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To discuss and agree on an action plan for the customs-related strategic thrusts under the SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework (TFSF). 2. To discuss and agree on national and regional capacity building programs for the SCS based on the customs-related strategic thrusts under the SASEC TFSF. 3. To discuss a proposed study on electronic exchange of trade related documents between and among SASEC countries.
Day 1	SCS-2
0845 – 0900	Registration
0900 – 0930	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by Chair of the Meeting Mr. Surya Prasad Acharya Director General, Department of Customs, Ministry of Finance Government of Nepal • Opening Remarks by Asian Development Bank (ADB) Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama Country Director ADB Resident Mission in Nepal • Opening Speech by Chief Guest Mr. Yuba Raj Bhusal Secretary, Ministry of Finance

	<p>Government of Nepal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief Opening Statements by Heads of Country Delegations <p><i>Closing of Opening Session to be followed by Group Photo</i></p>
0930 – 1045	<p>Session 1: The SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework</p> <p>ADB representatives will present the SASEC TFSF, focusing on the customs-related strategic thrusts. An updated state of play in the four countries' customs modernization initiatives, including a summary of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation and associated requirements will also be presented.</p> <p>Open discussion will follow.</p>
<i>1045 – 1100</i>	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>
1100 – 1230	<p>Session 2: Work Plan on Customs under the TFSF</p> <p>ADB representative will present a proposed work plan for 2014-2015 for the customs-related strategic thrusts of the SASEC TFSF.</p> <p>SCS-2 participants will discuss the proposed work plan with a view to reaching agreement thereon.</p>
<i>1230 – 1400</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
1400 – 1500	<p>Session 3: Capacity Building Program for the SCS</p> <p>WCO representative will present a proposed capacity building program for the SASEC Customs Subgroup. ADB representatives will present existing capacity building programs in Customs in the SASEC countries.</p> <p>Following the presentations, SCS-2 participants will discuss with a view to reaching agreement on a capacity building program to accompany the SCS work plan 2014-2015.</p>
1500 – 1600	<p>Session 4: Proposed Study on Electronic Exchange of Trade-Related Information</p> <p>ADB representative will lead the discussions on a proposed study on the electronic exchange of trade-related information.</p> <p>SCS-2 participants will seek to reach agreement on the objectives, scope, and implementation arrangements of the proposed study.</p>
<i>1600 – 1630</i>	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>

1630 – 1700	<p>Session 5: Consideration of Summary of SCS-2</p> <p>The Chair/Co-Chair will go over the summary proceedings of the SCS-2 paragraph by paragraph with a view to adopting it.</p>
1700 – 1715	<p>Date and Venue of the SCS-3 and Closing Session</p> <p>The SCS-2 participants will agree on the date and venue of the SCS-3.</p> <p>The Co-Chair and the Chair will give their respective closing remarks.</p>
<i>1900 – 2100</i>	<i>Cocktails hosted by ADB</i>
Day 2	Knowledge Sharing Workshop: Promoting Use of ICT in Customs
0930 – 1230	Resource person(s) will share their knowledge and facilitate discussion among SCS-2 participants on the use of ICT in Customs. This is in line with Strategic Thrust 2 of the SASEC TFSP (<i>Increase application of ICT processing</i>).
0930 – 1000	<p>Presentation on World Customs Organization (WCO) Guidelines on Customs Automation</p> <p>Mr. Theo Hesselink, Officer, WCO Q & A</p>
1000 – 1030	<p>Presentation on Experience of ASEAN on the Single Window</p> <p>Mr. Dennis Pantastico, ASEAN Single Window Lead Q & A</p>
<i>1030 – 1045</i>	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>
1045 – 1115	<p>Presentation on Experience of India on the Use of ICT in Customs</p> <p>Mr. Gopal Jha, Deputy Director, DG Systems Central Board of Excise and Customs, Government of India Q & A</p>
1115 – 1145	<p>Presentation on Experience of Japan on the Use of ICT in Customs</p> <p>Mr. Masaki Shimakage, Director for Tariff Policy and Legal Affairs Japan Customs and Tariff Bureau Q & A</p>
1145 – 1215	General Discussion
1215 – 1230	Wrap Up and Closing
<i>1230 – 1400</i>	<i>Lunch</i>