



GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION

13th Economic Corridors Forum

3 NOVEMBER 2022 | PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

10:00–12:50 H Manila/Beijing time, 09:00–11:50 H Bangkok/Ha Noi/Phnom
Penh/Vientiane time, 08:30–11:20 H Nay Pyi Taw time

Host: People's Republic of China

Theme: *Gearing Up the Economic Recovery Along GMS Economic Corridors by Digitalization, Integration and Inclusiveness*

Program / Agenda	
Chair:	Mr. Yu Benlin Director General Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs Ministry of Commerce, Peoples Republic of China
Co-Chair:	Mr. Ramesh Subramaniam Director General Southeast Asia Department Asian Development Bank
10:00 – 10:40 MNL time (40 mins)	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome Remarks (recorded message) by H.E. WANG Shouwen, Chief International Trade Representative and Vice Minister, Ministry of Commerce, People's Republic of China Delegation• Opening Statements: Heads of Country Delegations• Opening Remarks: Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Co-Chair)• Opening Remarks (recorded message) by Mr. ZHANG Wencai, Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of China
	Group Photo
Part I. <u>Connectivity</u> - Deepening Economic Integration Along the Corridors	



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<p>10:40 – 11:18</p> <p>(38 min)</p>	<p>1. Enhancing Trade and Investment Facilitation and Liberalization: Collaboration through the GMS Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Terms of Reference of the GMS Task Force on Trade and Investment have been finalized in consultation with the GMS countries and a short-to-medium term work plan for the Task Force is also being developed, with certain parts focusing on economic corridor development. ECF-13 will be briefed about, and their views sought, on this plan.• The discussion can also focus on possible next steps to conduct concrete trade and investment collaboration activities under the Task Force to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and promote inclusive regional economic development. <p><i>(Presentation by Mr. Antonio Ressano, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB GMS Secretariat.)</i></p> <p><i>(6 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion)</i></p>
	<p>2. Facilitating the Implementation of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and other Regional Free Trade Agreements among GMS Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership or (RCEP), one of the most important Free Trade Agreements in the region, came into effect at the beginning of this year. All GMS countries are Parties to it. The session will discuss how GMS countries and the subregion will benefit from RCEP, and how the GMS Program may help countries to address the difficulties in implementing RCEP and other regional FTAs through capacity building projects, including under the GMS Task Force on Trade and Investment. Presentation will focus on relevance of RCEP and FTAs with Economic Corridor Development. <i>(Presentation by Mr. REN Minghua, Deputy Director, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, PRC)</i>• ADB will present on its research on RCEP. <i>(Presentation by Ms. Pramila Crivelli, Economist, Economic Research and Development Department, ADB)</i> <p><i>[The presentation/discussion of this topic will be led by the Host (PRC), together with ADB.]</i></p> <p><i>(12 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion)</i></p>



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Part II. Enhancing Economic Corridor <u>Competitiveness</u>	
11:18 – 12:07 (49 min)	<p>3. Strengthening Cooperation on the Digital Economy in the GMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation on GMS Digital Economy Initiative proposed by PRC. As the digital economy is becoming one of the most important drivers of innovation, competitiveness and growth, this initiative is aimed to strengthen collaboration among GMS countries in this area to help members bridge the gap, seize the opportunities and reap the benefits of digital economy, especially in the post pandemic era and in relation to economic corridor development.• AIIB will also share its findings and suggestions on ways to promote digital economy cooperation in the GMS, especially regarding digital hardware infrastructure construction cooperation.• Report on the latest progress of the GMS Cross-Border E-commerce Platform and the related Business discussion on ways to further deepen cooperation in cross-border E-commerce as well as start cooperation on other areas of digital economy, to help the Platform better suit members needs to cope with the opportunities and challenges of the fast-developing digital economy. <p><i>[Presentations to be made by (i) Ms. WEI Qing, Deputy Director, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, PRC; (ii) Mr. Ivan Rossignol, Senior Strategy Advisor, Strategy, Policy and Budget Department of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB); and (iii) MOFCOM PRC, Yunnan Province.]</i></p> <p><i>(18 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for discussion)</i></p> <p>4. Update on the study on the Development of a Specific Section of the North-South Economic Corridor [Viet Nam (Ha Noi)–Lao PDR (Vientiane)] (NSEC-8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background of the study; its objectives and expected outputs; current status of work; and the next steps. <p><i>(Presentation by Dr. Filologo Pante, Jr., NSEC-8 Study Team Leader, ADB GMS Secretariat.)</i></p> <p><i>(6 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion)</i></p>



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Part III. Building <u>Community</u> along the GMS Economic Corridors	
12:07 – 12:39 (32 min)	<p>5. Encouraging Local Governments Engagement in the GMS Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation on the latest progress of GMS Governors Forum (GF), including the preparatory work for the next GF and future activities that could be undertaken to further strengthen engagement of local governments along GMS economic corridors. <p><i>[Presentation can be made by PRC Yunnan Province/MOFCOM]</i> <i>(6 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for open discussion)</i></p>
	<p>6. Strengthening Development Partners Engagement in GMS Economic Corridor Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under this session, the GMS Secretariat will present the study on possible ways to further strengthen, broaden and deepen development partners engagement in the GMS <i>Program</i>, particularly focusing on economic corridor development. <i>(Presentation by Mr. Pradeep Srivastava, Study Team Leader, ADB GMS Secretariat)</i> <p><i>(6 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for open discussion.)</i></p>
12:39 – 12:44 (5 min)	<p>Consideration of the Joint Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries will do a final review of the proposed ECF-13 Joint Statement and approve its finalized version. <p>Welcome the GMS Digital Economy Initiative</p>
12:44 – 12:50 (6 min)	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrap-up by Co-Chair• Closing Remarks by Chair