



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

No. SWG/739

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honour to forward the following documents as at the time of closure of the Special Working Group (SWG) meeting on 13-14 June 2023:

- Recommendations of the SWG (SWG/2023-II/INF/2);
- Draft Road Map for CICA Transformation (MC/2023/CHAIR/1/Rev.1) as agreed by the SWG;
- Draft decision of the CICA Ministerial Council on a Road Map for CICA Transformation (MC/2023/DRAFT/3/Rev.1) as agreed by the SWG;
- Draft decision of the CICA Ministerial Council on Modalities of CBM Implementation (MC/2023/DRAFT/4) as considered by the SWG;
- Draft statement of the CICA Ministerial Council on Promoting Volunteerism for Sustainable Development (MC/2023/DRAFT/5) as considered by the SWG.

*Enclosure:
as stated,
on 16 p.*

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Astana, 14 June 2023

**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES
IN ASIA**





**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

№ SWG/739

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь препроводить следующие документы по состоянию на момент закрытия заседания Специальной рабочей группы (СРГ), состоявшегося 13-14 июня 2023 года:

- Рекомендации СРГ (SWG/2023-II/INF/2);
- Проект Дорожной карты трансформации СВМДА (МС/2023/CHAIR/1/Rev.1), согласованный СРГ;
- Проект решения Совета министров СВМДА о Дорожной карте трансформации СВМДА (МС/2023/DRAFT/3/Rev.1), согласованный СРГ;
- Проект решения Совета министров СВМДА о модальностях реализации мер доверия (МС/2023/DRAFT/4), рассмотренный СРГ;
- Проект Заявления Совета министров СВМДА о поощрении добровольчества в интересах устойчивого развития (МС/2023/DRAFT/5), рассмотренный СРГ.

*Приложение:
упомянутое,
на 16 л.*

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

Астана, 14 июня 2023 г.



**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (Азия Кеңесі немесе АӨСШК) Хатшылығы Азия Кеңесінің мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, 2023 жылғы 13-14 маусымда өткен Арнаулы жұмыс тобы (АЖТ) отырысының қорытындысы бойынша келесі құжаттарды жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды:

- АЖТ ұсынымдары (SWG/2023-II/INF/2);
- АЖТ-мен келісілген АӨСШК трансформациясы жол картасының жобасы (MC/2023/CHAIR/1/Rev.1);
- АЖТ-мен келісілген АӨСШК трансформациясының жол картасы туралы АӨСШК Министрлері кеңесі шешімінің жобасы (MC/2023/DRAFT/3/Rev.1);
- АЖТ қараған Сенім шараларын жүзеге асыру әдістері туралы АӨСШК Министрлері кеңесі шешімінің жобасы (MC/2023/DRAFT/4);
- АЖТ қараған Тұрақты даму үшін еріктілікті ілгерілету туралы АӨСШК Министрлері кеңесі мәлімдесінің жобасы (MC/2023/DRAFT/5).

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, Азия Кеңесінің мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Астана қаласы, 2023 жылғы 14 маусым

Қосымша:
аталған, 16 п.

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНІҢ
МҮШЕ МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРІ**



Secretariat

RECOMMENDATIONS
of the Special Working Group meeting on 13-14 June 2023

The Special Working Group (SWG) at its meeting held in Astana on 13-14 June 2023 in a hybrid mode recommended the following:

1. The SWG considered the draft Road Map for CICA Transformation (RMT) as contained in document MC/2023/CHAIR/1 of 11 May 2023 and the draft Ministerial Council (MC) decision on the RMT as contained in document MC/2023/DRAFT/3 of 11 May 2023 and amended them during the SWG meeting. The SWG recommended to the Senior Officials Committee (SOC) that it approve the draft RMT for endorsement by the MC through the adoption of the draft MC decision on the RMT.
2. The SWG considered the draft MC decision on Modalities of Implementation of CICA Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) proposed by the Secretary General in document MC/2023/SEC/1 of 12 May 2023, agreed to continue its consideration and invited Member States to provide their comments to the Secretariat until 15 July 2023. The SWG recommended that the SOC consider this document and determine the level of its adoption.
3. The SWG considered the draft statement of the CICA Ministerial Council on Promoting Volunteerism for Sustainable Development as circulated by Secretariat Note No. SWG/694 of 7 June 2023 and agreed to continue its consideration, with a view to its adoption by the MC at its informal meeting on 21 September 2023 in New York on the margins of the UN General Assembly session.

4. The SWG recommended to the SOC that it approve the Russian Federation as coordinator and China as co-coordinator in the priority area “Security of and in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)” for 2024-2025 and accordingly amend the list of coordinating and co-coordinating countries for implementing CBMs under priority areas of CICA dimensions.

5. The SWG continued consideration of the offer of Iraq to assume the role of co-coordinator in the priority area “Combating Terrorism”.

6. Israel submitted to the SWG its offer to assume the role of co-coordinator in the priority area “Sustainable Development”.



Chairmanship of Kazakhstan

DRAFT ROAD MAP FOR CICA TRANSFORMATION

This Road Map for CICA Transformation (RMT) is developed pursuant to the decisions of the Sixth CICA Summit set forth in paragraphs 1, 2 and 6 of the Astana Statement on CICA Transformation of 13 October 2022.

This document aims at assisting the Member States in determining the details of the transformation process and making a meaningful practical step, and therefore offers a structured agenda for negotiations.

The following open-ended and non-exhaustive list of areas, or clusters of transformation, is hereby proposed for detailed discussion by the Member States and taking decisions on specific measures under any cluster as and when appropriate.

1. Elaborating a charter,
2. Improving current modalities of implementation of CICA confidence building measures (CBMs) until completion of the transformation process and exploring focus areas of our cooperation within the future organization,
3. Defining the international status of the Secretariat contracted personnel, including amendments to the Host Country Agreement,
4. Updating the Rules of Procedure,
5. Updating the Guidelines for External Relations,
6. Defining the role and functions of the Secretary General and the Secretariat,

7. Elaborating budget reform,

8. Elaborating human resources management reform, including making the Secretariat more internationalized.



Chairmanship of Kazakhstan

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CICA MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

on a Road Map for CICA Transformation

The CICA Ministerial Council,

- Pursuant to the decisions of the Sixth CICA Summit set forth in paragraphs 1, 2 and 6 of the Astana Statement on CICA Transformation of 13 October 2022,
- Recalling that transformation of CICA into a full-fledged regional international organization is a structured, inclusive, transparent, gradual, incremental and consensus-based negotiations process,
- Reaffirming the goals of the CICA transformation process: defining the overarching areas of future cooperation and strengthening the organizational and institutional base of our interaction,
- Taking into account the deliberations at the Senior Officials Committee (SOC) and proposals made so far by Member States, the Chairmanship and the Secretary General,
- Aiming at facilitating the transformation process and making meaningful practical steps, and therefore at setting a structured agenda for these negotiations,

Decides to

1. Endorse the Road Map for CICA Transformation (RMT) proposed by the Chairmanship (MC/2023/CHAIR/1/Rev.1) as a guiding document setting an open-ended and non-exhaustive list of areas in which the Member States will consider taking necessary measures within the transformation process.
2. Request the SOC to continue discussion of all elements of the RMT, including at the working and expert level, take necessary decisions or submit recommendations for decision-making by the Ministerial Council or Summit.
3. Request the Chairmanship, with support of the Secretary General, to coordinate and facilitate the negotiation process for decision-making by the Member States.



Chairmanship of Kazakhstan

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CICA MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

**on Modalities of Implementation
of CICA Confidence Building Measures**

The Member States of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA),

Reaffirming that

- the confidence building measures (CBMs) agreed in the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures are recommendatory in nature and implemented on a gradual and voluntary basis,
- any Member State may choose to implement any CBM on bilateral or multilateral basis, where feasible and appropriate,
- the CBMs selected by Member States for implementation should be pursued in good faith and to the full extent possible,
- CICA CBMs are without prejudice to other CBMs, security agreements and/or arrangements on arms control and disarmament, to which the Member States are parties, and these measures will not affect the rights and obligations under these agreements and/or arrangements, and
- CICA CBMs do not prevent the Member States from adopting other CBMs among themselves or with other states,

Have adopted the following general modalities for implementation of measures agreed in the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures.

Chapter 1. Terms of Reference of Coordinators and Co-coordinators

Functions

1.1 Any Member State may wish to express its interest to implementation of CBMs in a specific priority area by offering itself as a Coordinator or Co-coordinator in that area. This is without prejudice to the right of other Member States to proactively implement or voluntarily initiate any activity under the Catalogue of CBMs.

1.2 The Coordinator shall exercise the leading role in the promotion of implementation of CBMs in the assigned priority area, shall draft a concept paper on cooperation in that priority area and will have a special role within the mechanism of regular review of CBM implementation.

1.3 The Member State completing the duties of Coordinator shall issue a report to all Member States summarizing progress achieved in CBM implementation in the assigned priority area during its tenure, which may also contain forward-looking recommendations.

1.4 The Co-coordinators shall support the Coordinator in its work, including in the drafting of the concept paper. The Coordinator and Co-coordinators shall work in close cooperation with each other and the Secretariat.

1.5 The Coordinator and Co-coordinators may, individually or together, submit any recommendations for consideration and decision-making by the CICA Member States pertaining to the priority area that they coordinate. Such recommendations will be submitted through the CICA Chairmanship to the relevant CICA governing body according to the established decision-making procedures.

1.6 The Coordinator and Co-coordinators may prepare an action plan to facilitate practical implementation of the concept paper in the assigned priority area.

1.7 The Coordinator and Co-coordinators, in consultation with the CICA Chairmanship and with the assistance of the Secretariat, may convene and organize CICA expert meetings for any purpose pertaining to implementation of their functions and requiring consultations with all Member States.

1.8 The Coordinator, Co-coordinators or the Secretariat may solicit expert, scientific and professional contributions from Member States and relevant CICA advisory bodies, such as the Business Council, Youth Council, Think Tank Forum and, through the CICA Chairmanship, the Council Eminent Persons, as necessary for appropriate implementation of CICA CBMs.

Appointment and extension

1.9 The Coordinators and Co-coordinators shall be appointed by the Senior Officials Committee (SOC). As a rule, there will be one Coordinator per priority area and there will be no limit to the number of Co-coordinators per priority area.

1.10 A Member State intending to assume the role of Coordinator or Co-coordinator in a specific priority area shall inform all CICA Member States about its intention through the CICA Chairmanship and the Secretariat in writing, indicating the proposed tenure [, which should be not less than two and not more than four years]. (-IND)

1.11 In the event of absence of a Coordinator in a priority area, one of the Co-coordinators in that area may temporarily take up the role of Coordinator upon consent of the other Co-Coordinators in the same area until a new Coordinator is appointed.

1.12 Any Coordinator or Co-coordinator may extend its term of service for a certain period subject to approval by the SOC and may voluntarily terminate its term at any time. The request for extension or the notice of early termination must be sent to all Member States through the Secretariat sufficiently in advance of the expiration of the current tenure or the termination of duties.

Chapter 2. Concept papers and action plans in priority areas

Concept papers

2.1 To facilitate implementation of CICA CBMs, the Member States will develop, approve and regularly update concept papers on cooperation in specific priority areas of the CICA Catalogue of CBMs, which shall serve as guidelines for voluntary implementation of respective CBMs.

2.2 The concept paper should as a rule provide, within the respective priority area, a general framework and main directions for cooperation among CICA Member States, as well as rationale, background, aims, objectives and approaches to the implementation of related CBMs. The document should also propose specific thematic areas or issues to address under certain CBMs, as well as any other guidance to facilitate and promote voluntary implementation of CBMs. The concept papers may also suggest, within agreed CBMs, new spheres or forms of cooperation, types of activity or ways to further develop and strengthen CICA activities.

2.3 The draft concept paper shall be prepared by the respective Coordinator in consultation with the Co-coordinators and, if needed, with the expert assistance of the Secretariat.

2.4 The concept papers shall be approved by the SOC following consideration by all Member States by the means of written communication through the Secretariat and/or at CICA expert meetings, Special Working Group (SWG) meetings or SOC meetings.

2.5 In the event of the prolongation of consideration by the Member States beyond six months since the issuance of the first draft, the Coordinator shall convene CICA expert meetings to facilitate consultations and finalize the document as soon as possible.

2.6 The concept paper should specify its applicability period, preferably between two and four years, which may coincide with the term of the respective Coordinator. The Coordinator shall ensure that the concept paper is always up to date with current realities and its applicability period extended on time before expiration.

2.7 Any new Coordinator shall propose a new or an updated concept paper at the time of its application for coordinatorship or not later than three months following the appointment as Coordinator.

Action plans

2.8 An action plan to facilitate practical implementation of objectives, approaches and initiatives reflected in the concept paper may be elaborated by the Coordinator and Co-coordinators in consultation with and for information of all Member States.

2.9 The action plan should as a rule contain concrete proposals for specific activities, projects, events or any other practical actions, with timelines, organizational modalities and any other useful information, and should be regularly updated by the Coordinator and Co-coordinators.

Chapter 3. Review of CBM implementation

3.1 The Member States will regularly review implementation of CICA CBMs in order to identify the most effective and suitable CBMs for wider implementation in the CICA region and, when necessary, will modify or amend those CBMs or approve new CBMs by consensus.

3.2 To that end, the SOC will hold regular review of implementation of CBMs not less than once a year, with focus on specific dimensions, priority areas or CBMs.

3.3 Within the regular review at the SOC, Member States will analyze and assess CBM implementation activities in the respective priority areas or dimensions, including their practical impact and effectiveness, lessons learned, experience gained and ways of further strengthening implementation.

3.4 The SOC will also review the need to update concept papers and action plans in priority areas, consider inclusion of new CBMs or priority areas in the CICA Catalogue of CBMs or modification of existing CBMs, and take any other necessary actions and decisions pertaining to CBM implementation.

3.5 The Coordinators and Co-coordinators will be expected to make a written contribution in preparation to the SOC review, express their views at the SOC review meeting and take necessary follow-up actions.

Chapter 4. Exchange of information

4.1 The Member States may exchange information within the context of CBMs agreed upon by them. They may also consider submitting this information to the CICA Secretariat for further dissemination among all Member States.

4.2 The Member State receiving information under a CICA CBM for its own use cannot disclose, publish or transfer it to any third party without the consent of the Member States providing such information.

Chapter 5. Final provisions

5.1 This document further develops and supersedes provisions of Chapter 3 "Modalities for implementation of CBMs in the aforementioned priority areas" of the CICA Catalogue of CBMs (as updated in 2021).

5.2 The SOC may amend this document and further improve general modalities of CBM implementation. As necessary, the SOC may decide to establish modalities for specific types of CBMs or specific forms of CBM implementation, such as the SOC General Guidelines for Conducting Events on Implementation of CICA CBMs of 23 June 2021.

5.3 The CICA Secretariat shall provide administrative, organizational and technical support to the Member States in implementation of CBMs, acting as a clearing house for the documents and information provided by the Member States. The Secretariat shall serve as a focal point for facilitating coordination, communication and information exchange among Member States on CBM implementation, shall provide substantive, analytical and expert advice to Member States at their request and may propose specific activities within the framework of the CICA Catalogue of CBMs.



Chairmanship of Kazakhstan

DRAFT CICA MINISTERIAL COUNCIL STATEMENT

on Promoting Volunteerism for Sustainable Development

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), having met for an informal meeting of the CICA Ministerial Council in New York on 21 September 2023,

- *Emphasizing* the importance of integration of volunteerism, as appropriate, into national development planning and strategies;
- *Recognizing* the great potential of volunteering, in line with national policies and priorities, in promoting social cohesion, good neighbourliness, peace and cooperation through non-political and non-profit activities and initiatives;
- *Acknowledging* that volunteering is a powerful and cross-cutting means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- *Recalling* numerous UN General Assembly resolutions, including UNGA Resolution A/RES/73/140 Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNGA Resolution A/RES/70/129 Integrating Volunteering into Peace and Development: the Plan of Action for the Next Decade and Beyond and UNGA Resolution A/RES/76/131 Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations Volunteers Programme and Twentieth Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers;
- *Recognizing* the role of the UN Volunteers Programme in promoting volunteerism worldwide as well as its fruitful cooperation with CICA Member States;

- *Giving support* to activities fostering the recognition and promotion of volunteering and ensuring a shift from ad hoc and isolated volunteer projects to systematic scaled work to enhance the sustainability of development outcomes;
- *Stressing* the crucial role of volunteerism in reducing unemployment, poverty, social exclusion, environmental degradation, disaster risk and damage caused by pandemics, as well as in promoting good health, quality education and well-being;
- *Underlining* the importance of volunteerism for promoting respect for [intercivilizational and intercultural exchanges] (+IRAN) [[cultural [and religious] (-CHN)] (+IND) diversity [[of civilizations] (-CHN), [exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations] (+CHN)]] (-IND) (-IRAN) and its role in strengthening friendly relations, mutual understanding, trust and tolerance among peoples;

Hereby decided to:

1. Acknowledge the importance of volunteerism, especially among the youth as the most socially active group of people, in mitigating the negative impact of unemployment, poverty, social exclusion, environmental degradation, disaster risk, and damage caused by pandemics and other challenges, particularly in exercising an active role in national responses and recovery, promoting good health, quality education and achieving Sustainable Development Goals in accordance with national laws and regulations;
2. Encourage recognition of the volunteers' efforts both at the national and international levels;
3. Support the initiative of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan to declare the International Year of Volunteer Mobilization for Development under the auspices of the United Nations;
4. Improve the measures taken by the CICA Member States in order to promote active engagement of citizens in volunteering;

5. Participate in a Rally of Volunteer Movement Leaders of the CICA Member States to be held in Astana in 2024 under the auspices of the CICA Youth Council;

6. Encourage volunteers from the CICA Member States to take part in relevant initiatives of each other in order to support and popularize volunteerism at the regional level; welcome such initiatives with CICA engagement as the UN Volunteer Knowledge Portal on Volunteerism, International Prize and International Civic Participation Forum “We are Together”, ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme.

7. Support the platform of the CICA Youth Council to promote volunteerism as a positive socially amicable phenomenon to unleash and utilize the potential of the youth; use the CICA Youth Council to promote volunteerism in a comprehensive and consensus-based way;

8. Reaffirm CICA’s readiness to share experience, technical know-how and exchange best practices and plans among Member States to promote volunteerism and volunteer exchanges in a transparent and consensus-based manner;

9. Create a favourable environment intrinsic to volunteer work or volunteerism for citizens of the CICA Member States, especially for the youth, to participate in volunteer activities, both onsite and online;

10. Promote the development and implementation of joint volunteer programmes and projects (festivals, conferences, volunteer expeditions, etc.) related to a broad range of issues;

[11. Promote volunteers’ participation in programmes and projects related to multiculturalism, ethnic and religious tolerance and intercultural dialogue;] (-IRAN) (+AZER)

[11altern. Promote [tolerance and] (+TUR) volunteers’ participation in intercultural [and intercivilizational] (+TUR) programmes and projects;] (+IRAN) (AZER tcb)

12. Promote the creation of a network of volunteer centres, involving organizations, student and youth groups, public associations directly engaged in volunteer activities;

13. Support the development and promotion of modern electronic systems and databases for volunteers [, and encourage to assign country operators responsible for supporting and promoting such platforms] (CHN tcb) in the CICA Member States;

14. Promote training and courses to develop technical skills and relevant competencies for volunteers.

[15. Encourage the Member States to consider integrating volunteerism for sustainable development into the CICA agenda; encourage the Member States and other stakeholders to consider continuously sharing information about their policies, strategies, research and good practices on volunteering for sustainable development; request the Secretary General to examine the possibility of establishing a section on the CICA website for that purpose, and report to the Member States.] (+IRAN) (SEC tcb)