

**Opening remarks
by CICA Secretary General Ambassador Kairat Sarybay
at the Informal Meeting of the CICA Ministerial Council
New York, 21 September 2023**



CICA Transformation

The Astana Statement on CICA Transformation - tasks for the Secretariat:

- (1) submit proposals for amendments to the relevant CICA documents and
- (2) assist the Chairmanship in making proposals on a transformation road map.

Done: Consultations on CICA transformation with Member States in 2023 - visits and high-level meetings.

Done: Developing a detailed set of proposals under each cluster of the transformation road map.

CICA Business Council

- The CICA Business Council has held the meeting of its Board in August in preparation of its annual plenary meeting, to be held on 13 October 2023 in Turkestan (Kazakhstan), traditionally together with the Business Forum.
- The CICA Business Council in 2023 will discuss green finance, renewable energy and food security.



CICA Youth Council

- At the initiative of Uzbekistan, the CICA Youth Council meeting will be convened in Samarkand on 12 October 2023.
- One of priority initiatives of the Kazakh Chairmanship is to hold a CICA Rally of Volunteer Movement Leaders in 2024 in Astana under the auspices of the CICA Youth Council. To that end, a preparatory event was held at the International Volunteer Forum in Astana on 20 June 2023 in the form of a dedicated panel session.



CICA Think Tank Forum

The CICA Think Tank Forum held a successful 11th annual meeting in China at the end of August on the role and mission of CICA, including on its innovation as an international organization.



CICA Council of Eminent Persons

The CICA Council of Eminent Persons, established by you at the Sixth Ministerial Meeting in Astana in October 2021, still cannot start its work due to a stalemate on the issue of its composition resulting from the lack of consensus on one of candidates.



CICA Fund

The CICA Fund established in October 2022 by the Sixth CICA Summit is a mechanism of cooperation designed to be driven by Member States.



CBM implementation

- Since the update of the CICA Catalogue of CBMs in 2021 eight concept papers in the priority areas of CICA CBMs were updated:
 - Security of and in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)
 - Development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
 - Tourism
 - Development of secure and effective systems of transportation corridors
 - Agriculture
 - Finance
 - Sustainable development
 - Human dimension

**Implementation of CICA confidence building measures (CBMs)
during the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan in 2021-2023**

No.	Type of the event / meetings	2021	2022	09/2023	Total (events / meetings)
Events implemented within CICA confidence building measures					
1.	Military-political dimension	1	1	1	3 events
2.	New challenges and threats dimension	9	12	3	24 events
3.	Economic dimension	16	6	3	25 events
4.	Environmental dimension	6	5	4	15 events
5.	Human dimension	2	-	3	5 events
Total - CBM events <i>(per year and combined)</i>		34	24	14	72 events
Meetings of the CICA bodies					
6.	Governing bodies <i>(Summit, Ministerial Council, Senior Officials Committee)</i>	4	6	2	12 meetings
7.	Working bodies <i>(Special Working Group)</i>	7	6	3	16 meetings
8.	Advisory bodies <i>(Business Council and Business Forum, Youth Council, Think Tank Forum, Council of Eminent Persons, Project Review Committee of the CICA Fund)</i>	3	3	1	7 meetings
Total - Meetings of CICA bodies <i>(per year and combined)</i>		14	15	6	35 meetings
Total - CBM events and meetings of CICA bodies <i>(per year and combined)</i>		48	39	20	107 events and meetings

CBM coordination

- 17 Member States act as coordinators or co-coordinators in one or more priority areas.
- Missing a coordinator in the “Trade and investment” area.
- Issue with co-coordination in the “Combating Terrorism” and “Sustainable Development” areas.
- Hope that the CICA spirit of building trust and confidence will prevail.

CICA-UN Side-Event on SDGs

- Building partnerships and synergies between the UN, CICA and other regional organizations in support of the SDGs.
- Introducing efforts of CICA, UN and other organizations in achieving the SDGs and promoting sustainable development.
- Hosted by CICA Chairmanship of Kazakhstan and CICA Secretariat.
- 22 September 2023, 15:00-16:00, Conference Room 5, UN Headquarters, New York.