

Presentation on Regional Economic Outlook Held on November 14, 2013

On November 14, 2013, Mr. Aidyn Bibolov, IMF Resident Representative in Tajikistan, delivered a presentation on Regional Economic Outlook at the Serena Hotel in Dushanbe.

The event was attended by the Chairman of the National Bank of Tajikistan (NBT) Mr. Shirinov, officials from the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, representatives of the UN agencies, World Bank, ADB, EU, other development agencies, and heads of diplomatic missions in the country. Representatives of commercial banks, private sector associations, and leading mass-media journalists were also present at the meeting.

At the presentation it was noted that countries in the CCA region, including Tajikistan, should continue to build fiscal and external buffers, and introduce more exchange rate flexibility to help mitigate external shocks. Structural reforms can help them achieve sustainable growth and become dynamic emerging markets. A potential slowdown in Russia may create significant downside risks for the growth in the region and Tajikistan.

After the presentation the NBT Chairman discussed the situation in economy, NBT's monetary policy and financial sector developments. At the end of his speech, Mr. Shirinov thanked the IMF for providing support with structural reforms and its continuous advice on sustainable growth and financial stability.

During the Q&A session, the audience particularly commented on the dollarization of the economy and central bank's ability to efficiently conduct its monetary policy in such circumstances. All participants received copies of REO bulletins in English and Russian languages. [Link to an article](#) in Asia Plus.