



**Permanent Mission  
of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan  
to the United Nations – New York**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**Mr. Lutfullah Lutfi**

**First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the  
United Nations**

**Sixth Committee of the 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly**

**Agenda Item 181: Observer Status for the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation  
Institute in the General Assembly**

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**(Please check against delivery)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation has co-sponsored the draft resolution entitled “Observer Status for the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute at the United Nations General Assembly”.

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute is an intergovernmental body, working to promote regional economic cooperation in the Central Asia region through research activities, dissemination of knowledge, and capacity building. It effectively contributes to the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation program, which is a proactive facilitator of regional projects and policy initiatives, aimed at enhancing sustainable economic growth and prosperity in our region.

As a member of the CAREC Program, Afghanistan has substantially benefited from its various projects in the fields of energy, trade, transport, and capacity building. This year, Afghanistan is holding the periodic Chairmanship of the CAREC program and we are looking forward to hosting its 19<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting in December. Our cooperation with the CAREC program is consistent with our vision for regional cooperation, which is to reinforce Afghanistan’s status as a hub for regional trade and connectivity and a land-bridge between our surrounding regions. We, therefore, attach high importance to the work of the CAREC program and the CAREC Institute, as its knowledge support arm.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We are convinced that the objective of the CAREC Institute, which is to promote knowledge and capacity-building for effective regional economic cooperation, is in line with the mandate of the United Nations and a matter of interest for the General Assembly. As such, this organization is well deserved to be granted the observer status at the Assembly.

**I thank you.**