

Draft Terms of Reference

**Mid-Term Review of the
IMT-GT Roadmap for Development 2007 – 2011**

I. Background

1. The IMT-GT Roadmap for Development 2007-2011 was adopted by the Second IMT-GT Summit in 2006 to focus and accelerate cooperation among the three countries. Since that time, the IMT-GT has expanded from 26 to 32 provinces (with the addition of 6 new provinces in Southern Thailand); new connectivity corridors have emerged as important priorities; and other sectoral initiatives have been launched independently of the Roadmap. Despite the steady progress made in the implementation of programs and projects in the Roadmap, the years 2007 and 2008 have posed many challenges --- many of them related to policy-related issues, and the availability of resources. The current global economic recession has compounded these difficulties as Governments have become more deliberate in terms of where they allocate resources. At the same time, the present economic difficulties can be seen as a galvanizing factor to strengthen regional cooperation and to generate synergies from mutually beneficial activities.

2. The Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the IMT-GT Roadmap in 2009 will provide the platform for taking stock of recent developments and their implications on the Program's strategic thrusts, and the issues and challenges that need to be met to accelerate program and project implementation. It will also provide an opportunity to look at IMT-GT within the larger context of the ASEAN Economic Community envisaged for 2015. The output of the MTR process is an updated IMT-GT Roadmap that will guide the program for the period 2009-2011 to ensure that the medium-term goals are met.

II. Objectives of the MTR

3. The objectives of the MTR are the following:

- a) Take stock of accomplishments and progress made in the implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap and to assess their impact on the overall objectives of IMT-GT;
- b) Identify implementation issues and constraints;
- c) Review the strategic thrusts of the Roadmap in the context of recent regional and global developments and to recommend adjustments as needed
- d) Review and recommend programme and project priorities for the second-half of the five-year period 2007 – 2011;
- e) Initiate the process of developing and implementing a results-based monitoring and evaluation framework, which will include lessons learned, as a means to enhance future implementation; and
- f) Identify the areas where IMT-GT programmes and projects can contribute to the goal of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and seek the appropriate mechanisms to link these IMT- GT activities with the broader ASEAN framework.

III. The MTR Steering Committee

4. An MTR Steering Committee will guide the MTR process. The Committee will be composed one senior official each from the three countries, one representative from ADB and one representative from CIMT, for a total of five members. The Steering Committee will serve as the oversight body to guide the MTR consultants in the course of their work. The senior officials in the Steering Committee could be the IMT-GT SOM or their designates (since the SOM may not have the time to supervise continuously and directly the work of the MTR team).

5. ADB will finance the MTR consultants who will work closely with the IMT-GT stakeholders in the public and private sectors as well as with the CIMT.

III. The MTR Process

6. The MTR will involve a highly participatory process among various IMT-GT stakeholders. There will be several stages involved in the process, namely: (i) stock-taking of progress made in the program and project implementation; (ii) country consultations; (iii) MTR dialogue on IMT-GT strategies, program thrusts and implementation issues and approaches; (iv) program and project review and prioritization; (v) validation, synthesis, and drafting of the MTR document; and (vi) consideration and endorsement by the SOM and the Ministerial Meetings.

- a. Stock-taking of programs and projects For the stock-taking exercise, the CIMT will collect information on the status of projects --- both those included in the Roadmap, as well as those that have been subsequently proposed and implemented under the different Working Groups. This activity has already been initiated as an input to the 3rd IMT-GT Planning Meeting. The output of this exercise is a comprehensive compilation of all IMT-GT projects ---- both those included in the Roadmap, and those that are not.
- b. Country consultations. The MTR consultants will initiate the process of in-country consultations shortly after the 3rd IMT-GT Planning Meeting to get national perspectives on the strategic thrusts of the Roadmap, priority areas, as well as the facilitators and impediments to implementation. These meetings will primarily involve the line ministries, the national JBCs and the local government officials. The views and perspectives obtained from the country consultations will inform the process of the MTR dialogue (stage c).
- c. The MTR dialogue. The Senior Officials, the JBCs, Chief Ministers and Governors of IMT-GT participating states and provinces, Lead Country Chairs of the Working Groups, and ADB as IMT-GT's Development Partner will participate in a dialogue to discuss IMT-GT accomplishments, lessons learned and challenges encountered during the first two years of implementation, recent developments, broad strategies and sector focus in the remaining two years, as well as on measures and mechanisms to enhance and accelerate the implementation of the Roadmap. The results monitoring and evaluation framework will also be discussed at the MTR dialogue. The MTR dialogue may be broadened to include academics and civil society organizations. The output of

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this dialogue will be the identification of the strategic thrusts of the Roadmap for the two remaining years, improvements in coordination mechanisms (this can draw from the initial results of the Business Process Review¹), broad policy and program measures/approaches needed to accelerate implementation; and a consensus on the results monitoring framework. The results of the MTR dialogue will be reported to the 16th SOM/Ministerial Meeting in July 2009.

- d. Program and project review and prioritization. Guided by the directions from the 16th SOM/MM, the Working Groups will be requested to convene within the months August and September 2009. Assisted by the MTR consultants, the Working Groups will be requested to (i) review the programs and projects belonging to their respective sectors/areas; during this process, the programs and projects may be repackaged or combined, expanded or reduced in scope, or withdrawn; (ii) identify programs and projects that could contribute to the AEC; (iii) prioritize projects within their respective sectors; and (iv) complete the project profile template. The results monitoring and evaluation framework will be explained during these meetings. The MTR consultant's team will join these meetings to help synthesize and or "package" programs and projects within a logical framework and forge links with the strategic thrusts.
- e. Synthesis, validation and the drafting of the MTR document. The MTR consultants, working closely with the CIMT, will compile the submissions of the Working Groups and (i) check for consistency with the directives of the MTR dialogue process, in particular, the strategic thrusts; and (ii) conduct further discussions with ASEAN Secretariat as/if needed with respect to the modalities of linking IMT-GT projects with those under the AEC. In this critical phase, the MTR consultants will seek closely the guidance of the Steering Committee to build consensus on the draft. The CIMT will circulate the draft for official review by the National Secretariats.
- f. Consideration and endorsement of the MTR document. The MTR document will be presented for final review of the SOs and Ministers prior to the 5th Summit in October 2009.

IV. The MTR Timelines

7. The timeline for the MTR is shown below. The MTR process is expected to take about six to seven months, starting from March 2009 with the official launch of the MTR process during the 3rd IMT-GT Planning Meeting. The stock-taking activities have gone off to a head-start with CIMT issuing the Project Consolidation Sheet in January 2009.

8. The results of the MTR dialogue --- the recommended strategies and directions and improvements in the Roadmap implementation --- will be reported for endorsement by the 16th SOM/Ministerial Meeting in July 2009 in Melaka, Malaysia.

¹ The IMT-GT institutional structure and delivery mechanisms will be studied separately in the IMT-GT Business Process Review which will done in parallel with the MTR.

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9. Following the 16th SOM/MM in July, the Working Groups will meet to review and prioritize programs and projects within their respective sectors during the months of August and September. These will be validated by the MTR consultants for consistency with the strategies endorsed by the 16th SOM/MM. The final MTR report will be presented to the IMT-GT SOs and Ministers for final review prior to submission to the 5th Summit in October 2009.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1) Stock-taking			Plan ning									
2) Country consultations												
3) Strategy assessment & recent developments						MTR dialo gue						
4) Report on strategies and broad program areas and directions							16 th SOM /MM					
4) Project review and prioritization								WG mtgs				
5) Validation and synthesis												
6) Consideration & endorsement by SOM/MM and the 5 th Summit												