Tentative Agenda

5 November 2014 (Wednesday): Venue: The Oberoi

11.00 – 12.00  Media Interaction [Venue: Ball Room, The Oberoi]

*In Chair: Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, New Delhi*

- **Bangladesh:** Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- **India:** Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi
- **Nepal:** Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu
- **Pakistan:** Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
- **Sri Lanka:** Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo

14.00 - 15.00  Registration

15.00 – 15.45  Inaugural Session

- Welcome by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
- Opening Address by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS
- Special Address by Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Inaugural Address by Hon’ble M. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President of India
- Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS
16.00 – 16.30  Book Release
17.00 – 18.30  Plenary Session 1: South Asia Regional Integration: Past, Present and Future

In Chair: Hon’ble Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister, India (tbc)

- Hon’ble Mohammad Mustafa Mastoor, Deputy Minister for Finance, Afghanistan
- Hon’ble Gowher Rizvi, Adviser for International Affairs to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Bangladesh
- Hon’ble Lyonpo Namgay Dorji, Finance Minister, Bhutan
- Hon’ble Mohamed Saeed, Economic Development Minister, Maldives
- Hon’ble Ram Sharan Mahat, Finance Minister, Nepal
- Hon’ble Sarath Amunugama, International Monetary Cooperation Minister, Sri Lanka

18.30 – 19.30  Cultural Programme
19.45  Welcome Dinner, Hosted by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS & NSAB
[Venue: Ballroom, The Oberoi]

6 November 2014 (Thursday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)

09.00 – 11.00  Plenary Session 2: South Asia Economic Union: Challenges and Tasks Ahead
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi

Special Address: Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (DPA & ER), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India

Lead Presentation: Prof. Selim Raihan, Dhaka University & Executive Director, South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), Dhaka

Panellists
- Dr. Arvind Mehta, Jt. Secretary (SAARC), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI), Government of India, New Delhi
- Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Forman Christian College, Lahore
- Prof. Jim Rollo, Sussex University, Brighton
- Ms. L. Savithri, Director (Economic, Trade and Finance), SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu
11.15 – 11.30  Tea / coffee break

11.30 – 13.00  Plenary Session 3: South Asia Connectivity: Regional Agenda for South Asia Economic Union [with Special Reference to Economic Corridor and Trade at Border]  
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, SDPI, Islamabad

Special Address: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

Lead Presentation: Dr. Prabir De, RIS, New Delhi

Panellists
- Mr. K L Thapar, Chairman, Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi
- Dr. A. M. Gondane, Jt. Secretary (SAARC and Border Connectivity), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
- Mr. Y S Shahrawat, Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI), New Delhi
- Dr. Dushni Weerakoon, Dy. Director & Fellow, IPS, Colombo

13.00 – 14.00  Lunch

14.00 – 15.30  Plenary Session 4: Cooperation for South Asia Investment Bloc  
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Chairperson, Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Kathmandu

Special Address: Dr. Anup K Pujari, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India

Lead Presentation: Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo

Panellists
- Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS, New Delhi
- Dr. Sanjay Kathuria, Lead Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi
- Amb. Farooq Sobhan, President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI), Dhaka
- Dr. Anjum Assad Amin, Director – General, Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development (PITD), Islamabad

15.30 – 15.45  Tea / Coffee Break
## Parallel Sessions

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<td><strong>Non-tariff measures including standards and regulations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Financial and monetary cooperation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Trade facilitation including customs cooperation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Services trade, mutual recognition and trade reforms</strong></td>
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<td>Chair: Prof. Rajat Acharyya, Dean, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</td>
<td>Chair: Prof. B B Bhattacharya, Former Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi</td>
<td>Chair: Mr. Syeduzzaman, CPD Board of Trustee and Former Finance Minister, Bangladesh, Dhaka</td>
<td>Chair: Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi</td>
<td>Chair: Dr. Mia Mikic, Chief, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, Trade and Investment Division, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok</td>
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### Panellists:

- Mr. Rajan Ratna, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok
- Mr. S Dave, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), New Delhi
- Prof. Nisha Taneja, ICRIER, New Delhi
- Mr. Puspa Sharma, SWATEE, Kathmandu
- Mr. Raveen Ekanayake, IPS, Colombo
- Mr. Ahmad Shah Mobariz, Gharjistan Institute of Higher Education, Kabul
- Dr. Tom Richardson, International Monetary Fund (IMF), New Delhi
- Dr. Farida Khatun, CPD, Dhaka
- Dr. Vatcharin Sirimaneetham, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok
- Dr. Saikat Sinha Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Dhaka University, Dhaka
- Dr. Ashima Goyal, IGIDR, Mumbai
- Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, New Delhi
- Dr. Khondaker Golam Moazzem, CPD, Dhaka
- Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, State Bank of India, Mumbai
- Prof. Amita Batra, JNU, New Delhi
- Mr. Samir Amir, Pakistan Business Council, Islamabad
- Dr. Sohaib Shahid, World Bank, Islamabad
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- Dr. Sohaib Shahid, World Bank, Islamabad
- Ms. Dharshani Premeratne, IPS, Colombo
18.15 – 19.45  **Special Event: India – Pakistan Cooperation and Implications for South Asian Economic Union**  
*Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi*

*Moderator:* Mr. Chandrakirti Banerjee, Director-General, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), New Delhi

*Presentation by:* Dr. Martin Rama, Chief Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi

*Panellists*
- Mr. Bashir Ali Mohammad, Chairman, Pakistan Business Council & Chairman, Gul Ahmed Textile Mills Limited, Karachi
- Mr. Syed Yawar Ali, Co-Chair, Pakistan – India Joint Business Forum & Chairman, Nestle Pakistan Ltd., Islamabad
- Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Chairman, CII Agriculture Council, Vice-Chairman & Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises Ltd., Gurgaon
- Mr. Deepak Amitabh, Chairman and Managing Director, Power Trading Corporation (PTC), New Delhi

20.00  **Dinner, Hosted by Smt. Sujatha Singh, Foreign Secretary of India** (by invitation)

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**7 November 2014 (Friday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)**

09.00 – 10.30  **Plenary Session 5: Strengthening South Asia Value Chain: Prospects and Challenges**  
*Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building*

*In Chair:* Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi

*Special Address:* Mr. Rajeev Kher, Commerce Secretary of India (tbc)

*Lead Presentation:* Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Dy. Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad

*Panellists*
- Dr. S K Mohanty, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
- Prof. Ajitava Raychaudhuri, Head, Centre for Advanced Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Dr. Mohammad Razzaque, Adviser & Head, International Trade Policy, Commonwealth Secretariat, London
- Mr. Pradeep K. Shrestha, Managing Director, Panchkanya Group, Kathmandu

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10.30 – 10.45  Tea / coffee break

10.45 – 12.00  Plenary Session 6: Regional Cooperation for Food Security in South Asia
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr S. Mahendra Dev, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai

Special Address: Dr P K Joshi, Director, South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi

Lead Presentation: Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SWATEE), Kathmandu

Panellists
- Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
- Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Prof. I N Mukherjee, New Delhi
- Mr. Matthew Hammill, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP, South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

12.00 – 13.15  Plenary Session 7: Post-2015 Agenda: South Asian Perspectives
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

Special Address: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS

Lead Presentation: Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka

Panellists
- Mr. Tanmay Lal, Joint Secretary (UN), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
- Mr. Rabi Shanker Sainju, Programme Director, National Planning Commission (NPC), Kathmandu
- Dr. Aliya KH Khan, Dean, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad
- Dr. Manmohan Agarwal, RIS, New Delhi

13.15 – 14.15  Lunch
### 14.15 – 15.45 Parallel Sessions

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<td>Chair: Amb. Rajeev Bhatia, Director-General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi (tbc)</td>
<td>Chair: Prof. S K Mohanty, RIS</td>
<td>Chair: Prof. Y S Rajan (tbc)</td>
<td>Chair: Mr. T N Ninan, Chairman, Business Standard</td>
<td>Chair: Amb. Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General, SAARC Secretariat</td>
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#### Special Address:
Ambassador Sumith Nakandala, Secretary-General, BIMSTEC, Dhaka

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<td>Dr Leena Srivastava, TERI University</td>
<td>Dr. David Rasquinha, EXIM Bank, Mumbai (tbc)</td>
<td>Prof. Santosh Kumar, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, New Delhi</td>
<td>Mr. Pranab Dhal Samanta, India Today, New Delhi</td>
<td>Amb. Dago Tshering, Former Ambassador of Bhutan to India</td>
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<td>Dr. Mahendra Lama, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi</td>
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<td>Ms. Nihad Kabir, Advocate, Bangladesh Supreme Court, Dhaka</td>
<td>Mr. Shawkat Hossain, Prathom Alo, Dhaka</td>
<td>Dr. Bishnu Dev Pant, IIDS, Kathmandu</td>
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<td>Dr Sunil Khosla, Task Manager, CASA Project, World Bank</td>
<td>Mr. Pranav Kumar, CI, New Delhi</td>
<td>Dr. T C. James, RIS, New Delhi</td>
<td>Mr. Prateek Pradhan, Nagarik News Daily, Kathmandu</td>
<td>Dr. Kavita Iyenger, Asian Development Bank (ADB), New Delhi</td>
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<td>Mr. Bipul Chatterjee, CUTS, Jaipur</td>
<td>Mr. Arvind Kumar, TERI, New Delhi</td>
<td>Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS, New Delhi</td>
<td>Mr. Musharraf Zaidi, The News Daily, Islamabad</td>
<td>Dr. Biswajit Nag, IIFT, New Delhi</td>
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<td>Mr. Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedi, ISAS, Singapore</td>
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<td>Ms. Dilani Hirimuthugoda, IPS, Colombo</td>
<td>Mr. Indika Sakalasooriya, Mirror Business, Colombo</td>
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15.45 – 16.00  Tea / Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30  Plenary Session 8: Summary, Conclusions and Way Forward
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

Co-Chair 1: Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka

Co-Chair 2: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi

Presentation of Summary by Prof. Prabir De, RIS

Remarks by
- Dr. Saman Kelegama, IPS, Colombo
- Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, CPD, Dhaka
- Dr. Abid Suleri, SDPI, Islamabad
- Mr. Pradeep S Mehta, CUTS International
- Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, SWATEE, Kathmandu
- Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS, New Delhi

17.30 – 17.45  Concluding Session

- Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS
- Closing Remarks by Amb. V S Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS
- Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS

20.00  Dinner, Hosted by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General,
RIS [Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi]

Version 1.1 dated 31 October 2014