FOREWORD

The Eurasian Development Bank is an integration bank; an essential part of its mission is to advance economic integration between its member states. The Bank’s projects focus on fostering mutual trade and investments and its portfolio comprises over 50 projects in different economic sectors, including agriculture, metallurgy, energy and transportation.

The EDB’s activities in the region, however, are not only limited to financial investments in development and integration. The Bank developed rigorous and vibrant researches into a wide range of integration issues, thereby contributing to integration by its high-level expertise and multifaceted analysis. The EDB Centre for Integration Studies, opened in 2011 with the purpose of undertaking research into regional economic integration, has implemented a number of research projects to date, ranging from corporate integration and the impact of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space on regional economies to the likelihood of creating common labour market in the area and assessing public attitudes towards Eurasian integration. The Centre’s figures on the CU’s macroeconomic impact have by now become a standard assessment.

The findings of these research projects along with those of other important analytical studies are presented in the 5th edition of the EDB Eurasian Integration Yearbook, which the Bank has published annually since 2008. The series is a compilation of authoritative papers and in-depth studies examining the most important aspects of Eurasian integration. I am happy to confirm the EBD’s continued commitment to research on regional integration.

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