

2017 APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING

Joint Ministerial Statement

1. We, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers, met on 8 November 2017 in Da Nang, Viet Nam under the chairmanship of H.E. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and H.E. Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.
2. We welcome the participation of the Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the 2017 Chair of the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).
3. The global and regional economies have shown positive signs with growth picking up, and cyclical recovery continues unabated with higher employment rates in many of our economies. In the medium term, the risk of global financial conditions tightening remains and slower productivity gains continue to inhibit sustainable growth. Against this backdrop, it is imperative for APEC to put a high premium on sustaining the momentum of regional cooperation with a view to reinforcing our forum's profile as a driver of economic growth and integration in the Asia-Pacific region.
4. Against such a backdrop, under the theme "*Creating new dynamism, fostering a shared future*", we are committed to strengthening cooperation and taking joint actions to foster regional economic linkages and growth for a dynamic, inter-connected and prosperous APEC community and promote an Asia-Pacific partnership for inclusive and sustainable development.
5. We advance our work with focus on the following APEC 2017 priorities: (i) Promoting sustainable, innovative and inclusive growth; (ii) Deepening regional economic integration; (iii) Strengthening micro, small and medium-sized enterprises' (MSMEs) competitiveness and innovation in the digital age; and (iv) Enhancing food security and sustainable agriculture in response to climate change. To this end, we pledge to take the following actions:

I. Deepening Regional Economic Integration

6. We remain committed to achieving the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment in the region. We will take concrete actions toward the achievement of the Bogor Goals by 2020.
7. We recognize the work of the WTO in ensuring international trade is rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, predictable and inclusive. Members must improve adherence to rules as agreed upon. We commit to cooperate to improve the functioning of the WTO by addressing challenges. We recall our pledge to extend our standstill commitment until the end of 2020 and recommit to fight protectionism, including all unfair trade practices, recognizing the role of legitimate trade defense instruments.
8. We commit to work with other Members of the WTO towards a successful 11th Ministerial Conference.
9. We refer to our Leaders' Declaration for an elaboration of our views.
Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP)
10. We commend the efforts of economies to implement the Lima Declaration on FTAAP. We encourage economies to make further progress on advancing the Lima Declaration on FTAAP and develop multi-year work programs to further enhance APEC economies' ability to participate in high quality, comprehensive free trade agreement negotiations in the future. We instruct officials to advance technical work and related initiatives for the

eventual realization of an FTAAP. We look forward to the implementation of the Action Plan Framework for the 3rd REI Capacity Building Needs Initiative (CBNI) and the RTAs/FTAs Information Sharing Mechanism.

Services and Investment

11. We welcome the progress and encourage further implementation of the APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap (ASCR). This includes the initiative on developing an index for the APEC region on the regulatory environment of services trade with a view to eventually covering all members based on the outcomes of the pilot programs and differences of member economies' context in APEC, and the initiative to develop a set of non-binding principles for domestic regulation of the service sector. We stress the importance of capacity building and supporting MSMEs integration into global value chain in services industries.

We welcome the action plan for the interim review to be conducted in 2018 on the Manufacturing Related Services Action Plan (MSAP), and encourage economies to report on regulatory regimes and policy environments in manufacturing-related services.

12. We encourage the continued implementation of the Investment Facilitation Action Plan. We encourage economies to enhance capacity building, support more investment and policy dialogues, and promote inclusive business and community engagement to highlight the benefits of investment and encourage investment that supports inclusive economic growth.

Internet and Digital Economy

13. Bearing in mind the role of the Internet and Digital Economy in promoting innovative development and empowering economic participation, we emphasize the opportunities that the Internet and Digital Economy offers to achieve sustainable, inclusive and innovative growth, including businesses' participation, particularly MSMEs' in GVCs and the global market. We commend the achievements of the Ad Hoc Steering Group on the Internet Economy (AHSGIE) and support the APEC Roadmap on Internet and Digital Economy. We encourage member economies to implement the Roadmap effectively.

We encourage economies' initiatives to explore new areas of potential economic growth in the area of digital trade, including identifying building blocks. As building consumer trust in the use of the Internet is critical to the growth of Internet and Digital Economy in the region, we support continued dialogue between the public and private sectors to strengthen that trust through appropriate consumer protection and privacy rules.

14. To strengthen APEC's leadership in promoting cross-border e-commerce in the region, we endorse the APEC Cross-Border E-commerce Facilitation Framework (Annex A). We emphasize that MSMEs' participation in the digital economy should foster inclusive growth and reduce inequality. In that regard, we recognize the importance of APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPRs) System, a voluntary mechanism whose participants seek to expand participation. We support enhanced cooperation in this area, including through promoting capacity building.
15. We commit to constructively engage in discussions on e-commerce at the WTO and other international fora within their respective mandate.

Environmental Goods and Services

16. We commend the progress in implementing the commitment to reduce tariffs to five percent or less on the 54 products in the APEC List of Environmental Goods and strongly urge economies that have yet to fulfill this commitment to do so as soon as possible. We

welcome the progress of implementing the Environmental Services Action Plan (ESAP) and look forward to further concrete outcomes.

Regional and sub-regional inclusive and comprehensive connectivity

17. Recognizing that strengthened connectivity contributes to opening up new sources of growth, we reaffirm our commitment to the overarching goal of a seamless and comprehensively inter-connected and integrated Asia-Pacific and applaud initiatives to implement the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity 2015-2025 across the 3 pillars of physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity. We encourage new initiatives that will promote further work on progressing the Connectivity Blueprint before the mid-term review of 2020. We acknowledge the importance of adequate investment and strengthened public-private partnerships in infrastructure development in term of both quality and quantity. We welcome the progress of quality infrastructure initiatives, including the Peer Review and Capacity Building on APEC Infrastructure Development and Investment. We look forward to further deepening and accelerating initiatives, and welcome the upgrading of APEC Guidebook on Quality Infrastructure Development and Investment.
18. Noting the importance of the economic integration of rural and remote areas for sustainable and inclusive growth in the APEC region, we recommend actions to promote sub-regional, rural and remote area connectivity, sustainable tourism and reliable transportation, telecommunication and internet. We encourage officials to continue the discussion on practical initiatives to enhance rural development and poverty alleviation.
19. We acknowledge that fostering complementarity and synergy among connectivity initiatives provides new opportunities and serve as a driving force for regional prosperity. We commit to further promote collaboration and policy coordination between APEC and various regional mechanisms on the connectivity initiatives for the people and businesses in the region.

Global Value Chains and Supply Chain Connectivity

20. We welcome the progress to implement the APEC Strategic Blueprint for Promoting Global Value Chains Development and Cooperation to create an enabling environment for GVC development and cooperation, including the promotion of MSMEs' participation. We note the launch of APEC Global Value Chain Partnership Platform, the Global Value Chains Investment Climate Improvement Report, and the 2018 Annual Work Plan on the APEC Technical Group of Measurement on Trade in Value-Added (TiVA), moving towards the completion of the APEC TiVA Database by 2018.
21. We welcome the conclusion of the study on Global Data Standards (GDS) and encourage officials to explore the wider use of interoperable GDS in the region.
22. We reaffirm our commitment to advance work programs that reduce trade costs in the region. To that end, we endorse the Monitoring Framework of the APEC Supply Chain Framework Action Plan Phase II 2017 - 2020 (SCFAP II) that aims to identify challenges, key stakeholders, targets and measurements for each of the SCFAP II chokepoints. We also commend the progress in promoting single window systems' international interoperability and the study of the Policy Support Unit (PSU) on the issue. We note the initiatives such as the Asia-Pacific Model E-Port Network (APMEN) and its Implementation Measures for SCFAP II and APEC Port Services Network (APSN) and their contribution to supply chain connectivity in the region. We note the progress made by APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain (GSCNET) and its pilot centers to promote green development in APEC.

Good regulatory practices

23. We welcome efforts and instruct officials to continue working on aligning advertising standards. We recognize the benefits, effectiveness and efficiency of public sector and self-regulatory organizations working together on self-regulatory approaches, contributing to potential reduction of the cost of doing business in the region.
24. We note the publication of the 2016 Final Report on Good Regulatory Practices in APEC Economies, as well as continuing work to strengthen good regulatory practices of transparency, stakeholder consultation and internal coordination to enhance regulators' understanding of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. We encourage officials to promote the active implementation of good regulatory practices in the report, including through appropriate capacity building activities.

Supporting Industry

25. Acknowledging the importance of supporting industry to the sustainable growth of the region, we welcome the APEC Best Practices for Promoting Supporting Industry in the Asia-Pacific region and encourage information sharing and related capacity building activities.

Industry Dialogues

26. Noting the importance of risk-based chemicals management, we note the efforts of the APEC Chemical Dialogue to encourage the use of good regulatory practices and address divergences in the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) to facilitate trade.
27. We note the work done by the Auto Dialogue together with the Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) and the Energy Working Group (EWG) to facilitate Electric Vehicles (EV) use, production and trade throughout the region. We note the progress in implementing the APEC Roadmap for Electric Vehicles to facilitate adoption and implementation on international standards.

Intellectual Property Rights

28. We recognize the importance of cooperation in the area of intellectual property (IP) rights, including protection and enforcement. We encourage economies to promote IP policies and programs that cultivate, foster, support, protect and advance innovation and creativity. We welcome new initiatives that encourage entrepreneurship and innovation through effective and comprehensive measures, including IP systems and capacity-building. We note progress under the APEC Best Practices in Trade Secrets Protection and Enforcement Against Misappropriation and initiatives to enhance MSMEs' innovation and capacity on IP enforcement and commercialization.

II. Promoting sustainable, innovative and inclusive growth

Economic, financial and social inclusion

29. We stress the importance of promoting economic, financial and social inclusion in promoting economic growth, narrowing the development gap, reducing inequality and broadening access to finance, quality education and health services with a view to further spreading the benefits of growth to all segments of our societies, including the most vulnerable groups, towards a more inclusive APEC community by 2030, thus consistent with 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To this end, we adopt the Action Agenda on promoting Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion and submit the Action Agenda to APEC Leaders for their endorsement.

Structural Reform

30. We commit to the robust implementation of the Renewed APEC Agenda for Structural Reform (RAASR) through economies' Individual Action Plans (IAPs). We look forward to the RAASR Mid-term Review in 2018. We call on economies to take concrete unilateral actions and collaborate on initiatives to share experiences and capacity building for implementing IAPs throughout 2017 - 2020.
31. We welcome the 2017 APEC Economic Policy Report (AEPR) on Structural Reform and Human Capital Development, which provides a set of options members may wish to take into account when considering domestic policies. We approve the topic "Structural Reforms and Infrastructure" for the 2018 AEPR. We encourage collaboration between the Economic Committee and Senior Finance Officials on the 2018 AEPR. We welcome the APEC-OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Framework on Competition Assessment, a tool helpful in achieving the benefits of competition.
32. We commit to effectively implement Phase II of the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) initiative, including reaching the target of 10% improvement of the business environment by 2018.

Human Resources Development in the Digital Age

33. We acknowledge the progress made in implementing the APEC Education Strategy 2016 - 2030, and welcome its Action Plan to guide our work to promote competencies, innovation and employability in the APEC region. We encourage further cooperation in cross-border education, including higher education, and technical vocational education and training (TVET).
34. We welcome the outcomes of the High-level Policy Dialogue on Human Resources Development in the Digital Age which focused on promoting quality human resources and education, skills needed in the digital age, sustainable employment, social safety nets and capacity building, particularly for women and youth, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. We adopt the APEC Framework on Human Resources Development in the Digital Age and submit it to APEC Leaders for their endorsement.

Financial Cooperation

35. We welcome the outcomes of the Finance Ministers' Process, particularly the Finance Ministers Joint Statement, and the progress towards implementing the Cebu Action Plan, enhancing fiscal reforms, economic resilience and integration, and contributing to strong, sustainable, innovative and inclusive growth in the Asia-Pacific region.

Sustainable Tourism

36. We appreciate the outcomes of the High-level Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Tourism. We underscore the importance of strengthening cooperation to facilitate sustainable tourism development and to highlight best practice in measurement and monitoring methodologies to enhance sustainable tourism. This helps with conserving and managing natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and built and living cultural heritages, and adapting to and capitalizing on new technologies to develop tourism and promote cultural exchange. In turn, this connects people in the APEC region and brings social, financial and economic integration of remote areas.

Women and the Economy

37. We recognize the outcomes of the APEC 2017 Women and the Economy Forum and we note the development of voluntary guidance on gender inclusion by the Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy. We commit to women's economic, financial

and social inclusion across APEC economies. We call on economies to support women's economic empowerment through concrete policies and measures to improve women's access to capital, assets, markets, and capacity building and to improve women's skills, education, and health outcomes. We encourage economies to support policies and programs that increase women's leadership and gender diversity in management; provide better opportunities for women in the cultural and creative industries; and harness innovation to better bridge gender gaps, including by boosting career opportunities in high-growth, high-wage sectors like science, technology, and transportation. We advocate for the promotion of women's entrepreneurship through expanding women's entrepreneurship networks, and in this regard, we commend the second APEC contest for women-entrepreneurs APEC Business Efficiency and Success Target Awards (APEC BEST Awards). We welcome the efforts to integrate gender across APEC, including through the 2017 version of the APEC Women and the Economy Dashboard, and the establishment of the Women and the Economy Sub-fund.

Health

38. We commend initiatives and projects to implement the Healthy Asia-Pacific 2020 Roadmap (HAP), including the progress in developing key performance indicators of HAP 2020 priorities, and encourage and promote innovation and partnerships to address health-related issues. We also encourage economies to share best practices and explore innovative sustainable health financing tools, improve health systems and recognize that members' goals to promote Universal Health Coverage (UHC) can be important in building healthy populations which in turn support economic growth. We welcome the outcomes of the High-level Meeting on Health and the Economy, including efforts for healthy aging societies, and the High-level Dialogue on Innovation, Regulatory Systems, and Regulatory Convergences. We value the importance of efficient, science – and risk – based regulatory systems in enabling life sciences innovation and welcome the first-ever Life Sciences Innovation Forum High Level Dialogue on this topic. We also welcome ongoing support from the APEC Harmonization Center and the Regulatory Harmonization Steering Committee on regulatory convergence and the launch of network of APEC Regulatory Science Centers of Excellence (CoEs). We commend the progress achieved by APEC members in establishing the Supply Chain Security Toolkit for Medical Products.

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

39. We encourage further STI information exchange and policy coordination among member economies as well as increased engagement of multi-stakeholders such as private, scientific, industrial and academic sectors in promoting inclusive and innovative development. We commend the 2017 APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research and Education (ASPIRE) under the theme "New Material Technologies", PPSTI Policy Statement on STI Communication and PPSTI Jiading Declaration on Internet of Vehicles. We recognize that STI has an important role in underpinning sustainable economic growth and development, and the full benefit of innovation can only be realized by promoting an enabling environment for scientific research and market-based innovation, STI capacity building, public involvement in STI and collaboration amongst APEC economies.

Urbanization

40. We emphasize the need to achieve people-oriented, sound and sustainable urbanization. We welcome the implementation of the APEC Cooperation Initiative for Jointly Establishing an Asia-Pacific Urbanization Partnership, including the PSU's study on Partnerships for the Sustainable Development of Cities in the APEC Region. We encourage APEC economies to further enhance cooperation through knowledge sharing

and policy coordination to promote sustainable urbanization. We recognize the APEC 2017 Dialogue on Sustainable Urbanization and note the Guidebook for Development of Sustainable Cities.

Persons with Disabilities

41. We support full inclusion of persons with disabilities in our economies. We encourage officials to promote equal access of persons with disabilities to high quality, inclusive education and training, as well as competitive, integrated employment. We recognize the efforts of the Group of Friends on Disability in promoting the employment of persons with disabilities through advancing their participation in the internet economy and the open labor market without discrimination and on equal basis with others.

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Management

42. Recognizing the Asia-Pacific region as one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world, in face of the “new normal” – the increasing frequency, magnitude and scope of natural disasters, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons, rising sea levels, drought, flood, wildfires and other extreme weather events, we emphasize the need for economies’ continued efforts in building a resilient, sustainable, inclusive, people-and-business-centered APEC community. We pledge to implement the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework Action Plan with emphasis on cooperation in capacity building, early warning systems, disaster risk assessment and financing policies, mitigation, search and rescue, and post disaster recovery assistance. We welcome the outcomes of 11th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum and the Joint Recommendations on enhancing science and technology for disaster risk reduction.

Anti-corruption

43. We reiterate our previous commitments to prevent and fight against corruption, domestically and globally, including APEC’s Beijing Declaration on Fighting Corruption, and to effectively implement the UN Convention against Corruption. We commit to strengthen the role of the APEC Network of Anti-Corruption Authorities and Law Enforcement Agencies (ACT-NET) in enhancing informal and pragmatic cross-border cooperation among law enforcement agencies in fighting corruption, bribery, money laundering, as well as in recovery of stolen assets. We advocate efforts to share and implement good practices, including related to fighting corruption and illicit trade, and underscore the importance of enhanced international and regional cooperation. We are committed to deny safe havens for corrupt officials and their proceeds of corruption. We also commit to working towards strengthened cooperation on extradition.

Counter-terrorism

44. We commit to work cooperatively to improve our preparedness to effectively respond to regional terrorism challenges, through the implementation of the APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy, increased cooperation to ensure secure supply chains, infrastructure, finance, travel, trade and seamless connectivity.

(iii) Strengthening the MSMEs’ Competitiveness and Innovation

45. We pledge to implement the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs and to conduct the mid-term review in 2018. We welcome the development of the Compendium on Methodologies for SMEs Internationalization and the launch of the “MSME Marketplace”. We also support initiatives to promote e-commerce to expand MSMEs participation in the global value chain.
46. We adopt the APEC Strategy for Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs (Annex B). We encourage member economies to create an enabling environment for MSMEs to engage in activities that would lead to a sustainable and inclusive Asia-Pacific.

47. We call for a reduction in costs associated with non-tariff barriers to facilitate the building of MSMEs' capacity for internationalization and the promotion of a pro-competitive environment with a view to widening access to finance, infrastructure, particularly IT infrastructure and technology. We support initiatives to foster greater MSMEs' capacity and participation in e-commerce, and promote "Online-to-Offline" (O2O) model and digital resilience. We welcome the establishment of APEC SME Center for IT Promotion.
48. We welcome the APEC Initiative on Promoting Innovative Start-ups with a view to building a strong and vibrant start-up ecosystem in the APEC region. We urge APEC economies to support start-ups through establishing conducive regulatory frameworks that promote a business-friendly environment.

IV. Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change

49. We reiterate the importance of food security and sustainable and resilient agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries in eradicating poverty, increasing agricultural trade, promoting sustainable and inclusive development in the Asia-Pacific region. We welcome the outcomes of the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change. We reaffirm our commitment to realize a sustainable APEC food system through the implementation of the APEC Food Security Roadmap towards 2020.

Food Security and Climate Change

50. We urge member economies to strengthen policy coordination and cooperation and share experiences in addressing the relationship between food security and climate change and collaborate on technology development, information sharing, and capacity building. We recognize that innovation in agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries can grow trade, increase farm productivity and incomes, and build resilience to resource constraints in the context of climate change. We note the role of the APEC Climate Center (APCC) in fostering strengthened science-based climate information systems for environmental and risk management related to food production. We welcome the endorsement of the Food Security and Climate Change Multi-Year Action Plan 2018- 2020 (Annex C).

Sustainable Management of Natural Resources

51. We support increased policy and technical cooperation to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in natural resources management and utilization while securing the long-term and disaster – resilient food supply. We call for closer coordination to foster sustainable use and management of land, forestry, marine and water resources to ensure both food security and environmental protection, while promoting biodiversity conservation. We recognize the importance of the blue economy in sustainable food security, commend the progress in this area, including in developing the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report II. We believe it is crucial to strengthen policy and technical cooperation to improve sustainable use of natural resources while securing long-term food supply, including addressing the negative impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing on fish stocks, the marine environment and food security. We encourage all economies and stakeholders, particularly the private sector, to engage in ocean-related cooperation, including investment in sustainable materials management and waste management infrastructure, to reduce land based sources of marine debris in APEC.

Sustainable Rural-Urban Development

52. We call on APEC economies to promote sustainable, resilient and inclusive rural-urban development with emphasis on improving the participation and welfare of disadvantaged groups, smallholder farmers and small-scale fishermen, and MSMEs in the agricultural and aquaculture sector to ensure livelihoods, poverty reduction, food security and natural resources conservation. We will continue to share experiences in comprehensive rural-urban development. We welcome the endorsement of the APEC Action Plan on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth (Annex D).

Facilitation of Trade and Investment in Agriculture and the Food Market

53. We recognize that trade and investment in food, agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries are crucial to food security in the APEC region and beyond. Recognizing APEC's role in the global food market and in securing the global and regional food value chains and supply chains, we call for strengthened cooperation in facilitating investment in agriculture, rural transportation and logistics, food processing and retail, and related services. We reaffirm our commitment to engage constructively and make all concerted efforts to adopt a permanent solution on the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes, as committed. We also encourage economies to address relevant measures, including Non-Tariff Measures and Non-Tariff Barriers. We encourage regional cooperation on food standards and improved efficiency of food trade.

Food Loss and Waste Control

54. We commit to implement the APEC Action Plan for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and encourage initiatives to control post-harvest food loss and waste, including the development of infrastructure, application and transfer of advanced technologies for processing, storing and preserving food across the food value chain and strengthening public and private partnership.

Food Safety

55. We encourage member economies to continue advancing work in the Food Safety Cooperation Forum, including its Partnership Training Institutes Network, and the Wine Regulatory Forum, to promote the use of science-based standards and guidelines and risk-based approaches to regulation of food and wine so as to protect human, plant and animal health and facilitate trade.

V. Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) and Other Sectoral Outcomes

56. We support cooperation to build capacity, bridge development gaps, and assist member economies to fulfill APEC's long-term goals. We welcome the incorporation of capacity building policies into the Guidebook on APEC Projects. We welcome and encourage members' further contributions to the APEC Support Fund and its sub-funds, as well as members' efforts in providing capacity building. We acknowledge the 2017 ECOTECH Report and welcome the APEC Guidelines on Promoting Cross-fora Collaboration.

Energy

57. We welcome the efforts toward reducing aggregate energy intensity, accelerating clean, efficient, and renewable energy deployment, pursuing sustainable and resilient energy development, and developing diversified, flexible and integrated natural gas market in the Asia-Pacific, which in particular may contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. To this end, we urge economies to strengthen coordination and cooperation through sharing best practices, and deploying advanced technologies, including waste recycling. We note with appreciation efforts to pursue energy smart communities and low carbon model towns.

58. Bearing in mind that energy access, energy resilience, and energy security are significant to our long-term prosperity and shared future, we strive for a clean, sustainable and secure energy system. We stress the importance of promoting energy-related trade and investment in fostering sustainable, resilient and safe energy infrastructure.

Mining

59. Recognizing the importance of sustainable development, use and trade of minerals and metals in generating socio-economic benefits, we are continuing to apply the APEC Mining Policy Principles and encourage sharing best practices in management; voluntary technology transfer and capacity building in sustainable development of the mining sector.

Forestry and Wildlife

60. We welcome the outcomes of the 4th APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry. We recognize the importance of achieving and assessing in due course, aspirational goal of increasing forest cover in the region by at least 20 million hectares by 2020. We commit to foster sustainable forest management and conservation and reforestation. We commit to work together to combat illegal logging and associated trade and support capacity building for APEC economies, application of technology and best practices. We emphasize the importance of strengthening our efforts and increasing cooperation among members economies in preventing and combating illicit wildlife trafficking.

Transportation

61. We commend the outcomes of the Transportation Ministerial Meeting and underline the significance of developing a safe, secure, resilient, efficient and sustainable transport system. We welcome initiatives to adopt new technologies in the transport sector. We note the development of a transport connectivity map. We stress the importance of building capacity in this regard.

Telecommunications and Information

62. We welcome the implementation of the Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL) Strategic Action Plan 2016 - 2020. We support the continued development of information technology and communications, promoting a secure, resilient and trusted information and communications technologies (ICT) environment. We stress the importance of capacity building and the application of new technologies to promote innovative and inclusive growth. We commend TEL for its coordination with other fora to develop a safe and reliable information technology environment.

VI. Looking Forward

63. We share a common vision to build a peaceful, stable, dynamic, inclusive and prosperous Asia-Pacific region. We welcome the discussion at the Multi-Stakeholders Dialogue on APEC Toward 2020 and Beyond and welcome the endorsement of the initiative on APEC Toward 2020 and Beyond, including the establishment of an APEC Vision Group.
64. We reaffirm APEC's global leadership in promoting growth, regional economic integration, trade and investment liberalization, and addressing global challenges, and we recognize APEC's contribution to sustainable development. In doing so, we are committed to strengthening APEC's cooperation and coordination with other international and regional organizations. We welcome member economies' initiatives to promote trade and investment in the region. We congratulate ASEAN on its 50th anniversary, commend its achievements and support further synergy between APEC and ASEAN in fostering inclusive growth and comprehensive connectivity.

65. We welcome continued deliberation and efforts aimed at improving and streamlining APEC governance to ensure it is more relevant, accountable, effective and responsive, while ensuring continuity of its core agenda. We emphasize the importance of cross-fora collaboration within APEC and encourage outreach with the business community. We appreciate the active contributions of APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) to the APEC process. We grant an ongoing mandate to the Policy Support Unit (PSU).
66. We endorse the 2017 APEC SOM Chair's Report, the Annual Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment to Ministers, and take note of the 2017 Report of the APEC Secretariat Executive Director. We approve the 2018 APEC Secretariat Account Budget and corresponding level of 2018 Members' Contributions.
67. We look forward to Papua New Guinea's hosting of APEC 2018.

Source: https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm

ANNEX A: APEC CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE FACILITATION FRAMEWORK

Introduction

1. Electronic commerce (e-commerce) has the potential to provide an extraordinary stimulus to the growth and trade in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2016, B2C e-commerce sales worldwide reached 1.9 trillion USD and the sales in the Asia-Pacific were estimated to be 1 trillion USD.¹ B2C e-commerce sales also made up a larger share of total retail sales in Asia-Pacific than all other regions, at 12.1%.²
2. Ecommerce is becoming a major pillar of the Internet and Digital economy which has contributed to the development of trade in the region. Online services had the largest share of the total digital market in 2015.³
3. Cross-border e-commerce is one of the fastest growing segments of global trade, growing from practically zero two decades ago, to an estimated value of 1.92 trillion USD globally by the end of 2016. The Asia-Pacific region also had the biggest volume of sales in 2016, followed by Western Europe and North America. Cross-border B2C e-commerce sales in the Asia-Pacific region reached 144 billion USD, accounting for 35.9% of worldwide cross-border B2C e-commerce sales. The figures are estimated to be 476 billion USD and 47.9% in 2020.⁴
4. Recognizing very early on the key role that e-commerce would play in linking APEC Economies, in their 1998 Declaration, APEC Leaders commended the APEC Blueprint for Action on Electronic Commerce, which set out the principles for the promotion and development of e-commerce in the region. In Auckland in 1999, APEC Leaders once again urged APEC to continue its efforts to create a favorable environment for e-commerce and called for specific implementation strategies in e-commerce. Since then, along with the establishment of Electronic Commerce Steering Group (ECSG) in 1999, many activities have been implemented based on the principles set out in the Blueprint.
5. Today, the rapid digitalization of the global economy has opened up new growth opportunities for APEC's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Cross-border e-commerce is a powerful enabler for the internationalization of APEC's MSMEs, who no longer need physical, commercial presence to market and sell their products to the world. Recognizing this, in 2014 APEC Leaders endorsed the APEC Cross-border E-commerce Innovation and Development Initiative. At the APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in 2015, Ministers welcomed the proposal to Promote E-commerce to Globalize MSMEs. And in 2016, Ministers agreed to encourage further work to exchange

experience on the implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation and promotion of customs control over cross-border e-commerce for better connectivity, further integration of regional economy and modernize MSMEs. These are instructions that need a response from the APEC Economies.

6. Noting the foundation and work streams that have begun in this critical area, and recognizing the importance of capturing issues relevant to APEC and today's global trading environment, in 2017 APEC recommends establishment of a framework to guide a comprehensive and coherent response.
7. This Framework should serve as a complement to ongoing work related to the Roadmap for the Internet and Digital Economy, as well as to the ongoing work related to digital trade under the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) in APEC. The possible next phase of the Framework will meet new objectives set out in the APEC Beyond 2020 vision.

Principles

8. The Framework shall be guided by the APEC Principles on Trade Facilitation endorsed in 2001, taking into account the APEC Blueprint for Action on e-commerce.⁵

Objectives

9. Taking into account the above considerations, the Framework aims to promote cross-border e-commerce across APEC by:
 - Creating a favorable regulatory eco-system for e-commerce to promote predictability, transparency, security, fair competition and consistency;
 - Promoting development of Information and Communication Technology infrastructure for facilitating cross-border e-commerce;
 - Encouraging and facilitating greater participation of businesses in global commerce, in particular MSMEs;
 - Enhancing cooperation between public and private sectors, including on consumer protection;
 - Contributing to trade and investment facilitation in the region, supporting the achievement of the Bogor Goals and post 2020 vision.

Working Pillars

10. To achieve the above objectives, APEC should focus on the following working pillars. Each pillar should include specific activities to assess the performance:
 - (i) Promoting transparent and predictable legal and regulatory approaches and measures that are business friendly and coherent to facilitate cross-border e-commerce in the region
11. Lack of coherent policies and regulations on e-commerce has been one of the obstacles for cross-border e-commerce.
12. Efforts should be made to assist APEC economies, especially developing economies, to understand and develop transparent and predictable regulatory and legal framework for cross-border e-commerce, with the aim of promoting better alignment among Economies throughout the region.
13. Consequently, working towards sharing best practices in e-commerce regulations in the region remains a priority to create a favorable environment to facilitate cross-border e-commerce and promote online consumer protection.

14. The following activities could be considered under this pillar:

- Review existing legal and regulatory issues related to cross-border e-commerce including but not limited to digital products;⁶
- Consider existing international standards and guidelines;
- Identify choke points and measures to cross-border e-commerce from legal and regulatory perspective, taking into account Phase II of the Supply Chain Framework Action Plan;
- Promote dialogue and interaction on new legal and regulatory issues among government agencies and other related stakeholders;
- Promote transparency and predictability in implementation of e-commerce regulations;
- Share best practices as useful tools for capacity building of policymakers;
- Encourage APEC Economies to undertake reviews of their domestic e-commerce policies;
- Conduct research on emerging technological and regulatory trends in e-commerce;
- Update the Digital Prosperity Checklist endorsed in 2008.

(ii) Enhancing capacity building so that APEC Economies can assist MSMEs to increase their cross-border e-commerce participation in global and regional markets

15. Although MSMEs account for the majority of all enterprises in the region, their participation in global trade is not commensurate with their potential and share of employment.⁷

16. Cross-border e-commerce provides MSMEs with opportunities to lower operating costs and thus easing MSMEs' access to global markets and increasing their capacities to participate in global trade.

17. It is necessary to reduce barriers that impede MSMEs expansion in the region, in parallel with efforts to enhance capacity building programs for Economies to assist MSMEs participation in cross-border e-commerce.

18. The following activities could be considered under this pillar:

- Identify choke points and measures for businesses, especially MSMEs, to participate in cross-border e-commerce;
- Identify, share and develop best practices among economies, especially MSMEs to participate in cross-border e-commerce;
- Identify supply side gaps such as knowledge of market expertise and trade rules, standards and service quality required to support the use of cross-border e-commerce in the region;
- Actively encourage public and private sectors to develop and implement projects in appropriate fora to address issues related to MSMEs' participation in cross-border e-commerce;
- Encourage cooperation and collaboration between public and private sectors such as Public Private Partnership (PPP), Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) on existing and emerging issues in cross-border e-commerce;

- Support capacity building activities within Economies to facilitate MSMEs' gain on cross-border e-commerce.

(iii) Strengthening cross-border data privacy protection through increased implementation of existing APEC programs

19. We recognize the importance of effective protection of information and data privacy, while still maintaining information and data flows among economies in the Asia-Pacific region, and among their trading partners.
20. We value APEC's on-going efforts and programs on privacy. We recognize the importance of the APEC Cross-border Privacy Rules (CBPRs) System and Privacy Recognition for Processors (PRPs) System, voluntary mechanisms whose participants seek to expand the participation, and we support enhanced cooperation in this area, including through promoting capacity building.
21. The following activities could be considered under this pillar:
 - Promote appropriate domestic data privacy protection for personal information taking into account the APEC Privacy Framework;
 - Encourage APEC economies to update their Data Privacy Individual Action Plan;
 - Encourage facilitation of interested APEC economies' participation in CBPRs and PRPs in APEC;
 - Facilitate discussion on the APEC Privacy Framework and domestic regulations to ensure a coherent and consistent approach to data privacy regulations;
 - Support capacity building efforts among the APEC members to enhance their domestic data privacy regulations which take into account the APEC Privacy Framework;
 - Share experience and best practices on issues related to cross-border data privacy regulations and policies;
 - Enhance and strengthen international collaboration aimed at promoting interoperability between privacy frameworks;
 - Continue regional monitoring developments in and share information with other international fora on cross-border privacy issues and initiatives.

(iv) Facilitating cross-border paperless trade in the region

22. It is recognized that paperless trade, the advanced electronic submission and processing of documents are a key foundation of trade facilitation. APEC recognizes that continued efforts to strengthen paperless trade are critical to the efficient processing and clearance of e-commerce shipments.
23. We encourage members to consider approaches to cross-border paperless trade facilitation in cooperation with the business community, particularly with MSMEs in the region.
24. In addition, we encourage APEC Economies to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), particularly those provisions which aim to make more information related to customs procedures available on the Internet (Article 1, Article 7 and Article 10).
25. In recognition of the importance of trade facilitation, we encourage ongoing and additional ways to further facilitate cross-border paperless trade, working with relevant fora and sub- fora.

26. The following activities could be considered under this pillar:

- Identify chokepoints and build capacities for further facilitating cross-border paperless trade including business-to-consumer (B2C), business-to-business (B2B) and government-to-business (G2B);
- Establish a favorable environment to facilitate cross-border paperless trade through streamlined shipments and clearance goods while supporting risk management;
- Identify chokepoints and work towards strengthening the use of e-payment systems while ensuring the security;
- Share best practices and support capacity building on cross-border paperless trade regulatory approaches including single window development and border management;
- Working with the relevant sub-fora, explore other technologies and innovations to further facilitate cross-border paperless trade, while supporting effective risk management;
- Encourage APEC members to update their APEC Paperless Trading Individual Action Plans;
- Conduct collaboration with other international fora and organizations in this area such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), World Customs Organization (WCO), Universal Postal Unit (UPU) or National Postal Operators (NPO), World Trade Organization (WTO) and other relevant organizations outside of APEC.

(v) Addressing emerging and cross-cutting issues in cross border e-commerce

27. Existing and emerging cross-cutting issues related to cross-border e-commerce needs to be taken into serious consideration. This would require working groups and APEC fora to collaborate closely to find the most suitable solution for such issues.

28. We support the free flow of information for promoting cross-border e-commerce while respecting legitimate public policy interests including applicable domestic and /or international legal frameworks for privacy and data protection.

29. Besides, several issues have emerged as significant in the promotion of cross-border e-commerce in the region including border management, taxation, Intellectual Property Rights, online consumer protection and security in the use of ICTs, which are considered to be of particular importance for businesses participating in cross-border e-commerce.

30. We encourage the development of policies and frameworks that promote trust and confidence among cross-border e-commerce participants, and which ensures the benefits of cross-border e-commerce are available for consumers and businesses alike.

31. The following activities could be considered under this pillar:

- Research, study and understand new and emerging cross-cutting issues related to cross-border e-commerce;
- Identify barriers and encourage best practices sharing in facilitation of cross-border information flows for cross-border e-commerce;
- Encourage sharing best practices on online consumer protection, taxation issues on cross-border e-commerce operators;

- Identify and share best practices for the promotion of electronic authentication methods, including electronic signatures;
- Identify barriers and encourage best practice sharing in border management, including but not limited to goods inspections processes at the border;
- Coordinate with the UPU or NPO and other stakeholders involved in cross-border delivery and distribution to safeguard and improve the sustainability of cross-border e-commerce;
- Raise awareness of cybercrimes and the need for strong, effective security in the use of ICTs for cross-border e-commerce;
- Maintain implementation of emerging information communication technologies and industries ensuring interoperability in the sphere of cross-border e-commerce in the region;
- Promote better measurement of cross-border e-commerce and analysis on its economic impacts, including measurements examining negative impacts of relevant protectionist measures and anti-competition practices;
- Modernize the TOR of ECSG by focusing on e-commerce and capturing emerging issues;
- Continue close collaboration with other working groups and APEC fora, including but not limited to the Sub Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP), Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG), Telecommunication Working Group (TELWG), CTI, and Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) etc.

The Way Forward

32. An Annex to the Framework includes past, current and future projects, initiatives, APEC member action-plans and working group work-plans, with the aim to promote and facilitate cross-border e-commerce in the region.
33. The Annex of APEC Collective Actions is a living document and will be updated annually.
34. This Framework will contribute to the strategic and long-term planning of APEC's work program through all relevant Committees and Working Groups.
35. The ECSG, and the possible successor sub-fora under CTI, will have a leadership and coordinating role to implement the Framework beginning in 2018 and report to CTI annually. Relevant fora and working groups are encouraged to implement the Framework in their scopes to facilitate cross-border e-commerce in the region.

ANNEX: APEC COLLECTIVE ACTIONS

No.	Name of projects/initiatives/plans	Working Pillars	Working Group / APEC fora	Year	Member
1	Idea Show for start-up in e-commerce in Asia Pacific 2017	(ii)	ECSG	2017	Chinese Taipei
2	Enhance MSME's Capacity for Inclusive Development by Cross- Border e-Commerce	(ii), (iv)	ECSG	2017	Viet Nam

	Adoption				
3	Work Plan for Promoting E-commerce to Globalize MSMEs	(ii), (iv)	CTI	2016 - 2018	Korea
4	DPS-ECSG Work Plan 2017	(iii)	ECSG	2017	ECSG members
5	APEC Workshop on Facilitating Market Access for Women-Led MSMEs through E-Commerce	(ii)	SME	2017	Viet Nam
6	APEC SME Cross-Border E-Commerce (CBE) Leaders' Conference	(ii)	SME	2017	China
7	Seminar on "Capacity-Building for Compliance with Cross-Border Privacy Rules System in APEC."	(iii)	ECSG	2017	Chinese Taipei
8	Phase Two of Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan 2017-2020	(ii) (v)		2017	CTI

¹ <https://www.emarketer.com/Article/Worldwide-Retail-Ecommerce-Sales-Will-Reach-1915-trillion-This-Year/1014369>

² <https://www.emarketer.com/Article/Offline-Retail-Sales-Still-Strong-Asia-Pacific/1014314?ecid=NL1007>

³ Facilitating Digital Trade for Inclusive Growth, Issue Paper No. 12 by APEC Policy Support Unit, April 2017

⁴ <http://www.tradeforum.org/Cross-border-e-commerce-helps-SMEs-reach-global-markets/>

⁵ This Framework is applied to facilitate for cross-border e-commerce in B2C, B2B and G2B transactions and for commercial transactions of both physical goods and services and digital products via electronics means.

⁶ Use of the term 'Digital product' should not be understood to reflect a Member's view on whether trade in digital products through electronic transmission should be categorised as trade in services or trade in goods.

⁷ The APEC Iloilo Initiative: Growing Global MSMEs for Inclusive Development.

Source: https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm/Annex-A

ANNEX B: APEC STRATEGY FOR GREEN, SUSTAINABLE AND INNOVATIVE MSMEs

1. The APEC Strategy for Green Sustainable, and Innovative MSMEs will serve as guidance for APEC policymakers to create an enabling environment for MSMEs to engage in

activities, such as the adoption of green technologies, the use of eco-friendly packaging materials and design, the compliance with international environmental standards and socially responsible investment, which would lead to a sustainable and inclusive Asia-Pacific. The Strategy will also outline future plans for activities on promoting green and sustainable MSMEs by different APEC fora.

2. We encourage APEC member economies to consider the following actions

a. *Raising green awareness for enhancing competitiveness among stakeholders*

We are aware that smaller enterprises tend to focus mainly on economic benefits, but could benefit from better understanding social and environmental impacts. We recommend member economies to promote green awareness among stakeholders by:

- Providing appropriate information and guidance on the benefits and ways of going green to MSMEs;
- Encouraging larger companies and successful green companies to share best practices on adopting a green business model to MSMEs to increase their opportunities in engaging in international markets where green standards are widely accepted; and,
- Educating the younger generation on the green economy, environmental awareness and sustainable development to enhance their understanding and demand for green products and services.

b. *Providing training and skills development for MSMEs*

We recognize that most MSMEs lack the capacity for adopting green economy practices. In addition, they lack sufficient skills to adopt green and innovative technologies and sufficient digital literacy. Governments can play an important role in enhancing MSMEs' capacity to better access innovation and technologies, compete international, and participate in GVCs. Governments can also help to bridge the digital divide by offering necessary training programs and courses, and support green MSMEs' efforts to effectively communicate the unique attributes of their eco-friendly products and services to potential consumers.

We also recognize that a number of MSMEs are suppliers to large enterprises, possibly through green procurement programs. We thus welcome the engagement of larger companies in offering best practices and mentoring schemes to support the greening of MSMEs. Moreover, we encourage such companies, universities, and relevant government officials to exchange relevant information to improve knowledge and capacity to nurture future green MSMEs.

c. *Promoting the compliance with related international standards and the development of an integrated policy framework, at the regional and domestic levels*

We support APEC member economies in launching policy instruments for creating an enabling environment for MSMEs to engage in green activities. These instruments can include the establishment of green standards and certifications, eco-labeling schemes consistent with international standards, as well as the effective implementation of environmental laws. We also encourage APEC member economies to ensure the successful implementation of related international standards among MSMEs. Moreover, we support policies and regulatory frameworks that reduce trade barriers and facilitate the export of green products by MSMEs and to help green MSMEs invest abroad.

Partnerships among multi-stakeholders, including different concerned agencies, the private sector and academia, should also be strengthened to push forward green business policies.

d. *Providing incentives and promoting science, technology and innovation (STI) and internet and digital economy to expand MSME market reach*

We encourage APEC member economies to create incentives to facilitate MSMEs' shift towards the green economy. We welcome and encourage universities and research institutes, as the sources of green technologies in the APEC region, to conduct joint research to promote green innovation that is applicable to MSMEs.

We recognize the importance of e-commerce platforms as a pathway to increase the sales of green products and services, as well as to allow green products to be more accessible to the purchasing population. We also welcome APEC members' support for MSMEs' innovation with the focus on development and commercialization of highly applicable products and capacity building programs that support MSMEs' innovation in terms of products, procedure, marketing and management, etc.

We urge APEC members to foster incentives for innovation awards, initiatives and creative and green industries; share best practices on appropriate technology adoption among MSMEs to support higher production; coordinate the policies, regulatory practices that can maximize the potential of MSMEs to contribute to innovation and green growth; and strengthen public – private partnership to support MSMEs' innovation.

We encourage the formation of proper mechanisms for commercially based technology diffusion and facilitation in APEC in order to foster the transition to green technologies for MSMEs.

e. *Promoting green supply chain development and establishing the networks for green, sustainable and innovative MSMEs*

We encourage green government procurement and green procurement policies by large companies to encourage MSME suppliers to provide environmentally sustainable goods and services. We also encourage partnerships among green, sustainable and innovative MSMEs. We support the establishment of green sustainable and innovative MSMEs' networks and encourage the use of e-commerce as a means to expand the green supply chain.

We encourage APEC member economies to build global and regional networks of MSMEs innovators and accelerators, (e.g. internship consortium, APEC SME Service Alliance [ASSA], innovation centers, supply chain institutes, women and youth networks) as part of an ecosystem which supports enterprise creation, increases the innovative capabilities of MSMEs and joint collaboration among MSMEs, large enterprises and academia.

3. The above-mentioned prioritized actions for greening MSMEs should be based on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) approach while promoting benefits for local MSMEs and communities.
4. Five sectors can be considered, at an initial stage, by the Strategy namely
 - Biomass and renewable energy
 - Construction and green building
 - Tourism

- Food industries
- Textile

We encourage member economies to volunteer as the champion economies to take lead in promoting green and sustainable MSMEs in the suggested pilot sectors; for example, by initiating the projects or organizing relevant activities.

5. In developing the Strategy, member economies must come to an understanding on the parameters that can help identify what a green, sustainable and innovative MSME is, taking into account the existing green growth indicators developed by other organizations including the OECD and UNEP.

Implementation

6. As a cross-cutting issue, cross-fora collaboration will be required. In addition to the APEC SMEWG, efforts to promote green and sustainable MSMEs could be considered by other APEC fora including the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) on encouraging MSMEs' participation in green value chains; the Economic Committee on structural reform towards a green economy; the Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) on education, skills development and training on green economy values; the Energy Group, Transportation Group, PPSTI, PPFs, Tourism Group among others; as well as the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) on strengthening PPP in greening MSMEs. Engagement and collaboration with relevant organizations and experts, such as OECD, UNIDO and UNEP, will also be advisable.
7. Once the Strategy has been endorsed, the SMEWG will undertake an annual stock-take and review of the APEC projects, activities and initiatives that promote green, sustainable and innovative MSMEs during 2018 - 2022, based on, but not limited to, the stock-take prepared by the APEC Secretariat as presented in the Annex. APEC member economies may consider taking a mid-term review of the Strategy in 2020 to monitor the progress and to ensure effective implementation.

Source: https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm/Annex-B

ANNEX C: FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE MULTI-YEAR ACTION PLAN (MYAP) 2018-2020

1. Purpose

The MYAP is intended to implement the Multi-Year APEC Program on Food Security and Climate Change, fulfilling the APEC Food Security Roadmap Toward 2020 and Bogor Goals 2020. Furthermore, the MYAP will promote a more coordinated regional effort at addressing the closely linked challenges of food security, development, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. The MYAP will be executed by the Policy-Partnership on Food Security (PPFS), in collaboration with other APEC fora such as the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG), the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLDPA), and the Oceans and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG). PPFS will engage with the related APEC fora to ensure that MYAP activities are closely coordinated with their efforts so that there is coherence in implementation of the MYAP.

2. Background

Increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events due to climate change are already negatively affecting agricultural production systems and food security. Climate change will continue to have a profound impact in APEC economies, with developing

economies facing the largest reductions in food production potential, according to a study by the Asian Development Bank. These environmental challenges could affect the food supply by asserting downward pressure on production and upward pressure on prices, thereby creating problems for food availability, food accessibility and affordability. With agriculture, livestock, and fisheries sources representing a portion of global greenhouse gas emissions, efforts to address the food security-climate relationship have also focused, where possible, on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions from food systems. The MYAP reflects APEC’s Multi-Year Strategic Framework on Food Security and Climate Change where the three primary pillars are defined as:

- a. Sustainably increase agricultural, fisheries, and aquaculture productivity and incomes (“productivity”);
- b. Adapt and build resilience to climate change (“adaptation”); and
- c. Mitigate or reduce greenhouse gas emissions where possible (“mitigation”).

This MYAP was developed using the discussions, goals, and direction laid out in the APEC Food Security Roadmap Towards 2020, the Piura Declaration on APEC Food Security, and the Strategic Framework for the MYAP.

3. Objectives

The key objectives of the MYAP are to:

Enhance the capacities of APEC economies in developing and disseminating approaches to address the food security-climate change relationship in the short, medium, and long term.

Increase the knowledge of adaptation, mitigation, and productivity among APEC economies. Activities such as targeted capacity building activities focused on sharing and disseminating related priorities, good practices, policy approaches, appropriate technologies, lessons learned, and other information will help achieve the goals identified.

Utilize the current APEC structure to provide means of support for APEC economies to better share experiences and promote cooperation in the development of approaches to addressing food security-climate change relationships, as applicable and appropriate and based on identified capacity gaps.

General Approach

The MYAP is a set of voluntary, non-binding actions determined by each APEC economy. APEC economies have discretion to develop their own actions based on an economy’s domestic priority and available budget.

Coordination and Leading Economies: As the chief coordinating and executing body, PPFS will oversee and manage the MYAP. PPFS will identify a sub-group (“core team”) of MYAP champions to facilitate coordination, implementation and monitoring of the MYAP. This core team will initially include representatives of the PPFS Chair 2017 (Vietnam) and the next three chairs of PPFS (Papua New Guinea, Chile, and Malaysia), other interested economies and private sector participants. Expert organizations are also encouraged to engage in the MYAP implementation. It is envisioned that, under the auspices of and subject to the approval of the PPFS, the core team will triennially review and make recommendations to the PPFS for updating the MYAP, and that the PPFS welcomes all interested economies and private sector participants to join the core team.

Workstreams: The MYAP aims to address challenges associated with food security and climate change by pursuing four concurrent, inter-related streams of work, as determined in the Strategic Framework for the MYAP and summarized below:

- a. Policies: This workstream focuses on cooperation, communication, and information on food-security and climate change policy.
- b. Best Practices: This workstream focuses on cooperation on best practices in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture production and policymaking.
- c. Technologies and Knowledge: This workstream focuses on technology development, dissemination, knowledge sharing, and access to advanced technologies.
- d. Capacities: This workstream focuses on human and institutional capacity building and outreach for the public and private sector, for policy makers, social associations and agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture extension and education.

4. Key Actions in 2018 – 2020

Phase 1: 2018 – Stocktaking and Analysis: The first phase of the MYAP will focus on assessment and stocktaking activities that clarify policies, best practices, technologies, and levels of capacity currently existing in the APEC economies. The stocktaking and analysis phase will be aligned within the four workstreams of the MYAP. It is understood and anticipated that some actions (i.e., cross-cutting actions) will address multiple workstreams of the MYAP.

- a. Policies Workstream
 - i. Economy-level analysis of policies relating to sustainable and climate resilient agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture.
 - ii. Context and situation analysis of policies and regulations that govern three key sectors (staple food/agriculture, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture) and an evaluation of climate conditions, post-harvest loss and waste, and the value chain.
 - iii. Share and stocktaking of incentive policies to promote investments in science and technology development, innovations, plant varieties, fisheries, aquaculture and animal breeds adaptive to climate change, which ensure both quality and quantity for food security.
 - iv. Research and analysis of greenhouse gas emission reduction in the process of food production and distribution.
- b. Best Practices Workstream
 - i. Stocktaking exercise of on-going and new practices used in each economy in the agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture sectors. Review the application of good practices in adapting to and/or mitigating climate change and post-harvest loss and waste.
 - ii. Stocktaking exercise of feasibility studies done of these best practices to ascertain the ability of economies to adopt new methods and techniques for increasing productivity, reducing post-harvest loss and waste, and improving adaptation and mitigation.
- c. Technology and Knowledge Workstream
 - i. Inventory and assess existing platforms that track adaptation and mitigation technologies and practices, as well as their uptake and upscaling potential.
 - ii. Inventory existing collaborative mechanisms between economies and international organizations, and between public and private sector

- organizations that focus on technology development and knowledge sharing.
- iii. Inventory food production and processing techniques and technologies throughout the value chain that APEC economies utilize to adapt to climate change and mitigate greenhouse gases and reduce post-harvest loss and waste.
 - iv. Cooperate to develop an e-bulletin to highlight and disseminate knowledge about applications of climate-change-adaptation and mitigation science and technology in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture production.
- e. Capacities Workstream
- i. Conduct a stocktaking exercise that inventories and summarizes training programs and capacity building initiatives in or available to APEC economies for increasing productivity, reducing post-harvest loss and waste, improving adaptation and mitigation, and strengthening climate information services.
 - ii. Evaluate and analyze APEC-funded projects from the Projects Database to specifically consider the capacity building and outreach initiatives focused on improving extension and training services and tools.
- f. Cross Cutting Actions
- i. Collaborate and build upon relevant stock-taking and analysis work done by other regional entities and other APEC working groups.
 - ii. Compare results of stocktaking and analysis exercises across all four workstreams; consolidate information to provide a picture of food security and climate change collaborations in APEC economies.
 - iii. Evaluate youth and gender statistics and compare results of stock-taking and analysis exercises across all four workstreams with respect to how women, youth and marginalized farming groups are integrated into climate change and food security activities.

Phase 2: 2019 – 2020 – Training and Integration: This phase will focus on potential training opportunities and integrating new practices for APEC economies to improve their abilities to combat food insecurity and climate change. These activities will be aligned within the four workstreams of the MYAP. It is understood and anticipated that some actions (i.e., cross-cutting actions) will address multiple workstreams of the MYAP.

d. Policies Workstream

- . Conduct APEC regional level policy dialogues on food security and climate change, engaging the PPFS and other relevant APEC working groups and private sector participants for more insight on regulations.
- i. Hold trainings and workshops on policy design and formulation, coordination and ways of mainstreaming resilient and sustainable agriculture by addressing productivity, adaptation and mitigation in food security policies.
- ii. Develop and disseminate information on design and policy formulation, interdepartmental and sectoral coordination and implementation regarding climate change affecting agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture to promote overall policy coordination for food security.

e. Best Practices Workstream

- . Conduct collaborative activities such as demonstrations for sharing projects that use best practices in sustainable and resilient agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture adapted and mitigation to the climate; utilize existing platforms whenever possible.
- i. Collect and disseminate case studies to identify best practices and hold dialogues about agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture risk management and post-harvest loss and waste in relation to climate change throughout the food value chain and across sectors.
- ii. Define, assess, evaluate and categorize case studies by types of best practice such as governance, climate information, and adaptation methods.
- iii. Create a searchable and easily accessible database of best practices from APEC economies, available on the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security (APIP), a web-based platform.

f. Technology and Knowledge Workstream

- . Encourage technological exchanges and knowledge sharing among APEC economies via existing knowledge hubs and digital platforms or web-based information sharing tools, such as APIP, for improving productivity, post-harvest loss and waste, adaptation, and mitigation.
- i. Distribute information on climate and agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture technologies using open data, satellite (i.e., remote sensing) information, regional organizations, early warning systems, market information systems, and pilot projects.
- ii. Encourage private sector led innovations/ working with public sector to develop technologies that promote efficiencies; create opportunities for the private sector to share advances made in agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture and climate technologies through a partnership approach.
- iii. Encourage collaborative research, development and extension program on climate change among APEC member economies.

g. Capacities Workstream

- . Develop and submit APEC/self/joint funding proposals for APEC capacity building, training, and outreach initiatives to be considered by APEC (Budget and Management Committee) or other financial supporters focusing on:
 - Extension best practices approaches pertaining to agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture extension best practice approaches.
 - Linkages among food producers, marketers, and consumers.
 - Strengthening supply/value chains.
 - Agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture management approaches for improving productivity, post-harvest loss and waste, adaptation and mitigation.
 - Land and water use planning approaches.
- i. Encourage and enable APEC economies to utilize and promote farm management approaches and climate information training already available

via existing mechanisms such as: the APEC Climate Center, the APEC Research Center for Typhoon and Society, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Centre for Environment, Aquaculture and Fisheries Science (CEFAS), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gasses (GRA), and other relevant expert and capacity building networks.

- ii. Develop and disseminate tools for estimating and communicating the cost-benefit of approaches, technologies and best practices for improving productivity, post-harvest loss and waste, adaptation and mitigation that can be up-scaled within or across APEC economies for agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture.

h. Cross-Cutting Actions

- . Promote PPFS coordination among institutions across APEC region and other APEC working groups on trainings, data sharing, and scientific developments for food security and climate change.
- i. Engage the public and private sectors by jointly consulting them on their experiences across the four workstreams and jointly involving them in policy dialogues, capacity building and training activities.
- ii. Promote the integration of gender, youth and marginalized farming groups.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

The PPFS will oversee monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of all MYAP activities. Accordingly, the PPFS will recommend M&E guidelines and common progress indicators for all projects that fall under the MYAP. MYAP activity-level indicators are voluntary and are monitored/reported at the discretion of the implementing APEC economies.

6. Living Document

Initially the PPFS will utilize the core group, while also seeking to engage other economies, to review, deliberate, and update the MYAP for subsequent years of implementation. The review and updating process can be flexible and should be based upon the progress made on the most recent version of the MYAP. As noted above, under the auspices of the PPFS, the MYAP core team will lead the effort to triennially update the MYAP. Accordingly, since the current MYAP extends through 2020, the review process to update the MYAP should begin by 2020 to finalize the next (i.e., 2021- 2023) iteration of the MYAP.

Source: https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm/Annex-C

ANNEX D: ACTION PLAN ON RURAL-URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO STRENGTHEN FOOD SECURITY AND QUALITY GROWTH

Purpose

The Action Plan on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth (AP) is intended to build on the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth (SF), fulfilling the APEC Food Security Roadmap Towards 2020 and the 2014 APEC Connectivity Blueprint. The AP will promote a learning agenda for the APEC region on rural-urban development as well as a more coordinated effort at addressing the food security and quality growth challenges brought about by a rapidly urbanizing

region. The AP will be executed by the Policy- Partnership on Food Security (PPFS). PPFS will work to ensure alignment of the AP activities with related APEC and other international fora.

Background

We are rapidly moving toward a majority-urban world, with urban areas accounting increasingly for the predominant share of food consumption in the Asia-Pacific region. According to estimates of the World Bank, the APEC urban population is expected to grow from 1.77 billion in 2014 to 2.38 billion in 2050, which represents an increase from 61 percent to 77 percent of the total population. Asia's urban population will grow from 48 to 64 percent, while Latin America's will rise from 80 to 90 percent. Urban growth, together with economic inequality, and urban rural linkages, mean that food insecurity and poverty in cities will also become an increasing concern, alongside poverty in rural areas. This will create an additional burden on vulnerable populations, particularly women, children and the aging population, as these groups are hit hardest by poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition. The urbanization process and the transformation of agriculture, aquaculture, food systems and rural spaces present challenges and opportunities for inclusive growth and poverty eradication; economic, environmental and social sustainability; and food security and nutrition.

Diets in the APEC region are also in transition. In developing Asian and Latin-American economies 65-75 percent of urban food expenditure is on high-value, non-grain food products. Furthermore, about 60-75 percent of those expenditures go to food that are processed to varying degrees. Food continues to be produced predominantly in rural areas leaving urban populations to depend on food purchases. Urbanization has thus led to the need for rural transformation particularly as it relates to on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities for youth, innovative technologies across the value chain, as well as the fast growth in the volume of food moving through rural-urban value chains. Furthermore, natural disasters and extreme weather events, including those related to climate change could impact agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries, infrastructure and supply chains connecting rural and urban areas. As a result, there is a need for a holistic and integrated focus on rural-urban linkages and approaches in order to fully address the challenges and maximize the opportunities presented by rural transformation and sustainable urban development.

Objectives

The key objectives of the AP are to:

Increase knowledge, information, and experience-sharing regarding good practices and lessons learned.

Utilize current APEC structure to provide means for APEC economies to better share experiences and promote economic cooperation to enhance food security and quality growth.

Enhance capacities of APEC economies to address rural- urban linkages, in order to improve food security and quality growth.

General Approach

The AP calls for member-economies to develop activities based on the strategies outlined in the Strategic Framework and to consider the role of private sector in those activities. The actions are to be voluntary and member-economies have the discretion to undertake all or some of the activities based on their domestic circumstance.

The AP aims to address challenges associated with rural-urban development and food security by pursuing four concurrent areas, as determined in the Strategic Framework:

1. Inclusive economic development
2. Sustainable natural resource management

3. Social aspect
4. Administrative efficiency

As the chief coordinating and executing body, PPFS will oversee and manage the AP. In this capacity PPFS is responsible for providing guidance on the appropriateness of activities to be developed and proposed under this AP through the regular review and scoring of concept notes; this should include identifying activities that are appropriate within the scope of the PPFS and not duplicative of the efforts of other APEC working groups and other international fora,

Key Actions

Economies are encouraged to carry out actions that move from 1) consolidating and disseminating knowledge on rural-urban linkages for food security and quality growth; to 2) sharing best practices and lessons learned; and finally, to 3) piloting new policies, partnerships, projects and programs to improve food security and quality growth across the rural-urban continuum.

Activities to accomplish these key actions could include:

- Stocktaking of economy-level analysis of policies/programs
- Developing and operating APEC web-based information systems
- Organizing regional/economy-level workshops
- Conducting regional-level dialogues
- Collaborating with and leveraging partnerships with relevant APEC sub-fora, international/regional entities
- Conducting regional/economy-level studies
- Conducting economy-level feasibility studies
- Organizing capacity-building activities
- Consolidating and developing toolkits
- Piloting models of rural-urban development
- Piloting regional/economy-level public-private partnerships
- Establishing and operating APEC multi-stakeholder platforms

These activities should align with the four concurrent themes from the SF as listed under the General Approach.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The PPFS will monitor progress toward meeting the objectives and goals of the Strategic Framework and AP over the course of 2018. As needed, PPFS will provide additional focus to the work stream to encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing on more specified components of rural-urban development in an effort to make substantial progress in key areas.

Living Document

The PPFS will review, deliberate and update the AP for subsequent years of implementation. The review and updating process can be flexible and should be based upon the progress made on the most recent version of the AP. Throughout the year, activities can be added or revised by member economies.

Appendix: Potential activities during 2018-2020

#	Potential activities	Strategic Framework Areas	Potential leading economies	Proposed Timeframe
1	Consolidating and disseminating knowledge to reduce food loss and waste, and promoting food safety and quality across the food value chain, through applying innovative programs and policies in the context of rural-urban development	Inclusive economic development	Chinese Taipei	2018-2020
2	Consolidating and disseminating knowledge, policies and regulations on urban agriculture	Inclusive economic development		2018-2020
3	Developing and operating APEC web-based information system, within the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security (APIP), on food production, distribution and finance	Inclusive economic development	Japan in cooperation with Economies	2018-2020
4	Organizing workshops to share best practices on rural governance	Administrative efficiency		2018
5	Conducting economy-level study on rural labor transformation	Social aspect	Viet Nam	2019-2020
6	Piloting value chain models for local specialties in Vietnam	Inclusive economic development	Viet Nam	2018-2020
7	Organizing workshop on PPP in agriculture to share good practice on enabling rural- urban linkages	Inclusive economic development	Thailand	2019-2020
8	Organizing workshop on sharing knowledge and practices on sustainable agriculture development in the context of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)	Sustainable natural resources management	Thailand	2019-2020

Source: https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm/Annex-D