

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOURTH MEETING
OF APEC WORKING GROUP ON ASIA PACIFIC MULTILATERAL
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
BANDUNG, JULY 11 - 12, 1991

1. Attendance

The Fourth Meeting of the APEC Working Group on Asia Pacific Multilateral Human Resources Development Initiative was convened in Bandung Indonesia on 11 - 12 July 1991. Delegates from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States participated at the Meeting. The PECC and ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance as observers. The List of Participants is attached as Annex 1

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting adopted the Agenda as appears in Annex 2

3. Election of Chairman

Mr. Joni Marsinih, Special Assistant to the Minister of Industry of Indonesia, was elected as Chairman of the Meeting. Mr. Richard Gold of Canada was assigned as coordinator of the Drafting Committee.

4. Report on The Third Working Group Meeting in Singapore, February 18-19, 1991

Canada reported on the proceedings of the third Meeting of the Working Group and referred participants to the Summary Conclusions previously distributed as appears in Annex 3.

5. Report and Discussion of Work Plan

A. Networks

- a. Korea, as coordinator of the APEC network in the area of economic development management, briefed the Meeting on the results of the Formulation Seminar held on 25 - 26 June, 1991 in Seoul as appears in Annex 4. Korea invited comments on the draft format for data collection as appears in Annex 5.

Each national lead institution will, where appropriate, form a domestic network of relevant institutions to collect information on aspects of

economic development management, review such information, and prepare a summary paper identifying issues of national concern based on the data collected.

- b. Japan, as coordinator of the APEC network in the area of business management, informed the Meeting on the results of the Formulation Seminar held on 9 - 10 July, 1991 in Bandung, Indonesia as appears in Annex 6.

The Formulation Seminar clarified many issues related to participation, structure and method of operation. It also established plans related to information exchange, specific activities and the identification of policy issues. With respect to the specific policy issue identified by the Business Management Network, the Meeting requested the Business Management Network to analyze the shortage of business management teachers in APEC countries and to identify policy options for consideration by the Working Group. In this connection, New Zealand offered to contribute to this activity.

- c. The Meeting approved with appreciation the work plans which Korea and Japan submitted on the Formulation Seminars on Economic Development and Business Management Networks, respectively.
- d. Australia, as coordinator of the APEC network in the area of industrial technology, informed the Meeting on the preparations for the Formulation Seminar to be held on 5-7 August, 1991 in Wollongong, Australia as appears in Annex 7. The Meeting accepted that participation at the Formulation Seminar on Industrial Technology Network should ideally be by senior delegates of nominated lead institutions.

The Meeting also expressed appreciation to Australia for its preparation for the Formulation Seminar.

- e. Those countries which have not nominated institutions to the networks were encouraged to do so.
 - f. The Meeting acknowledged that participation in the network meetings would primarily be by experts.
- B. Progress Report of APEC Partnership in Education and Training

The United States delegation informed the Meeting that final negotiations are underway for thirteen initial partnerships with APEC countries.

The US delegation agreed to the suggestion of the Meeting that an information package on Partnership for Education and Training be prepared and circulated if possible before the next Senior Officials Meeting.

The Meeting recognized the Partnership for Education as having made significant progress in putting partnerships in place. An informational outline on current progress and status appears in Annex 8.

In this connection the Japanese delegation expressed its intention to organize a symposium by the end of this year to explore the possibilities of adopting a similar program with the cooperation of the experts from the U.S. and other members.

C. PECC HRD Outlook Study and Formation of HRD Task Force

The representative from PECC informed the Meeting on the work carried out by the Task Force. The Working Group urged participants to encourage their respective PECC National Committees to expedite completion of the questionnaire. The Meeting expressed appreciation for this work and also emphasized the importance of the PECC study in informing policy discussions and the activities of the HRD Work Project. The progress report tabled by PECC appears as Annex 9.

6. Other Matters.

- a. The Meeting registered its concern about the need to resolve issues related to funding of specific activities under Work Plans, and referred this issue to the next Senior Officials Meeting for further consideration in relation with other working group activities.
- b. The Meeting suggested that future meetings of networks consider the feasibility of holding simultaneous and/or successive meetings at a common location preceding the Working Group meetings on HRD.
- c. With respect to relationships among networks and the Working Group, the Meeting accepted the following principles :
 - Each network should be free to pursue activities independently, but should report to the Working Group.
 - The Working Group would approve network work plans, and review and coordinate their activities.
 - Coordinating institutions should be kept informed of other networks' activities.
 - Networks should be encouraged to develop contacts amongst themselves.
- d. It was agreed that the criteria for what constitutes a network project proposed by the Business Management Network provide a good example for the other networks.

- a. The Meeting accepted the principle of networks identifying policy issues, but also agreed that policy recommendations would be under the auspices of the Working Group. Networks, might be asked by the Working Group to undertake policy analyses, as appropriate.

7. Venue and Date of the Next Meeting

The Meeting welcomed the offer by the Thai delegation to host the next Working Group Meeting tentatively in Bangkok, in the second or third week of January 1992.

8. Acknowledgement

The delegates expressed their sincere appreciation to the host country for the excellent organization of the Meeting and warm hospitality shown to them.
