



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2010/EC/SEM/013
Session 2

APEC's EoDB Action Plan - Work Programme for Starting a Business

Submitted by: United States



JAPAN 2010

**Seminar on the First Steps of Successful
Reform in Doing Business
Taipei, Chinese Taipei
5-6 October 2010**

APEC Workshop: First Steps of Successful Reform in Doing Business – Starting a Business



Victoria Waite

APEC Technical Assistance and Training Facility

October 6, 2010



APEC's EoDB Action Plan - Work Programme for Starting a Business

- Adopted in 2009 Annual Ministerial Meeting in Singapore
 - Improve business environment in Asia Pacific region in 5 priority areas, including starting a business
 - Promote reform to make it cheaper, faster and easier to do business in APEC region
- United States and New Zealand are co-leads for “Starting a Business” work programme

1

Starting a business - Approach

- Setting context (Phase 1)
 - Why is business start-up important
 - What does it involve
 - How can we learn from each other
- One size does not fit all (Phase 2)
 - Identifying benefits and challenges
 - Selecting appropriate diagnostic team
- What comes after Phase 1 and 2?

2

Phase 1 - APEC Workshop: Reducing Start-up and Establishment Time of Businesses

- Held March 1-2, 2010 in Hiroshima, Japan in margins of APEC SOM and covered:
 - Impact of regulatory environment on ability to start a business
 - Economic benefits to facilitate business start-up
 - Discussion on types of action to streamline processes and improve performance
 - Case studies: Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand and the United States
 - Breakout discussion groups
 - Examples of capacity building and technical assistance to assist reform efforts

3

Phase 2 – Economy level diagnostics

- Tailored and designed to fit each volunteer economy needs
 - Initial meeting with volunteer economies
 - Draft terms of reference
 - Identify experts
 - Stakeholder meetings
 - Draft report with recommendations
- Volunteers: Indonesia (launched July 2010) and Peru (beginning stage)

4

Next steps

- Depend on needs of economies
- Work with donor community
- Workshop (late 2011)?
- Another phase (?) – discreet follow up assistance related to diagnostic if appropriate

5

Types of technical assistance and capacity building

- Think outside 'workshop' box
 - Public outreach campaigns
 - Design roadmaps to reform
 - Study tours/expert exchanges
 - Legal and/or technical assistance
 - Others?