Closing Remarks

Submitted by: Economic Committee Chair
APEC Seminar
on the First Steps of Successful Reform in Doing Business
5-6 Oct 2010, Taipei

Some important points
(preliminary)
Takashi OMORI
Chair, Economic Committee, APEC

Keys to Success
- High level commitment is a key.

- Another key is the existence of Mr/Ms. H. in the bureaucracy, with passion and dedication.

- Through the EoDB initiative, we can, confirm the high level commitment and encourage of Mr/Ms. H. in each economy.
Integrated approach

- An inter-departmental task force is an effective way.

- Regular monitoring and clear timeframe is a good way to keep momentum.

- One-stop center not only minimizes the time for moving around but also facilitates streamlining the whole procedures.

- One-stop center can invite the participation of the private sector such as utility companies.

ICTs

- ICTs accelerate the administrative reform.

- Online application reduces not only the time costs but also the degree of discretion and corruption.

- ICTs can provide equal opportunities.

- E-government should be accompanied with measures to improve ITC literacy.
Streamlining

- Streamlining is often as effective as the use of ICT.

- Flow-charts are useful tool in reducing the total time.

- Forward-looking approach is desirable to address unconventional problems.

- Need to pay attention to the roles and costs of professionals (e.g. lawyers, accountants) as the total costs include their fees.

Indicators

- Even though indicators may not be perfect,

  International comparison, including that of sub-indicators, is helpful to identify weak points.

  Recognition of the progress by the World Bank is encouraging.

- Need for continued efforts to improve indicators.

  Questions and suggestions are welcome.
EoDB exercise

- "Best practice" includes measures to minimize negative side effects, through such means as monitoring and penalties.

- If positive effects are large enough, it is worth promoting while trying to minimize the negative effects.

- Proactive collaboration with the private sector is important.

What are the best ways to outreach?

To conclude

- A very fruitful and encouraging seminar.
- APEC as a good supporter for Mr/Ms. H.
- Comments and suggestions are welcome.

Please contact your EC member, champion economies, USA (coordinator of EoDB FotC),
or myself (takashi.omori@cao.go.jp).

Thank you so much
and enjoy the rest of your trip.