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Way forward for Environmental Technology Dissemination in APEC Region

Submitted by: APEC Secretariat (On Behalf of Independent Expert)



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Dr. HU Tao

hu.tao@vip.163.com

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Outline of presentation

- Background
- What APEC should do
- What we – the APEC economies - could do

Background

- Agenda 21
 - There is a need for favorable access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, in particular to developing economies, through supportive measures that promote technology cooperation and that should enable transfer of necessary technological know-how as well as building up of economic, technical, and managerial capabilities for the efficient use and further development of transferred technology.
- UN MDG goal 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
 - 7a: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources
 - 7b: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss
 - 7c: Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
 - 7d: Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020
- IPCC
 - Urgency of global warming Everywhere on the earth
 - Actions are needed urgently for 2C degree target

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Background

- UNFCCC
 - Negotiations and decisions
 - The Convention stipulates that all Parties are to promote and cooperate in developing, applying and diffusing, including transferring technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent certain anthropogenic emissions of GHGs in all relevant sectors (Article 4.1 (c)). According to Article 4.3, Annex II Parties are to provide financial resources for the transfer of technology. Article 4.5 urges developed country Parties and Annex II Parties to take all practicable steps to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, the transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies and know-how to other Parties, particularly to developing countries, to enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention. The extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under the Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology (Article 4.7).
 - Each session of the COP has taken decisions to promote the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

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Background

- UNFCCC
 - **Technology Mechanism**
 - **A Technology Mechanism, under the guidance of and accountable to the Conference of the Parties (COP), was established by the 16th session of the COP in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010. The Technology Mechanism is expected to facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer in order to support action on mitigation and adaptation to climate change.**
 - The Technology Mechanism consists of the following two components:
 - (a) [A Technology Executive Committee](#) ; and
 - (b) [A Climate Technology Centre and Network](#) .
 - [Innovative Financing](#)
 - [International Cooperation](#)
 - [Endogenous Development of Technologies](#)
 - [Collaborative Research & Development](#)

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Background

- UNFCCC
 - **Technology Transfer Framework**
 - The framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4.5 of the Convention was agreed at COP 7, as part of the Marrakesh Accords. The technology transfer framework aims to develop actions to implement Article 4.5 of the Convention by increasing and improving the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and know-how. This framework, contained in the annex to decision 4/CP.7, comprises 5 key themes. At COP 13, Parties adopted a set of actions for enhancing the implementation of the technology transfer framework and agreed that these activities would complement the actions in the technology transfer framework. In addition four sub-themes were added to the technology transfer framework as part of the mechanism theme.
 - Technology needs assessment
 - Technology information
 - Enabling environments
 - Capacity-building

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Background

- WTO
 - Rules of TRIPs, SCM
- WIPO
 - Patent rights protection
 - Protection period 20 years

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Background

- From global perspective of environmental technology dissemination
 - Lack of coherence between WTO system and MEAs system
 - Technology dissemination is one of the key barriers of actions for GHGs reduction.
 - The later countries (including both developed and developing economies) using global environmental friendly technologies, the worse global warming situation

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What should APEC do?

- In 2009, the APEC Ministers *recognized that “joint research, development, deployment and transfer of low and zero emission technologies would be crucial in the shared efforts to address climate change”*.
- In 2009, APEC Leaders Approved the EGS Work Program and technology dissemination is one of the most important contents for APEC to work on. APEC economies were instructed to *“Identify a “package” of follow-up actions that would enable economies to enhance their sustainable economic development and contribute to the growth of the APEC region. Three key aspects of this would be an identification of.....concrete steps to facilitate the diffusion of climate friendly and other EGS technologies so as to increase the capabilities of economies to maintain sustainable growth; capacity-building activities to help ensure that APEC economies, especially developing economies, are able to cultivate and further develop their EGS sectors and meet their sustainable growth goals, including identifying areas of technology transfer of interest to economies and initiating a series of case studies so as to better understand the needs of developing economies in this area.”*

What should APEC do?

- In 2010, APEC Leaders endorsed the APEC Leaders’ Growth Strategy which said, “APEC will implement the APEC EGS Work Program, including by taking steps to.....and facilitate the diffusion of climate friendly and other EGS technologies.” Leaders also recognized that “We will increase the dissemination and utilization of environmental goods and services.....and enhance our capabilities to develop this sector, by prioritizing work related to addressing non-tariff measures on environmental goods, technology, and services.”

What should APEC do?

- To directly respond to Leaders and Ministers' instructions, CTI has worked intensively on EGS area in recent years, including developing the EGS Work Program as a contribution to APEC's broader objective of promoting sustainable economic growth in the region. In 2010, CTI identified three priorities to implement the EGS Work Program, including "technology", which was recognized by Ministers and Leaders in Yokohama. Considering the significant role CTI plays in advancing APEC EGS work, it is appropriate for CTI to lead and coordinate the work to formulate an action plan on EGS technology dissemination, which will be part of APEC's contribution to global development, economic, and environment objectives.

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What could we do?

- Can we – the APEC economies - do:
 - **Supply & Needs Assessment in the region?**
 - **Problems and barriers survey?**
 - **Information Exchange?**
 - **Platform establishment for the region?**
 - **Business involvement?**
 - **Capacity Building?**
 - **Environments enabling?**
 - **Any others?**

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Thank you!

hu.tao@vip.163.com

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