



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2012/SOM2/PPFS/006

Agenda Item: 7

**APEC International Conference on Natural
Resources and Infrastructure Management for
Agriculture in August 2012**

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Thailand



**Policy Partnership on Food Security
Meeting
Kazan, Russia
28-29 May 2012**

URGENT

No. 1318/ 4229



Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives,
3 Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue,
Bangkok 10200.

10 May B.E. 2555 (2012)

Dear APEC Colleagues,

Subject: "APEC International Conference on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture"

We are pleased to inform you that we will host the APEC International Conference on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture during August 6 - 8, 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference is one of 62 activities under the APEC Action Plan on Food Security under the APEC Niigata Declaration on Food Security,

As outlined in the background paper and draft agenda attached to this letter, the Conference will focus on the discussion of current policies and potential policy challenges on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture of our region. On the last day of the Conference, an optional field trip will be organized.

In this connection, we are pleased to invite your office to send representative (s) to attend the meeting. Thailand will cover the travel expenses of one participant from each travel-eligible economy including airfare and per diem (per diem covers 4-night lodging, meals and travel costs) according to the APEC guidelines. The travel-eligible economies of APEC include Chile, P. R. China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation and Viet Nam. In order to be of benefit for discussion, please kindly prepare a report focusing on current policies on natural resources and infrastructure management for agriculture and/or a paper on water/irrigation management and soil management for presentation in the Conference. We would be most grateful if the designated officials would communicate to us no later than **June 15, 2012**.

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, I am greatly honored to invite you all to attend the APEC International Conference on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture and looking forward to welcoming you all to Thailand.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms. Supatra Thanaseniwat)

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

Enclosures: As stated

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**APEC International Conference on
Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture
Bangkok, Thailand**

Date: August 6 – 8, 2012

Background: Referring to the 2010 Leaders' Declaration, leaders reaffirmed, "We remain committed to providing effective economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) activities to help APEC members, in particular the developing ones, improve their capabilities for further trade and investment liberalization and facilitation." In addition, the APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security (MMFS) was first held in October 2010 in Niigata, Japan. The MMFS has endorsed the Niigata Declaration on APEC Food Security, and with reference to paragraph 9 "Expanding food supply capacity" of the Niigata Declaration on APEC Food Security, "we agreed on the need to increase agricultural production in the APEC region." The Conference has been developed from an activity No. 10 of APEC Action plan on Food Security under Share Goal 1: Sustainable Development of the Agricultural Sector. In addition, the outcome of this project will directly help strengthen food security in the region which is one of APEC-2012 Priorities under Russia's 2012 chairmanship. Furthermore, the Conference is responding to the ATCWG Workplan for 2012 that aims to improve food security throughout the region.

Co-sponsoring APEC Economies: 1) China 2) Indonesia and 3) Japan

Objectives: In order to ensure regional food security through this activity, this Conference aims to:

- (1) exchange policies, research, and best practices related to Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture among APEC members;
- (2) outline the policy challenges for Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture, particularly with the implications for food security;
- (3) develop recommendations on policy adjustment and revision on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture in order to sustainably strengthen food security through an increase of food productivity and to better cope with economic and social changes.

Official Language: English

Registration and Expected Participants: Free of charge. Expected participants are from government officials, specially administrators and policy makers, and farmer representatives from APEC Economies.

Draft Agenda
APEC International Conference on
Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture
August 6-8, 2012 Bangkok, Thailand

August 5, 2012 Arrival of participants

August 6, 2012

- **Registration**
- **Opening Session** (Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand)
- **Session I:** Various Perspectives on Enhancing Food Security through Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture
- **Session II:** Water and Irrigation Management & Soil Management
(Calls for papers from APEC Economies)

August 7, 2012

- **Session III:** Current Policies on Natural Resources and Infrastructure Management for Agriculture by Member Economies (15 min each)
- **Session IV: Wrap-up:** Finalization of the recommendations for future cooperation

August 8, 2012

- **Field Trip** (Optional) to Huai Sai Royal Development Study Center, Petchaburi Province
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