Advanced Passenger Information: Sharing Data for Effective Border Control that Support Tourism Growth in the Asia-Pacific

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Philippines

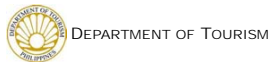**High Level Policy Dialogue on Travel Facilitation
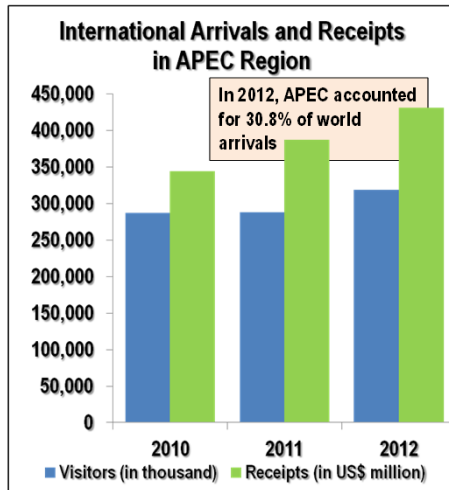Bali, Indonesia
1-2 October 2013**

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

Advanced Passenger Information:
Sharing Data for Effective Border Control that Support Tourism Growth in the Asia-Pacific

Secretary Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr.
Departure of Tourism, The Philippines

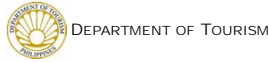High Policy Level Dialogue on Travel Facilitation
01 October 2013, Bali, Indonesia
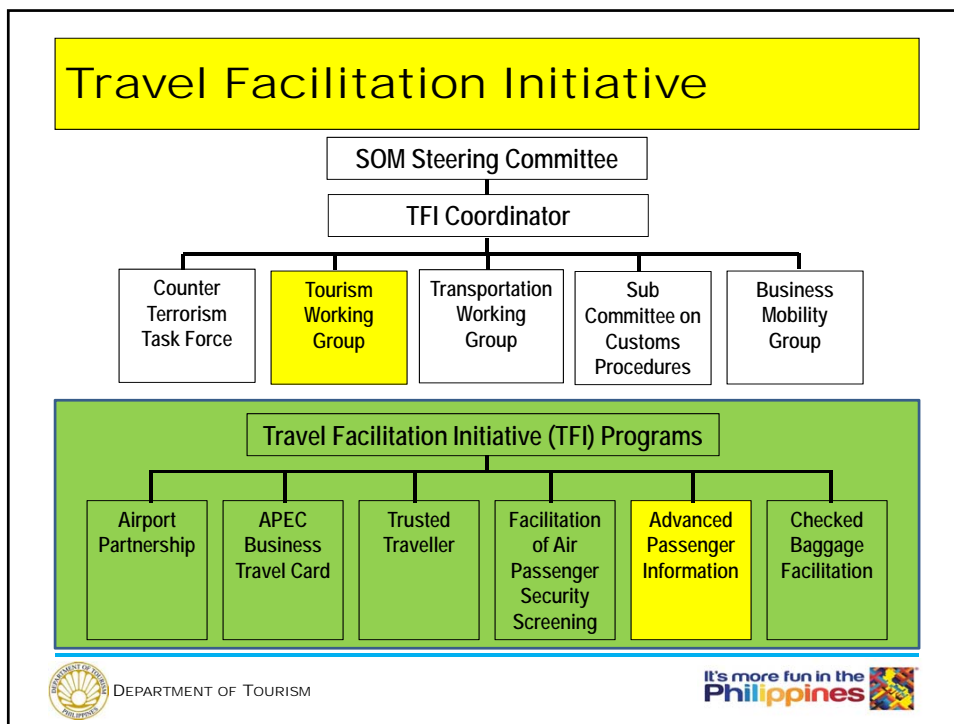
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Travel and Tourism in APEC

International Arrivals and Receipts in APEC Region

In 2012, APEC accounted for 30.8% of world arrivals

Chart (values on y-axis: 0 to 450,000; years 2010, 2011, 2012)
- Visitors (in thousand)
- Receipts (in US$ million)

Source: UNWTO

Indicators	2012	2023
Direct Contribution		
GDP (in US$ billion)	14.0	1,155.0
Employment (in million)	64.7	79.8
Total Contribution		
GDP (in US$ billion)	1,925.5	3,655.8
Employment (in million)	146.7	194.1
Visitor Exports (in US$ billion)	329.3	585.9
Investments (in US$ billion)	272.8	554.5

Source: WTTC

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Travel Facilitation Initiative

SOM Steering Committee

TFI Coordinator

Counter Terrorism Task Force	Tourism Working Group	Transportation Working Group	Sub Committee on Customs Procedures	Business Mobility Group

Travel Facilitation Initiative (TFI) Programs

Airport Partnership	APEC Business Travel Card	Trusted Traveller	Facilitation of Air Passenger Security Screening	Advanced Passenger Information	Checked Baggage Facilitation

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Advanced Passenger Information (API)

Is an electronic data interchange system created for public organizations of the destination country to share traveller information with an initiative for travel convenience (TFI)

API information usually consists of data found in the Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of passports and other travel documents (full name, date or birth, gender, passport number, country of citizenship, country of passport issuance) (IATA)

API Objectives:

1. Eliminate travellers inconvenience
2. Simplify border control
3. Maximize sharing of information among public and private sectors

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APEC Economies API Implementation

Economies	API Status	PNR Status	Economies	API Status	PNR Status
Australia	In Force	In Force	Mexico	In Force	In Force
Brunei	Not in force	Not in force	New Zealand	In Force	In Force
Cambodia	Not in force	Not in force	Papua NG	Not in force	Not in force
Chile	Not in force	Not in force	Peru	Not in force	Not in force
China	In Force	Not in force	Philippines	Not in force	Not in force
Chinese Taipei	In Force	Not in force	Russia	Not in force	Not in force
Hong Kong	Not in force	Not in force	Singapore	Not in force	Not in force
Indonesia	Not in force	Not in force	Thailand	Not in force	Not in force
Japan	In Force	Not in force	USA	In Force	In Force
Korea	In Force	In Force	Vietnam	Not in force	Not in force
Malaysia	Not in force	Not in force			

Source: IATA

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Challenges and Benefits

➢ Lack of regulatory framework to share information among national agencies

➢ Lack of cooperation among national agencies (i.e. Health and safety, immigration, customs, and quarantine)

➢ Lack of technology

➢ No funds available

API is designed as part of a comprehensive immigration reform process that seek to

- minimize passenger inconvenience
- strengthen security
- support overall tourism growth

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Philippines to adopt API

➢ Executive Order to set the framework for API adoption

➢ API Implementation arrangement:

- Arriving vessels: API to be submitted 15 minutes after departure from origin or 120 minutes before arrival
- Departing vessels: API to be submitted 45 minutes prior to departure

➢ Bureau of Immigration to use API for early verification and vetting

➢ API to facilitate the effective and efficient arrival and departure of legitimate travellers

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APEC TWG Call to Action on API

➢ Encourage the immigration and customs agencies to adopt and implement the API

➢ Support the data sharing and adoption of technology for better border clearance

➢ Undertake awareness campaign on the benefits of API with IATA
- 2013: Economies in Asia
- 2014: Economies in the Pacific

➢ Develop a roadmap to accelerate API implementation with UNWTO, WTTC, IATA, and PATA with the BMG and CTTF

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Smooth entry procedures for travellers in APEC
redound to more tourism BUSINESSES
and GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

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Thank you for your attention!

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