Summary Report – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Counter-Terrorism Working Group Meeting

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: CTWG Chair
The 2st APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) meeting was held in Qingdao, China on 6-7 May, 2014 on the margins of SOM2. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador Harry Purwanto (Indonesia). Thirteen member economies participated. Mr Liu Mingjun, Mayor of Qingdao delivered a welcome speech to CTWG members.

Key outcomes from the meeting:

1. Members reviewed an updated version of the CTWG Strategic plan 2013-2017 submitted by the Chair, which included ‘Key Performance Indicators’ (KPI), and suggestions provided by the US ATAARI Consultant. Members agreed to send additional inputs within two weeks with the view to submit the Strategic Plan to SCE within six weeks or for SCE3.

2. The group received updates from Indonesia, China and Russia on the preparations of the STAR IX Conference to be held in Beijing in the margins of SOM3. Indonesia presented the concept note ‘STAR IX Conference-Transportation Security in APEC Region: Challenges and Opportunities’ as a self-funded project and also a tentative program for members’ consideration.

3. Members agreed to send invitations to other APEC sub-fora (TPTWG, TWG, BMG and SCCP) as well as ABAC to participate in the STAR IX Conference once the dates are determined.

4. Members welcomed the practical demonstration of the Remote Participation System provided by the Program Director and the APEC IT Director, who delivered a presentation from Singapore. CTWG is the first APEC group to receive this demonstration.

5. Members welcomed reports on completed and new projects on implementation of the Work Plan and the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy. As usual four areas of activities were addressed: Secure Supply Chain; Secure Travel; Secure Finance and Secure Infrastructure.

6. The U.S. announced that they will be implemented two self-funded projects: ‘Secure Finance Workshop on Countering the Financing of Terrorism with New Payment Systems’, to be held in spring 2015 (TBA); and ‘Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience’, to be held in spring 2014. The U.S. informed that the follow on bus security training ‘Bus Anti-terrorism: Expanding and Sharing Best Practices’ will be held on 30-31 July 2014 in Manila, the Philippines (TBC). The U.S. advanced on its plan to sponsor a workshop on Secure Supply Chain in combination with the area of Supply Chain Resilience in 2015 (TBA).

7. Members were encouraged to consider intersessionally:
   - To submit their 2014 Counter Terrorism Action Plans (CTAPs) updates by October 1st, 2014.
   - To endorse the concept note of the STAR IX Conference within two weeks and to send additional inputs to the tentative program. Members will also need to start searching potential speakers.
   - To send within two weeks additional inputs to the CTWG Strategic Plan proposed by the Chair
   - To send nominations for the position of Chair for the next term (2015-2016), as well as for Vice Chair position.

8. The next CTWG Meeting in 2014 will be held in the margins of SOM3 in Beijing, in August 2014 (TBA).
Summary Report  
2st APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting  
6-7 May, 2014, Qingdao-China

The 2st APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) meeting was held in Qingdao, China on 6-7 May, 2014 on the margins of SOM2. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador Harry Purwanto (Indonesia). Thirteen member economies participated (all except Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Hong Kong China, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and Peru).

Mr Liu Mingjun, Mayor of Qingdao delivered a welcome speech to CTWG members. After the meeting CTWG members were invited to a dinner hosted by Director General of Department of External Security Affairs from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

OPENING REMARKS; ADOPTION OF THE FINAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

In his welcome remarks the CTWG Chair remarked on permanent impediments to CTWG efforts to create security environment for economic activities in the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore he sees the need to keep constantly alert to those dangers by keeping and enhancing the spirit of cooperation among APEC members. He expressed gratitude to members’ commitment and new ways and initiatives proposed to anticipate those threats following the overall APEC mission in promoting economy growth and prosperity in our region. He underlined the CTWG achievements during 2014 such as the endorsement of the CTWG 2014 work plan, the updates proposed for CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017. Regarding the CTWG 2014 workplan the Chair expressed his gratitude to members for the initiatives proposed under the Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy (CT-ST), which not only underpins CTWG areas for capacity building, but also provides the opportunity to find cross-cutting issues and common synergies with other APEC subfora. The Chair remarked also that the capacity building and collaboration are never ending processes since they provide tools to tackle the permanent threats of new forms of terrorism to our societies and economies.

The Chair shared with members some news on the Strategic Planning process that occurred intersessionally, particularly on SCE Chair’s call to SCE subfora to revisit their plans in order to incorporate Key Performance Indicators’ (KPI), and suggestions provided by US-APEC Technical Assistance to Advance Regional Integration (US-ATAARI) Consultant. He advanced that an updated version of the CTWG Strategic Plan was submitted for members’ consideration which includes some of US-ATAARI Consultant’s suggestions and invited members to discuss appropriate adjustments to this living document during the meeting.

The Chair expressed his appreciation to members for their efforts to update economies CTAPs which helps to find gaps and opportunities of APEC economies in their fight against terrorism. He highlighted that the results of the 2013 CTAPs updates reviewed during the last CTWG meeting in Ningbo were shared also to other APEC subfora to enhance cross-fora collaboration and target more effective capacity building activities. In connectivity He pointed out that CTWG will work aligned with the China Priorities 2014 through activities with other subfora under the Travel Facilitation Initiative. He also advanced on the upcoming STAR IX Conference to be held back to back the next CTWG meeting in SOM3.

Finally the Chair reminded members that his term as CTWG Chair will end this year and encouraged members to present nominations for the position of Chair and the Vice Chair for the next term (2015-2016).

Mr Liu Mingjun, Mayor of Qingdao gave members a welcome speech highlighting historical, economic and cultural aspects of the city and importance within the west south region. The Major also highlighted the valuable cooperation work and achievements of CTWG from its establishment.

CTWG members reviewed and adopted the final draft agenda as well as the 1st CTWG meeting Summary Report, both circulated prior the meeting. Meeting documents for reference:

2014/SOM2/CTWG/001 (2nd CTWG annotated agenda)
SECRETARIAT ISSUES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

The APEC Secretariat updated on project management issues, Strategic Planning and remote participation system.

Under Secretariat’s intersessional developments it was highlighted that new guidelines for hosting meetings were agreed by APEC economies at SOM1, 2014. The document can be accessed on the APEC Website under Policies and Procedures.

On the Remote Participation System the Secretariat informed that the system was approved by Senior Officials in February 2104. Meanwhile, at SOM2 an operating manual for the Remote Participation was submitted for consideration.

A practical demonstration or trial to show how the system works was performed with the help of Mr Jaehoon Jeong, IT Director of the APEC Secretariat based in Singapore. CTWG was the first APEC group to receive this demonstration. Members expressed interest in using this tool for future CTWG events.

Meeting documents for reference:
2014/SOM2/CTWG/005
2014/SOM2/CTWG/006

Discussion on CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017

The Chair led a discussion with members on the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 defined as a ‘living document’. The Chair submitted for members' consideration an updated version of the CTWG Strategic plan, following SCE Chair’s suggestions to revisit strategic plans to focus more on outcomes. The Chair pointed out that the proposed version includes ‘Key Performance Indicators’ (KPI), and suggestions provided by the US ATAARI Consultant.

The Secretariat gave members some context on the Strategic Planning process and its recent developments:

(i) The Strategic Plan was agreed by the group in 2013. It was considered by SCE in SCE-COW 2014 and they shared the first feedback on it. SCE sent out to all SCE working groups’ Chairs a letter encouraging to re-open all SCE sub-fora strategic plans for further reflection. The APEC Secretariat asked US-ATAARI to engage a consultant to review the plans in accordance with SCE direction.

(ii) The comments and suggestions provided by the US-ATAARI Consultant are not from SCE. They are not binding. They are for consideration. The group can take them on board or reject them as the group sees fit. But the group will need to show some movement and some edits to the strategic plan in line with SCE direction. The group will need to present its revised plan to SCE3 at SOM3.

Members inserted adjustments to the proposed version and agreed to send additional inputs within two weeks with the view to submit the Strategic Plan to SCE3. The Chair encouraged members to review the matrix included in the last part of the Strategic Plan and send inputs particularly on specific KPIs, expected amounts, targeted percentages and numbers of beneficiaries stated as outcomes in this document. The Chair remarked that this document could be refined continuously by members as scope and targets of the different activities included in the plan become clearer through the years.

Meeting documents for reference:
2014/SOM2/CTWG/003 (SOM-SCE Chair’s Letter on Strategic Planning)
COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTION PLAN (CTAP)

Indonesia briefed on its Counter-Terrorism Action Plan (CTAP) 2013/2014, particularly on the protection of Port Facilities and Ships engaged in International Voyages; On the Protection of International Aviation; promoting cyber security; and halting the terrorist financing.

The Secretariat informed that, as requested during the CTWG 1st meeting in Ningbo, the statistical information of the 2013 CTAP Summary Report was shared to other APEC subfora (TPTWG BMG, TELWG, SCCP, and TWG) through the relevant Program Directors, with the aim to increase cross-fora collaboration.


The CTWG Chair and members acknowledged the importance of regular CTAP reporting. Members were reminded to submit their 2014 CTAPs updates by October 1st 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CTWG WORK PLAN and THE COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SECURE TRADE STRATEGY’S CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITY AREAS

The CTWG Chair invited members to provide updates on projects and activities proposed for 2014. Members welcomed reports on completed and new projects on implementation of the Work Plan and the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy (CT-ST). As usual four areas of activities were addressed: Secure Supply Chain; Secure Travel; Secure Finance and Secure Infrastructure.

P.R. China presented the ‘Initiative on Strengthening the Security of People to People Connectivity in APEC region’, which is aligned with Leader’s guidelines on enhancing Connectivity in the region. The initiative includes promoting this issue under STAR IX Conference, and on the basis of existing programs and initiatives to develop capacity building activities, symposium and research efforts on good practices, to formulate guiding action plans, and cross fora and international collaboration to promote the Security of People to People Connectivity. Meeting document for reference: 2014/SOM2/CTWG/007

Secure Supply Chain

The United States updated members on the joint CTWG/TPTWG/SCCP Global Trade Recovery Information Platform (GTRIP) project. The U.S. reported that Maritime Expert Group Security (MEG-SEC) has identified funding to support this project provided by US-ATAARI. The project will be conducted in coordination with SCCP and in cooperation with the World Customs Organisation (WCO). The GTRIP information mechanism is expected to be presented in September 2014, and once GTRIP is running practical workshops will be held tentatively in November 2014 in Singapore (TBA) as a self-funded initiative of the U.S. and Singapore.

Additionally, the U.S. informed on its plan to sponsor a workshop on Secure Supply Chain sometime early 2015 (TBA), with the idea of sharing expertise with other APEC suf-fora, such as EPWG, TPTWG, SCCP, etc. on this subject in combination with the area of Supply Chain Resilience. The U.S. will prepare a proposal on this project for members’ feedback.

A senior representative from the Ministry of Transportation of the Russian Federation briefed on its national approach to the assessment of effectiveness in ensuring transportation security as well as prospects for relevant capacity building in the APEC region.

Secure Travel
The United States updated on the joint BMG/CTWG/SCCP project led by BMG on Trusted Traveler Characteristics, which covers several areas such as developing characteristics; implementing workshops; pilot projects; and possibly forming a network of Trusted Traveler Programs among interested economies. BMG is considering a document with Trusted Traveler Characteristics and once it is approved CTWG and SCCP will receive this for concurrence. The United States updated also on the joint BMG/CTWG/SCCP project Develop Best Practices on Implementing Advance Passenger Information Systems (API) led by BMG under the Travel Facilitation Initiative (TFI). The U.S. informed that is drafting a ‘Lessons Learned’ document to be endorsed by BMG, after which will pass to CTWG and SCCP.

The United States announced that the follow on bus security training ‘Bus Anti-terrorism: Expanding and Sharing Best Practices’ will take place on 30-31 July 2014 in Manila, the Philippines (TBC). Invitations and agenda will be sent soon for members’ information.

Secure Finance

Australia updated members on its self-funded project ‘Protecting Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs) from Terrorist Financing’ and presented the Final Report of this multi-year project. Meeting document for reference: 2014/SOM2/CTWG/014

The United States updated on the self-funded project ‘Secure Finance Workshop on Countering the Financing of Terrorism with New Payment Systems’ to be held in 2015 (TBA). The workshop aims to raise APEC economies awareness to the challenges and threats posed by National Payment Systems (NPS) in financing terrorism, as they are largely unregulated. The U.S. encouraged members to consult with their capitals for the possibility to host this project.

The Russian Federation updated on the central initiative of its Presidency in the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on illicit financial flows linked to the production and trafficking of Afghan drugs. The project team, co-chaired by Russia and the UNODC, is drafting the final version of the report which is a comprehensive document to be circulated by the end of the Russian Presidency in the FATF in June 2014. A part of the report will be made public, while sensitive parts based on intelligence data sharing and other restricted information will be posted at the secure page of the FATF website. Russia remarked that this project addresses not just a regional but a global problem and will lay the groundwork for countering financial flows from various types of criminal activities at the international level.


Secure Infrastructure

Canada reported on the APEC-funded project on Major Events Security Framework highlighting that it closely working with the Secretariat to migrate MESF materials to the APEC web site. It is estimated that the framework as final product will be ready in short time. Once the website is live Canada will circulate information to all economies for facilitating access to the website and the use of this information sharing tool. Canada expressed its gratitude to the economies and encouraged members to continue contribute to the website with comments and suggestions. Canada would like to see continually growing the valuable material collected out of the two MESF workshops held in 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and in Santiago, Chile. Regarding next steps, Canada is considering some options to develop the project, including the use of the remote participation system under develop by the Secretariat for future workshops.

The United States updated on the workshop Workshop Enhancing Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience in the Asia-Pacific Region, to be held in spring 2014 (TBA) and submitted a draft Agenda for members consideration and feedback. The proposed agenda contents six sessions:
Important Considerations for Regional Infrastructure Security and Resilience; Key Elements of Coordinated Regional Infrastructure Security and Resilience; Information Sharing; An Incident-Based Discussion: Energy Disruptions in the Transportation Sector and Cascading Impacts; Identifying and Defining Key Elements of a Framework for Regional Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience; and Options to Facilitate Information Sharing to Enhance Capacity Building Efforts. Reference document: 2014/SOM2/CTWG/011


ACTIVITIES IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA

The Russian Federation briefed on the outcomes of the annual Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations held in April 2014 in Sochi.

China updated members on its initiative regarding Global Counter-terrorism Forum (GCTF) on Cooperation on Countering Cyber terrorism, as well as its plan to host a Symposium on Countering Cyber Terrorism in second semester of 2014 (TBA). China encouraged members to send representatives to attend the symposium. China also reported on recent terrorist attacks in railways stations in China that caused several casualties and many people injured.

The Chair remarked that nowadays economies need to face two types of cyber terrorism; one is the use of IT to attack, hack or insert virus in governmental websites, and the second is the use of internet to spread threats, to recruit new members and to radicalize groups.

The Philippines, the U.S., Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand briefed on their recent multilateral collaboration and activities regarding counter terrorism and security issues within international organizations, such as the OAS-CICTE, the 3rd Nuclear Security Summit, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Center of Excellence in Southeast Asia, the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), etc.

The Russian Federation reported on its plan to organize a follow-up set of training courses on counterterrorism in Moscow in November 2014 under the framework of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership. Further details of the courses will be determined during the upcoming meeting of the ASEAN-Russia Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime and the ASEAN-Russia SOM on Transnational Crime, both meetings to be held in Brunei in mid June 2014. Russia also updated on the Australia-Malaysia-Russia “troika’s” activities regarding security of and in the use of ICTs such as drafting of the relevant ARF Work Plan.

SECURE TRADE IN APEC REGION (STAR) CONFERENCE

Indonesia, and China updated members on the organization of the STAR IX Conference to be held back to back with the 3rd CTWG meeting in the margins of SOM3 in August 2014 in Beijing (TBC). Indonesia presented a concept note on the conference as a self-funded project and a tentative program for members' consideration. The conference will align with the Leaders’ guidelines related to improving Connectivity in Asia Pacific.

The Russian Federation updated on the thematic discussion on Container Transportation Security which will be a part of the STAR IX Conference. Russia pointed out that the discussion will make an important contribution to the efforts in increasing the security of the supply chains which is one of the cross-cutting areas of APEC’s Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy (CT-ST). It
underlined the need to involve the private sector in this discussion along with government experts and representatives of international organizations. **China** as the third co-sponsor of this conference expressed its appreciation to Russia and Indonesia for the collaboration and coordination done so far with the aim to make the conference a success.

The Secretariat circulated the tentative program and the concept note of the ‘STAR IX Conference: Transportation Security in APEC Region: Challenges and Opportunities’. Reference: 2014/SOM2/CTWG/015. Members were encouraged to endorse the concept note and send their feedback to the proposed program and to send proposals for speakers to the conference. The tentative program of the two-day long ‘STAR IX Conference: Transportation Security in APEC Region: Challenges and Opportunities’. Reference: 14/SOM2/CTWG/016

Members supported and expressed their appreciation to Russia, Indonesia, and China for their work in organizing the conference and agreed to send invitations to other APEC sub-fora (TPTWG, TWG, BMG and SCCP) as well as ABAC to participate in the conference once the dates are determined by the host economy and the concept note is approved. Members were also encouraged to start searching potential speakers for the conference.

**OTHER MATTERS and NEXT MEETING**

The Chair reminded members that his term as CTWG Chair will end this year and encouraged members to present nominations for the position of Chair for the next term (2015-2016), as well as for Vice Chair position which remains vacant from the beginning of 2013.

**China** announced that the next CTWG Meeting in 2014 will be held in the margins of SOM3 in Beijing, in August 2014 (TBA).

**CLOSING REMARKS**

In his closing remarks **the CTWG Chair** noted that despite the absence of some economies and international organizations the second CTWG meeting was successful with a big number of valuable presentations, decisions, deadlines and intersessional interactions regarding CTWG work, as well as the new technics regarding remote participation for APEC meetings. He expressed his sincere gratitude to all members for their contributions and commitments to promote counter terrorism work within the CTWG. He pointed out that some progress was made on the revisiting of the CTWG Strategic Plan, having agreed an intersessionally extra timeframe for further inputs from member economies. He expressed his gratitude to Russia, Indonesia and China for their work in organizing the upcoming STAR IX Conference in SOM3 in Beijing in August 2014, and reminded members to send inputs to the draft program and to endorse the concept note prepared by Indonesia. He expressed gratitude to CTWG members and the Secretariat for their help in supporting the CTWG work during the year. Finally, he expressed his sincere gratitude to P.R. China for hosting and facilitating the CTWG meeting and for its remarkable hospitality from authorities and people of Qingdao city.