Summary Report - 5th Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Co Chairs
Executive Summary

The 5th APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting EPWG was held in Medan, Indonesia, on 2-3 July, 2013. Co-Chairs were Ph.D. Li, Wei-Sen (Chinese Taipei) and Dr. Nguyen Huu Phuc (Viet Nam).

The two days meeting was attended by 15 of the 21 APEC member economies. Members welcomed invited participants from: Ministry of Health Indonesia; APEC-TATF team; APEC-TATF Consultant; representative of Scanex Russia; APEC Climate Center (APCC), and from World Bank –Indonesia.

The 5th EPWG Meeting followed the ‘APEC Workshop on Applying Geospatial Hazard and Risk Information’ led by the United States on 30 June 1 July, in Medan, Indonesia.

Key outcomes of the 5th APEC EPWG Meeting include:

1. Members endorsed the EPWG Strategic Plan 2013-2016 for submission to SCE. Members adopted the final Summary Report of the 4th EPWG meeting.

2. EPWG Co-Chair Dr Li Wei-Sen, briefed on intersessional work such as participation in regional meetings, APEC cross-cutting initiatives; EPWG workshops, and EPWG Strategic Plan process. Dr Li also reported on inputs from 3rd EPWG Steering Committee Meeting and briefed on the selection process of the new Co-Chairs at the end of 2013. On this regard, members supported the timeline proposed by the Co-Chair. APEC Secretariat updated on EPWG intersessional work and projects management issues.

3. Australia reported on outcomes of the self-funded project ‘Developing Governments’ Capacity to Promote and Facilitate the Effective Use of Business Continuity Planning for Organisational Resilience’. The United States reported the outcomes of two self-funded projects: ‘APEC (TPTWG-EPWG) workshop on Global Supply Chain Resilience’; and the ‘APEC Workshop on Applying Geo-spatial Hazard and Risk Information’.

4. Members received updates on upcoming events and EPWG workshops for 2013, such as: i) the ‘APEC capacity building workshop on search and rescue at sea’ led by Viet Nam; ii) the Seventh APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (7th SDMOF), organized by Indonesia; iii) the ‘Workshop of Application of Satellite Technologies for Emergencies Preparedness, Management and Response in Asia-Pacific Region’, and preparations for the CMC network development in Asia-Pacific Region, led by Russia; and iv) the ‘Seminar on Enhancing Regional Supply Chain Resilience to Disasters in APEC’, led by Thailand (TBH in 2014).

5. Members supported the Concept presented by Singapore on ‘Organization Resiliency Planning Workshop: Building BCM capability’.

6. Members received reports on recent disasters during 2013, such as the Earthquake in Sichuan Province in China, the Earthquakes in Chinese Taipei and Indonesia, and the Oklahoma Tornado in the U.S.

7. Regarding cross-fora collaboration and with other organizations members received Dr Li Wei-Sen’s report on EPWG collaborations since last EPWG meeting in 2013 with SMEWG, HRDWG, TPTWG, BMG, and SCCP. Members also received a progress report by Chinese Taipei on SME Serial Meetings on Improving Natural Disaster Resilience of SMEs to Facilitate Trade and Investment. Members welcomed the APEC Climate Center briefing on collaboration with EPWG on drought issues. Deputy Head of Indonesia NDMA reported on his attending at Health Working Group meeting at SOM2.
8. Members welcomed the progress report of the study conducted by APEC-TATF on Emergency Response Travel Facilitation (ERTF) initiative. Members were encouraged to send the study survey to TATF, which will submit the study findings to CSOM 2013.

9. Members welcomed the final report of APEC-TATF consultant of the BMC-led APEC projects evaluations initiative. The report includes recommendations for future EPWG projects.

10. Next EPWG Meeting will be held in the margins of SOM meetings in 2014 in China (TBA).
The 5th APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting EPWG was held in Medan, Indonesia, on 2-3 July, 2013. Co-Chairs were Ph.D. Li, Wei-Sen (Chinese Taipei) and Dr. Nguyen Huu Phuc (Viet Nam).

The two days meeting was attended by 15 of the 21 APEC member economies (all except Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Hong Kong China, Papua N. G., Peru, and Thailand). Members welcomed invited participants: Dr Erlang Samoedro, Ministry of Health Indonesia, APEC-TATF team; Ms Erin Weiser, APEC-TATF Consultant; Mr Oganes Targulyan, representative from Scanex Russia; Ms Nina Dewi Horstmann from APEC Climate Center (APCC), and Mr Iwan Gunawan from World Bank –Indonesia.

OPENING REMARKS BY MINISTRY OF HEALTH INDONESIA AND EPWG CO-CHAIRS

Dr Erlang Samoedro from Ministry of Health Indonesia, shared a presentation on Indonesia effort to deal with bird flu (Avian Influenza H5N1) and pandemic preparedness and response.

Mr Iwan Gunawan from the World Bank Indonesia briefed on the project on Exchange of Experiences and Capacity Enhancement of APEC Economies in Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Policies. Project aim is: 1) To establish cross-continental linkage among APEC economies to facilitate exchange of experiences in disaster risk financing, 2) To foster an early thinking of an APEC regional risk transfer market and mechanism. The proposed time line for implementation is July 2013 until February 2014.

ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE 4TH EPWG MEETING AND AGENDA OF THE 5TH APEC EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKING GROUP MEETING

Members reviewed and adopted the final annotated agenda and the final Summary Report of the 4th EPWG meeting.

REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL WORK AND OUTCOMES OF 2013 COMPLETED AND UPCOMING PROJECTS UNDER EPWG

• Inter-sessional Work

Co-Chair Dr Li Wei-Sen briefed on the EPWG on inter-sessional work undertaken since the last EPWG meeting in SOM1. He also briefed on his participations in regional meetings, APEC initiatives on cross-cutting issues, EPWG workshops, and reminded on the EPWG Strategic Plan process.

Co-Chair’s activities included participation in five Workshops: The 2nd Focal Point Network and Expert Meeting on Improving SME Disaster Resilience held in the Philippines (APEC SMEWG); EPWG introduction to APEC Health Working Group (SOM2); APEC Efforts on Improving Disaster Resilience and Emergency Preparedness in Private Sector (UN/ISDR); Developing Governments’ Capacity to Promote and Facilitate the Effective Use of Business Continuity Planning for Disaster Resiliency; APEC Workshop on Global Supply Chain Resilience (TPTWG and EPWG).

Co-Chair also was involved in the process of renewing the EPWG Strategic Plan; to conduct survey and study on ERTF, to attend the APEC project pilot evaluation, and to assist project proposals (Thailand and Singapore).

Mr Dody Ruswandi, Deputy Head of Indonesia NDMA, reported on attending the Health Working Group (HWG) meeting in Surabaya, Indonesia on 11-12 April 2013 (SOM2).

Inter-sessional updates by APEC Secretariat: EPWG Program Director reviewed the relevant intersessional work made by the group, such as the final draft of the EPWG Strategic Plan. He also
briefed on APEC project issues and referred to the Secretariat’s report on Key Developments within APEC since last meeting in SOM1.

- **Completed Projects in 2013:**

  **Australia** reported the outcomes of the self-funded project Developing Governments’ Capacity to Promote and Facilitate the Effective Use of Business Continuity Planning for Organisational Resilience.

  The project has selected six developing economies to participate and practice, and in the next few months, Australia will incorporate the workshop inputs and outcomes into a step by step guide for government officials to effectively promote Business Continuity Planning among SMEs.

  **The United States** reported the outcomes of the self-funded APEC Workshop on Applying Geospatial Hazard and Risk Information held on 30 June-1 July, in Medan back to back with the 5th EPWG Meeting.

  The themes were: ‘Disaster Risk Assessment and Disaster Risk Reduction; Working with Maps; Describing and Mapping Hazards; Estimating Exposure; Regional Case Studies; Getting Familiar with Geospatial Technology; Using Geospatial Technology to Understand Hazards and Exposure; Characterizing Vulnerability and Capacity; and Putting it All Together’.

  The workshop aimed to provide participants foundational concepts, skills, and resources for consistent and comprehensive emergency preparation within APEC economies with a focus on the importance of geospatial knowledge and application.

**REVIEW AND DISCUSS EPWG STRATEGIC PLAN**

EPWG Strategic Plan was previously drafted by Co-Chair Dr Li Wei-Sen and sent to members via e-mail prior this meeting for their consideration. Co-Chair highlighted EPWG Strategic Plan for members’ final review, discussion and endorsement.

Members endorsed the EPWG Strategic Plan 2013-2016 for submission to SCE through the Program Director. EPWG may expect feedback from SCE and possibly by APEC-TATF.

**COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATIONS**

Regarding cross-fora collaboration and with other organizations Dr Li Wei-Sen briefed on EPWG cross-fora collaboration with SMEWG, HRDWG, TPTWG, BMG, and SCCP since last EPWG meeting in SOM1, 2013.

Members also received a progress report by **Chinese Taipei** on SME Serial Meetings on Improving Natural Disaster Resilience of SMEs to Facilitate Trade and Investment. The 2013 deliverables of this multiyear project are: i) FPN & Expert Meeting; ii) Guidebook on SME BCPs; iii) Train-the-trainer Workshop; and iv) Policy Framework Model. EPWG members were encouraged to participate in this project activities.

Ms Nina Dewi Horstmann briefed on the symposium ‘Regional Cooperation on Drought Prediction Science to Support Disaster Preparedness and Management’, a collaboration project between APEC Climate Center and EPWG.

The proposed project aims to reduce the vulnerability of APEC economies to the negative impacts of drought by building capacity in drought prediction and monitoring and sharing best practices for drought response planning. The schedule for this symposium is on 11-13 November in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Mr Dody Ruswandi, Deputy Head of Indonesia NDMA reported on his attending at Health Working Group meeting at SOM2.
PROGRESS of 2013 WORKPLAN

- EPWG upcoming workshops and events:

  Viet Nam updated members on the APEC-funded project: ‘APEC Capacity Building Workshop on Search and Rescue At Sea’ to be held on July 18-19, in Nha Trang, Viet Nam.

  Indonesia updated on the Seventh APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (7th SDMOF) to be held on 21-22 August, in Bali, Indonesia. The Theme states: ‘Improving Disaster Risk Reduction and Resiliency in Asia Pacific Region through Practical Approach’.

  Scanex-Russia representative updated on the APEC-funded project ‘Workshop of Application of Satellite Technologies for Emergencies Preparedness, Management and Response in Asia-Pacific Region’ which highlights the increasing emergency preparedness of APEC economies at proper application of innovative satellite and communication technologies, better awareness and faster actual satellite data delivery. The workshop will be held in Bali, Indonesia (Updated workshop schedule: on 30-31 October).

  Russian Federation also briefed on the preparations for the CMC network development in Asia-Pacific Region which is to identify APEC economies that are interested in the CMC network and to nominate Focal Points to receive relevant information.

  Thailand updated on the APEC-funded project: ‘Seminar on Enhancing Regional Supply Chain Resilience to Disasters in APEC’, to be held in February 2014 (TBA).

  Singapore updated on the proposal ‘Organization Resiliency Planning Workshop: Building BCM capability’ (dates and place TBA depending on APEC funding). Members supported the proposal.

THE 3rd EPWG STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Co-Chair Dr Li Wei-Sen briefed on Inputs from 3rd EPWG Steering Committee Meeting including the initiative on Improvement of EPWG Project Quality.

He also briefed on the selection process of the new Co-Chairs for the period 2014-2015. Members supported the timeline proposed by Dr Li Wei-Sen and requested the Secretariat to circulate the APEC guidelines and references for this process.

EPWG members were encouraged to send nominations for the Co-Chairmanship position as soon as possible in order to ensure a smooth transition period in December for on-leaving co-chairs to assist new co-chairs for their start on 1st January 2014.

REPORTS ON REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AND RECENT DISASTERS

P.R. China reported on Disaster Relief on Yaan Earthquake (Sichuan Province) on 20 April 2013, highlighting China’s authorities recovery efforts.

Chinese Taipei briefed on March 27 & June 2 Earthquakes, highlighting that well-implemented seismic designs, precautionary measures to enhance seismic safety of scenic spots and response plans based on dynamic distribution of population helped to protect people and infrastructure from damage.

The United States shared a report on the Oklahoma tornado in May 2013 and stressed the importance of helping survivors through affiliation with voluntary organizations that are active in the ongoing disaster operations to get best recovery results after the disasters;

Indonesia reported on the 2 July Earthquake in Medan and on the land and forest fire in Riau, Indonesia.
REPORT ON THE ACTION PLAN PROPOSED BY THE APEC WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE

The United States reported the outcomes of the self-funded projects: APEC (TPTWG-EPWG) workshop on Global Supply Chain Resilience (26-28 June) in Bali, Indonesia, including the action plan proposed by this workshop.

The Action Plan Mission States ‘To improve the viability of businesses and the physical and social infrastructure in the APEC region and its member economies by enabling the resilience of the supply chain for disaster situations’.

Next steps of this project are to complete the final report on the workshop; to develop an APEC concept note on further work; and TPTWG and EPWG to prioritize supply chain resilience work through the APEC structure. The next workshop will be held in New Zealand (TBA).

PROGRESS REPORT ON EMERGENCY RESPONDER TRAVEL FACILITATION

APEC Technical Assistance & Training Facility (TATF) representative presented the first progress report on Emergency Response Travel Facilitation (ERTF) for personnel, goods and equipment in times of crisis. This initiative was proposed by Indonesia early 2013 and involves three APEC subfora: EPWG, BMG and SCCP.

According to the study the effective entry facilitation for international personnel, goods & equipment requires the following components: Comprehensive Domestic Legislation & International Agreements; Best Practices in Disaster Management; Solid Preparedness and Readiness.

DISCUSSION ON THE APEC PROJECT PILOT EVALUATION

APEC Technical Assistance & Training Facility (TATF) consultant Ms Erin Weiser shared the final report of the BMC-led APEC projects evaluations initiative. The report included Findings of the EPWG Pilot evaluation which was made on two past EPWG APEC funded projects: TFEP 05 2009A ‘Public Private Partnerships for Business Resilience Workshop’, led by Australia, and the EPWG 02/2011 ‘Workshop on Private Sector Emergency Preparedness’ led by U.S. and Japan.

The report includes recommendations for future EPWG projects.

NEXT MEETING

Next EPWG Meeting will be held by the margins of SOM meetings in 2014 (TBA).