



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2014/SOM2/OFWG/019**

Agenda: IV B 3

## **Progress on the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report**

Purpose: Consideration  
Submitted by: China



**3<sup>rd</sup> Ocean and Fisheries Working Group  
Meeting  
Qingdao, China  
9-12 May 2014**

**Concept Note:**  
**Progress in the Drafting of APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report**

**1. Background**

In order to facilitate sharing of knowledge and best practices on marine sustainable development under the OFWG framework, especially considering the effective and fruitful efforts made by economies, it would be beneficial for an “APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report” to be prepared within OFWG, which will also feature achievements by member economies and share best practices among economies.

The APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report (hereinafter referred to as the Report) was proposed by China and approved by APEC 1st OFWG meeting in Kazan, May 2012. The APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center (AMSD) was recommended to serve as the Secretariat. The Report aims to highlight the importance of oceans in sustainable development in APEC and propose recommendations as priorities for consideration in APEC OFWG outcomes.

The aims of the Report include but are not limited to the following:

- Assessing the status, trends and challenges of APEC ocean and coastal environment and resources;
- Reviewing of the progress of marine sustainable development in APEC region;
- Proposing recommendations for enhancing trade, investments, marine environmental protection and marine economic development that should be regarded as priorities for consideration in APEC OFWG outcomes;
- Information sharing opportunity of best practices in marine sustainable development within APEC region and with other regions of the world.

**2. Main Contents of the Report**

The Report is composed of two parts. Part I is General Report of APEC Marine Sustainable Development, which is a general reflection of APEC ocean and coastal environment and resources, and an overall review of marine sustainable development progress. Part I includes four Chapters, namely Chapter 1 Introduction; Chapter 2 The Importance of the Ocean to APEC Sustainable Development; Chapter 3 The Progress of Marine Sustainable Development in APEC Economies, and Chapter 4 Challenges and Future Prospects of APEC Marine Sustainable Development. Part II is Collection of Reports on Marine Sustainable Development of the APEC Economies, which is a collection of individual reports on economies’ marine sustainable development activities and practice.

**3. Progress in the Drafting of the Report**

After launch of the Report initiative, major progress has been achieved thanks to great efforts made by all participating economies, in particular, by the Report core experts group established with nominations from China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Korea; Russia; Chinese Taipei and the United States.

The Report framework was approved during the APEC 2nd OFWG meeting held in Medan, after discussions among all economies and a small working group meeting of Core Experts Group. The Report framework is drafted in line with the APEC OFWG priorities of APEC economies on marine sustainable development and on the basis of the outcomes of APEC Leaders’ and Oceans-Related Ministerial Meetings. Two international workshops - the Tianjin Workshop on Developing the Framework of APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report, Dec. 8th, 2012, and the Xiamen Symposium on Developing the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report, Jun 6th 2013, contributed to the formation of the framework by encouraging spirited and constructive discussions among economies.

From July 2013, drafting group, coordinated by AMSD started to draft the General Report, with large number of view exchange, material collection and information sharing. The General Report of Draft Report (DV0.0) was finished in December of 2013 and submitted to Core Experts Group in Jan. 23rd of 2014 for further comments. The General Report of Draft Report (DV0.0) is developed to General Report of Draft Report (DV1.0) based on the comments and suggestions from Core Experts Group, which was circulated to all member economies by APEC Secretariat for review on March 1st 2014. On March 18th 2014, the third workshop-Symposium on APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report was held in Xiamen, which had sufficient opinions sharing on General Report of Draft Report (DV1.0) and encouraged further comments from economies for a better General Report.

By the April 18<sup>th</sup> 2014, when is the deadline confirmed by the above-mentioned workshop, some economies including Australia; Canada; China; Hong Kong, China and United States shared their generous comments on General Report of Draft Report (DV1.0). The General Report (Part 1 of Report) was further improved according to the comments and suggestions from economies. Meanwhile, the economy reports for Part 2 were also collected by the agreed deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> 2014. It is planned that the full APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report (DV2.0) would be submitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> OFWG meeting for endorsement.

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