



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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## **Brief Introduction on Desired Outcomes of AOMM4**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: China



**Second Senior Officials' Meeting  
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# Brief introduction on Desired Outcomes of AOMM4 (Proposed by China, for Information)

## **1. Background**

With the global economy continuing to face uncertainty, most of the APEC economies are exploring possible pathways to tackle the negative impact of the international financial crisis. With the momentum of recovery remaining insufficient, the goal of balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and secure growth in the APEC region is also far away from being fulfilled, even though some economies are seeing improvement. Linked by the Pacific, APEC members share ocean ties. Oceans play and will continue playing important roles on our way to full economic recovery. How to balance marine conservation and sustainable use, in particular, to explore the economic potential of oceans without prejudice to the marine interest of both our people and our future generations is a problem shared by APEC economies. Meanwhile, chronic challenges such as marine environmental degradation, unsustainable use of marine resources, imbalances in capacity development, disaster prevention and mitigation, and depletion of fishery resources are undermining our work on sustainable management of oceans.

For the purpose of promoting APEC ocean-related cooperation and working together with other APEC members to address the shared challenges, China will host the 4<sup>th</sup> APEC Oceans-related Ministerial Meeting (AOMM4) on August 27-28 in Xiamen, Fujian Province. During the preparatory meeting held on 18 March, China announced the AOMM4 theme “Building New Partnership through Ocean Cooperation in the APEC Region” and proposed four priorities: Coastal and marine ecosystem conservation and disaster resilience; The role of the ocean in food security; Marine science & technology and innovation cooperation; blue economy. These priorities are supported by other members.

## **2. Desired Outcomes**

In view of the preparation of AOMM4 underway, China would like to introduce preliminary ideas concerning the desired outcomes of the Ministerial Meeting. According to the practice, there will be a Joint Ministerial Statement which is being drafted and will be circulated to all members as soon as possible. In the statement, China would like to review the progress of APEC ocean-related cooperation since the 2010 Paracas AOMM3, and discuss the situation of current cooperation. China

intends to propose the following areas as possible priorities for cooperation:

i.) In the area of "coastal and marine ecosystem conservation and disaster resilience", the draft Statement may include: ecosystem-based management (EBM); marine pollution; marine biodiversity conservation; governance to support EBM; economic incentives and market-based instruments; regional ocean observation and monitoring networks; regional disaster monitoring, forecasting and warning systems; the resilience of local communities and businesses.

ii.) In the area of "the role of the ocean in food security", the draft Statement may cover the following: promotion of sustainable fisheries resource management and conservation through existing RFMOs or regional fisheries bodies; enhancement of responsible and environment-friendly aquaculture; cooperation on prevention, deterrence and elimination of IUU fishing, including market related measures; exchange of best practices on minimum loss of post harvest handle and process.

iii. In the area of "marine science & technology (S&T) and innovation", the draft Statement may include: encouraging joint marine research and S&T cooperation; engagement of private sectors; public education and outreach; capacity building and cross-cutting collaboration etc.

iv.) In blue economy, recognizing that there is not yet an agreed definition or approach for blue economy activities amongst APEC economies, China would like to discuss the methodology of this emerging and important issue, in particular private sector involvement and cross-cutting cooperation.

Given there are only 3 months left before AOMM4, China appreciates the constructive role of other APEC members in the preparation of AOMM4 and calls for closer teamwork in the next step to ensure the success of the Ministerial Meeting.

### **3. Next Steps**

According to the current plan, China will circulate the first invitation letter of AOMM4 after SOM2, and deliver the draft of Joint Ministerial Statement in mid-June for comments. The Administrative Circular will be sent in early July. Meanwhile, all the logistic arrangements are being prepared by Xiamen Municipal Government step by step, and their effort should be recognized.

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