

**The 49th ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
WORKING GROUP MEETING
(APEC TEL49)**

**21 – 26 April 2014
Yangzhou, Republic of China**

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**Chair's Report
The 49th APEC Telecommunications and
Information Working Group Meeting
(21st – 26th April 2014, Yangzhou, Republic of China)**

1. Introduction

The 49th APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL49) meeting and associated meetings were held in Yangzhou, Republic of China, from 21 to 26 April 2014 where the activities for 2014 were discussed. This report highlights the developments of its steering groups work programmes that were discussed at the Plenary sessions of TEL49.

2. List of Participants

The meetings were attended by 16 member economies and representatives from APNIC, APLAC and ISOC.

Chair: Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah (Malaysia)
Vice Chair: Mr. Andrey Mukhanov (The Russian Federation)
Program Director: Mr. Mikiharu Shimizu (APEC Secretariat)

Economies:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| i. Australia | ix. New Zealand |
| ii. Brunei Darussalam | x. Philippines |
| iii. People's Republic of China | xi. The Russian Federation |
| iv. Hong Kong, China | xii. Singapore |
| v. Indonesia | xiii. Chinese Taipei |
| vi. Japan | xiv. Thailand |
| vii. Republic of Korea | xv. The United States |
| viii. Malaysia | ix. Vietnam |

The following member economies were unable to attend the meeting:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| i. Canada | iv. Papua New Guinea |
| ii. Chile | v. Peru |
| iii. Mexico | |

The meeting was preceded by a number of workshops and meetings as follows:

22 April (Tuesday)	MRA TF
	Workshop on Security of Mobile Devices
	Workshop on Enhancing Business Competitiveness and Growth Through Data Analytics
	Workshop on Quality of Service for Regulators
23 April (Wednesday)	MRATF
	Regulatory Roundtable
	Industry Roundtable

3. Welcome and Opening Ceremony

The first plenary meeting of TEL49 was officially opened on Thursday morning, 24 April 2014 with two speeches by Mr. Zhang Feng, Chief Engineer, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), People's Republic of China on behalf of the host and Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah, the TEL Chair.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Zhang Feng welcomed all delegates and outlined People's Republic of China's initiatives and accomplishments in the field of ICT including infrastructure, service applications, sustainable development of industrial upgrading, energy efficiency and environment protection.

He said that since the adoption of the policy of reform and opening up 30 years ago, China had witnessed leap-frog ICT growth which played an increasingly important role in facilitating socio-economic advancement and improving the quality of life. In 2013, the volume of e-commerce in China exceeded RMB10 trillion (USD1.6 trillion), the usage ratio of services such as instant messaging and online music was over 70%, and the registered subscribers of WeChat reached more than 600 million, of which 100 million were overseas users. Telephone and internet subscribers also recorded good growth momentum and all counties in China had access to the Internet with 98% enjoying broadband connectivity. Mr. Zhang Feng also informed that APEC TEL had grown into an important platform for APEC economies to share experience and promoted a balanced ICT development through mutual respect and reciprocity.

Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah who chaired her second TEL meeting expressed her appreciation to the People's Republic of China for hosting APEC TEL49 and their generous hospitality and warm welcome to the historic venue of Yangzhou. She congratulated the MIIT for their foresight in bringing TEL49 to Yangzhou. She noted that the Yangzhou government had put in place extreme efforts and investment towards creating a conducive environment to foster the growth of TEL industry. Recalling TEL48, Hawaii where members acknowledged the need to be driven by new technology and tools which can help to expand trade and growth in the APEC region, TEL Chair also reminded members the importance for TEL to identify fresh pathfinders to facilitate the growth of not just the TEL sector but all other sectors. In making reference to the drafting work for the Strategic Action Plan for 2016-2020, TEL Chair reiterated the importance for the Plan to continue and sustain the momentum gathered over the past 48 TEL meetings and at the close of TEL49.

4. Adoption of Agenda

The TEL Chair opened the floor for comments on the proposed agenda for the plenary. There were no comments from members and the agenda was adopted as proposed.

5.1 APEC 2014 Priorities

The APEC Secretariat Programme Director informed the meeting that the report on key APEC developments had been uploaded (2014/TEL49/PLEN/003) and proceeded to highlight developments of relevance to TEL. The report and his clarification covered the theme for APEC 2014 and the priorities set by China as 2014 host for APEC. The **theme for APEC 2014** is '**Shaping the future through Asia Pacific partnership**' and the China Host has set 3 priorities:-

5.1.1 Advancing Regional Economic Integration

This priority pursues the realization of the Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) and supports the multi-lateral trading system to address the renewed threat of protectionism, enhance cooperation on Global Value Chain & Supply Chain and also promotes investment liberalization and facilitation.

5.1.2 Promoting Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth

This priority is in response to profound economic and social change in the Asia Pacific region. These are the issues to be addressed by the APEC collaborative efforts and also with the understanding that the change is more structural than cyclical. Under this priority, those topics like economic structural reform, green economy, innovative growth, sustainable energy, urbanization, food security, blue economy and internet economy are the suggested areas for cooperation.

5.1.3 Strengthening Comprehensive Connectivity and Infrastructure Development

This priority was part of last year's initiative when APEC was hosted by Indonesia in 2013. The initiative continues to this year by China when APEC will develop Connectivity Blueprint to implement the APEC Connectivity initiatives. The APEC Public Private Partnership (PPP) Experts Advisory Panel will also be developed this year.

The relationship between this initiative to TEL is the three connectivity categories:

- Physical Connectivity – development of ICT infrastructure within the region
- Institutional Connectivity – to promote software connectivity and enhance institutional connection
- People to People Connectivity – efforts to promote travel facilitation, people mobilization through the region and cross border education cooperation.

In setting the Connectivity initiatives, SOM1 meeting endorsed the outline and timeline of Connectivity blueprint for APEC sub-fora's completion through a given template. As TEL had already compiled most of the information required through the Strategic Plan 2010-2015, the APEC Secretariat had converted the information into the draft Input of TEL's

Achievement to the Connectivity document for completion by the end of TEL49.

5.2 New Appointment and Update from the Secretariat

5.2.1 Appointment of Chief of Staff

The APEC Secretariat informed on the appointment of Ms. Irene Sim as the Chief of Staff at the APEC Secretariat. Ms. Sim will be responsible to promote cross-fora collaboration, cross-cutting issues through the better management of Program Directors.

5.2.2 APEC Economic Trend Analysis

The APEC Secretariat encouraged members to look at the APEC Economic Trend Analysis prepared by the APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) has which can be downloaded from the APEC website.

(http://publications.apec.org/publication-detail.php?pub_id=1516)

5.2.3 Promotion of Remote Participation

The APEC Secretariat is pro-actively looking forward to provide more remote participation services at APEC meetings and requested for TEL to plan for a try out at the next TEL meeting.

5.3 Highlights from SOM1 Related to TEL Activity

5.3.1 Strategic Planning Process

The APEC Secretariat further informed that SOM Committee on ECOTECH – Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) met on 25 February and exchanged views on the preparation of the Strategic Plans by SCE fora. The views were that the plans submitted to SCE fora should follow the template more consistently and focus on outcomes including KPIs. Similarly, the TEL Strategic Plan 2010-2015 which was adjusted to the new format also received the same comments from SCE. As TEL had started the drafting work of the new Strategic Plan for 2016-2020, the APEC Secretariat felt that instead of changing the details of the current Plan, TEL's efforts should be more accorded to the new Strategic Plan. The APEC Secretariat would communicate with SCE on this viewpoint.

5.3.2 Connectivity Blueprint

The APEC Secretariat reported that in setting the Connectivity initiatives, SOM1 meeting endorsed the outline and timeline of Connectivity blueprint for APEC sub-fora's completion through a given template. As TEL had already compiled most of the information required through the Strategic Plan 2010-2015, the APEC Secretariat had converted the information into the draft Input of TEL's Achievement to the Connectivity document for completion by the end of TEL49.

5.3.2 Project management

The APEC Secretariat provided a project management update and informed the meeting on APEC funded availability issues. It can be expected that funding for APEC projects for 2014 will be more competitive in the coming years. BMC reported to SOM1 2014 in February that existing APEC project

funds particularly TILF and ASF general fund would be depleted soon. There was a general need to address the funding availability issue. Currently, APEC is making efforts to invite enough funding from member economy but this situation will continue for the time being. APEC is also working on improving the evaluation of its projects including project arrangements. An updated version of the Guidebook on APEC Projects (9th Edition) is available online at <http://www.apec.org/Projects/Projects-Overview.aspx>.

The next **deadline for the submission of Concept Notes in Session 2 is 21 July 2014**. Members intending to submit Concept Notes in Session 2 were strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the new guidebook.

5.4 TEL Chair's Comments

In response to the Priorities for 2014 in particular with the Physical Connectivity, TEL Chair mentioned that the APEC Secretariat had prepared a report to SCE which explained that for the past 5-6 years, TEL had done many projects to encourage broadband rollout and investment. Currently TEL is focusing on value creation such as applications and broadband services. Steering Group Convenors were requested to ensure that all past, current and future projects in relation to infrastructure had been included in the list of TEL's achievements to the Connectivity document compiled by the APEC Secretariat for submission to SCE.

TEL Chair also commented on the low probability of APEC funded project's approval due to depleting APEC fund. Consequently, members were suggested to consider partnering with the industry to implement projects when preparing future Concept Notes. Considering that many of TEL's projects were self-funded, TEL Chair was confident that TEL should be able to continue with the Work plan as scheduled.

Referring to remote participation, TEL Chair reported that TEL HoDs and ExComm members held a preliminary conversation on the topic and expanded to include the use of collaboration technologies and members collective practices. Despite possible concerns raised, the meeting noted that this exercise would promote more participation from TEL members and sustain TEL and its momentum. Moving forward, the meeting agreed to run a trial remote participation exercise at one or two workshop sessions in the upcoming TEL meetings in 2014 and 2015 and HOD would provide report observations, and possibly recommendations from these experiences.

6. TEL Work Plan for 2014

TEL Chair informed the meeting that SCE has requested for all APEC sub-fora to prepare the Work plan for 2014 using a standard format. In response to the request, HOD and ExComm members worked on the Plan during TEL49 HOD and ExComm meetings and outlined each Steering Group's focused areas for 2014. The Plan which was endorsed and submitted to the APEC Secretariat by the end of TEL49 consisted of ongoing and new projects as well as projects under consideration with collective outcomes.

7. Drafting of TEL Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2020

TEL Chair informed the meeting that the brainstorming session to draft the TEL Strategic Plan for 2016-2020 was first held at the HoDs and ExComm meeting during TEL49. In planning the next five-year Strategic Plan, the initial work involved reviewing the current priority areas and the actions under each priority of the Strategic Plan for 2010-2015.

TEL Chair emphasized the importance of considering practical actions which could be implemented through self-funding, should there be no funding from APEC. Considering that the TEL Strategic Plan for 2016-2020 was proposed to be endorsed and approved by the next TELMIN scheduled in the first half of 2015, TEL Chair reminded the meeting to use the brainstorming documents for further consideration within each economy and provide feedback inter-sessionally. The first draft of TEL Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2020 would be discussed at TEL50.

8. Updates of Regulatory and Policy Developments

Most of the economies presented a brief update of regulatory and policy developments while others had invited members to refer to their policy and regulatory updates from the meeting website.

9. Steering Group Meeting Reports

At Plenary II on the morning of Saturday, 26 April 2014, the reports of ICT Development Steering Group (DSG), Liberalization Steering Group (LSG) and Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG) were presented by their respective Convenors.

9.1 Development Steering Group Meeting (DSG)

The DSG Convenor, Mr. Yu Zhicheng from China, presented the summary report of the DSG meeting (2014/TEL49/PLEN/014) and the following agenda items were discussed including:

9.1.1 Information Sharing

- Importance of IP Peering (Japan)
- Mobile Network and Internet (APNIC)
- Updates on IPv6 Deployment (Chinese Taipei, USA)

9.1.2 Current Projects Report

- APII Test Bed Project (Korea)
- APII R&D Test Bed Network Project (Japan)
- Workshop on "Enhancing Business Competitiveness and Growth through Data & Analytics" (Singapore)
- Extension of APEC e-Government Research Center (Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei)
- ICT Applications for people with Special needs (Aging and Disabilities) (Japan, Singapore)

- Deployment of Multi-Language Email Address Technology (China)
- Interoperability of ICT: semantic, linguistic and other aspects (Russian Federation)

9.1.3 Projects Seeking APEC Funding

The meeting noted that there were four Concept Notes for projects seeking APEC funding, two of which were endorsed by TEL members inter-sessionally and submitted to the APEC Secretariat for ranking and Session 1 approval, whilst the other two Concept Notes were endorsed in principle at TEL49 Plenary session pending further comments by economies to improve the quality of the proposals.

Concept Notes endorsed by TEL inter-sessionally

The following Concept Notes were endorsed by TEL inter-sessionally and submitted to the APEC Secretariat for Session 1 approval of APEC funding:

- Workshop on IOT (Internet of Things) development for the promotion of information economy (China)
- Asia-Pacific Internet Resources Capacity Cooperation Program (China)

New Project Proposals

The following Concept Notes were discussed and endorsed by DSG for approval at the Plenary and submitted to the APEC Secretariat for Session 2 approval of APEC funding.

- Cooperation programme on creating a single concept of systems, providing customized disaster management of people based on Modern ICT (Russian Federation)
- Key Performance Indicators of information society development in the APEC region (Russian Federation)

In making comments on the report, TEL Chair informed that the two Concept Notes from China had been submitted for Session 1 approval competing with the other 213 Concept Notes submitted by other APEC fora for APEC funding. The approval updates would be presented by PD in the next agenda item.

The meeting noted that there were no new project proposals and there were no project activities planned for TEL50.

9.2 Liberalization Steering Group Meeting (LSG)

The LSG Convenor, Mr Mitsuhiro Hishida, presented the summary report of the LSG meeting (2014/TEL49/PLEN/015). In the summary report, the following agenda items were discussed including:

- a. Workshop Outcomes and Project Updates
 - Regulatory Roundtable (China)
 - Industry Roundtable (China)
 - Workshop on the Quality of Service for Regulators (Indonesia)
 - Promoting the Development of ICT Revolution to Assist Economic Growth of Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and the Small Medium Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) (Malaysia)
- b. MRA Task Force Meeting Report

- c. TEL Work Plan 2014
- d. TEL Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020
- e. Inputs of TEL's Achievements to the Connectivity
- f. LSG Contributions to TEL Strategic Action Plan 2010-2015

LSG Activities at TEL50

The Convenor also informed that there was a new self-funded project proposal endorsed by LSG for Plenary's approval for implementation at TEL50, and two roundtables to be decided by the host of TEL50, Australia.

- a. A half-day for Workshop on Managing Quality of Service (QoS) Approaches for Mobile Services (Malaysia)
- b. A half-day for Industry Roundtable (tbc)
- c. A half-day for Regulatory Roundtable (tbc)
- d. Two full-days for MRATF

In making a general statement, TEL Chair acknowledged the comprehensive LSG agenda covered at TEL49. She also commended the well-organised roundtable and workshop sessions by China and Indonesia respectively. Referring to the nomination of the second Deputy Convenor endorsed at LSG meeting, TEL Chair explained that when a position became vacant, the position would be opened to all TEL members for an opportunity to propose before it was endorsed. However, as the nomination for Mr. Nguyen Duc Toan had been endorsed by LSG as the second Deputy Convenor, this nomination would be approved at Plenary 2 subject to no other nomination received.

There was also some discussion over the Concept Paper entitled *Developing the Internet Economy through enhanced ICT Cooperation* submitted by China at SOM1 and how it was related to the Regulatory Roundtable session hosted by China at TEL49. This paper was based on one of the 2014 APEC Priorities intended for all sectors of the APEC fora and it was endorsed by SOM1 in principle for further discussion at the working group meetings. Moving forward, TEL Chair requested the meeting to consider escalating TEL's perspective discussed at the Regulatory Roundtable through economy's senior official representatives who will participate at SOM2 and SOM3.

9.3 Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG)

The incoming SPSG Convenor, Mr Thongchai Sangsiri from Thailand, presented the summary report of the SPSG meeting (2014/TEL49/SPSG/009) on behalf of the current Convenor, Ms. Jordana Siegel who sent her apology for an early departure. In his summary, he informed that SPSG did not have any new project proposal and the sessions had a series of updates including the following agenda items:

- a. Cyber Security Efforts by Host Economy (China)
- b. Updates on SPSG Workshop
 - o Security of Mobile Devices (Malaysia)

- c. Updates on APEC TEL Activities
 - o APEC TEL Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020
 - o Inputs of TEL's Achievements to the Connectivity
 - o TEL Work Plan for 2014
 - o Institutional Arrangements
 - o TEL50 Anniversary
- d. Cyber Security Awareness Raising Activities
- e. Collaboration with OECD-WPISP
- f. Collaboration with AP-CERT
- g. Project Updates
 - o Comparing Approaches to Combating Botnets
 - o Review of the APEC's Strategy to Ensure a Trusted, Secure, and Sustainable Online Environment (TSSOE)
 - o APEC Training Program for Preventive Education on ICT Misuse – Phase II
- h. Economy Reports
 - o Cyber Security Master Plan 2018 (Singapore)
 - o Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cyber Security and the Cyber Critical Infrastructure Community (C³) Voluntary Program (USA)

SPSG's activities at TEL50

The meeting also noted that there is no new project proposal and the request to hold two half-day activities at TEL50.

- a. A half-day session of workshop on CSIRT Indicators
- b. A half-day session of awareness raising activities

10. Discussion / Approval of New Project Proposals/ Priority Setting and Approved Projects

There was only one new self-funded project approved at the Plenary and scheduled for TEL50.

Self-funded Proposal	Steering Group	Proposing Economy
Workshop on Managing Quality of Service (QoS) Approaches for Mobile Services	LSG	Malaysia

TEL had also given provisional endorsement to two APEC funded project proposals submitted by the Russian Federation subject to the inclusion of the comments made at TEL49 before submission to the APEC Secretariat by 1 June 2014, for further consideration by TEL members. The deadline for submission to the APEC Secretariat for Session 2 was 21 July 2014.

APEC-funded Proposal	Comments by economies
a. Cooperation programme on creating a single concept of systems, providing customized disaster management of people based on Modern ICT.	a. Build data repository for others to tap on; b. Business continuity process; c. Collaborate with other group within APEC e.g. EPWG; and d. Include co-sponsoring economies
a. Key Performance Indicators of information society development in the APEC region.	a. Replacing the term 'KPI' in the proposal title to either 'Indicator' or 'matrix'; b. Make clear distinction from the current similar projects e.g. by OECD and ITU, and add complementary approach.

The meeting was also informed that the Concept Notes by China submitted for Session 1 Approval cycle were not adopted and China had requested for a resubmission for Session 2 approval.

Resubmitted APEC-funded Proposal
a. Workshop on IOT (Internet of Things) development for the promotion of information economy.
b. Asia-Pacific Internet Resources Capacity Cooperation Programme.

The meeting agreed to rank all the Concept Notes at TEL49 and the results were as follow:

Concept Notes	Economy	Ranking
Workshop on IOT (Internet of Things) development for the promotion of information economy.	China	1
Asia-Pacific Internet Resources Capacity Cooperation Programme.	China	2
Cooperation programme on creating a single concept of systems, providing customized disaster management of people based on Modern ICT.	Russian Federation	3
Key Performance Indicators of information society development in the APEC region.	Russian Federation	4

11. Tentative Programme for TEL50

The following tentative Programme for TEL50 was endorsed as follows:

Day	Morning	Noon	Afternoon	Evening
Prep Day (Sun)	Preparatory Meeting for TEL50 – Executive Committee and Host			
	HOD and Excomm Meeting/ Special Session		HOD and Excomm Meeting/ Special Session	
Day 1 (Mon)	HOD and Excomm Meeting/ Special Session		HOD and Excomm Meeting/ Special Session	[Welcome Dinner]
	[1] [LSG] MRA TF		[2] [LSG] MRA TF	
	[3] [LSG] Workshop on 'Managing Quality of Service (QOS) Approaches for Mobile Services		[4][vacant] (14:00 – 17:30)	
Day 2 (Tue)	[5] [LSG] MRA TF		[6] [LSG] MRA TF	
	[7] [SPSG] Workshop on CSIRT Indicators		[8] [SPSG] Awareness Raising Activity	
	[9] [(LSG) Regulatory Roundtable]		[10] [(LSG) Industry Roundtable]	
Day 3 (Wed)	Plenary 1			
Day 4 (Thu)	DSG	HOD & ExComm meeting	DSG	
	LSG		LSG	
	SPSG		SPSG	
Day 5 (Fri)	Plenary 2			

12. Discussion of Future Meetings

12.1 Hosting of TEL50 - TEL55

Australian Host presented a brief presentation on the meeting date and venue of TEL50 (2014/TEL49/PLEN/016).

The meeting also noted the list of hosts as follows:

TEL Meeting	Host	Schedule
TEL50	Australia (Brisbane)	2 nd Half 2014
TEL51	Philippines	1 st Half 2015
TEL52	New Zealand	2 nd Half 2015
TEL53	Japan/Peru (Peru - APEC Host for 2016)	1 st Half 2016
TEL54	Peru/Japan	2 nd Half 2016
TEL55	Vietnam (APEC Host for 2017)	1 st Half 2017

12.2 Hosting of TELMIN10

The APEC TELMIN convenes every two to three years for Ministers to review the work of the TEL and give broad directions for the TEL's future work. The meeting noted that TEL plans to organize the TELMIN10 in the first half of 2015 before TEL51 and Malaysia was identified as a provisional host pending approval from the Government. The confirmation was expected to be announced at TEL50.

13. Steering Group Convenorship and Friends of the Chair

The meeting endorsed the nominated convenors and deputy convenors and adopted the new Steering Group Convenorship list as follows:

	Convenor	Deputy Convenor 1	Deputy Convenor 2
DSG	Mr. Wallace Koh Hoe Aik (Brunei) TEL50~53 *New*	Mr. Christopher Hemmerlein (USA) TEL48~51	- Vacant-
LSG	<u>Mr. Mitsuhiro Hishida</u> (Japan) TEL50~53 <i>*Re-appointment*</i>	Dr. Dmitri Kostrov (Russia) TEL49~52	<u>Mr. Nguyen Duc Toan</u> (Vietnam) TEL50-53 *New*
SPSG	<u>Mr. Thongchai Sangsiri</u> (Thailand) TEL50-53 *New*	Mr. Charles Chew (Singapore) TEL49-52	<u>Dr. Pei-wen Liu</u> (Chinese Taipei) TEL50-53 *New*
MRA TF	Mr. Roger Nien Po Sheng (Chinese Taipei) TEL49~52	Hj. Jailani Buntar (Brunei Darussalam) TEL49~52	N/A

Friends of the Chair

In an effort to find an approach that would help resolve the remaining differences and pending issues to expedite the discussion process, TEL Chair introduced an advisory panel concept called Friends of the Chair at the HOD and ExComm meeting. The outgoing convenors would serve as members of the panel who would share their experiences to assist the Chair in the ongoing work of TEL and they would be considered as invited guests for the duration of TEL50 – TEL51. The current members of the Friends of Chair are Ms. Jordana Siegel (outgoing SPSG Convenor) and Mr. Yu Zhicheng (outgoing DSG Convenors) and it would be at the discretion of future TEL Chairs to continue with this concept.

14. Statements by Observers and Guests

Representatives from APNIC (2014/TEL49/PLEN/022) and ISOC (2014/TEL49/PLEN/023) gave brief updates on their activities and expressed their desire for continued cooperation with TEL.

15. Document Classification

The APEC Secretariat requested for all documents presented at TEL49 to be uploaded onto the meeting website. Each document manager was requested to specify which documents were restricted or opened to the public and indicate the latest version (if applicable) within two weeks from TEL49, after which the documents would be transferred to the APEC database.

TEL Chair requested for all the working documents uploaded for the HoDs and ExComm meeting to be classified as restricted as these are the drafts and working progress of the HoDs and ExComm meeting agenda.

16. Other Business

16.1 TEL Inputs to the Survey on Connectivity

The TEL Chair presented the TEL inputs to the survey on Connectivity which incorporated the inputs by the Convenors (2014/TEL49/PLEN/020). This document was endorsed for submission to the Policy Support Unit of the APEC Secretariat.

17. Adjournment

In Closing, the TEL Chair expressed her appreciation once again to the Chinese host for hosting TEL49. She also expressed her heartfelt gratitude particularly to the Chinese Secretariat team and volunteers led by Ms. Zhang Xiao Lei (HoD) for the hardwork and excellent organisation of the meeting. Yangzhou was an inspiring venue at which to work on the Strategic Plan among others and she was very pleased with the progress built on friendship and solidarity as a group in APEC.

TEL Chair also thanked Mr. Mikiharu Shimizu, Programme Director of the APEC Secretariat, for his valuable support and guidance over the last two years and wished him all the best in his new duty.

- END -