

**The 37<sup>th</sup> APEC Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) Meeting**  
**14-17 May 2015**  
**Boracay, Philippines**

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**PLENARY OPENING SESSION**  
**14 May 2015 [13:30-18:00]**

1. The HRDWG Lead Shepherd (LS), Dr. Sergey Ivanets expressed appreciation to the host economy the Philippines and introduced the Co-Chair Undersecretary ReydeLuz D. Conferido, Lead of the Philippines APEC HRDWG. The LS and the Co-Chair welcomed participating delegates from 20 economies: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; The Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; The United States and Viet Nam. Likewise, officials of ILO, APRU, APEC Secretariat, the Presidential Management Staff, and representatives from non-government organizations participated in the 37<sup>th</sup> HRDWG meeting.
2. Undersecretary ReydeLuz D. Conferido, co-chair delivered welcoming remarks. He gave a brief background of the Working Group, which was organized with strong hope and optimism. He mentioned the realization of the leaders of APEC for the need for cooperation in education, in developing talents, and in sharing best practices for the treatment of human resources so they could become more productive, competitive and cooperative, as well as be able to contribute in a sustainable way to the progress of Asia-Pacific and of the world. Thus, cooperation projects in education, skills development, labor market information sharing, technology sharing, talent and managerial-building, and in protecting and promoting the interests of workers were conceived and pursued by the HRDWG.
3. Opening remarks by the LS Dr. Sergey Ivanets, President for Eastern Federal University, Russia. He expressed his gratitude to the member economies for giving him the opportunity to serve as the new Lead Shepherd. He acknowledged the works done by the previous LS, Dr. Kim and his team. He shared the vision of the Working Group and its importance in the human resources development of each economy. He underlined the HRDWG activities which are consistent with implementation of the APEC Connectivity Blueprint, the 6<sup>th</sup> Human Resources Ministerial Meeting Joint Statement and the 2015-2018 Action Plan. He encouraged the three networks of the working group to have joint efforts in reaching the common goal in the areas of capacity building, labor and social protection and education. He emphasized the importance of cross-fora cooperation and joint initiatives and projects with other working groups as human resources has cross cutting issues with other important groups.
4. Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz, Philippines' Department of Labor and Employment, delivered the keynote message. She highlighted the aspirations of APEC HRDWG to become an integrated area with reduced barriers to movement of people, investments, goods and services towards 2020. She shared that one of the Philippines' key priorities for this year's hosting is investing in human capital development which is based on the Joint Statement from last year's 6<sup>th</sup> Human Resources Ministerial Meeting and the 2015-2018 HRD Action Plan. She expressed support in the priority areas of the HRDWG like addressing the social dimensions of globalization involving workers in vulnerable situations such as workers in the informal economy, youth, persons with

- disabilities, women and migrant workers. She also shared the Philippines' position in enhancing human resource quality to meet supply chain demands through giving more focus on small-to-medium enterprises. She likewise mentioned the need to facilitate mobility of labor and skills development and pursue People-to-People Connectivity through initiatives leading to education across borders and movement of people, including skilled labor. She recognized the role of APEC in enhancing the participation of women in the economy.
5. LS introduced the Network Coordinators: Mr. Meng-Liang Tsai (CBN), Dr. Kuei-Yen Liao (CBN Deputy Coordinator), Dr. Yan Wang (EDNET), Mr. Malcolm Greening (LSPN) and APEC Program Director Ms. Romy Tincopa.
  6. The 37<sup>th</sup> HRDWG meeting agenda was adopted.
  7. APEC Vice SOM Chair, Undersecretary Ferdinand B. Cui Jr. presented the APEC 2015 Priorities. He shared the four priority areas of the APEC 2015 to achieve inclusive growth for the Asia Pacific community, as follows: (a) enhancing the regional economic integration agenda; (b) fostering the participation of SMEs in regional and global markets; (c) investing in human capital development; and (d) building sustainable and resilient communities.
  8. Director ILO Country Office for the Philippines, Mr. Lawrence Jeff Johnson delivered a message of support to the APEC Process. He emphasized ILO stands ready to partner with the APEC economies to ensure the economic gains from regional integration lead to social progress for all women and men.
  9. Secretary General of APRU, Dr. Christopher Tremewan presented the APRU's participation in the HRDWG process. He gave a background of the APRU as an international organization of leading research universities in the Asia Pacific region. He mentioned that the vision of APRU was to establish a premier alliance of research universities as an advisory body to international organizations, governments and business on the development of science and innovation as well as on the broader development of higher education. APRU's three thematic priority areas are: Shaping Asia-Pacific Higher Education and Research, Creating Asia-Pacific Global Leaders and Partnering on Solutions to Asia-Pacific Challenges. He expressed APRU's readiness to contribute in the HRD work.
  10. USA delegate Ms. Deanne De Lima made a presentation on the Women and the Economy Dashboard as a tool for integrating gender into policy discussions and projects. She highlighted the indicators in the Dashboard that were relevant to the HRDWG such as Labor Market Participation, Vulnerable Employment, Care Economy. Nevertheless, Russia noted the difficulties in monitoring some of the indicators due to the absence of data for some of the Economies and their absence in membership in the international organizations mentioned as a source of data.
  11. Dr. Minella Alarcon from the Philippines' Commission on Higher Education presented updates on the Preparatory Meeting of the HLPD-STHE held on 19-20 May 2015 in Boracay. The Dialogue will be held on 13-14 August 2015 at the Philippine International Convention Center in Manila. The Dialogue will focus on three themes: 1) Innovation in Higher Education Delivery Modalities and Strategies Focusing on Science and Technology Programs; 2) Ensuring Relevance, Utilization and Contributions of the Products of science and Technology in Higher Education to Economic Development in APEC Region; and 3) Future Scientific and Technological Jobs and Careers. The expected outputs include a joint statement in advancing Science and Technology and embody various strategies, Science and Technology mobility card, engineering, marine sciences, fisheries, among others.
  12. Executive Director, Ms. Susan Dela Rama reported the outcome of the High Level Policy

Dialogue on Human Capacity Building which was held on 6-7 May 2015 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea and underlined the adoption of the Port Moresby Joint Statement.

13. LSPN Coordinator, Mr. Malcolm Greening, referred to the Action Plan and its 3 priorities: 1) supporting inclusive and sustainable growth to address the social dimensions of globalization, including equality and needs of vulnerable groups; 2) enhancing human resource quality to meet supply chain demands and 3) facilitating mobility of labor and skills development.
14. The APEC Secretariat, PMU, Ms. Sarah Gleave made a report on APEC project management.

## **PLENARY SESSION II**

**16 May 2015 [16:35-18:00]**

1. Chair: Lead Shepherd Dr. Sergey Ivanets, vice-chair: Undersecretary Mario Deriquito and co-chair: EDNET Coordinator Dr. Yan Wang.
2. EDNET Coordinator presented the report on the discussion of the AEMM held during the EDNET meeting. The EDNET meeting summary report was adopted by the group.
3. Both Peru and Russia expressed their interest in hosting the 6th AEMM. APEC Senior Official of Peru sent a letter to Lead Shepherd Dr. Sergey Ivanets as their formal request.
4. LS proposed to organize the 6<sup>th</sup> AEMM Preparation committee with participation of representatives of LS team, network coordinators (EDNET, LSPN, CBN), the Philippines, Korea, Peru and Russia. All economies were welcomed to participate in the Committee. The mentioned members agreed on the composition of the 6<sup>th</sup> AEMM Preparation committee.

## **PLENARY CLOSING SESSION**

**17 May 2015 [09:00-12:30]**

1. The Lead Shepherd (LS) introduced Co-chair - PRC Commissioner Angeline ChuaChiacio.
2. LS adopted the agenda for Plenary closing session.
3. The network coordinators of Labor and Social Protection Network (LSPN), Capacity Building Network (CBN) and Education Network (EdNet) provided the summary report of each network meeting simultaneously held on 15 and 16 May 2015. The summary report for CBN was adopted during the Meeting (EDNET (Annex 2), LSPN (Annex 3), CBN (Annex 4).
4. Chile and Chinese Taipei reported updates done relative to the HRD Action Plan 2015-2018. Chile mentioned of educational reforms undertaken by its government which focused on labour skills, equality and inclusion.
5. Ms. Ruth Yohanna Lumbanraja from APEC Desk Indonesia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shared updates on Mainstreaming Ocean Related Issues (MOI) Initiative which HRDWG joined at 2015. She highlighted that MOI is a cross-cutting issues, which includes 8 Working Groups and Sub Committee, named EWG, EPWG, OFWG, HRDWG, TWG, TPTWG, SCSC, and PPFS. Also, mentioned that on 5 February 2015, the MOI Steering Council had its first meeting Chaired by the Coordinator from Indonesia and was attended by representatives from OFWG, PPFS, TWG and HRDWG, as well as the APEC Secretariat. Added, currently, MOI Coordinator is on the progress of finalization of the Terms of Reference for MOI in accommodating HRDWG into the Scope of Cooperation and reviewing Working Groups and Sub Committee Wok Plan to be accommodated in the MOI Work Plan. Likewise, encourage working Groups and Sub-Committees to insert

MOI in their Work Plan.

6. The International Labor Organization (ILO), Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) and APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) delivered their statement.
7. HRDWG member economies adopted HRDWG Annual Work Plan 2015 in principle with possibility for minor corrections and agreed that Strategic Plan and ToR should be updated as soon as possible.
8. LS presented the Summary Conclusions.
  - a. LS summarized the 4 days of meetings. LS expressed appreciation to the Network coordinators and the economies for excellent work done.
  - b. He reminded the opportunity to organize a technical meeting twice a year: first one - face to face and the second one, virtually, if needed.
  - c. LS noted that APRU had been granted a 3 year guest status and became a first non-member participant in the group. Likewise LS highlighted the importance of the cross fora collaboration and HRDWG should actively participate in such initiative like MOI Initiative.
  - d. LS noted that HRDWG member economies adopted HRDWG Annual Work Plan 2015, and that the Strategic Plan and ToR should be updated and adopted as soon as possible.
  - e. LS announced that the key issue for discussion during 37<sup>th</sup> HRDWG meeting became the preparation to the 6 APEC Education Ministerial Meeting. Two economies expressed their official interested to host the AEMM in 2016: Peru and Russia. The venue of the meeting would be announced in a short period.
  - f. LS thanked Korea for their hard-working preparation to AEMM as economy that had to prepare a draft final report for the Education Cooperation Project (ECP). For this purpose, the Korean government is proposing an "ECP Draft Review committee". The role of the committee would be to improve Korea's draft report and finalize it, so that it could be submitted to the upcoming Ministerial Meeting in 2016. All economies were welcomed to participate in the ECP Draft Review committee.
  - g. LS noted that it was decided to organize the Preparation committee to the 6AEMM with participation of LS team, network coordinators (EDNET, LSPN, CBN), the Philippines, Korea, Peru and Russia. All economies were welcomed to participate in the Committee.
  - h. LS noticed the significant results of the High Level Policy Dialog on Human Capacity Building which was held in PNG, highlighting the need to discuss how to best develop soft skills, address the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises, labour market information, skills mapping, lifelong training; getting programs off the ground; and school-to-work transitions.
  - i. LS encouraged HRDWG member economies to participate in High Level Policy Dialog on Science and Technology in Higher Education, which was a platform for joint discussion of participants from PPSTI and HRDWG and was a great possibility to implement cross-fora initiatives and projects for further development of cooperation HRDWG and PPSTI.
  - j. LS reminded that the implementation of the 2014 APEC HRD Ministerial Statement and Action Plan (2015-2018) had been started and encouraged economies to make a report about their achievements and future activities in the reference to these documents.
  - k. LS expressed the strong support for the joint workshop of CBN and LSPN - Seminar on Facilitating Human Resource Mobility by Enhancing Social Protection (with the Philippines). Informative presentations of non-

government experts and business representatives on labour mobility in the Asia-Pacific were made and delegates had the opportunity to share their views on what the main elements of an APEC labour mobility strategy or framework should be and what policy areas might offer best opportunities for progress on a regional level.

10. APEC Senior Official of Peru, Mr. Raul Salazar-Cosio delivered a report on APEC 2016 hosting arrangement in Peru. The 38th APEC HRDWG Meeting is to be conducted under the First Senior Officials Meeting in Lima. Peru also informed its interest to host the Second HLPD-STHE and restated its intent to host the 6<sup>th</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting. LS mentioned that there are two proposals from Peru and Russia to host the 6th AEMM and that the solution should be found and announced to the member economies in short time.
11. Awards for HRDWG Members were given to the representatives of former HRDWG Lead Shepherd, Dr. YoungHwan Kim (Korea) and to Ms. Adriana de Kanter, former EDNET Coordinator (USA).
12. The LS shared his closing statement. He expressed his appreciation to the Philippines for perfect organization of the 37th HRDWG meeting, hospitality and hard work, thanked network coordinators for their great contribution into the HRDWG agenda, their initiatives and projects and all economies for participation, support and contribution.
13. The Philippines Co-Chair, PRC Commissioner Angeline Chua Chiaco made closing remarks (delivered Co-Chair of the Meeting Undersecretary Reydeluz Conferido's closing messages) which reiterated strengthening cooperation on mobility, security, gender and development, mainstreaming concerns with disabilities, youth employment, meeting the needs of the 21st century labor market, and recognizing and upgrading the productive contributions of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Economies were encouraged to support the Workshop on Facilitating Human Resource Mobility by Enhancing Social Protection (with Chinese Taipei) and Talent Map Initiative which the Philippines hopes can be replicated in the APEC region in response to education, training and school-to-work transition challenges in the region. Co-chair thanked the APEC Secretariat and the Philippine Organizing Committee for their efficient work and the Philippine Government for hosting our luncheons and dinners.

## **[Annex 1] The Summary Report of the Technical Meeting (May, 14, 2015)**

### **09:00-12:00**

1. The technical meeting was led by the HRDWG Lead Shepherd, Dr.Sergey Ivanets. It was co-chaired by Philippine Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Undersecretary Reydeluz Conferido, Lead of the PHL-APEC HRDWG. Also present were Ms. Romy Tincopa, Program Director, APEC Secretariat; the Network Coordinators Mr. Meng-Liang Tsai (CBN), Dr. Kuei-Yen Liao (CBN Deputy Coordinator), Dr. Wang Yan (EDNET) and Mr. Malcolm Greening (LSPN); and Mr. Emmanuel San Andres of the APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU).
2. On this meeting, there were delegates from 18 economies: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong-China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States, and Viet Nam.
3. The LS welcomed the delegates and provided a brief introduction on the history of conducting technical meetings of the HRDWG. The LS announced the themes for discussion during the current Technical Meeting:
  1. Discussion of the 37th HRDWG agenda
  2. Discussion of the Non-member participation in HRDWG: APEC Guidelines on Managing Cooperation with Non-members, suggestions and vision of cooperation
  3. Discussion of the participation of HRDWG in other fora: PPSTI, MOI Initiative and others. Suggestions, ideas and projects.
  4. Discussion and Adoption of the Annual Work Plan and the Strategic Plan. Round table discussion including the report on three networks' annual plan, direction, and key Activities and progress on the Independent Assessment findings.
  5. Discussion of the ToR
  6. Discussion on the HLPD on HCB. Report of the Philippines
  7. Preparation to the 6 AEMM 2016: pre-meetings and activities for preparation
  8. Other issues (Selection of a new LSPN Coordinator, HRDWG Wiki, etc)
4. The Technical Meeting agenda was adopted.
5. The 37<sup>th</sup> HRDWG agenda was discussed. It was agreed that the orientation for new participants would not be taken up in the agenda, but might be conducted as a separate activity by the APEC Secretariat-PSU.
6. LS informed about the approval of The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) for the three year guest status in the HRDWG. The guest status for APRU shall be valid until 31 December 2017. He thanked the economies for their support in granting a three-year guest status to APRU. Some member economies appreciated APRU's participation in EDNET/HRDWG. Comments on the guidelines for the cooperation of non-members were solicited by the LS, in light of the increasing collaboration and partnerships with third party organizations in the different areas of work of HRDWG.
7. LS noticed the importance of the participation of HRDWG in other fora: PPSTI and MOI Initiative and also underlined the nature of the HRDWG as a cross cutting working group, with its priorities intersecting with many other working groups, including: Health, Emergency Preparedness, Ocean and Fisheries, Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation, Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy and Small and Medium Enterprises, Business Mobility Group and others. The draft Annual Work Plan identifies that the HRDWG will have upcoming collaborative initiatives with these fora. LS emphasized the significance of joint activities and projects, which should be

- integrated in the HRDWG Annual Work Plan and Strategic Plan. The LS encouraged economies to discuss and launch projects with other APEC groups for the concrete and practical implementation of the HRDWG and APEC goals. LSPN Coordinator as well some member economies highlighted the importance of the close collaboration with other fora on crosscutting issues.
8. LS referred to the Annual Work Plan and the Strategic Plan and requested the Group to submit their inputs on the drafts so they can be finalized by 10 June 2015. To improve the work of the HRDWG, there was a suggestion to incorporate the recommendations from the Independent Assessment, 2014 so the Group can address the issues identified in the report, and to include items on monitoring and assessment. The LS noted that SCE will seek a report from the HRDWG on the work undertaken in this regard during the second half of 2015.
  9. The delegates agreed to update the Term of Reference (TOR) as it has not been changed since 2007. The LS urged the economies to submit proposals and comments for their further incorporating in the draft document that would be circulated within the three month period.
  10. One of the discussion issues was the opportunity to set up the Deputy Lead Shepherd and a Deputy Network Coordinator position. HRDWG agreed with the appointment of a Deputy Lead Shepherd and a Deputy Network Coordinator from the same economy of the LS and a Network Coordinator and different gender.
  11. Executive Director of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Ms. Marissa Legaspi presented the results of the recently held High Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building (HLPD-HCB) in Port Moresby. The LS and delegates thanked and commended the host economies, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea, for the success of the event. The Port Moresby Joint Statement on the 2015 HLPD-HCB reflected the recognition by economies of the relevance of human capacity building to the development priorities.
  12. LS underlined four issues that should be discussed with reference to 6<sup>th</sup> AEMM: (1) Theme and sub-themes, (2) Projects and initiatives, (3) The process (e.g. number and schedule of preparatory meetings to be arranged), (4) Parallel activities that can be conducted in support of the HRDWG and APEC process. Peru and Russia indicated their interest in hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting. The EDNET Coordinator expressed the readiness to help in organizing the Meeting since the AEMM is directly related to EDNET work. EDNET Coordinator also proposed to have a research element in the preparation such as a research symposium, to generate the documents needed for the AEMM. The Republic of Korea suggested forming an “ECP Draft Review committee” for improving the draft outcome report for the Education Cooperation Project (ECP), which was required under the Joint Statement of the 5th AEMM in 2012. The report will be submitted to the 6th AEMM.
  13. LS reminded the Group of the need to select a new LSPN coordinator and recalled the criteria for the nomination of the Network Coordinator. He requested the economies to submit their candidates intersessionally as soon as possible.
  14. LS requested the United States to report about the maintenance of the knowledge bank website of the HRWDG, the APEC-Wiki ([hrd.apec.org](http://hrd.apec.org)). The website is now hosted by the APEC Secretariat. There is a need for an economy to take over the management of content (e.g. inputting updates). Russia indicated the interest in content management.

**[Annex 2]**

**The 31<sup>st</sup>APEC HRDWG Education Network (EDNET) Meeting**

**15-16 May 2015**

**SUMMARY REPORT**

Boracay, Philippines

**15 May, 8:20-18:00**

1. The EDNET Coordinator, Dr. Wang Yan, welcomed delegates and introduced the Host Economy Co-Chair, Undersecretary Mario A. Deriquito of the Philippine Department of Education, who gave an overview of the EDNET meeting agenda.
2. The EDNET Coordinator introduced the HRDWG Lead Shepherd, Dr. Sergey Ivanets, who delivered welcoming remarks, commenting on the significant role EDNET can play in preparing today's youth with appropriate education and training, skills, and participating in cross-border education to succeed in their local education system and compete in a globalized world.
3. The EDNET Coordinator introduced the Lead Shepherd Team and EDNET delegates from 19 present Member Economies: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States; and Viet Nam.
4. The agenda was adopted.
5. The former EDNET Coordinator, Ms. Adriana de Kanter, reflected on recent Network progress, including the activities of the 5<sup>th</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting (AEMM) in 2012, the cross-border education target goal of one million exchange students within APEC, and the Wiki's transfer from the United States to the APEC Secretariat and Lead Shepherd Team. Ms. de Kanter noted that 2015 can be a productive year for EDNET projects, given APEC's focus on inclusive growth and connectivity.
6. The Co-Chair introduced the Philippines' APEC 2015 priorities around the theme of "Building Inclusive Economies, Building a Better World" and how EDNET can help foster investment in human capital development through access to inclusive, lifelong education as the EDNET looks toward the upcoming 6th AEMM in 2016.
7. Introduction of Participants: Dr. Wang Yan facilitated the introduction of the participants and requested the participants to describe the EDNET with one word and delegates noted EDNET as "aspirational, cooperative, bright, forward-looking, hardworking, productive, fruitful, relevant, platform, passion, synergy, sharing, understanding, collaboration, learning, STEM, inclusive, growth, innovation, capacity building, connectivity, mobility, opportunity, great future of child" which present what has been achieved by the EDNET and is expected of the future of the EDNET.
8. To close the opening session, Dr. Wang Yan concluded stating that EDNET serves as a platform to share knowledge and information and create joint action and by learning from each other the members of the EDNET can achieve synergy towards a fruitful meeting and towards aspirational goals.



9. The Lead Shepherd synthesized the words and expectations shared by the participants saying that the EDNET is a family or community who are forward thinking and are hardworking, free of borders or any limitations towards achieving its goals.
10. Session 1: Discussion of Work Documents including the Terms of Reference and Annual Work Plan
  - 10.1 Delegates were asked to review the work documents and propose changes concerning items that directly involve EDNET. China and the United States raised concerns over the brevity of education objectives in the Terms of Reference and need to update relevant parts.
  - 10.2 Delegates were requested to submit written comments on the draft work documents for discussion and consolidation before the closing session. EDNET will collect the comments and submit to Lead Shepherd for consideration by the HRDWG.
  - 10.3 Delegates discussed the need for timely updates to EDNET-related content on the APEC website and HRDWG Wiki. The United States noted that the Wiki allows the Network and member economies to share content more easily than through the APEC website.
  - 10.4 Australia thanked the delegates for their contributions to the cross-border education action plan, and invited interested economies to take over its management.
  - 10.5 The EDNET Meeting Summary Report Drafting Committee was formed by representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and the United States to review the draft report on meeting proceedings and to consolidate comments on the work documents from the Network.
  - 10.6 The suggestion to review the Strategic Plan edited in 2014 by the former EDNET Coordinator, with review from the drafting committee and Lead Shepherd Advisory Committee, was approved. EDNET will collect the comments and submit to Lead Shepherd for consideration by the HRDWG.

## 11. Session 2: Reports on Projects Recently Completed or Underway

Priority Area 1: Math, Science, Language, Culture Education

- 11.1 The United States noted that the *Secondary Math and Science Teacher Preparation: An International Study of Promising Practices in APEC from Economies' Case Studies* project 's was completed in 2014 but that the final report has recently been posted to the APEC website and the Wiki.
- 11.2 Japan and Thailand presented the project report on *Emergency Preparedness Education: Learning from Experience, Science of Disasters, and Preparing for the Future (III) – Focus on Fire and Volcanic Eruption*, which has produced such outputs as an e-textbook and teacher training sessions and materials that

were developed through a series of planning and reporting meetings, and also reported the planning meeting of the on-going self-funded project: Developing Education for Future Planning with Mathematics and Science based on the APEC Lesson Study Community.

- 11.3 Russia presented the report on the project *Open Bank of Mathematical Problems* that is compiling an open database of assessment items after a successful conference in Moscow. Russia noted that a trial version of the site is currently under construction and that conference materials will be disseminated to member economies. At this stage the project was supported by Japan, Chile, Indonesia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Chinese Taipei and Thailand.

#### Priority Area 2: Education Cooperation

- 11.4 China presented the project report on *Economic and Financial Literacy Education*, which aims to enhance economic and financial literacy (EFL) skills in the future workforce and to promote FEL education in schools. The project has produced a series of outcomes, including a status quo report, case studies of best practices, and a Guidebook on FEL in Basic Education.
- 11.5 Indonesia presented the project report on *Collaborative Research and Publication among APEC's Researchers*, noting that the concept note has not been adopted but interested economies are encouraged to work with Indonesia to resubmit for consideration.
- 11.6 Korea presented the project report on the *APEC Education Cooperation Project (ECP)*, which produced research studies on development of the cooperation project model, APEC cooperation indicators and student exchange program. The final report is planned for completion prior to the 2016 AEMM.
- 11.7 Russia presented the project report on the *Third Conference on Cooperation in Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region*, noting that the conference was held in 2014 with the participation of eleven member economies and that project outcomes include new requirements and mobility schemes, the APEC Academic Mobility initiative (including APEC Academic Mobility Card Project and APEC Virtual Academic Mobility Navigator), and the recognition that virtual exchange opportunities have been greatly increased. Russia expressed the interest in organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference on Cooperation in Higher Education in Vladivostok in 2015.

#### Priority Area 3: ICT and Teacher Quality

- 11.8 Korea presented the project report on the *APEC Learning Community for Shared Prosperity (ALCom)* aimed at narrowing the digital divide. ALCom works through the APEC Learning Community Builders (ALCoB) of students, teachers, and others, with its membership reaching 5,900 as of 2015. The on-going ALCoB projects include ALCoB Internet Volunteers (AVI, ALCoB

Cooperation Project (ACP), the Asia-Pacific Collaborative education Journal (APCJ) and the International ALCoB Conference.

- 11.9 Korea presented the project report on the *APEC Future Education Consortium*, noting that more than 320 scholars and educators, and students from 12 economies participated in the 2014 annual forum to discuss the direction of the Forum, the APEC Future Education. In line with the discussions of the Forum, APEC School Network implements cooperative activities for materializing ideal future education with 80 schools from 9 economies.
- 11.10 Korea presented the project report on the *APEC e-Learning Training Program (AeLT)*, which shares cutting-edge knowledge and experience of ICT education to build capacity in local economies with the accumulated participants reaching 671 in 2014. The program has recently enriched its curriculum and expanded partnerships with public, private, and academic organizations.

#### Priority Area 4: TVET and Higher Education Quality

- 11.11 Australia presented the project report on the *Promoting Regional Education Services integration: APEC University Associations Cross-Border Education Cooperation Workshop*, which was held in Malaysia in 2014 with academic university and government experts from thirteen economies to consider best practices and challenges and innovative opportunities to enhance teacher, student, provider, and virtual mobility.
- 11.12 China presented the project report on the *APEC Higher Education Research Center (AHERC)*, which aims to promote mutual understanding among member economies, coordinate joint studies on higher education systems, policies and analyze information on higher education reform and development. The AHERC Secretariat has been established at Beijing Normal University, with Management and Academic Committees to determine priorities and further AHERC goals.
- 11.13 China presented the project report on the *Systematic Design of Green Skills Development in TVET* project, which has developed a research team of domestic and international experts. More than 50 colleges and institutions are involved. A case study report, a table of green skills content and a list of green career specialties will be produced.
- 11.14 The United States presented the project report on *Cross-Border Education Data Gathering and Dissemination Technical Assistance/Student Mobility Target*, which reviewed cross-border education data collection capacities through an online survey of economies and research by the Institute of International Education.
- 11.15 Chinese Taipei presented the project report on *Sustainable Implementation of Cross-Border Internship Modules in the APEC Region*, which promotes partnerships with universities, working holidays, and occupation practical training that can help overcome language and financial barriers to exchanges.
- 11.16 The United States presented the project report on *Facilitating Student Mobility in the APEC Region: APEC Scholarships and Internships*, aimed at promoting

APEC-branded exchange opportunities in the region and information dissemination. The project launched a website in 2014 with opportunities organized by economy and plans to maintain momentum and expand with new sponsors.

## 12. Session 3: Thematic Workshop: Education Policies and Priorities

- 12.1 EDNET delegates from 16 economies presented on the major goals and initiatives of their respective educational systems and discussed recent reforms undertaken to improve teaching and learning. United States suggested that economies' presentations could be uploaded to the HRDWG Wiki for review.
- 12.2 The Co-Chair noted that many reforms are geared towards access, quality, and improving educational governance and that many are aligned with APEC priorities of cross-border education, promoting 21st century skills, and inclusive growth. The Co-Chair also discussed the need for community engagement and that reforms should ultimately benefit the students. He also said that reforms cut across the different levels or sectors of education—the basic education, higher education and TVET.
- 12.3 The EDNET Coordinator commented that changes to the global economic landscape will require changes in education priorities and asked member economies to share observations on the presentations, noting that the Session's outputs could be compiled into a compendium of best practices and innovative educational initiatives across the Asia-Pacific region.
- 12.4 The delegates were requested to rethink key priority areas of EDNET in changed context of the Asia Pacific Region and 14 economies submitted their proposed key priority areas, as a result, cross-border education cooperation, student, researcher and provider mobility, quality of teachers, 21st century competencies, education innovation, technology education (including ICT) recommended as top priority areas.

### **16 May, 8:00-16:30**

13. The 31st EDNET Meeting Drafting Committee convened to review the draft Summary Report for the proceedings of 15 May.
14. The Co-Chair welcomed Director Napoleon Juanillo, Jr. of the Philippines Commission on Higher Education, who presented on the themes and agenda for the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science and Technology in Higher Education to be held in July with the aim of establishing a platform for experts to share ideas and adopt a joint statement of multi-lateral cooperation. The Director invited economies to nominate representatives to participate in the dialogue and the preceding preparatory meeting, and the EDNET Coordinator encouraged delegates to submit comments on the draft Joint Statement circulated to the HRDWG.
15. Session 4: Preparation for the 6th AEMM in 2016 and APEC Education Strategy

- 15.1 Former EDNET Coordinator Ms. Adriana de Kanter provided an overview of past APEC Education Ministerial Meetings, including themes and logic models developed for the 2008 and 2012 AEMMs, and discussed the 2012 education themes of globalization, innovation, and cooperation along with challenges and responses for each theme. She also noted the recent trend of fewer EDNET projects being funded due to HRDWG's ineligibility for tier 1 funding and encouraged projects to tie into broader APEC goals.
- 15.2 The Republic of Korea described the vision and objectives of the *Education Cooperation Project (ECP)*, proposed as the Gyeongju Initiative at the 5<sup>th</sup> AEMM and displayed the latest output of the ECP-Phase II, a triangular model for regional cooperation that incorporates voluntary partnership, information sharing on the needs for partnership, and support for the promotion of cooperation. The Republic of Korea noted the need for a draft review committee to complete the final report prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> AEMM and invited member economies to nominate representatives to join.
- 15.3 Delegates broke into groups to discuss priorities, deliverables, and methods for success in preparation for the 6th AEMM and agreed to adopt the following statement.

We recognize the importance of the AEMM as the milestone event of the EDNET and the HRDWG and for its potential to advance education reform and development in APEC economies.

Priorities proposed for the 6th AEMM include cross-border education, STEM, happy education, global connectivity, TVET, capacity building, higher education, 21st century competencies, educational innovation (including ICT), early childhood education, work-integrated learning, curriculum development, PPP, teacher quality, student, researcher, and provider mobility, qualifications framework, skills mastery, international cooperation, and assessment and evaluation of learning.

Deliverables proposed for the 6th AEMM include a joint statement, action plan, strategic plan for 2016-2020, linking to trade and services, business and industry, and creating synergy with other APEC fora and multilateral organizations.

Given the changed context since the 5th AEMM, the development of such deliverables warrants foundational research documents including an umbrella model of education cooperation (ECP), a report on actions and projects undertaken since the 5th AEMM, and a baseline report on current education status in the region.

We recommend methods to produce deliverables including meetings, conferences, a research symposium, preparatory committees, and inter-sessional online discussion.

We recognize the need to develop an APEC Education Strategy that includes facilitating APEC economies' internal education reforms, using ICT to learn from each other, adopting priorities in line with APEC economic and social development, and aligning education strategies with the Leaders' Statements.

Both Russia and Peru expressed their interest in hosting the 6th AEMM. APEC Senior Official for Peru submitted a letter to Lead Shepherd Dr. Sergey Ivanets as their formal request.

## 16. Session 5: Proposed New Projects and the Way Forward

- 16.1 Australia presented on the APEC Researcher Mobility Workshop that is to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia in October 2015. Australia indicated that it would shortly circulate invitations and would welcome participation. Currently, Chile, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand, and the United States co-sponsored the project.
- 16.2 Australia presented on Enhancing Cross-Border Higher Education Institution Mobility in the APEC Region research study and workshop, and on future work on data collection provider mobility. A concept note is forthcoming and Australia would welcome economies' sponsorship and participation.
- 16.3 China presented a concept note for the APEC Education Research Network that was supported by Brunei Darussalam, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Thailand.
- 16.4 The Philippines presented a concept note for the Science and Technology Expert Mobility Card (STEM CARD) that was supported by: Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- 16.5 The Philippines presented a concept note on the APEC Academic Mobility Framework in Higher Education that was supported by China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- 16.6 The Philippines presented a concept note on the APEC Student Handbook and APEC Student Identification Card that was supported by Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Russia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- 16.7 Chinese Taipei presented a concept note for Youth Sustainable Water Resources Education and Hub Development in the APEC Region that was supported by China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, People's Republic of Korea, Peru, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- 16.8 Chinese Taipei presented a concept note for Industry-Academia Collaboration Models in Technological and Vocational Education and Training that was supported by Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- 16.9 The United States presented a concept note for Global Competencies and Economic Integration that was supported by Australia, Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Japan, Peru, the Philippines, and Thailand. The APEC Secretariat noted that this concept note has been accepted for funding.
- 16.10 The United States presented on Enabling Inclusive Growth through the Digital Economy: Open Policy and Open Licensing that was supported by Australia, Chile, Japan, Peru, Russia, and Thailand.

16.11 Thailand and Japan presented a concept note on Textbook Development for *Energy Efficiency, Energy Security and Energy Resiliency: A Cross-Border Education Cooperation Through Lesson Study* that was supported by Brunei, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Chinese Taipei and Viet Nam.

17. Closing Session

17.1 The delegates reviewed the draft summary report and the part concerning projects and concepts notes will be circulated by email for review by related member economies.

17.2 The Chair Dr. Wang Yan and Co-chair Undersecretary Mario Deriquito thanked the host economy for their hospitality, the delegates' for their contribution, and the note-takers Mr. Aaron Neumann and Ms. Karen Pahayahay for their work on the summary report.

[Annex 3]

**APEC Labour and Social Protection Network Meeting**  
**Summary Report**  
**15-16 May 2015**  
Boracay, Philippines

The APEC Labour and Social Protection Network (LSPN) Meeting was held on 15-16 May 2015 during the 37th APEC Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) Meeting in Boracay, the Philippines.

The LSPN Coordinator, Mr Malcolm Greening (Australia) and host economy co-chair, Ms Katherine Brimon (the Philippines) welcomed delegates. Delegates from 17 member economies participated: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Viet Nam.

Representatives from the APEC Business Advisory Council, International Labour Office (Country Office for the Philippines), Servicio Filipino Inc. and the World Vision Development Foundation were welcomed as well. The Lead Shepherd also spoke with the group.

LSPN members were joined by their Capacity Building Network (CBN) colleagues for the second day of the meeting in a workshop on enhancing labour mobility in the APEC region.

The draft agenda was reviewed and accepted.

**Welcoming remarks**

Ms Brimon welcomed participants to the Philippines and to Boracay in particular. She discussed the focus that APEC Philippines 2015 has placed on inclusive growth and invited LSPN to make an important, tangible contribution to the outcomes of the year and the Leaders' Meeting.

**Discussion of priorities and work plan**

Network members discussed the 2015 work plan, with a particular emphasis on:

- the focus of APEC Philippines 2015 on inclusive growth, including the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building which was held successfully in early May in Papua New Guinea
- making a good start on addressing the priority areas of the 2014 APEC HRD Ministerial Statement and Action Plan (2015-2018): supporting inclusive and sustainable growth to address the social dimensions of globalization, including equality and needs of vulnerable groups; enhancing human resource quality to meet supply chain demands; facilitating mobility of labour and skills development; and enhancing the participation of women in the economy
- the APEC Connectivity Blueprint (2015-2025), the people-to-people component and statement on professional and skilled labour mobility
- the 2015 Tasking Statement, especially the tasks concerning women, youth, people with disability and labour mobility

Papua New Guinea and the Philippines led a discussion on the outcomes of the recent High-Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building, highlighting the need to discuss how to best develop soft skills, address the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises, labour market information, skills mapping, lifelong training, school-to-work



transitions, entrepreneurship and getting programs off the ground. Consideration should be given to holding more policy dialogues in the medium term.

The LSPN Coordinator encouraged delegations to contribute to the Leader processes through their senior officials.

### **Discussion of projects and key themes**

A number of member economies led discussion on current or new activities:

- enhancing the participation of women, including the ‘Healthy women, healthy economies’ project (US) and the Healthy and productive women workers movement (Indonesia). Delegates were invited to provide feedback on the US project proposal and participate over 2015, with some raising interest in occupational health and safety, informality and the availability of data. A number of delegates shared their new approaches to boosting female employment.
- supporting people with disability, including through a new Group of Friends on Disability Issues (China). All delegations were invited to participate in the informal meeting on 18 May and on an ongoing basis. A range of delegations shared their approaches to improving the employment of people with disability and supported the proposed Group.
- encouraging further contributions to the APEC Labour Market Portal and building inclusive growth, including through employment and skills development plans (Australia)
- labour market information and mapping, including progress made in developing labour market information systems and data sharing (Malaysia) and the Philippine Talent Map Initiative (the Philippines), with significant potential to adapt these activities to other APEC economies
- social protection and social security, including an upcoming seminar on facilitating human resource mobility by enhancing social protection (the Philippines and Chinese Taipei). There was a general discussion of the need for APEC economies to jointly address regional skill shortages and adjust policies to appreciate the significant number of international workers in the region.
- further development of the APEC vocational training project in cooperation with enterprises (Japan)
- the ABK3 project on livelihoods, education, advocacy and protection to reduce child labour in sugarcane areas (the World Vision Development Foundation), a wide-ranging public-private partnership
- a new project concept under development in the area of occupational health and safety strategies, focussed on mining, with ideas sought from member economies for developing the concept (US)

### **Updates by APEC member economies on key labour and social protection issues and developments**

Network members presented short updates on labour and social protection developments in their economies, namely: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Viet Nam.

Some of the key themes which emerged from the discussions during this session included: new program initiatives in relation to the employment of youth, women, people with disability and other vulnerable groups; generating self-employment and entrepreneurs; improving occupational health and safety; developments in labour regulations and social

protection arrangements; and supporting mobile workers within and between APEC economies.

**LSPN work plan for 2015**

The LSPN Coordinator noted that there were many ideas shared which could lead to strong, new project concepts and activity. Economies were also invited to follow-up on projects and participate in upcoming events.

The LSPN work plan for 2015 was generally agreed.

**Other business**

Mr Greening encouraged member economies to nominate for the role of LSPN Coordinator, which has become vacant, and noted Australia's offer to provide support in the transition.

[Annex 4]

**APEC HRD Capacity Building Network (CBN) Meeting  
Summary Report  
15-16 May 2015  
Boracay, Philippines**

1. The meeting was convened on May 15, 2015, 9:05 AM at the Banahaw Room, Crowne Regency Resort and Convention Center in Boracay, Aklan. The CBN Coordinator, Mr. Meng-Liang Tsai gave his introductory remarks mentioning about the action plan which will guide the work of the network especially the promotion of skills for quality employment in the region.
2. The co-chair, Maria Susan dela Rama from the Philippines also made introductory remarks and mentioned about the need to discuss the follow-through actions of the HLDP on HCB recently held last May 6 and 7, 2015 in Papua New Guinea.
3. The CBN Deputy Coordinator, Dr. Kuei-Yen Liao also made a remark and asked the round of introductions from the participants.
4. Delegates from 13 economies made an introduction: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Vietnam. The List of CBN members at the HRDWG CBN meeting is attached as Annex A.
5. The CBN considered and adopted the Agenda as amended, with the inclusion of presentation by Korea and Peru, and the revision of the title of presentation by China.
6. The CBN Deputy Coordinator presented Reflections on 2014, which provided an overview of the CBN priority areas aligned with the objectives of the HRDWG which includes: 1) Developing 21<sup>st</sup> century knowledge and skills, 2) Integrate HRD into the global economy; and 3) Address the social dimensions of globalization. She reported that the CBN has initiated activities and attended a series of HRDWG meetings held in Ningbo, China, Hanoi, Vietnam in which the HRD Action Plan was adopted, PHL (Prep Meeting HLPD on HCB) and PNG (HLPD on HCB). It was also reported that 50% of HRDWG approved projects are proposals from the CBN. She expressed appreciation to PHL and PNG for hosting the HLPD on HCB.
7. The draft Strategic Plan 2015-2016 which focuses on mobility of labor and skills development, human resource quality and inclusive and sustainable growth will be circulated to the economies, for comments.
8. Dr. Liao briefly discussed the High Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building hosted by PNG and PHL focusing on the three sub-themes. She also proposed that HLPD on HCB should be conducted regularly and has asked economies that would be interested to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLPD on HCB.
9. On the Terms of Reference (TOR), the following economies have indicated support on the proposal to lift the term limit of the Network Coordinators provided there is support from their respective government and the members of the HRDWG: Vietnam, Malaysia, Australia, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia. This is to ensure continuity and especially if the Coordinator is performing well. The TOR will be circulated to the economies for further comments and the updated TOR will be issued by June.
10. The CBN discussed the following project concept notes and gave project reports and information under the following priority areas:
  - Priority Area A: *Promoting Skill Development and Network Training Provider in APEC to Bridge School to Work and Enhance Labor Productivity*

- a. Project Concept Note: Developing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills thru Skills Camp (Philippines). The following interventions and comments were noted:
- Australia – to have a specific camp for a specific sector. It was also suggested to benchmark competencies in the existing project of Australia for transport and logistics.
  - Thailand – suggested to have a skills competency directory to know which position will be more appropriate
  - Malaysia – look at organizing according to industry clusters and may consider areas for tourism and hospitality
  - Indonesia – interested to know the venue and how will cross cultural dynamics be included in the camp.
- b. Project Concept Note: The APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Alliance (Chinese Taipei). During the general discussion, Australia commented that it would be more appropriate to use the term models or principles instead of guidelines, as some economies operate on different systems. The sustainability of the project was also clarified. Malaysia has clarified as to the invitation for participation of economies, as well as the level of skills that will be developed because if it is lower level there will be problems if the instruction is in English. Thailand has also clarified if the e-materials will be on open source. To all these, Chinese Taipei responded that they could adjust the terms and it will be open to other economies. As to sustainability, it has initial funding as the Chinese Taipei government supports the project. They are also seeking co-sponsorship from other economies and other centers could also be opened if the project is successful.
- Priority Area B: *Strengthening HRM and HRD Capacity building for SMEs and entrepreneurs to create job opportunity and facilitate successful trade and investment in APEC*
- c. Project Report: The Strategic Human Resource Management for Successful FDI in APEC (Japan). The project outputs are highlighted by identifying Key Success Factors (KSF) for effective HRM for FDI. Australia suggests future projects could potentially examine the key areas of convergence and divergence in workplace management issues between cultures.
- d. Project Report: Establishing best practices on human capital development to enhance productivity, quality and competitiveness and innovation among SMEs (Malaysia). The Project was undertaken by Malaysia Productivity Corporation. The research outcomes can be used as benchmarks for economies to adopt and adapt. Moreover, the frameworks discussed during the workshop such as High Performance Work System (HPWS), Talent Management Framework, talent acquisition and retention strategies, the HR Index and Work-Life Balance Framework will serve as tools for individual action plans. Capacity Building Network Report Version 3.3.doc
- e. Project Information: Technical consultation on capacity building in TVET: Next Year's Plan (Republic of Korea). The Experts Dispatch project is being proposed and will be implemented in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. With this, Malaysia has signified intent in being included in the project while Brunei

Darussalam requested for more details about the project. Once the document is completed, Indonesia would like to know clear information.

- Priority Area C: *Developing competency standardization and training quality to promote skills mobility in APEC*
  - f. Project Update: Strengthening Mobility and Promoting Regional Integration of Professional Engineers in APEC economies (Chinese Taipei). There will be a scheduled workshop in September in Chinese Taipei to be attended by two participants from the 14 economies that have joined the APEC Engineer Register and one delegate each from seven economies who are not yet members of the APEC Engineer Register. The directory of APEC Engineer Monitoring Committees will be provided to the delegates.
  - g. Project Report: Outcome Report of the 2015 High Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building (Philippines). The HLPD on HCB was hosted by the Philippines and Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby, PNG on May 6 and 7, 2015 and attended by 13 economies. The Port Moresby Joint Statement was adopted. On the issue on funding, it was proposed that a concept note should be developed to secure funding in the regular conduct of the HLPD on HCB. It was also agreed by the CBN to consider the possibility of the HLPD on HCB to be conducted two years after the HRD Ministerial Meeting and it will be based on key agenda issues raised by Ministers that needs to be addressed.
- Priority Area D: *Narrowing Talent Gap by Industry-VET-Academia Cooperation*
  - h. Project Report: APEC Skills Development Promotion Project (China). This is a Multi-year program self-funded project by China. One of the projects is the establishment of the Skills Development Promotion Center where various trainings and workshops were conducted. The other project component is the APEC Youth Skills Camp.
  - i. Project Report: 2014 APEC HRDWG Study Affairs Workshop: Future Priorities and New Directions (Chinese Taipei). The relevant project focused on regional integration issue on connectivity where all these included in the action plan and for future workshop.
- Session 4 is on the Thematic Forum focusing on new and needed skill sets for workplace:
  - j. Project Concept Note: Integrated Referencing Framework for Skills Recognition and Mobility (Australia). This is a self-funded project for skills recognition mobility and the themes are focused on development and people to people connectivity. The integrated model for skills recognition takes into consideration, relevance, level and quality of skills training. This model covers occupational standards referencing framework, qualifications referencing framework and quality assurance referencing frameworks. As a referencing framework, it would be voluntary and serves only as a translation device for comparability and benchmarking and recognizes the differences in qualification systems among the economies. Interventions and comments were noted as follows:

- Malaysia supports the proposal and recognizes the huge contribution of Australia to skill and labor mobility activities in the region. It believes that the referencing framework could be a platform for employment.
- Chinese Taipei signified its interest to join the workshop scheduled in Manila in September.
- Philippines also strongly supported and endorsed the project as it is also in line with the recommendations of the Port Moresby Joint Statement. It has signified its intent to collaborate with Australia on the project.

k. Project Information: Enhancement for Youth Employability (Chinese Taipei). This is study on youth unemployment with the objective of enhancing the employability of the youth through different strategies such as support for entrepreneurship, support for the unemployed and bridging the gap between education and training. Indonesia would like to work further with Chinese Taipei regarding this issue.

l. Informative Report: New and Needed Skills Sets for workplace (Peru). Economic dynamism has generated an increase in employment levels and decreased levels of poverty. However, Peru experienced a restriction to sustainable growth because of low productivity at work, resulting in a low insertion of the population in formal employment, limitation of productive growth, income and economic development. This creates the need to increase human resource competency in the productive sectors. Peru is currently addressing this scenario through the Reform of Higher Education, which entails 5 pillars: i) improvement of the input quality and results, ii) increasing citizen access to education, iii) strengthening sectorial, regional and local education managerial abilities, iv) increasing private sector participation and v) improvement of information systems.

m. Project Concept Note: Green Skills Initiatives (Philippines). There are key initiatives that have been conducted by the Philippines. The concept note will be on a seminar-workshop that will discuss good practices and recommend strategies to promote skills necessary to implement the transition to low carbon economy. This was strongly supported by Australia and Malaysia who have expressed willingness to share the work that they have done.

11. The HRDWG Lead Shepherd, Dr. Sergey Ivanets (Russia) delivered a message for the CBN meeting participants and expressed appreciation on the contribution of the network to the work of the HRDWG, particularly the conduct of the High Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building.

12. The CBN Coordinator and the Philippine Co-Chair made their closing remarks and also expressed gratitude for a productive and fruitful discussion and active participation of all economies.

[Annex 5]

**CAPACITY BUILDING NETWORK AND LABOR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION  
NETWORK JOINT WORKSHOP ON LABOR MOBILITY**

**16 May 2015**

Boracay, Philippines

1. Delegates from 17 member economies participated: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Viet Nam.
2. CBN and LSPN delegates met on 16 May to hold a joint workshop on enhancing labour mobility in the APEC region. The LSPN Coordinator outlined the origins of the workshop in the 2014 APEC HRD Ministerial Statement, emphasizing the complement that labour mobility provides to domestic strategies; while the CBN Coordinator, Mr Meng-Liang Tsai, noted the rich opportunities for new project activity in this space. Ms Brimon outlined that there are many angles to the topic of labour mobility where advances can be made at a regional level.
3. The workshop was an opportunity to focus on a major task identified by APEC Leaders and Ministers: enhancing labour mobility. Viet Nam, as host of the 2014 APEC HRD Ministerial Meeting, recapped on the outcomes of the meeting and the steps they are taking to reform their economy.
4. Australia outlined a project that it is leading in 2015 on enhancing labour mobility in the APEC region, with the workshop to inform the project. Concerns were raised around the availability of data for providing a baseline on mobility; but with many economies offering to share their data on internal and external mobility.
5. Ms. Laura Brewer (ILO Country Office for the Philippines) focused on better connecting labour demand and supply through employment services and labour market information systems, as well as sharing recent ILO publications on relevant issues. Mr. David Dodwell (APEC Business Advisory Council representative) outlined the ABAC Earn, Learn, Return model and more recent activities by the business community, focusing on achieving practical progress at a sectoral level.

**6. Discussion of projects**

A number of member economies led discussion on current or new activities:

- tourism workforce mobility (new project concept by Australia under the Tourism Working Group, with endorsement given by the networks to the project)
  - an HR mobility and social protection seminar later in 2015 (the Philippines and Chinese Taipei)
  - a new project concept on enhancing seasonal labour mobility, welcomed by the networks (New Zealand)
  - establishing an APEC occupational referencing framework, with a workshop in September (Australia)
  - strengthening mobility and promoting regional integrity of professional engineers in APEC economies (ongoing project led by Chinese Taipei)
  - an APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Alliance (new project concept by Chinese Taipei)
7. Small group discussions were held on the key drivers, impediments and priorities for enhancing labour mobility in the APEC region. These thoughts will be consolidated and provided as a source of advice for a consultancy report being supervised by Australia.

8. Some of the key themes which emerged from the discussions included the effectiveness of regulations, skills recognition, fair recruitment practices, social security and protections for mobile workers and the risks they face, access to information across a broad range of bases (especially about labour rights and accessible services), skill shortages and awareness of employment opportunities.

**9. Meeting Conclusion**

The Coordinators and host-economy co-chair thanked representatives of ABAC, the ILO, Servicio Filipino Inc. and the World Vision Development Foundation for their participation in the meeting, valuable advice and activities, and welcomed further collaboration. The Philippines were thanked with applause for hosting the event, their hospitality and leadership. The significance of the discussions was acknowledged, with continued collaboration between LSPN and CBN welcomed.