



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2015/SOM2/PPSTI/061

Agenda Item: 17

5th Policy Partnership on Science, Technology, and Innovation Meeting – Executive Summary

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: Chair



APEC
PHILIPPINES
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**5th Policy Partnership on Science, Technology
and Innovation Meeting
Boracay, Philippines
16-18 May 2015**

**ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION
5TH POLICY PARTNERSHIP ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION (PPSTI)
MEETING
BORACAY, PHILIPPINES, 16-18 MAY 2015**

Executive Summary

Highlights

The 5th APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) met in Boracay, Philippines on 16-18 May 2015. Seventeen member economies (Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Viet Nam) and eight guests (Macau, China; APRU; WIPO; ASCC; HRDWG; Mr Sherwin Nones; Mr Yang Tianchu; and Mr Michael Mudd) attended the meeting. The PPSTI-5 Meeting revolved around the theme "Science, Technology and Innovation for Inclusive Growth."

The PPSTI-5 was chaired by Mr. Chen Linhao (China) with Dr. Amelia P. Guevara (Philippines) and Ms. Christin Kjelland (USA) as vice-chairs. PPSTI's Principal Advisor Mr. Nicholas Brooke attended.

In his opening remarks, the Chair noted the PPSTI's mandate to enhance members' innovative capacity and to help strengthen collaboration, which should strengthen institution building, dialogue on STI policies, facilitate project cooperation and interaction with other APEC mechanisms. PPSTI should contribute to the overall mission of APEC: support sustainable economic growth and prosperity.

The PPSTI-5 was welcomed by Science Secretary Mario G. Montejo of the Philippines who emphasized the important role of science, technology and innovation (STI) as key drivers for sustainable and inclusive growth. He conveyed his support to the PPSTI as a platform for collaboration and looked forward to receiving the meeting's recommendations.

Day 1 commenced with a discussion in plenary of general issues. This was followed by three parallel sessions on the following sub-themes: 1) Building Science Capacity (Chair: China, Vice-Chair: USA), 2) Promoting Enabling Environment for Innovation (Chair: the Philippines, Vice-Chair: Indonesia), and 3) Enhancing Regional Science and Technology Connectivity (Chair: Chinese Taipei, Vice-Chair: United States). PPSTI projects were presented.

Socio-economic and Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan (the Philippines) illustrated how research outputs are translated into policies and actions and urged member economies to support evidence-based policy making within APEC. He encouraged PPSTI to elevate policy outcomes of PPSTI to the level of the APEC Leaders as this would be a golden opportunity to popularize scientific research throughout the region, and widen possible avenues for scientific collaboration.

The PPSTI-5 Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar was held on Day 2. It was organized around the theme "Small and Medium S&T Enterprises for Inclusive Growth." Initiatives spearheaded by government, academia, private sector and international organizations were presented.

The delegates also participated in an eco-tour to mangrove and coral reef restoration project sites on Day 3 of the meeting.

PPSTI-5 Endorsements and Agreements:

1. The PPSTI endorsed the Annual Work Plan 2015.
2. The PPSTI supported the Philippines holding a High Level Policy Dialogue on Science and Technology in Higher Education (HLPD-STHE).
3. Given the importance of engaging with the private sector, the PPSTI requested Mr. Brooke, APEC Principal Advisor, to develop a strategy paper to engage private sector in PPSTI initiatives for discussion in future PPSTI meetings.
4. The PPSTI endorsed the minutes from PPSTI 4.

PPSTI-5 Intersessional Actions:

1. Members will finalise and endorse the PPSTI 5 Meeting Minutes and the Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar record.
2. Members will submit to the APEC Secretariat indications of their interest to serve as PPSTI Sub-group Chairs and Vice-Chairs (for a period of two years from PPSTI 6).
3. PPSTI will work on the revision of the Strategic Plan to be endorsed at PPSTI 6, including enhancement of identified key performance indicators to make them more specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-bound.
4. Members will explore funding options to augment the APEC Science and Technology Sub-Fund such as contributions from member economies and engagement of the private sector, among others.
5. PPSTI will work on elevating PPSTI policy recommendations to the level of APEC Leaders.
6. PPSTI will work with the Philippines intersessionally on the proposed 'PPSTI's Policy Statement' with a view to discussing and potentially endorsing a revised version at PPSTI 6.

PPSTI-5 Notation

1. The PPSTI noted that it endorsed 16 concept notes for Session 1, 2015. However, despite majority of the proposals receiving rank 1 status, only 1 was funded. Self-funding by member-economies remains an option for them to be implemented.
2. Concern was raised on the competitive funding environment for PPSTI projects. PPSTI considers that there is a need to undertake structural reforms in managing and funding PPSTI projects.
3. The PPSTI expressed its gratitude for the work done by the United States and Korea to implement the PPSTI programs the APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research and Education (ASPIRE) 2015 and APEC Research and Technology (ART) Program 2015, respectively.
4. The PPSTI noted Peru's intention to self-fund some PPSTI projects during its host year 2016.
5. The PPSTI noted the participation of the World Intellectual Property Organization.