
Purpose: Information
Submitted by: China

Third Committee on Trade and Investment Meeting
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Summary Report to CTI Regarding to the Annual Conference and Capacity Building Workshop of APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain 2016

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Prior to the Annual Conference and Capacity Building Workshop of APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain 2016, China submitted the Work Plan for APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain (GSCNET), which was later endorsed by the Third Senior Official Meeting (SOM3) in August, 2015. According to the work plan, China will hold the annual conference on the APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain, enhancing the awareness and understanding for green supply chain cooperation among APEC economies, and facilitate the dialogue channels between governments and enterprises of APEC economies.

In Tianjin, China on July 29, 2016, the Annual Conference and Capacity Building Workshop of APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain 2016 (the Annual Meeting) was hosted by China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center (CAEC) and APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain Tianjin Pilot Center, organized by Tianjin Green Supply Chain Service Center(TGCC). Besides, Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) and Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) performed as co-hosts of the annual conference. The Annual Conference also supported by APEC Study Center of Nankai University, China Environmental United Certification Center Co.,Ltd, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), The Sustainability Consortium (TSC), Local Governments for Sustainability EAS(LCLEI), and Cadenas de Valor mas Sustentables (CAV+S). Representatives from 9 APEC economies such as Australia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, Singapore and Viet Nam, including government officials from trade, industry and environment sectors, experts from international institute, and private sectors, attended the Annual Conference. Mr. Cui Jindu, Deputy Director of Tianjin Municipal People's Congress, Deputy Chief of the Work Promotion Leading Group of Tianjin FTZ, made a welcome speech and briefly introduced the progress of developing Tianjin Pilot Center.

1. DISCUSSION THE WAYS ON FACILITATING ESTABLISHING APEC COOPERATION NETWORK ON GREEN SUPPLY CHAIN (GSCNET)

- The Annual Meeting commended the progress on APEC cooperation network on green supply chain including the launch of the GSCNET website. The Annual Meeting welcomed Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA), Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) as new members of GSCNET, which means GSCNET begin to take shape.

- The Annual Meeting suggested GSCNET as an important platform for APEC green development involving multiple stakeholders, should be strengthen the information sharing, and promoted to facilitate the connectivity as well as green development of Asia-Pacific region among APEC member economies within the framework of CTI.

- Peru ambassador to China deemed that GSCNET is critical to the green growth in the Asia-Pacific region. Peru suggested APEC member economies should fully utilize the GSCNET in terms of capacity building, as well as the promotion of environmentally friendly sectors and products,
and proposed that this should be in combination with the APEC theme this year, which includes promotion of green organic products in the agriculture area and SMEs development. It is in great expectation that this conference could promote green supply chain development in Tianjin Free Trade Zone.

• APEC CTI Chair expressed her appreciation for the great efforts that China and Tianjin pilot center made for the Annual Meeting and GSCNET development. CTI Chair agreed that CTI would endeavor to promote cooperation on green supply chain so that enterprises could improve environmental benefits while developing invest opportunities and business achievements. CTI Chair also mentioned that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) should be given full attention in green supply chain cooperation.

2. REPORT THE PROGRESS ON GSCNET

• China reported the progress on GSCNET, the Chinese practices on green supply chain management, and introduced future work plan, which includes facilitation of international cooperation and demonstration projects in key sectors. As the first APEC GSCNET pilot center, Tianjin pilot center in China will explore a set of experience on green supply chain pilot and demonstration center development on the city level through research led, government guidance, enterprises practices and international cooperation. GSCNET website established in accordance with requirements in related APEC meeting documents is in operation and the APEC secretariat has agreed to link it to the APEC official website in principle. The research project of Green Procurement Tool (GPT) which was APEC endorsed has been preliminary completed and the first pilot procurement project has been launched in June and various Green Supply Chain Management Tools and Green Supply Chain Service Platform are currently under development. The construction of the APEC Green Supply Chain excellent case center (Green Expo) is in active development, with a series of supports offered by the Tianjin government including floor space and funds.

• Australia briefed the progress on facilitation of green supply chain and sustainable procurement as well as their future goals, and mentioned that GECA was going to establish an ancillary standard system for the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

• Korea shared Korea’s policies and experience in green procurement and green finance, and noted KEITI and the Ministry of Environment of Korea had built a database for environmental information and provided multiple green financial services for SMEs.

• US Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), being a longtime advocate and practitioner of GSC work and responding to the GSCNET initiative, outlined its plan to establish a GSC center in the US to facilitate future knowledge sharing and best practice exchange.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE WORK OF GSCNET

• Indonesia appealed for international cooperation to promote green development.

• Japan briefed its green supply chain projects such as green labels and agreed to join the GSCNET in the near future.
• Malaysia introduced its green supply chain programme that supports the development of green technologies by facilitating green procurement and cooperating with retailing sector.

• Singapore briefed its experience and progress on sustainable procurement and green labels.

• Viet Nam welcomed more international cooperation in terms of green supply chain.

4. INAUGURALING THE EXPERT GROUP FOR GSCNET

• CTI Chair proposed Ms. Zhou Guomei, as the initial Convener, launching the expert group.

• China briefed the nomination information of the Expert Group for GSCNET and introduced the work mechanism of the expert group for GSCNET.

• Indonesia asked for the further introduction of the work plan of the expert group for GSCNET.

• China responded the work plan of the expert group for GSCNET would be open for discussion and continue to welcome the nomination of the expert group from the APEC member economies.

5. BEST PRACTICE AND INFORMATION SHARING ON GREEN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

• Representatives from industries and academies shared China’s experience and best practices of green supply chain in automobile, retailing, electronics, Eco-origin products in agriculture and sustainable agriculture industries, and evaluation methodology and instrument on green supply chain management. Participants positively commented on green credit evaluation related works carried out by Tianjin pilot center and intended to collaboratively promote green finance development accordingly. Eco-origin products gained attention from the participants and was expected to be in combination with the agricultural theme of this year. The green procurement tools (GPT), developed by GSCNET Tianjin Pilot Center and the Sustainability Consortium (TSC) also attracted much attention and gained appraisal.

6. CONSENSUS OF CONFERENCE

• GSCNTE should promote green supply chain as another important institutional arrangement after the issuing of APEC List of Environmental Goods and their tariffs reduction. Under the principles of APEC and the spirit of APEC cooperation partnership, APEC economies, APEC GSCNET pilot centers, related institutions and enterprises concerned will give full play of their own strengths and conduct pragmatic cooperation to reach common development. The Annual Meeting suggest APEC secretariat give full support to link the GSCNET website (www.apecgsc.org) to the APEC official website in order to enhance information sharing of knowledge and best practices on green supply chain among APEC economies. We suggest to convening the Annual Meeting of APEC Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain and Workshop on Capacity-Building in Tianjin, China again next year in late June in order to discuss GSC-related issues of common interest.

7. BEST PRACTICE SITE VISIT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE APEC GREEN SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENT CASE CENTER

• On July 30, 2016, CTI Chair and delegate of the Annual Meeting took a visit to Yujiapu Financial District Low-carbon town and the progress of green supply chain pilot program, and witnessed the
Signing Ceremony for Establishing the APEC Green Supply Chain Excellent Case Center (Green Expo). GSCNET Tianjin Pilot Center will jointly establish the Green Expo in Tianjin FTZ, with 17 institutions such as Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA), the Sustainability Consortium, etc. The delegates positively value the Green Expo facilitating the information sharing of green supply chain best practice among economies and promotion of green trade.