Annex A - 2018 High-Level Structural Reform Officials’ Meeting: 10 Structural Reform Priorities and Gaps to Fill

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: EC Chair
Annex A

2018 High-Level Structural Reform Officials’ Meeting

10 Structural Reform Priorities and Gaps to Fill

Suggestions for EC work to 2020

Background

The High-Level Structural Reform Officials Meeting (HLSROM) held in Port Moresby from 16 to 17 August 2018 had four break-out dialogue sessions on the following topics: Digital Economy, Connectivity, RAASR Mid-Term Review and Inclusion. The discussions generated numerous ideas for future EC work and gaps to fill. The ideas were presented to a panel which consisted of EC Chair Robert Logie, former EC Char Robert McLeod and PSU Director Dr Denis Hew. After analyzing all the ideas presented by the dialogue tables the panelists identified 10 ideas that align with EC’s structural reform mandate. This list of 10 EC work ideas and gaps to fill is considered to be an informal outcome of the HLSROM.

1. Consider additional quantitative indicators, including indicators that are relevant to the digital economy, to the existing agreed list of 10 external quantitative baseline indicators for the monitoring of the RAASR.

2. Quantitative indicators for the digital economy, to be developed by the EC Informal Roadmap Group (IRG).

3. A workshop in 2019 on best practices for performance measurement with regard to the RAASR, and informal ad hoc consultations between individual economies and PSU on measurements and indicators with respect to the RAASR.

4. A policy dialogue in 2019 based on case studies of successes and failures in implementing structural reform under Pillars 2 and 3 of the RAASR.

5. A paper on regulation for the digital economy, to be co-produced by CPLG and RR FOTCs, to feed into 2019 AEPR on Structural Reform and the Digital Economy.

6. For EC to continue the implementation of the SELI Online Dispute Resolution Workplan.

7. Joint implementation with SFOM on recommendations of 2018 AEPR on Structural Reform and Infrastructure, using remote participation as appropriate.

8. Policy dialogue on structural reform and inclusive growth in 2019 with the view of contributing to post-2020 agenda and supporting the implementation of the Action Agenda on Advancing Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion in the APEC Region.

9. Workshop on structural barriers inhibiting women from participating in the work force.

10. Workshop on structural barriers to MSMEs’ full participation in the digital economy, including those in remote areas and women-led and indigenous-run MSMEs.