



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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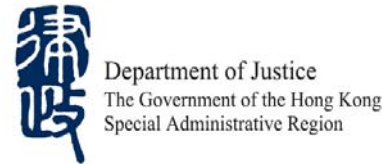
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**Stocktake Workshop on the Strengthening  
Economic Legal Infrastructure Online Dispute  
Resolution Work Plan – Conclusions and  
Recommendations**

Submitted by: Hong Kong, China



**Stocktake Workshop on the Strengthening  
Economic Legal Infrastructure Online Dispute  
Resolution Work Plan  
Santiago, Chile  
2-3 March 2019**



## **Stocktake Workshop on the SELI ODR Work Plan**

Intercontinental Hotel Santiago, Chile

2-3 March 2019

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Department of Justice of Hong Kong, China, organized a two-day workshop (“Workshop”) on 2-3 March 2019 under the auspices of the APEC Economic Committee and its Friends of the Chair on Strengthening Economic and Legal Infrastructure (“SELI”).

The Workshop gathered over 40 delegates and participants from APEC member economies and international organisations. It aimed to: (1) take stock of the progress made so far in relation to various pathways under the SELI ODR Work Plan (see Annex 1); (2) identify the challenges in relation to various pathways under the SELI ODR Work Plan; and (3) the way forward in taking forward or further developing the SELI ODR Work Plan.

#### **The Workshop:**

Having regard to the Boracay Action Agenda on MSMEs and the Finance Ministers Process (FMP) which seeks to address the financing difficulties faced by MSMEs by improving their legal and regulatory environments;

Reiterating the work plan for developing a cooperative online dispute resolution framework for MSMEs noted in the 24th Meeting of APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Statement 2018;

Implementing one of the ten priorities identified at the High-Level Structural Reform Officials’ Meeting in August 2018 for the “EC to continue the implementation of the SELI Online Dispute Resolution Workplan”;

Responding to the 2018 APEC Ministerial Chair’s Statement which “welcome efforts on online dispute resolution”;

Building upon the achievements and further efforts from the previous work relevant to the SELI ODR Work Plan through the relevant policy dialogues and workshops between 2017-2018, including the EC policy discussion on ODR at EC2 in 2017 and 2018 as well as the Workshop for Developing a Collaborative Framework for Online Dispute Resolution in November 2018 in Osaka, Japan; and

Taking forward the SELI Work Plan for developing an APEC-wide cooperative ODR framework for MSMES in B2B transactions and using modern technology for dispute resolution and electronic agreement management as endorsed by the EC;

## **CONCLUDED AND RECOMMENDED**

1. The delegates and participants acknowledged the achievements and collective efforts made and noted continuous support and enthusiasm of member economies and other international fora in taking forward the SELI ODR Work Plan.
2. The delegates and participants recognized that the draft collaborative framework for ODR (Draft Collaborative Framework) including the draft Model Procedural Rules are conducive to the development of an APEC-wide ODR platform and recommended that they be discussed and considered by EC at its upcoming meeting for use by the pilot platforms in interested member economies.
3. The delegates and the participants welcomed the efforts and interests of potential ODR providers in building pilot platforms under the Draft Collaborative Framework.
4. The delegates and the participants recommended SELI should continue to work with ABAC, international organizations and other stakeholders in APEC economies to encourage businesses to participate in the pilot and to leverage support from the private sector and academic community.
5. The delegates and participants appreciated the active participation of UNIDROIT, experience sharing by member economies and excellent presentation by the experts on the use of modern technology for dispute resolution and international instruments for structural reform.
6. The delegates and participants warmly welcomed activities similar to this Workshop and capacity-building activities in the future as well as further opportunities for cross-fora collaboration and enhanced collaboration between APEC and other international fora.