



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2020/GOS2/002**

Agenda Item: 3

## **Summary Report - 65<sup>th</sup> Group on Services Meeting 2020**

Purpose: Consideration  
Submitted by: GOS Convenor



**66<sup>th</sup> Group on Services Meeting  
22 September 2020**

**Summary Report  
APEC 65th Group on Services (GOS) Meeting  
Friday, 14 February 2020  
Atelier Hall, Le Meridien  
Putrajaya, Malaysia**

The Group on Services (GOS) held its first meeting of 2020 on 14 February 2020 in Putrajaya, Malaysia. 18 APEC economies attended the GOS meeting. China participated remotely.

**1. CONVENOR'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Convenor welcomed economies to the first GOS meeting in 2020 and thanked all delegates for their presence in Putrajaya.

**2. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL AGENDA**

GOS members adopted the agenda without any amendments.

**3. ENDORSEMENT OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S SUMMARY REPORT**

GOS Convenor submitted the Summary Report of the 64th GOS Meeting held on 22 August 2019 in Puerto Varas, Chile for adoption. Korea noted there was no consensus regarding the outcomes of the Fourth Technical Group Meeting mentioned on line 85.

**4. PRIORITIES FOR 2020**

**4.1 Presentation by the SOM Chair's office on Malaysia's themes and priorities in 2020**

Ms. Fadzillah Abu Hasan presented the priorities for Malaysia as host of APEC 2020, based on the theme "Optimising Human Potential towards a Future of Shared Prosperity", including the three priority areas:

1. Improving the Narrative of Trade and Investment;
2. Inclusive Economic Participation through Digital Economy and Technology;
3. Driving Innovative Sustainability

Malaysia would push to achieve the Bogor Goals and formulating the APEC Post-2020 Vision will be a central component for 2020. Regarding the priority on Inclusive Economic Participation through Digital Economy and Technology, efforts would focus particularly on the inclusion of women, youth, funding mechanisms for start-ups and social enterprises, as well as aging population. Sustainability initiatives would be centered on food security, clean energy and circular economy, and activities to be held in 2020 would be aimed at finding innovative practices, as well as creating equal opportunities and participation in

economic growth. Among the main deliverables in this area, a policy dialogue on renewable energy, the review of the food security roadmap and a policy dialogue on innovative waste management would be organised.

GOS Convenor encouraged GOS members to consider implementing activities in support of the priorities set by Malaysia, especially relating to priority 2 “Inclusive Economic Participation through Digital Economy and Technology”. The GOS Convenor noted that work could possibly be undertaken in conjunction with the Digital Economy Steering Group (DESG) considering the synergies between the groups.

Australia agreed that GOS work could be aligned with Malaysia’s objectives, particularly in relation to promoting inclusive economic participation under the priority area 2. In this regard, Australia informed the GOS of plans to host a digital symposium, which could bring an opportunity for cross-fora collaboration with DESG.

#### **4.2 Presentation by the CTI Chair, Ms Krasna Bobenrieth, on the CTI’s priorities for 2020.**

The Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) Chair, Ms. Krasna Bobenrieth, presented CTI’s priorities for 2020 through a pre-recorded video. CTI’s priority areas of focus were:

1. Support to the Multilateral Trade System
  - Assessment of Capacity Building Needs on Trade-Related Aspects of E-Commerce.
  - Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.
  - Implementation of the Work Plan for Export Subsidy.
  - Information-Sharing to Support APEC Economies to Implement the WTO’s 2017 Decision to Eliminate Subsidies that Contribute to IUU Fishing (under consideration)
2. Regional Economic Integration
  - Achieving the Bogor Goals.
  - FTAAP.
  - Internet and digital economy.
  - Investment.
  - Intellectual Property.
  - MSMEs’ Internationalization.
  - Services.
  - Global Value Chain Cooperation
3. Trade Facilitation and Connectivity
  - Trade Facilitation and (Supply Chain) Connectivity.
  - Regulatory cooperation and convergence
4. Inclusive Approaches
  - Initiative under discussion: “Promoting Inclusive Trade and Investment Policy”.

- CTI's support to implement the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth

The CTI Chair encouraged working groups to collaborate in achieving CTI common goals by:

- active stakeholder engagement through policy dialogues on specific issues
- more strategic, open and frank discussions during CTI meetings, including on new and challenging topics

improving consistency and functioning inside the CTI, including its interaction with CTI sub-fora

### **4.3 ABAC presentation**

The GOS Convenor informed members that she had been invited to attend ABAC's Regional Economic Integration Working Group (REIWG) meeting in Sydney, in February 2020, but as this overlapped with the GOS plenary in Putrajaya, she had sent a letter to ABAC to update them on GOS' activities for 2020. The GOS Convenor undertook to share the letter sent to ABAC with economies, and expressed her intention to attend a Public Private Dialogue to be held in Manila, in the Philippines, during ABAC 2.

## **5. ADDRESSING THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE BOGOR GOALS: A FINAL PUSH IN SERVICES**

### **5.1 Updates on work plans for supporting the final push on services**

Champion economies in the five areas under the Final Push in Services to address the unfinished business of the Bogor Goals were invited to outline their work plans to GOS and provide updates of their upcoming activities.

#### **a) Domestic Regulation of Services (United States)**

The United States briefed the GOS on work being undertaken to build upon the "Study on APEC's Non-Binding Principles for Domestic Regulation of the Services Sector; Transparency and Predictability in Rulemaking" prepared in 2019. The United States noted work on Domestic Regulation of Services under the Final Push in Services supports the WTO's work on this area, stressing that the improvement of regulatory transparency in the services sector is essential to facilitate trade and investment in the region. The study examined the process of developing domestic regulations, focusing on the transparency provisions of APEC's Non-Binding Principles for Domestic Regulation of the Services Sector: publishing and making information available, advanced notice and opportunity to comment, and establishment of enquiry points.

The United States highlighted that APEC economies outperform in transparency areas. There is good performance in the APEC region in general, but not all transparency practices are translated into laws, opening the possibility for improvement on this area in the future. The study on services transparency focused on principles applied in FTAs and offered perspectives on how GOS or APEC could take advantage of their flexibility to build capacity and improve the regulatory environment on services. Additionally, the inputs generated could equally be useful to other APEC fora.

The United States mentioned that the focus in 2020 would be on areas that were not focused on in the Non-Binding Principles for Domestic Regulation of the Services Sector. Some regulatory approaches and practices were not widespread enough to be considered in the Non-Binding Principles. For that reason, the United States wants to identify items left out and find pilot programs in the future for actions to support the services sector. Provisions in the trade agreements/initiatives including the obligation to maintain mechanisms for retrospective reviews of regulations, websites for relevant information, and impact assessments of regulations are considered global best practices, and significant steps to improve transparency and predictability in the services sector.

In order to support these efforts, the United States suggested further discussion on these issues in the informal group formed to support the work on Domestic Regulations under the Final Push in Services and mentioned that the economies participating in the group would be asked to share good practices in this area. The United States explained that the work undertaken would facilitate the task for regulators to identify if economies are complying with the principles. As a result, a research study on next generation regulatory practices would be undertaken. Additionally, a concept note would be submitted to hold a workshop related to the work done with the informal group in SOM3 2020 to bring regulators and present practices in the APEC region. In order to support these efforts, the United States would draft a list of principles to consider for illustrative purposes. The United States noted the contribution of work in Domestic Regulations in Services for deliverables on the Bogor Goals completion in 2020.

New Zealand expressed its full support as co-sponsor of the initiative. Chinese Taipei thanked the United States for the presentation and work undertaken and supported the proposals.

The GOS Convenor suggested members contact the United States if they were interested in joining the informal group to support the work on Domestic Regulation of Services.

**b) Developing an APEC Index to Measure the Regulatory Environment in Services Trade of APEC (Korea)**

Korea briefed members on the 5<sup>th</sup> Technical Group Meeting, held on 13 February 2020 in Putrajaya, and the development of the pilot program to measure the regulatory environment in services trade of APEC.

Korea thanked the OECD for its continued support in the development of the pilot program and informed members that the OECD finalized the preliminary baseline database of the pilot program covering up the four selected sectors – distribution services, logistics services, computer services and telecommunications services – in the four participating economies of the program (i.e. Chile, Peru, Chinese Taipei and Viet Nam). Additionally the information from the weighting exercise had been incorporated to the preliminary baseline databases to develop the draft APEC Index. A questionnaire had been circulated to incorporate the weighting elements and 28 responses were received from 6 economies.

Korea briefed on discussions regarding the inclusion of APEC specific elements in the APEC Index as suggested by China in an intersessional survey. Technical Group members agreed to include “APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) and equivalent programs” and the “opening-up rate” as APEC specific elements to be incorporated in the APEC Index. Korea noted that China proposed to include the APEC specific elements as a new policy area, but that the proposal was not supported by Technical Group members.

Korea also noted the OECD would not require any funding from APEC to continue with the development of the APEC Index. As a result, the ongoing APEC project “Implementing the Pilot Program Towards Developing APEC Index to Promote the Work of Measuring the Regulatory Environment in Services Trade of APEC” would be withdrawn. The OECD highlighted the high complementarity between the APEC Index to be developed and the OECD STRI.

China recalled the agreed ‘Two Track Approach’ and reaffirmed its suggestion to include APEC specific elements as a new policy area, and highlighted the objective of APEC index should stick to APEC’s characteristic rather than excessively insisting on the comparability with the OECD STRI.

The United States stressed the APEC Index should be a living tool, with APEC elements able to be added in the future, and noted progressing implementation of the project was essential to ensure a deliverable for the completion of the Bogor Goals in 2020. The United States thanked regulators of pilot economies for the work done.

Chinese Taipei thanked Korea for the work done for the implementation of the project. Australia noted the importance of meeting the agreed timeframes for the implementation of the pilot program, in line with the timeframe for the completion of the Bogor goals.

The GOS Convenor noted adding an APEC-specific policy area would have implications for the proposed timeframe and suggested discussions could continue on specific policy areas for the next phase of the project, but should not impede progress on work for the pilot project.

China agreed to finalize the pilot program and stressed the next phase of the development of the APEC Index should focus on the inclusion of APEC specific elements.

GOS members agreed that work on the pilot program for developing the APEC Index would move forward with the inclusion of inputs in the weightings from experts and the inclusion of two APEC-specific elements (i.e. the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) and equivalent programs and opening-up rate), and that discussions would continue on the inclusion of further APEC-specific elements and an APEC-specific policy area.

The GOS Convenor mentioned she would report to CTI that agreement was reached on the commitment to finalize the pilot program in August. The content of the report to CTI on this matter would be shared for comments before submission.

### **c) Mutual Recognition of Qualifications and Licensing (Australia)**

Australia provided an update from the workshop on Mutual Recognition of Qualifications and Skills held on 12 February 2020 in Putrajaya, Malaysia. The workshop focused on possible activities that APEC could undertake to support the development and adoption of MRAs in the region. The workshop received 55 attendees, with government officials, participants from the private sector, and most APEC economies represented. Australia noted the relevance of MRAs to facilitate movement across borders and keeping open markets for professional services.

Australia proposed work towards building an MRA Inventory and a stocktake to increase transparency and knowledge on MRA agreements facilitating the mobility of professionals. Additionally, an MRA toolkit would be developed and activities to increase awareness raising of the “APEC Architect” and “APEC Engineer” initiatives would be implemented. Australia acknowledged the challenges associated with establishing a database, such as maintenance issues, and suggested further discussions on this in the informal group. Australia invited interested economies to join the informal group.

The United States looked forward to developing an inventory of MRAs, highlighting its value for economies and expressed its support for the concept of a virtual working group.

New Zealand noted that the stocktake would be useful in gaining a better understanding of MRAs in the region and additional benefits on including regulations in more professions outside professional qualifications could be useful. Australia clarified that the focus of work would be in professional services, while other areas could be considered in the following years.

Chinese Taipei expressed her interest to participate in the informal working group if the group would be organized. Australia noted and elaborated that a summary report would be circulated to the GOS in the coming weeks and would be used by the informal working group to discuss the next steps for implementing the work plan.

### **d) Environmental Services (New Zealand)**

New Zealand shared the outcomes of the “Workshop to Advance the APEC Environmental Services Agenda: Enhancing APEC Economies’ Understanding of Environmental Services” held on 11 February 2020 in Putrajaya, Malaysia. The workshop looked to identify challenges and opportunities related to trade in environmental services, as well as enhancing economies’ understanding of environmental services in the APEC region. The event had good participation, with 50 attendees from 15 economies. Representatives from NGOs and private sector organizations were also present and provided valuable views on the current situation of environmental services.

New Zealand informed the GOS that the workshop facilitated discussions to find ways to have more access to markets, finding barriers for trade and improving market access conditions for environmental service suppliers. The lack of reliable data on environmental services trade was also a challenge that would need to be addressed, as well as services with dual or end use. Possible benefits from new approaches could assist economies in understanding and growing their environmental services sectors.

New Zealand also flagged it would soon circulate a concept note to seek support for commissioning research to build on the workshop findings, understanding on environmental services in the region, addressing possible gaps and make policy recommendations. Additional deliverables would be determined intersessionally.

Singapore and Chinese Taipei thanked New Zealand for the organization of the workshop, expressed their support to the work done and hoped to continue collaborating in the upcoming activities to be developed under this area of the Final Push in Services. Japan noted that work related to the Environmental Services Action Plan (ESAP) would positively contribute to the initiatives of New Zealand on environmental services.

#### **e) Manufacturing-related Services (Malaysia)**

Malaysia noted the workplan for Manufacturing Related Services under the Final Push in Services was circulated in December 2019 and comments were received from Japan regarding the focus of the work. Malaysia informed the GOS that a workshop would be organized in the margins of SOM3 2020 to define what manufacturing-related services are, to support information-sharing and build capacity for developing new and improved manufacturing related services. The workshop would aim to enhance the understanding of manufacturing related services and “servicification” among APEC economies. Malaysia welcomed ideas from economies to decide on the way forward in MRS and mentioned that the feedback received would help to draft a final version of the workplan that would be circulated to members intersessionally. Additionally, Malaysia expressed its intention to establish a database of APEC MRS companies (SMEs and MSMEs).

The Philippines asked if certification was going to be included in the project. Malaysia pointed out that it is being considered.

Indonesia suggested looking for references on the definition of Manufacturing Related Services by consulting previous research done in this area and consulted on the role of



of MSMEs in the workplan. Malaysia mentioned that the activities to be undertaken would be more focused on SMEs than MSMEs.

Indonesia requested further clarification on the methodology to be used to create the database and asked if a survey would be developed for that purpose. Malaysia indicated that discussions were still ongoing and a decision had not been taken in that regard.

## **6. APEC SERVICES COMPETITIVENESS ROADMAP (ASCR)**

### **6.1 Developing a set of good practice principles on domestic regulations in the services sector:**

- a) **Chinese Taipei update on the inclusion of the results of the "Survey on Domestic Regulations in APEC Concerning Online Shopping Platform Service Providers" in the APEC MSME Marketplace.**

Chinese Taipei thanked the 18 economies that participated in the survey and noted the results of the survey had already been shared during SOM3, 2019 in Puerto Varas, Chile. Members noted that the results of the "Survey on Domestic Regulations in APEC Concerning Online Shopping Platform Service Providers" were included in the APEC MSME Marketplace.

The Philippines thanked Chinese Taipei for the contributions made under the project, stressing the importance of the focus of the project.

### **6.2 Supporting liberalisation, facilitation and cooperation of environmental services by implementing and building on the agreed Environmental Services Action Plan (ESAP)**

- a) **Japan to present the status of the project "Study for Final Review of Environmental Services Action Plan (ESAP)".**

Japan informed the GOS that a request for proposal to select a contractor for the project was being currently advertised on the APEC website. The work towards drafting the "Study for the Final Review of ESAP" would probably start in March. Additionally, a workshop would be held in SOM3 2020 to share the findings of the study. Japan expressed that efforts would be made to meet the proposed timeline for the Final Review of ESAP and would circulate further information on its objectives for this work via email after the GOS1 meeting.

GOS Convenor requested further information on the stocktake on environmental services be shared with members intersessionally. New Zealand expressed its willingness to contribute to the work of ESAP, as champion economy on Environmental Services under the Final Push in Services.

**6.3 Progressive liberalization and facilitation of manufacturing-related services, by implementing and building upon under the agreed Manufacturing-related Services Action Plan (MSAP)**

**a) Japan to inform on the developments of the project “Study for Final Review of Manufacturing-related Services Action Plan (MSAP)”**

Japan informed the GOS that the project “Study for the Final Review of the Manufacturing-related Services Action Plan (MSAP)” was in the same stage as the study for the Final Review of ESAP. Japan offered to information provide further details on data gathered for the project to members intersessionally.

**6.4 Development of services data and statistics to measure and support implementation of the Roadmap and improve tracking of services trade and investment more broadly:**

**a) Indonesia to brief on the status of the project “Workshop on APEC Best Practices on Developing Services-related Statistics in Mode 3”.**

Indonesia informed GOS that the workshop would be moved from February to 30-31 March, 2020 in Bali, Indonesia, and the timeline for the implementation of the project would be modified accordingly. The workshop would strive to increase economies’ ability to analyse data. Under the project, Indonesia requested economies to participate in pre-event evaluation and tracking mechanism processes, where there were seven economies has provided their inputs. Through the processes, it is expected that economies would be able to bringing home the result of the workshop and discussing with related stakeholders in order to identify possible plan to implement specific practices related to Statistics on Mode 3. Collaboration with international organizations such as the WTO and World Bank would be sought and the results of the workshop would be shared with members accordingly. Indonesia invited all members to attend the workshop.

The United States suggested the inclusion of two speakers in the workshop and highlighted the usefulness of the project, which will benefit all economies and thanked Indonesia for the work in this area.

**6.5 Progressive facilitation of services to improve the regional food system to ensure access to safe, high quality food supplies across the Asia-Pacific:**

**a) New Zealand to update on the status of the project “Workshop on Services and the Food System”**

New Zealand noted a concept note “Workshop on Services and the Food System” had been circulated to the Policy Partnership for Food Security (PPFS) members. The

workshop would be organized in February 2021 as a public-private sector forum to examine barriers and impediments to services in the food system drawing on the insights of the research conducted in 2019 and 2020, as well as other expert opinions brought by speakers and participants. Attention would focus on barriers to critical services that would assist member economies to improve efficiency along the food value chain in order to improve food systems for food security, with a view on practical insights into improvements to the provision and regulation of services, where these actions would result in advances in food supply and food security with a view to provide recommendations to the Policy Partnership for Food Security and Group on Services. It was noted that the workshop was aligned with ASCR Action 14 and would therefore make an important contribution to progress under the ASCR through research, dialogue and development to address challenges and barriers to services engaged in the food supply chain. At each stage of the Project PPFS would consult with the Group on Services (GOS) to ensure consistency of approaches.

The United States thanked New Zealand for the presentation and the cross-fora collaboration with GOS. Australia welcomed the work being done in PPFS and thanked New Zealand for the initiative. Singapore highlighted the relevance of this project in support of the implementation of the ASCR.

The GOS Convenor noted she would follow-up on APEC-wide actions that had not progressed, such as collaboration with the FMP and with the EC on structural reforms. The Convenor would reach out to the respective Chairs to discuss possible areas of action, with a view to collecting inputs for the Mid Term Review of the ASCR in 2021.

## **7. POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY GOS MEMBERS TO SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF APEC PRIORITIES FOR 2020**

### **7.1 Increasing Opportunities for Women, SMEs & Inclusive Growth.**

- a) **PPWE representative to introduce “La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth” for GOS to contribute in its implementation.**

Chile presented the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth which was endorsed in 2019. The roadmap aims to provide guidance and catalyze policy actions to ensure the greater integration and empowerment of women in the Asia Pacific region and sets action areas and targets that require innovative measures and a range of enabling factors to support women’s economic empowerment.

Key action areas included in the Roadmap are empowering women through access to capital and markets; strengthening women’s labor force participation; improving access of women to leadership positions in all levels of decision making; support women’s education, training and skills development and access in a changing world of work; and advancing women’s economic empowerment through data collection and analysis.

Chile noted that the corresponding Implementation Plan would be presented in 2020 to guide activities in this regard and as a cross-cutting issue, the implementation of the

Roadmap would require support from APEC's working groups. Economies were encouraged to consider the potential for work that supported the objectives of the Roadmap. Chile stressed that GOS could implement initiatives related to women employed in the services sector.

New Zealand expressed support for the roadmap objectives and backed the proposal to advance initiatives to support it under GOS. Australia echoed the suggestion and noted it is possible to support the work of PPWE from GOS. Japan expressed its intention to contribute to the implementation of the roadmap by promoting participation of women in MSEs. Papua New Guinea noted the need to create spaces for women businesses and considered work can be done in GOS for that purpose, noting the importance to align work between the different APEC fora.

Chile suggested to hold intersessional conversations with PPWE Chair on better practices for implementing actions and cross-fora collaboration and noted the first PPWE meeting was scheduled for SOM2 and the implementation plan for the roadmap would likely be ready later in 2020.

The GOS Convenor agreed to engage in inter-sessional discussion with the PPWE Chair to share experiences on how coordinate the work of various fora in supporting the implementation of La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth.

**b) The Philippines to update GOS members on the Implementation of the Boracay Action Agenda (BAA).**

The Philippines briefed GOS members on the implementation of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs (BAA) and the preparations for the 2020 Final Review. The Philippines thanked economies for their contributions to the BAA and supporting MSMEs and noted the Global SMSE forum would be held in Boracay in June 2020 as part of the process for the Final Review. Preliminary results would be presented at GOS2 2020 through a Study Report and funding had already been received to develop the study. The Philippines expected to hold a productive event and encouraged economies to continue submitting initiatives related to the implementation of the BAA. Members were requested to develop good practices through GOS activities in related areas, such as domestic regulations.

## **8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

### **8.1 The APEC Secretariat to update GOS on project management.**

GOS members noted the update from the APEC Secretariat on the project management process and the deadline submission for concept notes seeking funding for Project Session 1, 2020. GOS members were encouraged to prepare in advance of the 28 February 2020 Internal Submission deadline and to familiarize themselves with NMP

participation guidelines for APEC events, particularly regarding procedures to follow for participation as representatives in non-APEC activities.

## 8.2 Presentation of concept notes for Session 1 / 2020.

- a) **Malaysia to brief on resubmission of a Concept Note on “Good Regulatory Practices on Services Strategic Policy Coordination”**

Malaysia informed the GOS that the Concept Note “Good Regulatory Practices on Services Strategic Policy Coordination” would be resubmitted for Project Session 1, 2020. The project aims to organize a capacity building workshop to share best practices and experiences between economies and improving policy coordination among agencies related to services.

- b) **New Zealand to update on next steps in environmental services, including a forthcoming concept note on “Advancing the APEC Environmental Services Agenda: Future Directions**

New Zealand informed the GOS that a concept note would be presented based on the results of workshop in Environmental Services held on 11 February in Putrajaya.

## 8.3 Self-funded project proposals

- a) **Malaysia to present a self-funded project on “APEC Technologists & Technicians Register”.**

Malaysia briefed the GOS on the implementation of the self-funded project on “APEC Technologists & Technicians Register”. The project was endorsed by GOS and will support the priorities for Malaysia in 2020 by creating and hosting online services for professionals and/or regulatory bodies in services. The register aims at promoting talent mobility in the APEC region. Priority would be given to technology based professions such as information and computing technology (ICT). Economies were requested to identify and nominate professional bodies to include in the register. A workshop on qualification, recognition framework and MRA would be subsequently organized. Once completed, a pilot project would be launched and implemented in selected economies. Ultimately the project aimed to establish a recognition framework through the Technologists and Technicians Register to support qualified individuals in filling the demands of the industry.

- b) **The United States to present two self-funded projects on “Next Generation Regulatory Approaches in Services Authorization” and “Negative List Scheduling in Services Negotiations – A Practical Approach”.**

The United States informed the GOS that as part of the work on the Domestic Regulations in the Final Push in Services, the project “Next Generation Regulatory Approaches in Services Authorization” aimed to develop APEC members’ awareness of innovative,

effective and emerging regulatory practices related to services authorization in the region. The work would build on the findings of the study conducted by the United States in 2019, on “Transparency and Predictability in Rulemaking”. The research study on next generation regulatory practices would include case studies and a capacity-building workshop to be organized in the margins of SOM3 2020.

Japan, Australia and Chinese Taipei thanked the United States for the initiative presented and expressed their support for the activities to be undertaken.

The United States briefed on the submission of the self-funded project “Negative List Scheduling in Services Negotiations – A Practical Approach” that aimed to develop the knowledge of services negotiators and policy makers in APEC economies by increasing their understanding of relevant policy and sectoral issues involved in using negative lists in services liberalization efforts. For this purpose, a workshop including case studies involving negative list approaches would be organized.

Both self-funded projects on “Next Generation Regulatory Approaches in Services Authorization” and “Negative List Scheduling in Services Negotiations – A Practical Approach” were endorsed by GOS.

## **9. OTHER ISSUES**

Chile suggested the GOS undertake work relating to the use of the ATA carnet and related rules and procedures affecting the acceptance of goods and services between economies to help reduce administrative and compliance costs to facilitate trade. The GOS Convenor suggested Chile circulate a proposal to members with further details. Australia noted the proposal would assist to determine which APEC fora would be best suited to deal with the initiative.

The GOS Convenor noted there was a large number of workshops planned to be held in the margins of SOM3 2020 and advised economies to work closely with the GOS Convenor and Program Director for scheduling purposes.

## **10. DOCUMENT ACCESS**

The APEC Secretariat announced the classification of documents relating to the meeting as public or classified with restricted access. The United States requested changes to the items number 5 and 6, corresponding to the Self-Funded Project Proposal “Next Generation Regulatory Approaches in Services Authorization” and “Negative List Scheduling in Services Negotiations – A Practical Approach” to be classified as public.

## **11. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Convenor announced the next GOS meeting would be held in the margins of SOM3, 2020. The date would be confirmed in due course.

## **12. CONVENOR'S CLOSING REMARKS**

The GOS Convenor thanked members for their constructive participation.