



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2021/SOM2/CTI/016**  
Agenda Item: XII.d

## **Items for Noting by Committee on Trade and Investment – Endorsed**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat



**Second Committee on Trade and  
Investment Meeting  
25-27 May 2021**

**Items for Noting – Second Committee on Trade and Investment Meeting 2021**

No.	Initiative or item <sup>1</sup>	CTI agenda topic	Lead economy	Progress update or other information to note
1.	<p><b>APEC Investment Commitment Handbook Project</b></p> <p>(IEG 02 2018S)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Australia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Phase 2, Handbook Pilot Project with Viet Nam is progressing smoothly toward conclusion.</li> <li>- An audit of Viet Nam’s international investment commitments and a Foreign Investment Risk Exposure Analysis have been completed.</li> <li>- A framing workshop with Vietnamese officials was conducted on 15 February 2021 to raise awareness and receive input.</li> <li>- A first draft of the Viet Nam handbook was finished in April.</li> <li>- A revised draft is currently under preparation.</li> <li>- A second workshop to discuss the draft is scheduled to be held in Viet Nam in June 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final draft of Viet Nam handbook expected in first half of 2021.</li> <li>- Second phase of project expected to be completed by third quarter 2021.</li> <li>- Welcome advice from economies interested in participating in the next phase of the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>APEC Single Window Interoperability Action Plan</b></p>	Supply Chain Connectivity	Chile, China and Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Following our update during CTI1 that described the phases of the project (I to VI), the technical group is currently working simultaneously in Phase I “General Definitions” and Phase II “Diagnosis and Information Gathering”.</li> <li>- To this date the technical group has met 3 times. The focus of these meetings has been to define the technical parameters of the pilot, particularly the document to be exchanged.</li> <li>- The group has also concluded the definition of the different counterparts</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> For members’ ease of reference, a document number from 2021 CTI meetings will be provided

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				<p>for each participant economy, this is the Business, Technological and Legal counterparts from each economy, and also their project leader.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A fourth meeting of the technical groups is expected to take place in June, and its focus should be on the technology to use in the pilot.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (Nil)</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Initiative “Dispute Settlement Mechanisms in Trade Agreements”</b>	Regional Economic Integration	<b>Chile</b>	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <p><u><b>Done:</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A survey was circulated to members at the end of January with 4 questions. 13 economies provided inputs to the survey.</li> </ul> <p><u><b>Ongoing:</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare a summary report with the information collected to circulate to CTI. Unfortunately, the currently Project Overseer, Ms. Cecilia Arroyo, had a health emergency on early March and is on a leave of absence for this reason. This has impacted our ability to properly advance the project and fulfill the timeline.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Study on Tariffs – Analysis of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Tariff Liberalisation Schedules</b>  2021/SOM1/CTI/IS18	REI - Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) Agenda	Hong Kong, China	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal was endorsed by CTI on 1 March 2021 and approved by APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) Board on 16 March 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A progress report with preliminary findings will be prepared and presented in August 2021.</li> </ul>

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				<p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N.A.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Self-funded Trade Policy Dialogue (TPD) on Understanding NTMs on Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Sectors to Enhance Trade to Improve Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation in the Asia Pacific Region</b> (CTI 07 2019S)</p>	<p>Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects</p>	<p>Indonesia</p>	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indonesia has circulated the update of self-funded concept note in 23 March 2021 for members' information.</li> <li>- The objective of this TPD is to advance discussions on Non-Tariff Measures issues following up the <i>"Public Private Dialogue on Understanding Non-Tariff Measures on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Sectors to Enhance Trade to Improve Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation in the Asia Pacific Region"</i> which initiated by Indonesia in 2020.</li> <li>- The TPD will present speakers from researchers, business practitioners, and government representatives.</li> <li>- Indonesia is designing the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the invited speakers and finalizing tentative agenda of the TPD.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indonesia will conduct the TPD virtually in the margin of SOM-3 on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 2PM to 5PM (N.Z.T).</li> <li>- The results of TPD will be presented verbally to members on the upcoming CTI3 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTI members to note the date of the implementation of TPD</li> <li>- CTI members are highly expected to participate in the upcoming TPD</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Promoting Smart Cities through Quality Infrastructure Investment in Rapidly Urbanizing APEC Region</b></p>	<p>Trade Facilitation and Connectivity</p>	<p>Japan</p>	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project plans to hold the conference in August or September 2021. Developing and defining an execution plan for the project (ongoing in accordance with modified schedule.).</li> <li>- Considering to hold a conference in a virtual or a hybrid setting with monitoring the global situation of COVID-19.</li> </ul>

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	(CTI 10 2019T)			<p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparing for the procurement to arrange the conference that will help participants deepen their understanding of "Smart City through Quality Infrastructure Investment".</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue supporting the project.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b>Work Plan on Digital Trade and E-Commerce for the Realization of the FTAAP</b></p> <p>2020/SOM1/CTI/034</p>	REI - Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) Agenda	Japan	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Japan has been working on completing the draft report and tries to gain endorsement by the MRT. The draft was circulated in 23 April.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The draft plans to be revised based on comments and feedback from economies.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N.A.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b>Utilizing digital technology in the field of trade facilitation under the current COVID-19 pandemic and beyond</b></p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Japan	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> workshop focused on the trade facilitation through trade platforms was held on 11<sup>th</sup> May.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Japan will hold a series of workshops as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2nd Workshop (29 June) – E-Commerce-Enabling Technologies</li> <li>• 3rd Workshop (3 August) – Interoperability and Data Security for Single Windows</li> <li>• 4th Workshop (15 September) – Empowering MSMEs to Participate in Cross-Border Trade</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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				<p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economies are encouraged to join our workshops.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs (Phase 2)</b></p> <p>(CTI 02 2020T)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Korea	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project proposal was endorsed by economies on 24 June 2020, and approved by the APEC Secretariat and BMC.</li> <li>- Korea decided to shift the format of the workshop to a fully virtual one.</li> <li>- Korea is developing a draft agenda for the one-and-a-half-day workshop</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Korea is going to initiate consultation with the co-sponsoring economies to discuss the draft agenda and request recommending suitable speakers for the workshop.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>
10.	<p><b>Consumer Protection in Digital Trade / E-commerce: Towards Building an APEC Regional Consumer Protection Framework</b></p> <p>(CTI 09 2020A)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Korea	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project proposal was reviewed and approved by the APEC Secretariat for quality assurance, and it was approved in BMC.</li> <li>- Korea decided to shift the format of the workshop to a fully virtual one.</li> <li>- Korea is developing a draft agenda for the one-day virtual workshop.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Korea initiated consultation with the co-sponsoring economies to discuss the draft agenda and request recommending suitable speakers for the workshop.</li> </ul>
11.	<p><b>The APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy Within GVCs</b></p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Korea and Chile	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draw concluded research report.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work on draft program and agenda for a workshop</li> </ul>

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	(CTI 06 2020A)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hold one-day virtual workshop</li> <li>- Consolidate the results of the workshop into the research report</li> <li>- Complete the Project Report and circulate to the CTI members.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No requests yet.</li> </ul>
12.	<b>Supporting discussions in the WTO: Workshop on the application of non-discriminatory internal taxes to electronic transmissions</b>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	New Zealand	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The self-funded project proposal was endorsed by CTI on 18 May 2021. Under the project a virtual workshop will be held around SOM 3 2021 where speakers will present on different experiences with applying a non-discriminatory internal tax to electronic transmissions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Before the workshop all APEC economies will be invited to submit questions to help speakers prepare presentations which address areas of particular interest.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
13.	<b>PPD on Advertising Standards in the Digital Economy</b>  (CTI 05 2019T)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project contemplated the development of a workshop, which was held at SOM3 2019, and the elaboration of a set of recommendations. The PO is still working on the recommendations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Given to the difficulties that COVID-19 caused in the coordination among domestic agencies, the PO requested to update the approved calendar.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When circulated, the endorsement of the recommendations by CTI.</li> </ul>
14.	<p><b>PPD on promoting Consumer Protection in the dispute resolution and redress mechanisms in E-commerce</b></p> <p>(CTI 09 2019T)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives & Projects	Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project contemplated the development of a workshop at SOM3 2020, but due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the PO requested to hold the event virtually. The PPD was held between 27-29 April 2021 and it was attended by 90 representatives.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The PO will circulate the draft Set of Voluntary Recommendations intersessionally before CTI3 for comments and endorsement.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When circulated, the endorsement of the recommendations by CTI.</li> </ul>
15.	<p><b>Outcomes on the Application of the Test of Ex Ante Control of Regulations on Advertising</b></p> <p>(CTI 06 2020S)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The self-funded project was endorsed in July 2020. The project is under implementation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The PO is elaborating the study. It is expected that the first draft will be circulated among CTI members for comments intersessionally after CTI2 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Endorsement of the study by CTI at CTI3 2021.</li> </ul>
16.	<p><b>Self-Funded Initiative on Promoting Transparency of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) World Trade Organization (WTO) Notifications: Improving</b></p>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The self-funded initiative was endorsed in September 2020. The initiative is under implementation.</li> <li>- The PO presented a Concept Note to Project Session 1 2021 titled “Public Private Dialogue on Promoting Transparency of TBT WTO Notifications: Improving</li> </ul>



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	<p><b>Completeness and Clearness of Information</b></p> <p>2020/CTI2/IS06</p>			<p>Completeness and Clearness of Information”. The proposal was approved for APEC funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Peru circulated the Terms of Reference of the Study which was endorsed on 1 April 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The PO is in the process of elaborating the study. The first draft will be circulated before CTI3 2021 for intersessional comments..</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTI’s revision and endorsement of the study intersessionally before CSOM.</li> </ul>
17.	<p><b>Initiative on the Progress of the APEC Cross Cutting Principles on Non-Tariff Measures</b></p> <p>2020/CTI2/IS07</p>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	Peru	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The self-funded initiative was endorsed in September 2020. The initiative has been completed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After consultations and comments from CTI members, the study was endorsed on 11 November 2020.</li> <li>- The study was uploaded on the APEC website: <a href="https://www.apec.org/Publications/2020/11/Study-of-APEC-Economies-TBT-and-SPS-Specific-Trade-Concerns">https://www.apec.org/Publications/2020/11/Study-of-APEC-Economies-TBT-and-SPS-Specific-Trade-Concerns</a></li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>
18.	<p><b>Implementation of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs (BAA) &amp; progress/ update on the Final Review</b></p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Philippines	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Philippines received comments/inputs on the second draft of the study report for the Final Review of the BAA, which was circulated to APEC economies last March 2021.</li> <li>- The Philippines is currently preparing the third draft of the Study Report</li> </ul>

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	<p><i>Update on (i) the Final Review of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSME: Study Report and (ii) APEC Global MSME Forum</i></p>			<p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Philippines will conduct the Global MSME Forum on 28-30 June 2021.</li> <li>- The third draft of the draft Final Review of the BAA Study Report will be presented at the Global MSME Forum.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.):?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTI members to note the date of the Global MSME Forum</li> </ul>
19.	<b>APEC Trade Repository</b>	Updates from Sub-Fora Convenor/Chair	Philippines	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Philippines provided MAG members in its last meeting the APECTR usage report which covered a longer period (2 January 2020 to 31 October 2020) given changes to the APEC calendar in 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Philippines provided the APECTR usage report covering the period 1 November 2020 to 15 February 2021 in the MAG meeting on 26 February 2021.</li> <li>- Intersessionally, on 30 March 2021, MAG members approved including an additional link on APEC member economies' implementation plans for tariff reductions on environmental goods to the APECTR. The existing link found in the APEC website (<a href="https://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/APEC-Economies-Implementation-Plans.aspx">https://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/APEC-Economies-Implementation-Plans.aspx</a>) is now live in the APECTR under "MFN Tariff Rates".</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.):?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
20.	<p><b>Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Progress/update of economies'</b></li> </ul>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	Singapore	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTI members endorsed the proposal on 17 May to upload the "Table Monitoring TFA Implementation" onto the <a href="#">APEC CTI webpage</a> and <a href="#">APEC Trade Repository</a></li> <li>- The table is now "live" on both websites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p>

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	<p><b>implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation</b></p> <p>2021/SOM1/CTI/040a</p>			<p>- See below.</p> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <p>- Members may contact the Secretariat to provide updates on their status of implementation.</p>
21.	<p><b>Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC as part of the work plans on FTAAP</b></p> <p>2020/CTI2/IS05</p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <p>- Russia has updated the Stock-take of ongoing and completed APEC initiatives on transparency based on the inputs received from economies after VECTI 2020 and considering information on APEC projects contained in the AIMP. The updated Stock-take was endorsed in the CTI on 3 August 2020 (2020/CTI2/IS05).</p> <p>- Russia is finalizing a draft summary on key conclusions from the undertaken Stock-take.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <p>- A draft summary on key conclusions from the undertaken Stock-take and suggested next steps will be circulated in CTI intersessionally.</p> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <p>- Once the draft summary is circulated, we will be asking APEC economies to provide comments in writing with a view to seek endorsement of the document.</p>
22.	<p><b>Work Program on Environment-related Provisions in FTAs/RTAs</b></p> <p>2020/SOM1/CTI/011</p>	Regional Economic Integration	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <p>- Russia has updated the Stock-take of environment-related provisions in FTAs/RTAs based on the inputs received from economies. An updated Stock-take of environment-related provisions in FTAs/RTAs will be circulated for endorsement in the nearest time.</p> <p>- A desk research is being prepared based on the existing results of the undertaken Stock-take.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russia will be seeking for endorsement of the Stock-take and the desk research to be prepared on its basis.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We look forward to receiving inputs from the remaining APEC economies with a view to endorse the Stock-take.</li> </ul>
23.	<p><b>Proposal for Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC: Tariff Policies</b></p> <p>2020/CT12/007 2020/CT13/IS06</p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The revised version of the proposal for Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC: Tariff Policies was endorsed on 23 October 2020 intersessionally.</li> <li>- The questionnaire for government authorities was circulated to collect data on the existing practices, international requirements, and possible ways to enhance transparency on tariff policies. Inputs were received from 14 APEC economies.</li> <li>- Further to previous questionnaire, Russia has prepared an additional one for private sector, which has been circulated among APEC economies to collect data on private sector views on the existing practices and international requirements, and their impact on business activities. These questionnaires will make possible to prepare detailed analysis and allow a more complete picture to be painted.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russia will prepare a draft report reflecting the information collected to promote an exchange of views on existing practices, international requirements, and possible ways to enhance transparency on tariff policies.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We look forward to receiving inputs on the questionnaire from the remaining APEC economies.</li> <li>- We asked APEC economies to review the additional questionnaire and fill it, if necessary, within the set timelines.</li> </ul>

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24.	<p><b>Workshop on Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Content Trade</b></p> <p>(CTI 02 2019)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b> Russia is in the process of preparing Workshop Summary Report based on the outcomes of the conducted event.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russia will prepare a proposal on further steps on enhancing IPR protection in digital content trade in APEC region.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Once the proposal is prepared and circulated, we will be asking APEC to review the document and provide comments on it.</li> </ul>
25.	<p><b>Blueprint 2.0.: Compilation of modern-day factors affecting the formation and development of global value chains</b></p> <p>2020/SOM1/CTI/IS09 2020/CTI-E/IS05</p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A Stock-take of the respective past work undertaken by APEC was endorsed by the CTI on 29 May 2020.</li> <li>- A questionnaire regarding modern-day factors affecting the formation and development of GVCs has been developed based on the results of the undertaken Stock-take.</li> <li>- The questionnaire has been circulated among APEC economies intersessionally.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russia will prepare a survey focused on addressing factors that have an impact on GVCs' functioning and the integration of APEC economies into global production processes.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We asked APEC economies to complete the circulated questionnaire by 18 June 2021.</li> <li>- Once the survey is prepared and circulated, we will be asking APEC economies to provide comments in writing with a view to seek endorsement of the document</li> </ul>

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26.	<p><b>Blueprint 2.0.: Workshop on Effective Domestic Policymaking for Stimulating Economic Upgrading through Global Value Chains</b></p> <p>(CTI 14 2019A)</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Russia	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparations for the Workshop are currently focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Selection of speakers; and</li> <li>b. Finalization of the draft program and agenda of the Workshop, as well as the Questionnaire to be completed by APEC economies within the framework of preparing for the event.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russia will circulate intersessionally a Questionnaire for the completion by APEC economies within the framework of preparing for the event.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economies are encouraged to complete the Questionnaire to be circulated by Russia intersessionally.</li> </ul>
27.	<p><b>Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs related to WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 3 (Advance Rulings) – Phase 3</b></p> <p>(CTI 11 2019A)</p>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The United States launched Phase 3 of the Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs related to WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 3 in 2019. As part of Phase 3, the United States hosted a workshop on Advanced Rulings Best Practices on 5 February 2020 in Putrajaya, Malaysia. The one-day workshop enabled participants to discuss economies’ implementation of advance rulings and to identify overlaps and differences in their systems. The workshop focused on the usability of advance rulings systems and honed in on the ways economies could make their application of rulings more user-friendly, efficient, and transparent. Participants worked with one another to collectively draft example rulings that would reveal differences in approach and then discussed potential areas of improvement that economies could consider for more effective practices. The revised workshop report was endorsed in February 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The pandemic impacted technical assistance and training. However, we are working to identify assistance-eligible economies to receive targeted technical assistance and training.</li> </ul>

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				<p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>
28.	<p><b>Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs related to WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 1: Publication and Availability of Information – Phase 2</b></p> <p>(CTI 12 2019A)</p>	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Article 1 requires economies to publish trade-related information (import, export and transit) in print and provide documents, forms, contact information, and “how to import” guides online. Publication and access to information and forms creates a transparent and predictable trade environment for all businesses, governments and citizens. Phase 2 of the Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs related to WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 1: Publication and Availability of Information was launched in 2019 and will provide technical assistance and training for developing member economies implementing WTO TFA Article 1 obligations. The US-SEGA project has been working with Peru to analyze the publication of trade-related information. The Ministry of Trade and Tourism (Mincetur) requested an analysis of best practices for trade portals featured as modules within broader single windows, as Peru is considering something like this for the “VUCE 2.0”. Mincetur also asked us to examine health and agricultural agencies’ publication of information. Consultants in Lima confirmed that US-SEGA/APEC recommendations had been incorporated into the design of a trade information portal to be featured in the upgraded VUCE. The report also features a framework for an import/export guide for agricultural products. The report was endorsed in April 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>

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29.	<p><b>Blueprint 2.0.: Work Plan on Cooperation on Implementing and Taking Full Advantage of Statistics Related to GVCs</b></p> <p>2020/SOM1/CTI/033 2020/CTI-E/IS02 2020/CTI3/IS02</p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	China, Indonesia and United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China, Indonesia, and the United States Work Plan on Cooperation on Implementing and Taking Full Advantage of Statistics Related to GVCs<sup>2</sup> for workstream 3 of Blueprint 2.0 was endorsed on 9 March 2020. The Work Plan seeks to help APEC economies to better utilize the TiVA database by undertaking a survey of economies' needs and challenges in developing and utilizing TiVA data; providing capacity building; and assisting APEC economies in developing better underlying statistics that goes into TiVA compilation. Phase 1 of the five-year work plan calls for a survey to be conducted to identify the level of understanding TiVA statistics; assess capacity building needs; and identify the type of extended SUTs and supporting data that are needed by each economy. On 9 September 2020, the draft survey was circulated in CTI for comments and endorsement. On 2 December 2020, the survey was circulated to economies for completion and re-circulated on 22 January 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The next step is for remaining economies to submit a response to the survey after which responses will be compiled. Individual economies will have engaged with ministries, departments, and agencies that are interested in the use of statistics that are related to global value chains in their work. Each economy will have submitted one (1) consolidated response that reflects the input from the various organizations that were consulted. In order to ensure that those agencies are engaged in future capacity building activities, the survey asked for specific information regarding the organizations and individuals consulted. A capacity building plan will be developed based on information gathered from the survey that addresses various needs from APEC economies on how to access the database and how to effectively use and improve the quality the TiVA data for policy analysis.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We ask economies to respond to the survey if they have not already submitted a response.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> 2020/SOM1/CTI/033



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30.	<b>APEC Trade in Value Added (TiVA) Database</b>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States and China	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completed revising the APEC inter-economy input-output tables based on the review comments from member economies.</li> <li>- Completed revising the APEC TiVA indicators based on the revised APEC inter-economy input-output tables.</li> <li>- Completed updating the APEC TiVA Initiative Report 2 based on the revised APEC TiVA indicators.</li> <li>- Completed the publication of the APEC TiVA Initiative Report 2.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China is revising the APEC TiVA database on the website.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>
31.	<b>Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs Related to WTO TFA Article 8 (Border Agency Cooperation)</b>  (CTI 05 2020A)  2020/SOM1/CTI/035	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project proposal for the Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs Related to WTO TFA Article 8 (Border Agency Cooperation) was endorsed on 9 June 2020. It has been reviewed and approved by the APEC Secretariat for quality assurance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Several assistance-eligible APEC economies have notified WTO TFA Article 8 as Category B or C, signaling the need for technical assistance and training to comply with Article 8 requirements. The project overseers have already made preliminary contact with potential volunteer economies to gauge their interest and brainstorm potential terms of reference. Additionally, a workshop attached to this project is currently slated for the margins of SOM3 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nil.</li> </ul>

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32.	<p><b>APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity (A2C2), including its extension until the end of 2023</b></p> <p>2020/CTI2/008</p>	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity (A2C2) was renewed for three additional years at CTI2 2020. The forum will foster innovative approaches to ongoing supply chain challenges in the coming years by bring together regional stakeholders to discuss potential local or regional solutions. In addition, A2C2’s work will continue to provide guidance and technical input surrounding implementation of the World Trade Organization’s Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).</li> <li>- The Twelfth Meeting of the A2C2 took place on 24 February 2021. The meeting focused on reinventing supply chains in a post COVID-19 world, APEC supply chain capacity building and company innovations during COVID-19, and lasting impacts of COVID-19 with a focus on the importance of regulatory convergence</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Thirteenth Meeting of the A2C2 will take place on the margins of SOM3 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participate in the upcoming A2C2 meeting.</li> </ul>
33.	<p><b>Proposal for Recyclable Materials Policy Program (RMPP)</b></p> <p>(CTI 04 2020S)</p> <p>2020/SOM1/CTI/020</p>	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	United States	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The self-funded Recyclable Materials Policy Program proposal was endorsed by economies on 13 June 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work on the study is underway. The intention is to provide a resource document for APEC on waste management and recycling (WMR). This seeks to help build capacity of policymakers to identify appropriate domestic policies that promote better WMR infrastructure, and help stakeholders to identity best practices appropriate for the scale, scope, and geography of their domestic waste management and recycling challenges</li> <li>- The U.S. is hosting a webinar on June 16 that will present an overview of the findings from the APEC study on WMR in the APEC region. The webinar will also</li> </ul>

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				<p>provide opportunities to hear from both the public sector and the private sector on WMR.</p> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Send in nominations for the June 16 webinar.</li> </ul>
34.	<p><b>Trade Policy Dialogue on Digital Trade</b></p> <p>(CTI 01 2021S)</p>	<p><b>Internet and Digital Economy and E-Commerce</b></p>	<p><b>United States</b></p>	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A Trade Policy Dialogue (TPD) on Digital Trade was held on May 18, 2021. The TPD discussed the ways in which cross-border data flows can facilitate the development of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence as well as emerging data transfer mechanisms and their impact on cross-border data flows. The discussion also focused on the continued evolution of trade agreements to meet digital realities, and specifically how APEC can play a concrete role in furthering discussions around digital trade. A second Digital Trade Policy Dialogue will occur on the margins of the SOM3 cluster, which will delve further into these issues.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A summary report will be circulated to CTI members for endorsement.</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTI will need to endorse the summary of the TPD once it is circulated. Economies are also encouraged to participate in the second Digital Trade Policy Dialogue on the margins of SOM3.</li> </ul>
35.	<p><b>Study: Policies and Regulatory Frameworks on Modern Digital Economy Issues – Open Government Data</b></p> <p>(CTI 05 2021S)</p>	<p><b>Internet and Digital Economy and E-Commerce</b></p>	<p><b>United States</b></p>	<p><b>Current status and progress/update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A self-funded proposal on open government data was endorsed by economies on May 12, 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work on the study is underway to identify emerging practices across the APEC region on the subject of facilitating access to open government data (OGD). The</li> </ul>

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				<p>study will examine policies and regulatory frameworks surrounding this issue in APEC economies to identify divergences as well as alignment. By better understanding the various policies and regulatory frameworks of OGD measures, regulators can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data both domestically and internationally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The United States will reach out to APEC economies interested in providing specific case studies or features in the report during the third or fourth quarters of 2021 and will deliver a summary of initial findings of the report on the margins of the First Senior Officials' meeting in 2022. Feedback on the report in early 2022 will feed into the finalization of the report and possible follow-on activities (e.g., technical assistance and workshops during 2022 and 2023).</li> </ul> <p><b>What do you request from CTI members (e.g. complete a survey circulated on dd/mm/yy; send comments in writing to a concept note/project proposal circulated on dd/mm/yy; etc.)?:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interested economies are encouraged to provide case studies that can be included in the report.</li> </ul>