



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2021/CTI/SYM/PM/008b**

Session: II

**Questionnaire Survey Report on Topics of Interest  
That APEC Economies Would Like to Discuss at the  
Symposium on APEC Supporting the WTO  
Negotiations on Trade Related Aspects of E-  
Commerce - Presentation**

Submitted by: China



**Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on  
APEC Supporting the WTO Negotiations on  
Trade Related Aspects of E-Commerce  
2 February 2021**

# Symposium on APEC Supporting the WTO Negotiations on Trade related Aspects of E-commerce Questionnaire Survey Report

LI Mosi

Research Professor and Director of Digital Trade Academy,  
Shanghai University of International Business and Economics

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上海對外經貿大學

SHANGHAI UNIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

## ● Project Objective

- The objective of the project is to contribute positively and actively to the undergoing WTO e-commerce negotiations by exploratory and introductory efforts to deepen discussions and enhance mutual understanding on topics of interest in the WTO e-commerce negotiations.

## ● Questionnaire Survey Objective

- To identify topics of interest on which APEC economies would like to discuss at the symposium.

Note: any information herein will not prejudice the positions in WTO e-commerce negotiations, or be used for any other purposes.



## Questionnaire Framework

Crucial terms in discussions of trade-related aspects of electronic commerce

Establish a sound environment for electronic commerce transaction

Create a safe and trust-worthy market environment for electronic commerce

Promote pragmatic and inclusive development cooperation

## Participation

Australia  
Chile  
Japan  
the Republic of Korea  
the Philippines  
Russia  
Singapore  
Chinese Taipei  
Thailand  
the United States

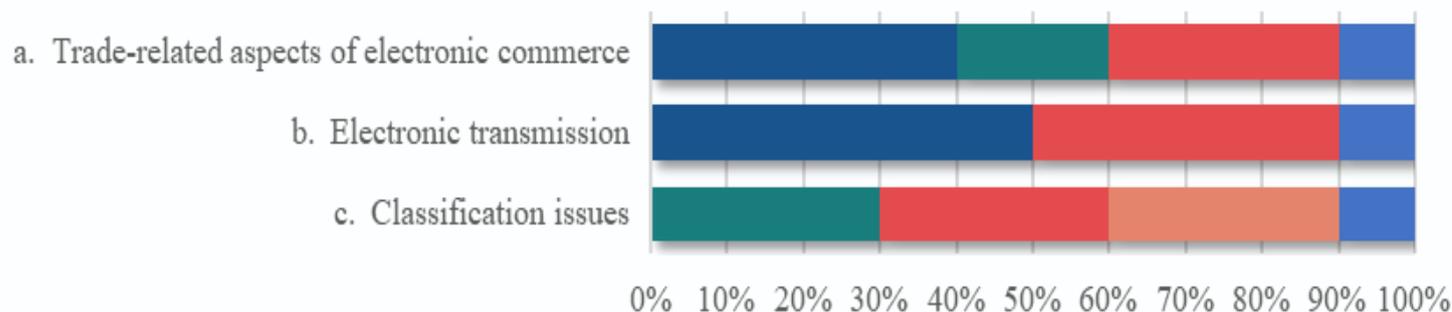


- Crucial terms in discussions of trade-related aspects of electronic commerce

Topics of interest that APEC economies intend to discuss at the symposium

■ Very Positive ■ Positive ■ Normal ■ Negative ■ Void

Crucial terms in discussions of trade-related aspects of electronic commerce



Note for the value of void : The United States had made clear the priorities in the questionnaire without putting “✓” in the box.

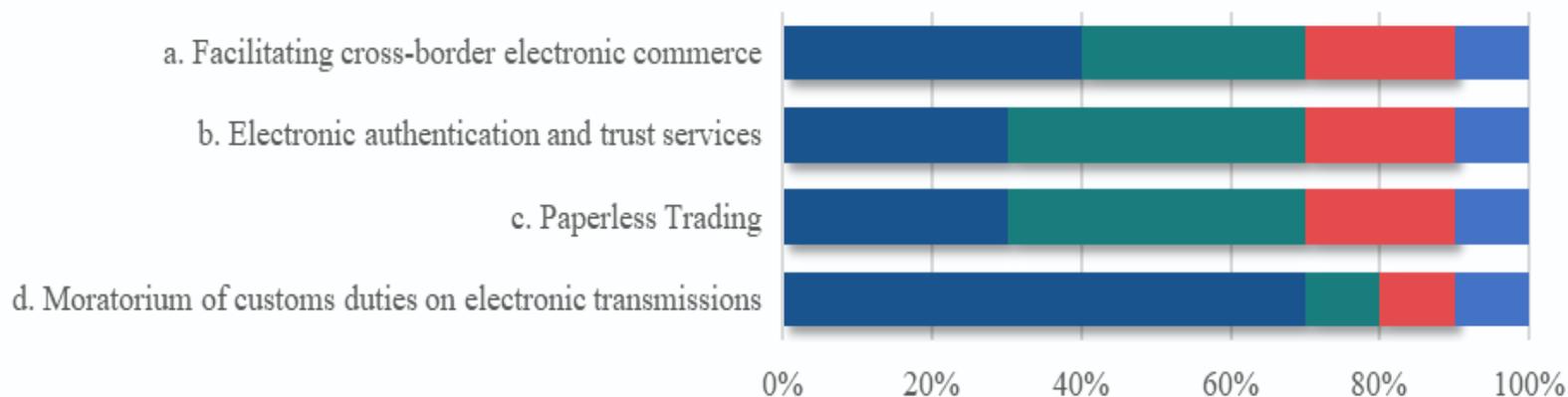


- Establish a sound environment for electronic commerce transaction

Topics of interest that APEC economies intend to discuss at the symposium

■ Very Positive ■ Positive ■ Normal ■ Negative ■ Void

Establish a sound environment for electronic commerce transaction



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# Topics of interest

- Create a safe and trust-worthy market environment for electronic commerce

Topics of interest that APEC economies intend to discuss at the symposium

■ Very Positive ■ Positive ■ Normal ■ Negative ■ Void

Create a safe and trust-worthy market environment for electronic commerce

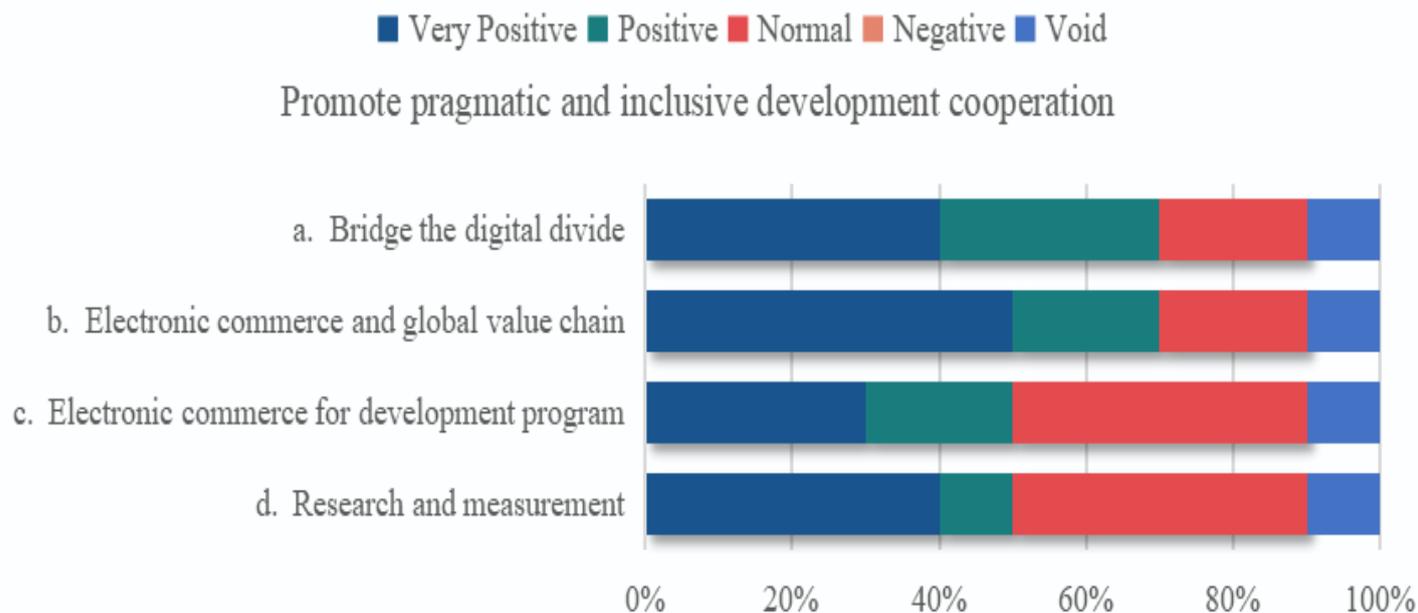


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- Promote pragmatic and inclusive development cooperation

Topics of interest that APEC economies intend to discuss at the symposium



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# Other suggested topics

Areas for capacity building and technical assistance

Location of Computing Facilities

Source Code

Non-discriminatory treatment of digital products

ICT cryptography

Core services relevant to e-commerce

Open government data



# Tentative agenda for the hybrid symposium

Session I	<p><b>Crucial terms in discussions of trade-related aspects of electronic commerce</b></p> <p>This session will examine the definition and scope of some crucial terms in discussions of trade-related electronic commerce, including trade-related aspects of electronic commerce and electronic transmissions, etc.</p> <p>Keynote: How will e-commerce contribute to economic growth in post COVID-19 era?</p>
Session II	<p><b>How to establish a sound environment for electronic commerce transaction ?</b></p> <p>This session will focus on how can member economies establish a sound environment for electronic commerce transaction, including facilitating cross-border electronic commerce, electronic authentication and trust services, moratorium of customs duties on electronic transmissions, etc.</p> <p>Keynote: Cross-border e-commerce facilitation: experiences of member economies</p>
Session III	<p><b>How to create a safe and trust-worthy market environment for electronic commerce?</b></p> <p>This session will discuss some highlighted issues which bring unprecedented security risks and regulatory challenges to member economies, including online consumer protection, personal information protection, cyber security, cross-border transfer of trade-related information, source code, etc.</p> <p>Keynote: Cross-border data flows: how to address security risks and regulatory challenges?</p>
Session IV	<p><b>Promotion of pragmatic and inclusive development cooperation in the context of COVID-19</b></p> <p>This session will focus on development and cooperation issues, including bridge the digital divide, electronic commerce and global value chain, research and measurement, etc.</p> <p>Keynote: Bridging the digital divide for MSMEs: Sharing best practices</p>

# Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

- The COVID-19 has accelerated digitalization and underscored the importance of e-commerce/digital trade.
- The pandemic has highlighted some challenges related to e-commerce, such as digital divide, development of digital infrastructure.
- The COVID-19 has illustrated the importance of rule-making in the area of electronic commerce/digital trade and thus reinforced the value of WTO e-commerce negotiations.
- The APEC economies should redouble efforts in ensuring substantive progress for the WTO e-commerce negotiations and formulate rules as soon as possible.



# The expectations of APEC to support WTO E-Commerce Negotiations

- APEC can and should play many roles in supporting the WTO e-commerce negotiations:
  - To further encourage APEC economies to participate in rule-making in the WTO e-commerce negotiations.
  - To narrow the gap in understanding the WTO e-commerce negotiations.
  - To better understand each other's different domestic regulatory regimes on e-commerce.
  - To enable capacity building through experience sharing in addressing JSI participants capacity building needs.



## CONTACT US

Project Focal Point:

[lanzinuo@mofcom.gov.cn](mailto:lanzinuo@mofcom.gov.cn)

[limosi@suibe.edu.cn](mailto:limosi@suibe.edu.cn)



上海对外经贸大学

SHANGHAI UNIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS