



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/SUM

**Summary Report - SOM Steering Committee on
Economic and Technical Cooperation - Committee
of the Whole Meeting 2022**



**SOM Steering Committee on Economic and
Technical Cooperation - Committee of the
Whole Meeting
20 February 2022**

SCE-COW Chair's Report to SOM

The annual meeting of the SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation - Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) was held virtually, on 20 February 2022. Key outcomes of the meeting are as follows:

1. The SCE-COW approved the work plans of seven (7) of the 14 SCE working groups.
2. The SCE-COW took note of the interventions of conveners and representatives of all 14 SCE working groups, each of whom highlighted key fora deliverables as they aligned with APEC 2022 priorities, together with the resulting discussion with SCE members on alignment, prioritization, and cross-fora collaboration. Members also requested conveners actively participate in and contribute to implementation of the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and Aotearoa Plan of Action.

Recommendations

It is recommended that SOM:

1. Note this report.

Attachment: Summary Report - SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH – Committee of the Whole

Summary Report – SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH – Committee of the Whole Meeting (SCE-COW)

20 February 2022
Via Microsoft Teams

1. A meeting of the SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation – Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) was held virtually, on 20 February 2022. It was attended by Senior Officials or other representatives of 21 economies, the convenors or other representatives of 14 SCE sub-fora, and the APEC Secretariat Executive Director.
2. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Matt Murray, Senior Official of the United States. Vice Chair of the meeting was Mr. Pruthipong Poonthrigobol, representing Thailand SOM.

Welcome by the SCE Chair and Adoption of the Agenda

3. The SCE Chair welcomed delegates to the meeting. The agenda (2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/001) was adopted.

Agenda Item 1: APEC 2021 Priorities

4. Thailand introduced the APEC 2022 Theme and Priorities of:
Theme: Open. Connect. Balance.
Priority One: Open Trade and Investment to all Opportunities
Priority Two: Restoring Connectivity in all Dimensions
Priority Three: Promoting Balance, Sustainability and Inclusivity in all Aspects
5. As part of priority three, Thailand specifically highlighted the Bio-Circular-Green Economy Model as an engine to drive a regional growth trajectory through a whole of society and system approach.
6. Members thanked Thailand for sharing the 2022 priorities and expressed strong support for Thailand's host year and leadership.
7. The SCE-COW noted Thailand's presentation.

Agenda Item 2: Implementation of the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and Aotearoa Plan of Action

8. New Zealand presented on the recently endorsed Aotearoa Plan of Action (APA). New Zealand summarized that all APEC economies had agreed to take action collectively as APEC to realize the Putrajaya Vision 2040, including through the APA. Secondly, all APEC economies had agreed to take action individually to realize the Putrajaya Vision 2040. Additionally, APEC had agreed to monitor and evaluate our progress through the APA. Each fora and sub-fora must now make provisions for implementing the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and the APA and the agreed collective actions. Each fora and sub-fora needs to begin the process of identifying the collective actions

that are relevant and incorporating them directly into the work plans and Strategic Plans and ultimately the Terms of Reference of the fora and sub-fora.

9. Members discussed New Zealand's presentation, and expressed different views on how to implement Putrajaya Vision 2040 and Aotearoa Plan of Action, including the role of the SCE sub-fora in implementation. One economy expressed the view that it is inappropriate to introduce the discussion on evaluation in the first phase of implementation.
10. . The SCE-COW noted the presentation.

Agenda Item 3: Strengthening coordination among and across sub-fora

11. The APEC Secretariat briefed the SCE-COW on capacity building and economic and technical cooperation via projects across APEC.
12. The Secretariat provided information on project approval rates, project participation rates, project quality, and funds. The Secretariat also provided information on which priorities were most often targeted in capacity building with the top three being inclusive growth, digital economy, and sustainable growth.
13. The SCE-COW noted the brief.

Agenda Item 4: Fora Conveners to Highlight Cross-Fora Collaboration and Key Fora Deliverables for 2022

14. The SCE-COW heard brief interventions from conveners and representatives of the 14 SCE sub-fora as they highlighted key sub-fora deliverables that aligned with Thailand's host year priorities, cross-fora initiatives, and issues that may seek SOM or AMM consideration.
15. Members thanked conveners for joining the meeting and for their contributions..
16. Members discussed the work of the sub-fora as presented by the conveners. During the discussion, several members stressed the importance of sub-fora taking a close look at the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and Aotearoa Plan of Action's collective actions across all economic drivers, not just those assigned to specific groups, to ensure that no collective action is left behind. Some members also encouraged the working groups to increase collaboration with ABAC and other regional organizations. Several members took note of working groups' commitment to incorporating objectives of the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth into their work plans.
17. Members also noted the cross-fora collaborations to implement the Food Security Roadmap.
18. Members reminded conveners to incorporate the Putrajaya Vision 2040 into their work plans, Strategic Plans and Terms of Reference .

19. SCE noted the presentations.

Agenda Item 5: 2022 Fora Work Plans

20. The SCE Chair asked the SCE to approve seven (7) sub-fora work plans of the following: ATCWG; HRDWG; OFWG; PPSTI; SMEWG; TELWG; and TPTWG. The work plans of ACTWG; EGILAT; EPWG; EWG; HWG; PPWE; and TWG will be circulated to members intersessionally for endorsement. The SCE-COW endorsed the seven (7) work plans submitted for consideration.

2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/018 ATCWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/019 HRDWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/020 OFWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/021 PPSTI Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/022 SMEWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/023 TELWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/024 TPTWG Work Plan

Agenda Item 6: Strategic Plans

21. The APEC Secretariat provided a brief update on working groups with expired or expiring Strategic Plans.

22. The SCE Chair requested those groups with expiring and expired Strategic Plans to begin work on updating their Strategic Plans and table them by SCE 3. The SCE Chair also reminded conveners that the Aotearoa Plan of Action includes specific directions to implement the Putrajaya Vision 2040 including through the Aotearoa Plan of Action, in their Strategic Plans.

23. The SCE Chair further reminded conveners to continue to implement the La Serena Roadmap on Women and Inclusive Growth in Strategic Plans.

24. The SCE-COW noted the update.

Agenda Item 7: Other Business

25. There was no other business.

Agenda Item 8: Document Access

26. The following items were moved from restricted to public after being endorsed by the SCE.

2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/018 ATCWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/019 HRDWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/020 OFWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/021 PPSTI Work Plan

2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/022 SMEWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/023 TELWG Work Plan
2022/SOM1/SCE-COW/024 TPTWG Work Plan

27. The SCE approved the document classification list as amended.
