



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2014/SOM1/033**

Agenda Item: 4

## **Report of PPFS First Management Council Meeting and Government-Business Dialogue Conference on Food Security and Trade**

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: PPFS



**First Senior Officials' Meeting  
Ningbo, China  
27-28 February 2014**

**Report of Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS)  
First Management Council Meeting and Government-Business Dialogue Conference on Food  
Security and Trade**

**I . Introduction of the meetings**

1. The Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS) 2014 1<sup>st</sup> Management Council (MC) meeting and Government and Business Dialogue Conference on Food Security & Trade (called “the Dialogue Conference” hereinafter) were held on 21-23 February 2014 in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China. The meetings were chaired by Dr. Han Jizhi, Deputy Director General, State Administration of Grain, China. The Vice-Chairs were Dr. Achmad Suryana, Director General, Agency for Food Security, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia; Mr. Orlan Calayag, Administrator of National Food Authority, the Philippines and Ms. Anna Buduls from APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC), Chairman of Tramada Systems, Australia.

2. Over 150 representatives from both government and private sector of 17 economies, namely Australia; Canada; Chile; China; Indonesia; Hong Kong, China; Japan; Korea; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and the United States of America, as well as the APEC Secretariat attended the meetings. The Executive Director of the Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific attended the Dialogue Conference.

**II . Opening Remarks from the Administrator of State Administration of Grain, China**

3. The Administrator of State Administration of Grain, China welcomed delegates. He pointed out APEC economies are facing challenges on food security from both the demand and supply side, the extent of which varies due to different circumstances in different member economies. In particular, the challenge on ensuring food security for the poor and the vulnerable is more pressing. He noted that the PPFS can play an important role in policy coordination, trade facilitation, information exchange between partners, and applauded for the formulation of open, inclusive, mutually beneficial and win-win partnership for lasting food security for APEC economies.

**III. The Dialogue Conference Outcomes**

4. The Dialogue Conference was under the theme of PPFS 2014: “Strengthening Partnerships for Food Security”, with three priorities:

- a) How to allow the market to play a decisive role in food security and how to better define the government's role in ensuring food security in APEC member economies;
- b) How to reduce food losses and waste through improving the supply chain management;
- c) How to promote regional cooperation on food quality/safety management and standardization.

5. 28 speakers from private and public sectors of China; Indonesia; Russia; the Philippines; Japan; the United States; Singapore; Canada; Hong Kong, China; Thailand; New Zealand and Chinese Taipei joined the discussion. Through the dialogue, we've fostered mutual understanding and agreed on some suggestions and measures for enhancing food security in the Asia-Pacific region, which would add values to the development and implementation of PPFS 2014 Action Plan.

6. The Dialogue Conference also highlighted the importance of the supply chain and cool chain infrastructure in reducing food losses, the significance of a “global food value chain” to promote agriculture development in the APEC economies, and emphasized regional cooperation on international food standards for food safety and food quality as a prerequisite for free trade on food.

7. The Dialogue Conference indicated that public-private partnership would be an appropriate approach in conducting APEC PPFS activities. Businesses (big or small), as well as farmers and fishers are the key players in ensuring food security, and should be encouraged to continue contributing to the future achievements.

8. There was a field trip to Zhoushan Grain Terminal, Yinzhou Grain Storage Depot and Zhuangqiao Grain & Oils Wholesale Market. Through the field trip, participants noted that China has taken

significant steps to build good capacity for food storage and distribution, which is vital to achieve sustainable food security. And it was suggested that those good practice could be shared with other economies.

#### **IV. The PPFS 1st MC Meeting Outcomes**

9. The objectives of the PPFS 1<sup>st</sup> MC meeting in Ningbo are as follows:

- a) To summarize and review the achievements of PPFS in 2013;
- b) To discuss and deliberate on the PPFS 2014 Action Plan;
- c) To brief on the progress of PPFS working groups in 2013;
- d) To consider further working group activities in 2014; and
- e) To develop operational Business Plans for Food Security.

10. The meeting amended a supported the draft Action Plan for PPFS 2014, which defines the theme, topics, outcomes and activities of the PPFS's work of the year. The updated draft version will be circulated to all PPFS members for their comments.

11. The theme of PPFS 2014- "Strengthening Partnerships for Food Security" was endorsed, as an echo to the APEC 2014 theme - "Shaping the Future through Asia-Pacific Partnership", and the first mission of the PPFS: the development of a food sector that is economically efficient and profitable, socially acceptable, and environmentally sound.

**12. Key areas for cooperation.** Under the priority of "Promoting innovative development, economic reform and growth" in 2014, PPFS could build stronger collaboration in areas, such as post-harvest management, agricultural technologies and standards , and food and fisheries sector, so as to better implement the APEC Food Security Road Map Towards 2020. The agreed areas for cooperation include but are not limited to:

- a) Technology cooperation, knowledge-sharing, and capacity-building
- b) Technology exchanges and cooperation in food storage, supply chain and food loss reduction
- c) Food trade cooperation and facilitation
- d) Investment and infrastructure development and cooperation on food security
- e) Food standards and quality /safety assurances

**13. Review and implement the APEC Food Security Road Map Towards 2020 (Version 2014).** In 2014, PPFS may update the APEC Food Security Road Map Towards 2020 (Version 2013), where necessary and appropriate, according to the changing situation of food security in the region, e.g. by adding or modifying projects and activities. Members will focus on the priority areas outlined in the Roadmap, especially food supply chain management, post-harvest losses and waste reduction, and long-term food security for member economies, so that to achieve fruitful outcomes..

**14. Formulate operational business plans (2014-2020) for food security.** A multi-year business plans will be developed, in order to support the implementation of the APEC Food Security Road Map Towards 2020. Relevant PPFS working groups will work out the plans in close coordination with private sector partners, Specifically focused areas will be: sustainable development of agricultural and fisheries sectors; facilitation on investment and infrastructure development; enhancing trade and market, especially in post-harvest management technologies and standards, supply chain and cool chain, loss reduction, quality and safety assurances.

**15. Promote exchanges and cooperation.** PPFS is committed to promoting exchanges and cooperation on technologies, facilities and resources in agricultural, food and fisheries sectors, as well as consolidating the policy partnership on food security within APEC.

**16. Strengthen Private Sector Engagement.** A significant focus of the PPFS agenda in 2014 is to enhance the engagement of the private sector and strengthen the meaningful partnership. PPFS will work with ABAC, APEC Secretariat, and private sector partners to identify a formal mechanism for amplifying the voices of business from all 21 APEC economies and strengthening public-private partnership in PPFS.

## **V. Activities**

**17.** The PPFS 2014 Government - Business Dialogue Conference and the 1<sup>st</sup> MC Meeting held in Ningbo is the beginning of a series of PPFS 2014 meetings and activities. Future meetings of the year include a PPFS Plenary meeting and APEC Food Technology, Facility and Resource Exhibition to be held at the margin of SOM3, and a PPFS second MC Meeting to be held in Beijing at the margin of CSOM. Outcomes of PPFS meetings will be directly reported to the APEC Senior Official's Meetings, and then, the Food Security Ministerial Meeting and the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting.

**18.** In 2014, under the guidance of the PPFS Management Council, the existing PPFS working groups which were established in 2013 would continue to be open to interested PPFS members. The Working Group on the Sustainable Development of Agricultural and Fisheries Sectors will put priorities on technology cooperation, knowledge-sharing, and capacity building in food production (Hong Kong, China to chair the working group and lead the work). The Working Group on Facilitation on Investment and Infrastructure Development will focus on investment and infrastructure development and cooperation (Russia to chair the working group and lead the work). The Working Group on Enhancing Trade and Market will attach importance to technology exchanges and cooperation in food storage, supply chain and food loss reduction (the United States to lead work), food trade cooperation and facilitation (New Zealand to chair the working group and lead the work) and food standards and quality /safety assurances (China to lead the work, assisted by Australia and New Zealand and in co-operation with the APEC Food Safety Co-operation Forum).

**19.** PPFS will also further engage and coordinate more intensively with related APEC fora and mechanisms, especially: the Agriculture Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG), the Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG); the High Level Policy Dialogue on Agriculture Biotechnology (HLPDAB) and the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI).