



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2014/SOM1/019

Agenda Item: 1

ABAC Progress and Plans for 2014

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: ABAC



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



APEC Business Advisory Council

ABAC Progress and Plans for 2014

SOM 1 – Opening Plenary

Ningbo, Zhejiang, People's Republic of China
27 February, 2014

ABAC 2014 Themes and Priorities




“Building Asia Pacific Community, Mapping Long-Term Prosperity”

Priorities

- 1 Accelerating Regional Economic Integration**
- 2 Strengthening Infrastructure and Connectivity**
- 3 Promoting the Development and Integration of Financial Markets**
- 4 Championing Sustainable Development**
- 5 Supporting SMME & Fostering Entrepreneurship**


ABAC 2014 Working Groups



- 1 Regional Economic Integration (REIWG)**
- 2 Infrastructure and Connectivity (ICWG)**
- 3 Finance and Economic (FEWG)**
- 4 Sustainable Development (SDWG)**
- 5 SMME & Entrepreneurship (SMMEEWG)**

2

Outcomes of ABAC I (Auckland)



ABAC Level

- 1 2014 ABAC Work Plan was endorsed in Auckland.**
- 2 WGs fine tuned their own programs and developed advocacy matrix.**
- 3 ABAC members had a productive dialogue with Senior Officials.**

3

2014 ABAC Strategy and Objectives



2014 ABAC Strategy

Work on 2 focused priorities

2014 ABAC Objectives

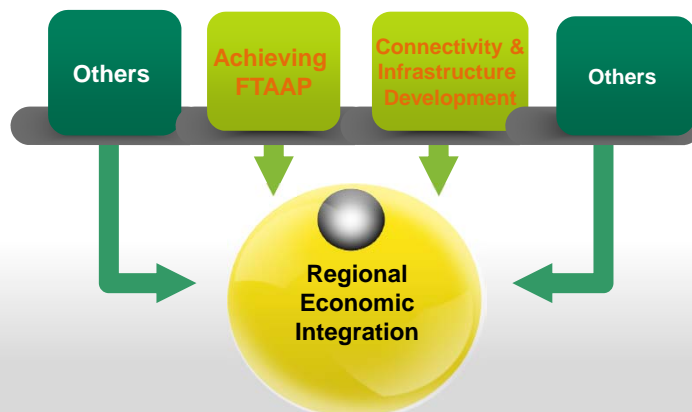
- ◆ Highlight the areas where **focused** attention would have the greatest impact;
- ◆ Make our agenda productive leading to **an effective ABAC dialogue with Leaders** in November in Beijing
- ◆ Include the newest development on each topic as a big picture when present suggestions to the Leaders

4

2014 ABAC Core Agenda



- ◆ 2014 ABAC recommendations will be underpinned by regional economic integration.
- ◆ Achieving FTAAP and strengthening connectivity and infrastructure development will be among the key recommendations to APEC Leaders.
- ◆ FTAAP provides the vision and vehicle for regional economic integration; connectivity and infrastructure development are key undertakings on the ground to reduce impediments to such integration.



5

2014 ABAC Core Agenda - Approaches and Resources



Approaches

- ◆ Based on the abovementioned 2014 strategy and objectives, a three-tiered approach is used to categorize WG priorities in order to have a focused agenda and lay the foundation for our final letter to the Leaders:
 - ✓ Tie One: Breakthroughs on Infrastructure and Connectivity;
 - ✓ Tier Two – In Need of Continuous Promotion, mainly on promoting FTAAP;
 - ✓ Tier Three – In Need of Continuous Attention

Intellectual Resources

- ◆ Marshall Business School Research Team
- ◆ PWC, the knowledge partner of APEC CEO Summit
- ◆ ABAC members' expertise in a range of fields & the whole business community in each economy
- ◆ International institutions and development banks

6


Outcomes of ABAC I – WG Level



Regional Economic Integration (REIWG)

- 1 Trade Liberalization
- 2 Services Trade Liberalization and Facilitation
- 3 Investment Liberalization and Facilitation
- 4 Enable a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP)

7




Outcomes of ABAC I – WG Level

Infrastructure and Connectivity(ICWG)

- 1 Infrastructure Development**
- 2 Financing**
- 3 Capacity Building**
- 4 Global Value Chain**

8




Outcomes of ABAC I – WG Level

Finance and Economic (FEWG)

- 1 Macroeconomic developments, G20**
- 2 Measures to promote investment and infrastructure**
- 3 Internationalization of emerging markets currencies**
- 4 Meeting the challenges of urbanization**
- 5 Advisory group initiatives on APFF, APIP**

9

Outcomes of ABAC I – WG Level




Sustainable Development (SDWG)

- 1 Food Security**
- 2 Energy Security and New Energy**
- 3 Green Growth and EGS**
- 4 Health and Sustainable Development**

10


Outcomes of ABAC I – WG Level



SMME & Entrepreneurship (SMMEEWG)

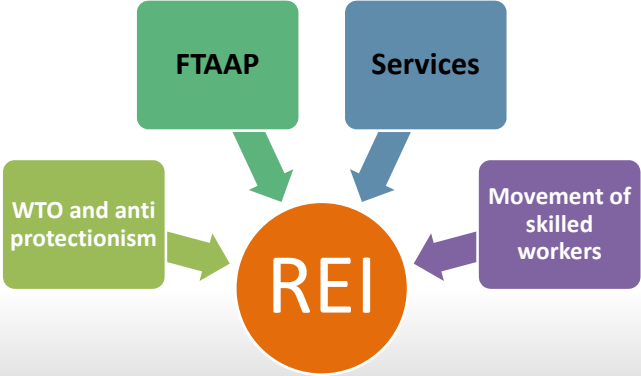
- 1 SMME Access to Finance**
- 2 Internationalization of SMMEs**
- 3 Women and Economy**
- 4 Innovative Growth**

11

Outcomes of ABAC I – ABAC - SOM Dialogue 


Advancing Regional Economic Integration

Issues have been discussed by two parties:




```
graph TD; FTAAP[FTAAP] --> REI((REI)); Services[Services] --> REI; WTO[WTO and anti protectionism] --> REI; Movement[Movement of skilled workers] --> REI;
```

12

Outcomes of ABAC I – ABAC - SOM Dialogue 

Strengthening comprehensive connectivity and infrastructure

Issues have been discussed by two parties:



```
graph TD; A[Developing a blueprint for the APEC Framework on Connectivity to report to APEC Leaders in 2014] --> B[Physical Connectivity– Infrastructure Development and Investment]; B --> C[Institutional Connectivity - Supply Chain Connectivity and Global Value Chains and Good Regulatory Practices (GRPs)]; C --> D[People to People Connectivity: Business Mobility and the APEC Business Travel Card];
```

13


Outcomes of ABAC I – ABAC - SOM Dialogue 

Promoting Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth

Issues have been discussed by two parties:

- Present some of the structural challenges currently facing the APEC Policy Partnership for Food Security (PPFS)
- What further actions should be taken to promote energy security, green growth and trade in environmental goods and services
- How the governments and private sector could work together to promote a healthy work force
- What concrete steps APEC is taking to implement the innovation policy recommendations

14


APEC Business Advisory Council

ABAC Progress and Plans for 2014

Ning Gaoning
ABAC Chair 2014
www.abaonline.org