



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2016/SOM1/CTI/041

Agenda Item: 8

**Best practices on Critical Issues in the Asia-Pacific
Region for the Implementation of WTO Trade
Facilitation Agreement**

Purpose: Consideration

Submitted by: Peru



**First Committee on Trade and Investment Meeting
Lima, Peru
28-29 February 2016**



APEC Project Proposal:

“Best practices on critical issues in the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement”

(CTI 12 2015A)

**Gloria RAMIREZ
Program Overseer**

February, 2016
Lima, Peru

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This project contributes with:

- **APEC member efforts in implementing the WTO TFA**
- **APEC Customs 3M Strategic Framework**
- **Supply Chain Connectivity Framework**

OBJECTIVES

1. To identify member economies' regulations and standards on trade facilitation related issues in order to implement WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement commitments in the Asia-Pacific Region.
2. To identify and work on economies' main difficulties in implementing TFA.
3. To provide opportunities to share experiences and lessons learned by the Economies that have already implemented measures and trade facilitation policies in line with the TFA that can be considered best practices.
4. To provide relevant information to help donor economies direct their assistance in an efficient manner.

ACTIVITIES

1) Survey

- March-July, 2016 (elaboration, circulation, analysis)
- The survey seeks to **address progress** on each of the **12 articles of Section 1 of the TFA** taking into account the perspective of **public and private sector**.
- Then, use data collected on the sector and background of the participant, identify trends based not just on geography but also on participant perspectives, expectations and interest.

ACTIVITIES

2) 2-day workshop

- At the margins of SOM3 2016, Lima, Peru.
- The workshop will be a forum for **structured dialogue** from analysts, policy makers, experts and other relevant stakeholders around the **most critical issues in implementing the TFA measures** previously identified in the survey.
- Participant's inputs, presentations and results of the workshop will be a source of information on APEC-specific implementation guidance and best practices that are aligned with established TFA implementation guidelines.

NEXT STEPS

- **Jan – Apr 2016:**
 - Make arrangements with the winner consulting firm for the elaboration of the survey
 - Prepare survey for the preliminary study.
- **May 2016:**
 - Circulate the survey for inputs
- **Jun – Jul 2016:**
 - Circulate a preliminary report of the survey
 - Request participation, confirm speakers and arrange logistics for the workshop
- **SOM 3, 2016:**
 - Hold a 2-day workshop at the margins of SOM3, 2016
- **After SOM 3:**
 - Elaborate a Best Practices Guidance based on the results of the survey and workshop, taking into account WTO and WCO guidelines.



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