



**Asia-Pacific
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Agenda Item: 7

Counter-Terrorism Working Group Proposed Workplan for 2017

Purpose: Consideration

Submitted by: CTWG Chair

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**SOM Steering Committee on Economic and
Technical Cooperation - Committee of the Whole
Meeting
Nha Trang, Viet Nam
28 February 2017**

Counter-Terrorism Working Group's Proposed Workplan for 2017

Introduction

In 2016, APEC Leaders in their declaration condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Leaders recognized the serious threat that terrorism poses to the fundamental values that underpin our free and open economies. Leaders encouraged economies to take actions and share best practices in the four cross-cutting areas of APEC's Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy.

The 2016 APEC Joint Ministerial Statement encouraged officials to continue implementing the APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy and, in light of the threat that foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) travellers pose to the integrity of the region's transportation infrastructure, focus on the strategy's call for immigration and border officials to manage the flow of bona-fide international travellers in and out of economies. Ministers recognized that advance passenger information and passenger name record (API/PNR) systems can mitigate the FTF travel threat, and encouraged APEC member economies to use these important tools that also facilitate legitimate travel by enabling authorities to process travelers at border crossings more quickly.

In the 2016 APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Statement, the Ministers recognized the serious threat that terrorism poses to our common values and to our economic activities. Ministers appreciated the efforts of APEC member economies to improve regional counterterrorism capacity, to create a secure environment, strive for stability, and promote sustainable growth and prosperity in our region. Ministers continued to encourage economies to implement fully the APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy.

In 2017, the Counter Terrorism Working Group will continue to fulfil its mandate as within APEC and is committed to work in line with the CTWG mission and APEC's 2017 theme of *Creating New Dynamism, Fostering Shared Future* through the following steps:

- Continue implementation of the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the recommendations of the Independent Assessor's report;
- Continue implementation of the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy as recognized in the 2016 Ministerial Joint Statement and the 2016 APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Statement;
- Review and assessment of the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy and their implementation;
- Increase cooperation among APEC member economies to address the dramatic evolution in the nature of terrorist threats, including by ISIL, and the growth of violent extremism, deny terrorists the access to tools of terrorism and safe havens, and to promote the security and resilience of businesses and communities;
- Conduct and advance activities related to human and institutional capacity building, empirical research, and collaboration training in countering violent extremism, counter-terrorism, secure trade and travel, in close cooperation and coordination with relevant lead APEC sub fora;
- Strengthen the CTWG operationally as an effective facilitator of counterterrorism and secure trade and travel cooperation within APEC;
- Advance programs that will strengthen APEC Member Economies' collaboration in countering violent extremism, preventing foreign terrorist fighter travel, countering the financing of terrorism, and promoting exchange of information regarding actions/movements of terrorist organizations and individuals;

- Increase cooperation among APEC member economies through exchanges of best practices in countering terrorism specifically those that support APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy;
- Increase cooperation and technical assistance among APEC member economies in their efforts to implement the Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) programs to secure and facilitate legitimate travel within the region.

Consultation, collaboration and coordination between the CTWG and other relevant lead APEC sub fora will also be done in four cross-cutting activity areas of the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy:

Secure Supply Chains

- The CTWG will work with the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment Subcommittee on Customs Procedures (CTI/SCCP), Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) and other relevant sub-fora to identify and close vulnerabilities in the regional supply chains and to enhance supply chain resilience; in particular to restore trade after major disaster and disruptions.
- The CTWG will consult with and support the CTI/SCCP in its efforts to strengthen supply chain security as well as continue to engage on initiatives such as the APEC Trade Recovery Program and Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Programs and also consult on other opportunities for cooperation to enhance supply chain security, including inviting the CTI/SCCP Chair to participate in a joint dialogue on supply chain security;
- The CTWG will work closely with the TPTWG and in particular, the Maritime Security Experts Group (MEG-SEC) to advance the APEC Trade Recovery Program and to identify remaining security gaps in the regional supply chain;
- The CTWG will continue to work to increase regional awareness of food defense, taking particular aim at threats caused by terrorism, small scale sabotage and food fraud. Interest generated from past efforts will promote new networking and outreach, specifically in regard to vulnerability assessments, mitigation strategies, and food defense plans. The CTWG will continue to engage food sector stakeholders through electronic collaboration and the sharing of updated guidance materials;
- Efforts should complement existing work being done in other international fora such as the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Secure Travel

- The CTWG will work with TPT-WG, the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment Business Mobility Group (CTI/BMG), and CTI/SCCP to implement the APEC Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy and support deeper cooperation and capacity building across the Strategy's priority areas of secure trade and travel;
- The CTWG will continue to work with the SCE, CTI/BMG, CTI SCCP, TPT-WG, Tourism Working Group (TWG) on implementing the APEC Travel Facilitation Initiative to make travel in the region faster, easier and more secure;
- The CTWG will work with the BMG, as the lead expert group on business mobility, to explore potential opportunities for cooperation to improve the secure flow of travellers throughout the region, including supporting, as needed, the BMG's efforts to develop a Border Capabilities Model. Efforts should complement existing work being done in other international fora such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);
- The CTWG will work with the TWG, as the lead sub-fora on tourism, to explore potential opportunities to improve protections for tourists as well as to share experiences and best practices in securing tourist destinations and tourist products;

- The CTWG will work with the following TPT-WG and pertinent sub-groups:
 - The CTWG will work with the Maritime Security Experts Group (MEG- SEC), as the lead maritime security expert group within APEC, and support the Group in its ongoing efforts to enhance port and maritime security;
 - The CTWG will continue to collaborate with the Aviation Security Experts Group (AEG-SEC), as the lead aviation security expert group within APEC, and support the Expert Group in its efforts to enhance aviation and transportation security.
 - The CTWG will endeavor to work with the relevant APEC sub fora particularly SCCP and other international organizations in the effort to implement the Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) programs to secure and facilitate legitimate travel within the region.

Secure Finance

- The CTWG will lead APEC efforts to prevent and combat terrorist financing. These efforts will include implementing a capacity building workshop on counterterrorism financing including when necessary with the participation of the non-profit organization sector as well as identifying vulnerabilities and priorities for future capacity building initiatives;
- The CTWG will seek to engage other APEC sub-fora as well as relevant non-APEC entities to ensure that secure finance efforts are fully and effectively coordinated, implemented and comply with the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations.

Secure Infrastructure

- The CTWG will collaborate with relevant lead APEC sub-fora to explore prospects for further cooperation on enhancing the security and resilience of infrastructure across the region. This is with the intention of making communities and critical infrastructure resistant to possible terrorist attacks.
- In line with the building sustainable and resilient communities, and securing critical infrastructure, the CTWG will collaborate with the Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) to explore possible initiatives and measures in preventing, mitigating, and responding to the effects of man-made events, including IED explosions, terrorist attacks, murder, kidnapping, and other terrorist activities which can damage infrastructure and disrupt business and commercial activities.
- The CTWG will consider the Key Observations and Recommended Future Activities from the June 2013 APEC Policy Dialogue on Critical Infrastructure Protection, to develop capacity building proposals in the area of secure and resilient infrastructure.
- The CTWG will work to support the APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL) and the Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG) in its efforts to increase awareness and to enhance cyber security as well as to review the APEC Cyber Security Strategy and the APEC TEL Strategy to ensure a Trusted, Secure and Sustainable Online Environment (TSSOE) as a basis for planning future APEC efforts in this area.
- The CTWG will consult with the TEL/SPSG to explore potential opportunities for cooperation in the area of countering violent extremism and radicalization, particularly in the realm of cyberspace and social media.
- The CTWG will continue to work on major event security capacity building activities.

1. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2017

- 1.1 Hold 9th Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting in Nha Trang, Viet Nam 21-22 February
- 1.2 Hold a workshop on Safeguarding the Tourism Industry against the Negative Impact of a Terrorist Attack (CTWG 01 2016A) in Bali, Indonesia in March (tbc)
- 1.3 Hold an APEC Major Events Security Framework Capacity Building Workshop for Viet Nam Security Officers in Viet Nam
- 1.4 Conduct a review and assessment of the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy to evaluate their implementation, examine if the CTWG and the member economies are able to meet the key performance indicators, and discuss possible amendments and revisions to these documents to make them responsive to existing conditions and events.
- 1.5 Agree on CTWG Strategic Plan 2018-2022
- 1.6 Elect new CTWG Vice Chair for the period 2017-2018
- 1.7 Hold 10th Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting in Ho Chi Minh City in August
- 1.8 Hold Workshop on Best Practices to deal with the Foreign Terrorist Fighter (FTF) Returnees, in Ho Chi Minh City in August (TBC)

2. Itemized Work Plans for 2017

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (Within APEC and beyond APEC)
Hold 9 th Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting in Nha Trang, Viet Nam, 21-22 February	CTWG will hold its first meeting in 2017 on 21-22 February. The meeting will discuss among other: - Individual Counter Terrorism Action Plan (CTAP) submission by member economies in 2016 - International Counter Terrorism efforts in other fora - Current threats in the Asia Pacific Region and measures taken by economies to eliminate the threats	<u>2016 Leaders Declaration</u> Encouraged economies to take actions and share best practices in the four cross-cutting areas of APEC's Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy	Human Security	
Hold a workshop on Safeguarding the Tourism Industry against the Negative Impact of a Terrorist Attack (CTWG 01 2016A) in Bali, Indonesia on March	This project aims to build better cooperation amongst APEC Economies in safeguarding tourism industry against the negative impact of terrorist attack. This two-day workshop held in Bali, Indonesia on March 2017, will involve experience sharing and discuss various policies, planning and strategy that have been implemented by APEC Economies to improve security against any threat that might disrupt businesses and the movement of people. The workshop will provide policy recommendation on how to create reliable, secure and resilience tourism industry in the region during security crisis. Examples to be discussed in the workshop might include recent incidents and measures taken by economies and the private sector such as and not limited to hotels, transportation network, logistic, events organizers and others as well as the local communities.	<u>2016 Leaders Declaration</u> Encouraged economies to take actions and share best practices in the four cross-cutting areas of APEC's Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy	Human Security	Result of the workshop will be shared to Tourism Working Group (TWG)
Hold an APEC Major Events Security Framework Capacity Building Workshop for Viet Nam Security Officers in Viet Nam	As part of the APEC MESF capacity building, the workshop in Lima, Peru scheduled for 20-21 February 2016 will be a highly interactive and collaborative event that will encourage economies to interact and share experience and insights regarding security planning for major events. By the end of the workshop delegates will have a solid understanding of major event planning, captured lessons learned shared from other economies and will have developed experience in conducting threat and risk assessments and development of Concept of Operations for major event security.	<u>2016 Leaders Declaration</u> Encouraged economies to take actions and share best practices in the four cross-cutting areas of APEC's Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy	Human Security	

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Conduct a review and assessment of the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the APEC Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy	Intersessionally, CTWG will evaluate the implementation of Strategic Plan 2013-2017, examine if the CTWG and the member economies are able to meet the key performance indicators, and discuss possible amendments and revisions to these documents to make them responsive to existing conditions and events.		Human Security	
Agree on CTWG Strategic Plan 2018-2022	CTWG will agree on the new Strategic Plan of 2018-2022 as the basis of its work for the 5 years period.		Human Security	
Hold 10 th Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting in Ho Chi Minh City in August	10 th Meeting of CTWG will be its second meeting in 2017. The meeting will be held in August in Ho Chi Minh City and to discuss among other: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Implementation of CTWG Projects- Current threats in the Asia Pacific Region and measures taken by economies to eliminate the threats	<u>2016 Leaders Declaration</u> Encouraged economies to take actions and share best practices in the four cross-cutting areas of APEC's Consolidated Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy	Human Security	
Hold Workshop on Best Practices to deal with the Foreign Terrorist Fighter (FTF) Returnees, in Ho Chi Minh City in August (TBC)	Viet Nam will submit a Concept Note for project Session 1 2017 and seek for APEC funding. If approved, the workshop will be organized in the margin of SOM 3 in Ho Chi Minh City. The workshop will discussed among other : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Detect the movement of FTF returnees to original economies- Rehabilitation program in each economy for FTF returnees.	<u>2016 Leaders Declaration</u> <u>2016 Ministerial Statement</u> • Utilize the advance passenger information and passenger name record (API/PNR) systems to process travelers at border crossings more quickly.	Human Security	