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**Summary Report of the 3rd APEC Public-Private
Dialogue on Advancing Trade Facilitation and
Supply Chain Connectivity Through APMEN**

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Summary Report of 3rd APEC Public-Private Dialogue on Advancing Trade Facilitation and Supply Chain Connectivity through APMEN

19 May, 2017 Hanoi, Vietnam

APMEN Operational Center hosted the third APEC Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) on Advancing Trade Facilitation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Hanoi on May 19, 2017. The third PPD focused on the implementation of *Suggested Framework for Phase Two of the Supply-Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan 2017-2020*(SCFAP II) and *Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)*. Over 150 delegates from APEC economies' authorities, APMEN member E-ports, international organizations and private sectors attended the PPD.

1. The Opening Session of PPD

- Mr. Wang Shouwen, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, delivered a keynote speech. In his speech, Mr. Wang Shouwen emphasized that APMEN is an important initiative on trade connectivity approved by APEC Leaders and has highly compatible visions with the Belt and Road initiative in promoting unimpeded trade connectivity. For the past two years, APMEN has exchanged good practices on e-ports and launched pilot projects, featuring mutual-benefit and win-win cooperation. He expected APMEN could achieve more progress in the areas of implementing WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and strengthening supply chain connectivity through pilot projects.
- In her keynote speech, Mrs. Hồ Thị Kim Thoa, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam, remarked that APMEN is a meaningful initiative and a practical contribution to APEC connectivity priorities, especially in strengthening supply chain linkages and value chains areas.
- Keynote speech by Dr. Alan Bollard, Director of APEC Secretariat. Dr. Alan Bollard further commented that APMEN is an initiative with traditional approach of promotion in trade facilitation, and with a very modern approach of electronic commerce and Big Data as well.
- Welcome speech by Mr. Shen Weihua, Chairmen of AJOG. In his speech, Mr. Shen Weihua introduced the latest developments of APMEN and welcomed all the delegates who attended the third PPD.

2. Session One: APMEN's role in the implementation of *Suggested Framework for Phase Two of the Supply-Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan 2017-2020*(SCFAP II) and *Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)*

- Mr. Liu Ping, Director of the Tariff and Trade Affairs Directorate of WCO, briefed on World Customs Organization's implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement. A project called Mercator Program had been endorsed by WCO in June 2014. WCO has developed numbers of instruments and tools, which responds to Members' needs for TFA implementation, such as Single Window Compendium, Data Model, etc. With TFA Working Group been established, some key considerations and Technical Guidelines had been made to fulfill the requirements on the implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement.

- Dr. Denis Hew, Director of APEC PSU, stressed that based on evaluation indicators, much achievements have been accomplished in SCFAP I, so he is confident that SCFAP II would surely enhance the supply chain reliability among Asia Pacific region, and reduce the trade cost at the same time. In 2017, with the enhanced implementation of SCFAP II, better understandings shall be gained and concrete action plans been established for chokepoints for the development of supply chain.
- Dr. Li Li, Chief Expert of APMEN Operational Center, introduced APMEN's Implementation Plan of SCFAP II. For chokepoint one, APMEN will propose a set of TFA evaluation index and carry out case study with voluntary economies. For chokepoint two, APMEN plans to establish an electronic data exchange network among ports and logistics operators. For chokepoint four, APMEN will develop an information sharing system of FTA preferential tariff policies among APEC economies in order to improve transparency of policy, and will study the possibility of providing “manufacturer to consumer” data for significant consumer commodities among APEC economies.
- Mr. Adem Long, Logistics Manager of NSW Ports, proposed *Flinders Ports Model E-port Network Project* which can make all the supply chain participants to work in e-port network environment with live data in real time.
- Mr. Philip Ho, COO of One Port Limited, introduced the *Feeder Ports DX Project* which can capacitate direct point-to-point data exchange between HK Port and PRD Feeder Ports.

3. Session Two: Trade facilitation from business community’s perspective

- Dato' Ng Wan Peng, COO of Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation, introduced Digital Free Trade Zone launched with Alibaba. The DFTZ will help SMEs to overcome the complex regulations, processes and barriers, and eventually further encourage businesses and traders to connect and collaborate in cross-border trading.
- Dr. Mingchao Fan, Director of ICC Arbitration & ADR, North Asia, elaborated how ATA Carnet System can speed up the integration of customs-private sector partnership. ICC and APMEN share a common goal of enhancing the trade facilitation.
- Mr. Ong Poo Yee, Regional Head of SF Express South Asia Region, talked about 4 driving forces, namely Facilities, Affection, Smart and Soul that SF perceived to support trade.
- Mr. Yu Wei Chi, Deputy President of Bank of China Shanghai Branch, briefed on BOC’s innovative financial service, including online service, cross-border matching, E-commerce solution, etc. and expressed the hope that APMEN and BOC will have more dialogues on product innovation, cross-border matching and training.
- Ms. Kim Le, Public Affairs lead for north Asia and stakeholder partnerships from UPS, introduced UPS’ practices in healthcare supply chains, E-commerce, Single Window implementation to support the next generation of trade.

4. Closing Session

Mr. Liu Yadong, Chairman of APMEN Operational Center, made closing remarks. APMEN Operational Center will host regular events, carry out researches, promote pilot projects in the future to make contribution to the realization of “APEC Connectivity Blueprint for 2015 to 2025” and the

implementation of WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement. APMEN encourages more APEC economies and ports/e-ports to join APMEN in order to realize stronger trade connectivity and growth in the APEC region.

5. Suggestions

- Coordinate border management and border clearance procedures, improve infrastructure and services, thus strengthening regulatory cooperation and supply chain connectivity.
- Continue to promote Single Window and ICT infrastructure facilities and improve coordination among key stakeholders.
- Better utilize supporting tools provided by WCO in the implementation of the TFA.
- Improve logistics to better facilitate global trade, particularly in simplifying clearance procedures, and improving traceability and visibility.
- Lower barriers for SMEs in global trade by improving accessibility of financing and quality logistics.