



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2017/SOM3/025anx4

Agenda Item: 4

Annex 4 - Report by the Chair of the CPLG

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: EC Chair



**Third Senior Officials' Meeting
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
29-30 August 2017**

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE CPLG ON EC2 2017

APEC work on Competition Assessment Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, August 25th

Thank you Chair, as CPLG Convenor, I would like to present the advancing of our work Plan for 2017.

As I mentioned during the CPLG meeting on February 2017, 3 Concept Notes from CPLG seeking APEC-funding were submitted in Session 1 2017. They were well scored by CPLG members, and supported by EC members, but the funding was so tough under the APEC Support Fund - General Fund (under which both applied) so not all the Concept Notes were funded this time.

1. Workshop on Merger Control Regimes. Papua New Guinea proposed two days for this workshop in order to help APEC developing economies in applying best practices in merger control. This Concept Note was not funded and has been resubmitted to Session 2 under RAASR Sub-Fund.
2. Seminar on Settlements as an effective tool for fighting cartels. Peru proposed this seminar for sharing experiences among APEC members, in order to identify, evaluate, apply and improve best practices related to the settlements, as a tool for solving in less time cartel investigation that enables the competition authorities to be more efficient in time and resources. This Concept Note was not funded in Session 1 2017 but Peru made some adjustments and submit it again for Session 2 seeking APEC funding. It is important to mention that this seminar was well scored by CPLG members, and supported by EC members, but the funding was so tough under the APEC Support Fund - General Fund.
3. Promoting the use of economic evidence for more effective competition policy and market functioning. Viet Nam proposed a one-year project to be implemented from May 2017 to May 2018. The training is focused on the using economic evidence in their professional work. This Project fits with the priority of APEC and EC, and Vietnam's individual action plan to implement the RAASR for 2016 to 2020. This was funded under the RAASR sub-fund.
4. In addition, the Concept Note "Application of Competition Policy to International Liner Shipping Industry" was submitted by Philippines for Session 2. This project aims to evaluate maritime consortia and alliances, vessel sharing agreements, liner consolidation, and related arrangements, and pro- or anti-competitive effects evaluations. This international workshop should be held in Manila on April 2018. Funding will be known in September.

I would like to strongly encourage to all APEC economies for participating in all these important events, addressed, in different ways, to help for identifying, combating and deterring anticompetitive conducts that affect negatively our economies.

Thank you Chair.