



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2018/GOS/SYM/001**

## **Program**

Submitted by: Australia



**Symposium on Services Trade  
Singapore  
30 May – 1 June 2018**

## APEC Symposium on Services Trade

30 May 2018 – 1 June 2018, Singapore

Intercontinental Hotel, Bugis Junction

### PROGRAM

DAY 1, Wednesday 30 May 2018	
9.00am – 9.30am	<b>Registrations</b>
9.30am - 9.45am	<p><b>Official Welcome</b> <i>Ben Shepherd, Symposium Facilitator</i></p> <p><b>Opening Address</b> <i>Kanu Negi, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia</i></p>
9.45 – 10.30am	<p><b>Symposium Overview</b> <i>Ben Shepherd, Symposium Facilitator</i></p> <p><b>Icebreaker Exercise</b> <i>Ben Shepherd, Symposium Facilitator</i></p>
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Group Photo &amp; Coffee break</b>
11.00am – 12.30pm	<p><b>Session 1 – Competitive Services for Competitive Economies</b></p> <p><i>Services are important sources of competitiveness in their own right. But they are also linked to the broader economy. What are the implications of these linkages for the impact of services policies on economy wide competitiveness and growth? How do more competitive services markets help developing economies integrate into international markets, including participation in Global Value Chains?</i></p> <p><i>Ben Shepherd, Developing Trade Consultants Moekti Prasetyani Soejachmoen, Mandiri Institute Ingo Borchert, University of Sussex and UK Trade Policy Observatory Format – Presentations. Facilitated panel discussion and Q&amp;A.</i></p>
12.30pm – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30pm – 3.00pm	<p><b>Session 2 – Digitization, IT-Enabled Services, and New Business Models</b></p> <p><i>The digital economy is becoming increasingly important for service providers and policymakers. What challenges and opportunities do digital technologies present for APEC economies? What new business models are emerging in services that make use of ICT capabilities? What policies are needed to ensure widespread benefits from the move towards greater use of digital technologies?</i></p> <p><i>Panel – Peter Lovelock (TRPC), Justine Lan (WTO), Tom Fine (USTR) Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion and Q&amp;A.</i></p>
3.00pm – 3.30pm	<b>Coffee break</b>
3.30pm - 5.00pm	<p><b>Session 3 – Measuring Services for Better Policies</b></p> <p><i>Recent years have seen important advances in the availability of more granular information regarding both services policies and services trade flows, but many challenges remain. How is it possible to quantify the restrictiveness of services policies and compare them across regions? How can other initiatives within APEC, like TiVA, contribute to a better understanding of services trade, and the role of services embodied in manufactured goods exports? What are the challenges in collecting and measuring services data and policies as business practices evolve?</i></p> <p><i>Panel – Ben Shepherd (Developing Trade Consultants), Janos Ferencz (OECD), Ingo Borchert (University of Sussex and UK Trade Policy Observatory) Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion. Group Exercise.</i></p>

DAY 2, Thursday 31 May 2018	
9.00am-9.45am	<p><b>Session 4 – Financial Services and the role of FINTECH</b></p> <p><i>What is the role of the financial sector and trade in financial services in developed and developing economies? What kinds of policies can facilitate international trade while securing important objectives such as systemic stability? What measures would help businesses trade more effectively in the region? How are new technologies impacting trade in financial services with a particular focus on FINTECH.</i></p> <p><i>Panel – Tom Fine (USTR), Daphne Au (AIG)</i> <i>Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion.</i></p>
9.45am - 10.30am	<p><b>Session 5 – Business and Professional Services: The Role of Standards and Recognition</b></p> <p>Business and professional services are important activities in a range of developing and developed APEC economies. What kinds of policies can facilitate trade in these sectors, including through the development of more competitive value chains? What are the priorities of the business sector in different economies, and how can they be reconciled with legitimate policy objectives such as consumer protection?</p> <p><i>Panel – Deborah Biber (PBEC), Christopher Ziguras (RMIT), Seng Chuan Tan (TEMBUSU Asia Consulting Pte Ltd./Registered APEC Engineer), John Donnelly (DFAT)</i> <i>Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion.</i></p>
10.30am - 11.00am	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.00am – 11.45am	<p><b>Session 6 – Education Services</b></p> <p>What is the role of education and human capital development in promoting long-run growth and shared prosperity? How can trade in education services, such as higher education and VET, help achieve this objective? What kinds of policies can help promote more integrated regional education markets?</p> <p><i>Panel – Christopher Ziguras (RMIT), Tham Siew Yean (ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute/ Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM)</i> <i>Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion.</i></p>
11.45am – 12.30pm	<p><b>Session 7 – Group Work on Sectoral Issues</b></p> <p>Each economy will choose one of the above sectors to focus on. The exercise will look at identifying policy priorities and assessing measures to facilitate trade.</p> <p><i>Format – Facilitator Led Discussion. Group Exercise</i></p>
12.30pm – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30pm – 3.00pm	<p><b>Session 8 – APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap (ASCR)</b></p> <p><i>This session will provide an overview of the work undertaken by APEC in the area of services with a focus on the APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap (ASCR). It will highlight the different aspects of the Roadmap such as the work advanced under various APEC-wide actions and baseline indicators to monitor progress before concluding with some food for thoughts as APEC moves this important initiative forward.”</i></p> <p><i>Panel – Asmidar Abdul Rahman (APEC Secretariat), Andre Wirjo (PSU, APEC Secretariat)</i> <i>Format – Presentations. Facilitated Panel Discussion. Group Exercise.</i></p>
3.00pm-3.30pm	<b>Coffee break</b>
3.30pm - 5.00pm	<p><b>Session 9 – Learning from experience</b></p> <p><i>Selected APEC economies would share their domestic experience about the barriers to services trade, changes made to the regulatory frameworks, how the barriers were addressed, and what challenges still remain.</i></p> <p><i>Experts – Tony Coles (DFAT), Aileen Chia (IMDA), Other Economy Participants.</i> <i>Format – Economy specific presentations with feedback from selected experts and other economy participants.</i></p>

DAY 3, Friday 1 June 2018	
9.00am – 10.30am	<p><b>Session 10.1 – Change Management and instigating reform</b></p> <p><i>Discussion on some internal policy reform ideas and domestic regulation processes to address barriers to services trade; political feasibility of the reforms; types of policy reforms; and their implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Format – Facilitator Christopher Ziguras, RMIT University</i></p>
10.30am-11.00am	<p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>
11.00am – 12.30pm	<p><b>Session 10.2 – Change Management and instigating reform</b></p> <p><i>Discussion on some internal policy reform ideas and domestic regulation processes to address barriers to services trade; political feasibility of the reforms; types of policy reforms; and their implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Format – Facilitator Christopher Ziguras, RMIT University</i></p>
12.30pm – 1.00pm	<p><b>Closing remarks by Facilitator and DFAT Australia</b></p> <p><i>Ben Shepherd, Symposium Facilitator.</i> <i>Tony Coles, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia</i></p>
1.00pm – 2.00pm	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
<b>Evaluations and wrap up</b>	