

2022/SOM1/CTI/035 Agenda Item: XIV (b)

Items for Noting – First Committee on Trade and Investment Meeting 2022

Purpose: Information Submitted by: APEC Secretariat



First Committee on Trade and Investment Meeting 18-22 February 2022

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No.	Initiative or item ¹	CTI agenda topic	Lead economy	Progress update or other information to note
1.	APEC Investment Commitment Handbook Project (IEG 02 2018S)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Australia	 Current status and progress/update: Phase 2 of the Handbook Project with Viet Nam is nearing conclusion. A cross-government workshop was held in January 2022 in Viet Nam. The workshop provided a forum for valuable feedback on the draft handbook; confirmed that the handbook meets the requirements of Vietnamese officials; and raised awareness of the handbook across government. The text of the handbook has now been finalized based on the comments received from workshop participants and other relevant stakeholders. Work is ongoing on the layout, design and printing of the handbook for distribution. Five training sessions with officials across Viet Nam are scheduled in February – April 2022. These will be 'train the trainer' sessions designed to build lasting capacity across the Vietnamese government. Next steps: Second phase of project expected to be completed by June 2022. Welcome advice from economies interested in participating in the next phase of the project. Request to CTI members N/A
2.	APEC Single Window Interoperability Action Plan	Supply Chain Connectivity	Chile, China & Peru	 Current status and progress/update: In 2021 the technical group comprised of Chile, Peru and Singapore (as pilot participants) and Korea and New Zealand (as observers) met several times to start developing the technical parameters of the pilot. The participants agreed, as first approach, that the document to exchange in the pilot would be the customs data declaration form. Subsequently they exchanged their own forms, as to familiarize with the design and particularities of the document in each Economy. Next steps: The participants continue to discuss on the best technology to use to

 $^{^{1}}$ For members' ease of reference, a document number from 2021 CTI meetings will be provided

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				 interoperate and the standards that will define the pilot like, for example, applicable international regulations or treaties. Once this analysis is concluded the group will work on a Harmonization Matrix and Service Contracts for the document to be exchanged. A new set of technical meetings will soon be scheduled for 2022. Request to CTI members Nil
3.	Initiative "Dispute Settlement Mechanisms in Trade Agreements"	Regional Economic Integration	Chile	Current status and progress/update: - A new project overseer has been designed by Chile after the previous PO couldn't continue with the initiative due to health reasons. - The new PO is preparing a summary report with the information collected through the survey. - The new PO has also started preparations for the webinar with the expectation of hosting it around June or July 2022. Next steps: - To circulate to CTI members for information a summary of the key highlights gathered from the survey. - To circulate to CTI information and invitations to the webinar. Request to CTI members - Nil
4.	Work Plan on Digital Trade and E-Commerce for the Realization of the FTAAP 2020/SOM1/CTI/034	REI - Free Trade Area of the Asia- Pacific (FTAAP) Agenda	Japan	Current status and progress/update: - Japan has been working on completing the draft report, gain feedbacks from various economies. Next steps: - The final version, revised based on comments and feedback from economies will be circulated and asked for endorsement intersessionally. Request to CTI members - N.A.

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5.	FTAAP Capacity Building Needs Initiative (CBNI)	Regional Economic Integration	Korea	 Current status and progress/update: Since 2012, APEC has been carrying out CBNI as parts of its efforts to strengthen FTA negotiating capabilities and realize the FTAAP. Korea launched each phase of CBNI, by conducting survey and proposing the Action Plan Framework; (Phase 1) From 2012 to 2014, 7 economies carried out 12 capacity-building workshops. (Phase 2) From 2015 to 2017, 4 economies carried out 9 capacity-building workshops. (Phase 3) From 2019 to 2021, 8 economies carried out 14 capacity-building workshops.
				 Next steps: As Phase 3 CBNI was completed with success last year, Korea will launch the Phase 4 CBNI this year: At CTI2/SOM2, Korea will circulate suggested Action Plan Framework as a basis for discussion, In June, Korea will circulate survey questionnaires to economies, to identify sectors that need additional capacity building programs and economies' willingness to carry out any capacity building workshop under CBNI4 At CTI3/SOM3, Korea will share the results of the survey, and at the same time will developed the proposed Action Plan Framework based on the survey results At CSOM, the proposed Action Plan Framework can get endorsed, and preferably at the AMM and AELM as well. In 2023 and beyond, the first workshop under the Phase 4 CBNI could be held. Request to CTI members Economies are encouraged to reply to the survey questionnaire, with their ideas on the possible sectors and willingness to lead certain sectors, Economies are welcome to sign up as leading economies of certain sector and play a leading role in the post-CBNI.
6.	Study / Report COVID-19 and Cross-	Trade Facilitation & Connectivity	Korea	Current status and progress/update: - The final report was endorsed by CTI on 19 August 2021
	Border Mobility in the			Next Steps

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	APEC Region - Passports, Tickets and Face Masks			- The report was published in the APEC Publications website and shared with relevant APEC groups https://www.apec.org/Publications/2021/08/Passports-Tickets-and-Face-Masks
7.	FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E- commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs (Phase 2)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Korea	Current status and progress/update: - Korea held one-and-a-half day hybrid-format workshop on 8-9 September, 2021. Final report of the workshop was endorsed and published on the APEC website in January, 2022.
	(CTI 02 2020T)			Next steps: - This workshop was the last capacity-building workshop, which was held under the aforementioned FTAAP CBNI. Korea is planned to launch the post-CBNI and continue to carry out such capacity-building workshops
8.	Consumer Protection in Digital Trade / E- commerce: Towards Building an APEC Regional Consumer Protection	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Korea	Current status and progress/update: - Korea held one day hybrid-format workshop in 4 August, 2021. - Final report of the workshop was endorsed and published on the APEC website in January, 2022.
	Framework (CTI 09 2020A)			Next steps: - Korea will circulate 'APEC Consumer Protection Framework in the Digital Economy' which was drafted based on the discussions at the workshop.
9.	The APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy Within GVCs	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Korea and Chile	Current status and progress/update: - Korea submitted Summary Report and Research Report. - The final report was endorsed by CTI on 28 December, 2021. - The report can be accessed in the APEC website
	(CTI 06 2020A)			Next steps: - Lead economies will find a way to utilize and further develop research results.
10.	PPD on Advertising Standards in the Digital Economy	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Peru	Current status and progress/update: - The project contemplated the development of a workshop, which was held at SOM3 2019, and the elaboration of document "Digital Advertising Guide: Recommendations on advertising standards in the digital economy"

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	(CTI 05 2019T)			 The Secretariat approved the 2nd PDAE. The Guide of Recommendation was sent to the Secretary for circulation among CTI members for its endorsement.
				Next steps: - Endorsement of the Guide of Recommendations by 7 March 2022.
				Request to CTI members - When circulated, the endorsement of the recommendations by CTI.
11.	PPD on promoting Consumer Protection in the dispute resolution and redress mechanisms in E-commerce (CTI 09 2019T)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives & Projects	Peru	Current status and progress/update: The PPD was held between 27-29 April 2021 and it was attended by 90 representatives. The summary report and the guide of recommendations have been endorsed and already uploaded into the APEC website. Next steps: The Completion Report must be submitted no later than the end of February 2022 Request to CTI members
12.	Outcomes on the Application of the Test of Ex Ante Control of Regulations on Advertising (CTI 06 2020S)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Peru	 N/A Current status and progress/update: The self-funded project was endorsed in July 2020. The project is under implementation. Next steps: The PO is elaborating the study. It is expected that the first draft will be circulated among CTI members for comments intersessionally after CTI1 2022. Request to CTI members Endorsement of the study by CTI
13.	Self-Funded Initiative on Promoting Transparency of Technical Barriers to	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	Peru	Current status and progress/update: - The self-funded initiative was endorsed in September 2020. The initiative is under implementation.

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	Trade (TBT) World Trade Organization (WTO) Notifications: Improving Completeness and Clearness of Information 2020/CTI2/IS06			 The PO presented a Concept Note to Project Session 1 2021 titled "Public Private Dialogue on Promoting Transparency of TBT WTO Notifications: Improving Completeness and Clearness of Information". The proposal was approved for APEC funding. Peru circulated the Terms of Reference of the Study which was endorsed on 1 April 2021. The Study is currently being carried out and processing the information collected. Next steps: The PO is in the process of elaborating the study. The first draft will be circulated after CTI3 2021 for intersessional comments. Request to CTI members
				- CTI's revision and endorsement of the study intersessionally before CSOM.
14.	Implementation of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs (BAA) & progress/ update on the Final Review Update on (i) the Final Review of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSME: Study Report and (ii) APEC Global MSME Forum	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Philippines	Current status and progress/update: The Final Review of the Boracay Action Agenda (BAA) Study Report is now available in the APEC website. It can be accessed through this link: https://www.apec.org/docs/default-source/Publications/2021/10/Final-Review-of-the-Boracay-Action-Agenda-Study-Report/221 SME Final-Review-of-the-BAA-Study-Report.pdf The Philippines provided a presentation on the Outcomes of the Global MSME Forum 2021 and Updates on the APEC BAA at the regular meeting of the WTO Informal Working Group on MSMEs on 8 February 2022. The Philippines shared its experience from the implementation of the BAA and provided common areas of cooperation in the BAA priority actions and the WTO MSME Informal Working Group. Next steps: Nil. Request to CTI members CTI members to note updates
15.	APEC Trade Repository		Philippines	Current status and progress/update:

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		Updates from Sub-Fora Convenor/ Chair		 The Philippines provided MAG members the latest APECTR usage report covering the period 16 February to 31 July 2021. The next usage report (covering 1 Aug 2021 to 15 Feb 2022) will be provided during the MAG meeting on 17 Feb 2022. In 2021, the Philippines also uploaded the latest file on the APEC Survey on E-commerce Regulations (led by Singapore) and the Table Monitoring APEC Economies' Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Next steps: Nil
				Request to CTI members - N/A
			Indonesia	With regard to enhance economies' capacities in promoting the APEC TR to relevant stakeholders, Indonesia also proposes an initiative to conduct the Study on Strategy to Promote the Utilisation of the APEC Trade Repository in MAG.
				Current status and progress/update:
				 The project will generate a study report on promoting the utilization of the APEC TR and possibly promotional material references expected to be completed at the end of 2022.
				- The study will be structured through desk research and voluntary surveys to related stakeholders and working groups, including CTI and SCCP.
				- The project proposal was deemed satisfactory by APEC PMU on 7 February 2022.
				Next steps: - Generate a questionnaire and draft a study report
				Request to CTI members
				 To encourage Economies participation, in CTI, MAG and SCCP, to actively participate in fulfilling the questionnaire.
16.	Promoting Trade by	Update on Other	Chinese	Current status and progress/update:
	Utilizing Digital Technology	CTI Initiatives and Projects	Taipei	 A half-day webinar was held on 14 September, 2021 to discuss promoting trade by utilizing digital technology in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and particularly focused on the Meeting, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) industry.

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	(CTI 07 2021S)			 188 participants from the public and private sectors in APEC attended the webinar, where speakers shared the measures and experiences from government-led programs in the Asia Pacific Region and successful business solutions. Summary Report was endorsed in December 2021. Next steps: Chinese Taipei will submit the completion report intersessionally.
17.	Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement • Progress/update of economies' implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation 2021/SOM1/CTI/040a	Support for the Multilateral Trading System	Singapore	Current status and progress/update: - CTI members endorsed the proposal on 17 May to upload the "Table Monitoring TFA Implementation" onto the APEC CTI webpage and APEC Trade Repository - The table is now "live" on both websites. Next steps: - See below. Request to CTI members - Members may contact the Secretariat to provide updates on their status of implementation.
18.	Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC as part of the work plans on FTAAP 2020/CTI2/IS05	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	 Current status and progress/update: The Stock-take of ongoing and completed APEC initiatives on transparency based on the inputs received from economies and information on APEC projects contained in the AIMP. was endorsed in the CTI on 3 August 2020 (2020/CTI2/IS05). Russia is working to updated mentioned Stock-take, taking into account the projects and initiatives implemented in the second half of 2020 and 2021. Next steps: A draft summary on key conclusions from the updated Stock-take and suggested next steps will be circulated in CTI intersessionally. Request to CTI members N/A

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19.	Work Program on Environment-related Provisions in FTAs/RTAs 2020/SOM1/CTI/011	Regional Economic Integration	Russia	Current status and progress/update: Russia has updated the Stock-take of environment-related provisions in FTAs/RTAs based on the inputs received from economies. An updated Stock-take of environment-related provisions in FTAs/RTAs will be circulated for endorsement in the nearest time. A desk research is being prepared based on the existing results of the undertaken Stock-take. Next steps: To finalise the Stock-take and the desk research for further endorsement at the CTIs. Request to CTI members
				- N/A
20.	Proposal for Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC: Tariff Policies 2020/CTI2/007 2020/CTI3/IS06	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	Current status and progress/update: The proposal for Enhancing Trade Policy Transparency in APEC: Tariff Policies was endorsed on 23 October 2020 intersessionally. The questionnaire for government authorities and private sector was circulated to collect data on the existing practices, international requirements, and possible ways to enhance transparency on tariff policies, as well as private sector views on the existing practices and international requirements, and their impact on business activities. Next steps: Russia will prepare a draft report reflecting the information collected to promote an exchange of views on existing practices, international requirements, and possible ways to enhance transparency on tariff policies. Request to CTI members N/A
21.	Workshop on Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Content Trade	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Russia	Current status and progress/update: - The Workshop Summary report was endorsed by CTI on 16 September 2021. Russia is preparing a proposal on further steps on enhancing IPR protection in digital

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	(CTI 02 2019)			content trade in APEC region, as part of further work on this topic stipulated by the Project Proposal. Next steps: See below Request to CTI members N/A
22.	Blueprint 2.0.: Compilation of modernday factors affecting the formation and development of global value chains 2020/SOM1/CTI/IS09 2020/CTI-E/IS05	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	Russia	 Current status and progress/update: A Stock-take of the respective past work undertaken by APEC was endorsed by the CTI on 29 May 2020. A questionnaire regarding modern-day factors affecting the formation and development of GVCs has been developed based on the results of the undertaken Stock-take. Russia is in the process of updating the questionnaire in line with the comments of some economies. The updated questionnaire will be circulated among APEC economies intersessionally. Next steps: Russia will prepare a survey focused on addressing factors that have an impact on GVCs' functioning and the integration of APEC economies into global production processes. Request to CTI members N/A
23.	Blueprint 2.0.: Workshop on Effective Domestic Policymaking for Stimulating Economic Upgrading through Global Value Chains	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	Russia	Current status and progress/update: - Preparations for the Workshop are currently focused on: a. Finalization of the speakers' selection process; b. Preparation of the final version of the agenda; c. Development of an analytical report based on the APEC economies inputs, which were provided by completing questionnaires. Next steps:
	(011 14 2013/1)			- Russia will organize the virtual workshop at 1-2 March.

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				 Russia will prepare a Workshop Summary Report and circulate it among APEC economies for comments Request to CTI members Economies who have not yet provided the filled-in Questionnaire – to provide it by 25 February
24.	Blueprint 2.0.: Work Plan on Cooperation on Implementing and Taking Full Advantage of Statistics Related to GVCs 2020/SOM1/CTI/033 2020/CTI-E/IS02 2020/CTI3/IS02	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	China, Indonesia and United States	Current status and progress/update: China, Indonesia, and the United States Work Plan on Cooperation on Implementing and Taking Full Advantage of Statistics Related to GVCs² for workstream 3 of Blueprint 2.0 was endorsed on 9 March 2020. The Work Plan seeks to help APEC economies to better utilize the TiVA database by undertaking a survey of economies' needs and challenges in developing and utilizing TiVA data; providing capacity building; and assisting APEC economies in developing better underlying statistics that goes into TiVA compilation. Phase 1 of the five-year work plan calls for a survey to be conducted to identify the level of understanding TiVA statistics; assess capacity building needs; and identify the type of extended SUTs and supporting data that are needed by each economy. On 9 September 2020, the draft survey was circulated in CTI for comments and endorsement. On 2 December 2020, the survey was circulated to economies for completion and re-circulated on 22 January 2021. Next steps: Individual economies will have engaged with ministries, departments, and agencies that are interested in the use of statistics that are related to global value chains in their work, and will have submitted one (1) consolidated response that reflects the input from the various organizations that were consulted. China, Indonesia, and the United States will circulate a summary of results from the survey and a capacity building plan will be developed that addresses various needs from APEC economies on how to access the database and how to effectively use and improve the quality the TiVA data for policy analysis.
				Request to CTI members - We ask economies to participate in capacity building activities when scheduled.

² 2020/SOM1/CTI/033

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25.	APEC Trade in Value Added (TiVA) Database	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States and China	 Current status and progress/update: Completed revising the APEC inter-economy input-output tables based on the review comments from member economies. Completed revising the APEC TiVA indicators based on the revised APEC inter-economy input-output tables. Completed updating the APEC TiVA Initiative Report 2 based on the revised APEC TiVA indicators. Completed the publication of the APEC TiVA Initiative Report 2. Completed the revision and visualization of the online APEC TiVA database. Next steps: Nil Request to CTI members Nil.
26.	Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Implement Programs Related to WTO TFA Article 8 (Border Agency Cooperation) (CTI 05 2020A) 2020/SOM1/CTI/035	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States	 Current status and progress/update: The United States has been working with volunteer economy Peru under a project focused on implementation of TFA article 8, border agency cooperation. Under this program, the U.S. worked with Peru to hold a webinar in February 2022 entitled "APEC-WTO TFA Article 8 Public-Private Dialogue-Border Management Cooperation for Pharmaceutical Products and Medical Devices Imports". The dialogue brought together key government agencies and companies in Peru that are involved in the importation of medical-related goods. The purpose of the dialogue was to identify pain points in Peru's domestic border agency cooperation related to of importing these goods and to find a path forward to alleviating bottlenecks. The discussion focused on legal, regulatory, operational, governance, and ICT-related aspects, including in the context of COVID-19. It was attended by 26 participants and featured presentations from the US-SEGA team as well as Peru's government agencies responsible for pharmaceutical and medical products, trade, and Customs, and from private sector firms. In parallel, the U.S. is working on a report that provides a diagnostic, recommendations, and a road map for the implementation of TFA Article 8.1 for medical-related imports into Peru

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				Next steps: - The United States is incorporating information and takeaways from the dialogue into a report in which should be finalized before SOM2. Request to CTI members - Nil.
27.	APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity (A2C2), including its extension until the end of 2023	Trade Facilitation and Connectivity	United States	Current status and progress/update: The Fourteenth Meeting of the A2C2 will take place this year but no date has been set yet. Current plans are to use the A2C2 to support private sector engagement on SCFAP next steps.
	2020/CTI2/008			Next steps: - The Fourteenth Meeting of the A2C2, will take place in 2022 but no date has been set.
				Request to CTI members - Participate in the upcoming A2C2 meeting.
28.	Proposal for Recyclable Materials Policy Program (RMPP)	Update on Other CTI Initiatives and Projects	United States	Current status and progress/update: - The self-funded Recyclable Materials Policy Program proposal was endorsed by economies on 13 June 2020.
	(CTI 04 2020S) 2020/SOM1/CTI/020			Next steps: The United States hosted a webinar on 16 June 2021 on Improving Waste Management and Recycling Policies in the APEC Region. During the webinar there was a presentation on the preliminary findings of the study on Waste Management and Recycling (WMR) practices in APEC and alignment with APEC's policy directions; a panel discussion involving public sector officials on existing policy frameworks guiding WMR, implementation challenges including investment related constraints, social impacts, lessons learned and WMR solutions across the various APEC economies; and a private sector panel on attracting investment for WMR programs and infrastructure, aspects relating to trade in waste including e-waste and recyclable materials, and other innovative approaches for developing effective

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				 waste management solutions in the Asia Pacific region. Work on the study is underway. The intention is to provide a resource document for APEC on waste management and recycling (WMR). This seeks to help build capacity of policymakers to identify appropriate domestic policies that promote better WMR infrastructure, and help stakeholders to identity best practices appropriate for the scale, scope, and geography of their domestic waste management and recycling challenges Request to CTI members Nil
29.	Trade Policy Dialogue on Digital Trade (CTI 01 2021S)	Internet and Digital Economy and E-Commerce	United States	 Current status and progress/update: The proposal for Digital Trade Policy Dialogues (TPD) was endorsed on February 9, 2022 and will be scheduled during the margins of the SOM1 (March 2022) and SOM3 meeting clusters. The first TPD will include discussions on emerging issues such as policies and regulatory frameworks that can be used to address barriers, examining the impact of regulatory measures, as well as the use of emerging technologies that can serve to facilitate digital trade/e-commerce and a more inclusive digital economy. A second Digital Trade Policy Dialogue will occur around September, which will delve further into these issues. Next steps: The U.S. is planning to host a virtual TPD in March 2022 and a second TPD during the margins of SOM3 (either virtual or in-person). We will share the agenda in advance of each meeting
				Request to CTI members The proposal has been circulated for endorsement. The U.S. is hoping to see strong participation by APEC economies in the TPDs. Economies are encouraged to participate in the upcoming Digital Trade Policy Dialogue in March 2022.
30.	Study: Policies and Regulatory Frameworks on Modern Digital	Internet and Digital Economy and E-Commerce	United States	Current status and progress/update: - A self-funded proposal on open government data was endorsed by economies on May 12, 2021.

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	Economy Issues – Open Government Data (CTI 05 2021S)			 Next steps: Work on the study is underway to identify emerging practices across the APEC region on the subject of facilitating access to open government data (OGD). The study will examine policies and regulatory frameworks surrounding this issue in APEC economies to identify divergences as well as alignment. By better understanding the various policies and regulatory frameworks of OGD measures, regulators can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data both domestically and internationally. The United States will circulate an initial draft of the report during the first quarter of 2022. Feedback on the report will feed into the finalization of the report and possible follow-on activities (e.g., technical assistance and workshops during 2022 and 2023). Request to CTI members Interested economies are encouraged to review and provide feedback on the report when circulated.