



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2022/SOM3/CTI/025

Agenda Item: XIV

Investment Experts' Group Convenor's Report

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: IEG Convenor



**Third Committee on Trade and Investment
Meeting
Chiang Mai, Thailand
26-27 August 2022**

INVESTMENT EXPERTS' GROUP

CONVENOR'S REPORT 2022 CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

Specific to CTI

Was quorum reached at the most recent plenary meeting? Please advise how many economies participated in the most recent plenary meeting.

- Yes, quorum¹ was met at the Second IEG 2022 Meeting, with 15 economies present.

Key outcomes from your SOM3 meeting

The Second IEG 2022 Meeting was held on 20 – 21 August 2022, covering:

- information sharing on trade and investment facilitation. Updates on follow up work on APEC MRT Statement on COVID-19 of measures to mitigate trade and investment issues that have been impacted by the pandemic by member economies: Thailand, Malaysia and Peru;
- updates on investment promotion, facilitation and retention issues by: Malaysia, APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) and the WTO Secretariat;
- updates on next generation trade and investment issues by: Malaysia, Russia, OECD, WEF, Thailand, Peru and ABAC;
- highlights on implementing the Putrajaya Vision 2040 including through the APA by Japan; updates on the international investment regime's principles and practices by: Australia, Chinese Taipei, Russia, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico and UNCITRAL;
- enhancement of investment-related capacity building through economic and technical cooperation. The APEC Investment Commitment Handbook Project, led by Australia, will commence on Phase III, focusing on capacity building assistance to Papua New Guinea; and
- initiatives in the pipeline to address the interplay between investment and sustainability, such as Chinese Taipei's proposal entitled "Capacity Building on How Investment Facilitation Policies Can Enhance Sustainable Investment" and Chile's proposal to address the intersection of international investment agreements and climate change.

Decision points needed from CTI

- Seek CTI's endorsement of the Investment Experts' Group Convenor's Report.

¹ Quorum requires 14 economies or more. Quorum is measured by member economies (not including private sector) participating. Remote participation is counted.

For AMM's information

(a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2022

- Deliberating the key areas and 8 principles under the Investment Facilitation Action Plan (IFAP). The economies are tasked to submit IFAP actions based on the 8 IFAP principles and to complement the submissions with relevant literature and secondary data to distil the lessons learnt. The submitted actions will be reviewed and APEC Secretariat (PSU) will produce a report which will include policy recommendation on Investment Facilitation, by September 2023.
- IEG members remain actively informed on updates and state-of-play on investment-related developments in the international fora. This includes outcomes relating to MC12 and the WTO Investment Facilitation negotiations, OECD's responsible business conduct and FDI Qualities Policy Toolkit, WEF's Sustainable Investment pilots, and UNCITRAL's investor-state dispute settlement reform discussions in Working Group III.
- At the margins of SOM3, Australia's self-funded project entitled "Symposium on Green Foreign Direct Investment in the Energy Transition" was held on 19 August 2022.

(b) Work undertaken by fora in pursuit of the [Putrajaya Vision 2040](#) and in particular in implementing the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\)](#)

Kindly refer to the "Collective Actions" (in the APA) for the relevant fora

- The IEG reaffirmed its commitment in support of the multilateral trading system, with the WTO as its core, and regional economic integration through discussions with guests such as: the OECD, WEF, UNCTAD, and the WTO Secretariat on international investment issues. This has allowed IEG members and stock take investment-related discourse and policy architecture.
- On innovation, sustainable and inclusive growth policies, the IEG continues promoting increased investment flows throughout the APEC region through analytical studies on investment practices, follow ups on the Investment Facilitation Action Plan (IFAP), dialogues on investment, capacity building, and cooperation with international organizations.

(c) Work Undertaken by the fora in response to Ministerial, SOM and CTI direction

Bearing in mind the goal of economic development and prosperity of people across the APEC region, the objectives of the IEG are to:

- undertake work related to investment and report its outcomes to the CTI;
- address issues related to investment and to enhance the liberalization and facilitation of investment in the APEC region;
- enhance investment-related capacity building through economic and technical cooperation among member economies in the APEC region; and
- support investment promotion activities of member economies to facilitate investment flows in the region.

Based on these objectives, the IEG reaffirms two principal pillars of its work as follows:

- international investment regime—principles and practices. This pillar looks at various investment issues and challenges from the perspective of international instruments such as International Investment Agreements (IIAs); and
- investment promotion, facilitation and retention, such as continuing the work on the IFAP, Investment Policy Dialogue (IPD), Investment Promotion Agency (IPA), best practice discussions and other cross-cutting issues such as global value chains (GVC), sustainable investment, public-private partnerships (PPP) and infrastructure.

(d) Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora (if any);

- Updates to the Work Plan for the Next Generation Trade and Investment Issues (NGeTI), which is comprised of a multi-year living document. The work plan allows IEG members to track their work based on existing modalities within APEC, consistent with individual priorities.

(e) Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers (if applicable)

- Nil.