

**MARKET ACCESS GROUP**  
*Report for the*  
**CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS**

**For AMM’s information**

**(a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2023**

- Environmental Goods Workplan – The workplan to provide a framework for APEC’s expanding environmental goods agenda and to respond to ministerial tasking on this front was renewed for another 12 months. The renewed Workplan encompasses MAG’s work on key issues such as HS transposition, the Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods, and facilitation of further work on non-tariff measures and regulatory issues for environmental goods, as tasked to MAG by Ministers.
- HS Transposition of the APEC Environmental Goods List from HS 2017 to HS 2022 Nomenclature for Reference Purposes – Members continued to progress discussions. An intersessional meeting among 13 interested economies was also held on 21 September 2023. Economies had a good discussion on the outstanding tariff lines, and reaffirmed the desire to resolve all issues as soon as possible, through further intersessional work.
- Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods – Further progress has been made since the Recommendations for Potentially Producing a Voluntary, Non-Binding Reference List of Environmental Goods were endorsed by Ministers at the Ministers Responsible for Trade meeting in Detroit. Economies exchanged ideas on the potential elements to be included in the Framework, and Australia has agreed to prepare the first draft of the Framework to guide further discussions.

**(b) Work undertaken by fora in pursuit of the [Putrajaya Vision 2040](#), including through the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\)](#)**

- Under the Trade and Investment Driver – Collective Actions
  - Progress liberalisation of trade in goods by reducing unnecessary barriers, strengthening trade facilitation, and fostering regulatory reform: MAG discussed the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA) Expansion, and the benefits to economies of joining the ITA. In 2023, several economies viz. Australia, China, Malaysia, and Thailand have fully implemented the ITA expansion. Participating economies also encouraged other member economies that are not part of the ITA to consider joining the initiative. A “Study on the Impact of Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and Future of ICT Trade as led by Japan is currently underway to increase knowledge about the latest trend of ICT

products and technologies, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, and to increase awareness of the importance and contribution of ITA and ITA2 for APEC economies.

MAG continues to implement the APEC Pathfinder on Facilitating Trade in Remanufactured Products, including through the endorsement of a US-led project proposal on the Trade of Remanufactured Consumer Electronic Products in APEC to expand capacity building by facilitating trade in remanufactured consumer electronic products.

- Increase trade predictability and openness by improving economies' transparency through trade measures and policies: MAG fostered consistent utilisation of the APEC Trade Repository by all 21 APEC economies. A “Study on Strategy to Promote the Utilisation of the APEC Trade Repository” as led by Indonesia was published in May 2023, which indicated the importance of effective promotional materials for governments to further promote the utilisation of the APEC Trade Repository.

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

- Work on (1) Environmental Goods Workplan, (2) HS Transposition of the APEC Environmental Goods List from HS 2017 to HS 2022 Nomenclature for Reference Purposes, and (3) Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods. Details are in (a).

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

- Other important initiatives that contribute to the CTI's objectives were discussed, including work on the APEC Trade Repository, Supply Chain Framework Action Plan Phase III (SCFAP III), APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity (A2C2), and Asia-Pacific Model E-port Network (APMEN) to support regional economic integration.

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

- NIL