

2017 Fora Reports to SCE: Summary of Recommendations from the Fora Reports

EPWG

- That SOM consider exploring the flexible application of quorum requirements by considering the nature of responsibilities borne by members of individual groups, one by one.
- That SOM note that, in cases of natural disasters, the majority of EPWG members should stay in their home economies regardless of the APEC meeting schedule. It should also be noted that in Asia, for example SOM 3 period, largely overlaps the typhoon season.

GOFD

- That SCE note the report on “Advancing Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Internet Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region”.

HRDWG

- That SOM endorse the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy by CSOM in 2017.

HWG

- That SOM accelerate the process of approval of the new concept notes under APEC funds.

PPWE

- That SCE and SOM note the work underway on the APEC Gender Inclusion Guidelines (GIG). The PPWE Chair would welcome the opportunity to present the GIG in due course to SCE and participate in any related SCE/SOM discussions.
- That SCE and SOM consider explicitly integrating gender related guidance into the various Annual Reporting formats for APEC Fora to encourage reporting on gender related activities and achievements in these important reports across APEC. This would be consistent with instructions from APEC Ministers, including in 2016 ‘We encourage more extensive collaboration and mainstreaming of gender equality and women’s economic empowerment across APEC working groups and fora, considering its nature as a cross-cutting issue’ (AMM). The decision of SCE during 2016 to explicitly integrate gender into the SCE Fora workplan templates for 2017 was an important development for gender inclusion during 2017.

SMEWG

- That SOM welcome the launching of the APEC MSME Marketplace.
- That SOM welcome the Boracay Action Agenda stocktake 2017.
- That SOM welcome the endorsement by SME Ministers of the APEC Strategy for Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs.

TELWG

- That SOM endorse the revised TELWG Terms of Reference (ToR).
- That SCE note that TELWG has agreed, on a one-off basis, that TEL56 will be held on 10-15 December 2017 due to the schedule of the international meetings related to the field of ICT and telecommunications.
- That SCE note the TELWG decision that TELWG does not support the establishment of the Friends of the Chair (FoTC) and TELWG Industry Advisory Board (TIAB), as was recommended by the TELWG Independent Assessment Report 2016, as current organizational structure of TELWG is found satisfactory by all TELWG members and TELWG Guests.

TWG

- Ministers and high-level officials at the High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable Tourism seek the consideration of APEC's Leaders to include in their Declaration a statement on the importance of sustainable tourism as a driver for regional economic integration, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and an important means for promoting further business development and job creation, economic, financial and social inclusion, enhancing connectivity with a view to building a peaceful, stable, dynamic, resilient, inclusive and seamless Asia-Pacific community for the people and businesses.
- That SCE/SOM endorse the Third Annual State of Tourism Report (2017).