**35th APEC HRDWG Education Network Meeting**

28th February – 1st March 2018

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Executive Summary**

The 35th APEC HRDWG EDNET meeting was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 28th of February and 1st of March 2018.

Delegates from 14 member economies including Australia; Canada; Chile; Hong Kong, China; China; Republic of Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; Russia; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States. Also in attendance was Ms. Anais Laidlaw, Program Director of APEC Secretariat, Ms. Nisha from UNESCO and Ms. Christina Schōnleber from APRU.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Wang Yan, EDNET Coordinator, and co-chaired by Mr. Francis Hualupmomi from the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology in Papua New Guinea.

**28 February Session**

**1. Opening Remarks and Introduction**

1.1 The EDNET Coordinator welcomed delegates from all member economies and emphasized the significance of co-operation in education. Papua New Guinea Co-Chair also delivered the welcome remarks.

1.2 The EDNET Coordinator invited delegates as well as representatives from APRU and UNESCO to introduce themselves.

1. **The agenda was adopted.**
2. **Planning for APEC 2018**

The Co-Chair gave a presentation on Papua New Guinea’s 2018 Priorities and its links to EDNET’s Work in 2018.

The Program Director presented on the policy on project application, in particular, deadline for submission of concept notes, updated templates for concept note and criteria and procedure for funding and a forthcoming new system.

**The delegates took a group photo.**

1. **Carrying forward the outcomes of APEC 2017**

**4.1 Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy**

The EDNET Coordinator reviewed the process of drafting the APEC Education Strategy and the Action Plan, acknowledged the contribution of the member economies and other multilateral organizations and noted challenges of monitoring and reporting the implementation of the Action Plan.

The delegates discussed the three templates for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan, i.e. templates for projects and initiatives, scholarships and fellowships, and accredited university for international students.

The delegates agreed to incorporate scholarships and fellowships as well as bilateral and domestic projects and initiatives in the template for projects and initiatives as main instrument for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan.

The delegates also agreed to keep the template of scholarships and fellowships and that of accredited universities optional for member economies.

The Chair also introduced the *Concept Note of APEC Report on Education and Economic Development* and encouraged the participants to join the workshop on the afternoon of March 1st.

**4.2 APEC Prize for the Promotion of Learning and Education (APPLE Prize)**

The Chair presented the updated version of APEC Prize for the Promotion of Learning and Education (APPLE Prize).

The delegates agreed on the following amendments of the Concept Note:

* + Add one more type of award for collaborative project.
	+ Allow multiple sponsors and co-sponsors and their position in the final selection council will be decided later.

The delegates agreed that an announcement of opening up the nomination of sponsorship would be made right after the meeting with a deadline for the end April 2018.

1. **Development of Website of EDNET**

The delegates reviewed relevant content on the webpage of HRDWG and discussed three potential approaches for presence of the EDNET on the internet:

* + - * Add and update the EDNET-relevant information as part of the HRDWG webpage
			* To develop the webpage ‘education.apec.org’ created by the USA into EDNET website.
			* To share the information on EDNET on the website of APRU.

The delegates agree to push forward the web presence of the EDNET and will further discuss the hosting arrangements.

1. **Reports on Recently Completed, Ongoing and Proposed Projects**

25 projects are presented in this session under four themes: Cross-Border Education & Academic Mobility; Qualification Framework; Skill Development and Career and Technical Education; Education Innovation in the Digital Age; and 21st Century Competencies and Structural Education Reform.

**1st March Session**

1. **Summary Notes Drafting Committee Session**

Membersof Drafting Committee reviewed the draft summary note from the meeting on Feb. 28.

1. **Cross-Fora Presentation and Collaboration**

Ms. Nisha from UNESCO delivered a presentation on education work of the UNESCO, in particular, the Tokyo Convention.

Ms. Christina Schönleber from APRU presented on APRU’s key initiatives conducted in collaboration with APEC economies and working groups as well as projects drawing on APRU members’ academic expertise across the Asia Pacific.

1. **Planning for APEC 2018 and Beyond**

The Chair presented on the Future Work of EDNET 2018 and Beyond, focusing on the objectives, the work of the EDNET including Educational Ministerial meetings, annual meetings, projects, joint initiatives, and the problems and challenges faced by the EDNET. The Chair then invited the participants to discuss the strategies and approaches for achieving effective and efficient education cooperation in APEC.

The delegates agreed to take the opportunity of Independent Assessment in 2018 to address these challenges.

The delegates considered extending the length the EDNET meeting depending on the policy of the APEC Secretariat, resource of the host economy and involvement of participants such as experts where appropriate.

The delegates agreed to utilize the digital technology to expand the visibility and publicity of the work of the EDNET such as social media, webinar, the video conference in addition to web presence.

The member economies will consider the establishment of an APEC Institute for Education Development, potentially in collaboration with UNESCO upon submission of Concept Note.

1. **The Summary Report for the EDNET Meeting on 28th and in the morning of 1st March was adopted.**
2. **Workshop on Implementation of the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy**

The Workshop focused on the Implementation of the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy through the APEC Report on Education and Economic Development. The Report will integrate templates for monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy with updated *Baseline Report on Current Education Status in Asia Pacific Region* and outcomes from APEC-badged projects and initiatives, aiming to share best practices on competencies, innovation and employability, analyse the relationship between education and economic development in the region, and generate policy recommendation on education and economic development.

The Chair invited the delegates to discuss on the title and subtitle, the content, methodology and timeline of the Report.

The delegates agreed on the title “APEC Report on Education and Economic Development”.

Aiming at an annual report aligned with the implementation of APEC Education Strategy and the theme of APEC Year, the delegates agreed on the subtitle for 2018 Report “Inclusive and Quality Education—Embracing the Digital Future”.

The delegates agreed on the following outline of the Report:

* Introduction
* Policy Context
* Education and Economic Development
* Three or Four Chapters on Education Development in Asia Pacific aligned with priority actions of the APEC Education Strategy
* Lessons Learned
* Policy Recommendations

The delegates also agreed on the methodology and timeline for developing the Report as follows:

Step 1: Development of the Framework of Report (February-March)

Step 2: Reformation of the Taskforce (March)

Step 3: Setup of Advisory Team (March)

Step 4: Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development (May)

Step 5: Completion of Draft Action Plan (May)

Step 6: Online Consultation and Revision (May-August)

Step 7: Launch of the Report (September-October)

The delegates agreed to form the Task Force and Advisory Team for the Report on Education and Economic Development on the basis of the Task Force and Advisory Team for Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy. The name list of the Task Force and Advisory Team for Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy will be circulated for confirmation after the EDNET Meeting.

The delegates agreed to set the deadline for updating the Baseline Report on Current Education in Asia Pacific Region and for submitting the templates for projects and initiatives as early May 2018 before the Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development.

Thailand confirmed to host the Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development in Bangkok in May 2018.

1. **Concluding Session**

The Chair delivered the closing remarks. She expressed her gratitude to the host economy Papua New Guinea for their hospitality and high-standard and efficient work of organizing the meeting and to the APEC Secretariat for their support.

The Chair also thanked the delegates for their valuable contributions that made the EDNET meeting fruitful and successful.

Finally, the Chair thanked the note-taker Ms. Xu Congcong for her contribution to the EDNET meeting.

**SUMMARY REPORT**

The 35th APEC HRDWG EDNET meeting was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on the 28th of February and 1st of March 2018.

Delegates from 14 member economies including Australia; Canada; Chile; Hong Kong, China; China; Republic of Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; Russia; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States. Also in attendance was Ms. Anais Laidlaw, Program Director of APEC Secretariat, Ms. Nisha from UNESCO and Ms. Christina Schōnleber from APRU.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Wang Yan, EDNET Coordinator, and co-chaired by Mr. Francis Hualupmomi from the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology in Papua New Guinea.

**28 February Session**

**1. Opening Remarks and Introduction**

**1.1** The Chair welcomed delegates from all member economies and emphasized the significance of co-operation in education. Papua New Guinea Co-Chair also delivered the welcome remarks.

**1.2** The Chair invited delegates as well as representatives from APRU and UNESCO to introduce themselves.

1. **The agenda was adopted.**
2. **Planning for APEC 2018**

Under the agenda of Planning for APEC 2018, presentations were made by the PNG Co-Chair and the APEC Secretariat Program Director to provide insights of planning APEC education work in 2018.

* 1. **Presentation 1: Papua New Guinea’s 2018 Priorities and its links to EDNET’s Work Plan 2018**

The Co-Chair firstly highlighted the policy priorities for Papua New Guinea. Under the APEC host theme of “Harnessing Inclusive Opportunities, Embracing the Digital Future”, Papua New Guinea has three policy priorities 1) improving digital connectivity and deepening regional economic integration, 2) promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, and 3) strengthening inclusive growth through structural reforms.

The Co-Chair emphasized the importance of the agenda of sustainability under the priority of promoting sustainable and inclusive growth and stressed the efforts made by government of Papua New Guinea to develop the National Strategy for Responsible and Sustainable Development. In 2018 Papua New Guinea would like to give prominence to the sustainability agenda and encourage APEC economies to work for better cooperation and sharing good practices on sustainability.

Moreover, the Co-Chair encouraged the alignment of EDNET work plan to APEC 2018 priorities, in particular, the impact of structural reforms on human capacity development. PNG appreciates that Human Capital Development cuts across all three policy priorities thus, discussions, initiatives, activities with links to the three priorities are encouraged.

 **3.2 Presentation 2: Policy Change of the APEC Secretariat**

The APEC Secretariat Program Director extended a warm welcome and appreciation to all the delegates for their participation.

The Program Director briefly highlighted the following four key points:

* She emphasized the deadline for submitting concept notes which is the 21st of March for internal submission and 28th March for final submission and she encouraged delegates to submit early and to discuss proposals with joint efforts.
* Updated templates for preparing the concept notes can be found and downloaded from the APEC website. She also suggested to link the goals of project to APEC priorities and to understand the criteria for funding source beforehand.
* She emphasized the importance of building enough time for giving the notice if host workshop is on economies’ agenda.
* To conclude the Program Director introduced a forthcoming new system.

**The delegates took a group photo.**

1. **Carrying forward the outcomes of APEC 2017**
	1. **Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy**

The Chair reviewed the process of drafting the APEC Education Strategy and the Action Plan and acknowledged the contribution of the member economies and other multilateral organizations and noted challenges of monitoring and reporting the implementation of the Action Plan.

The Action Plan will support APEC economies to progress projects and initiatives under the three pillars of lifting and aligning competencies, accelerating innovation and increasing employability. It proposed three main approaches to implement the Action Plan while contributing to achieving the three pillars of APEC Education Strategy: first, take a collaborative and strategic approach to the development and implementation of projects; second, draw upon and develop a strong evidence base to underpin education work and inform the development of policy; third, develop a consistent approach to monitor progress. It also sets nine targets and thirty-eight indicators that would serve as guidelines for the planning and implementation of APEC projects and initiatives in education-related areas.

The delegates discussed the three templates for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan, i.e. templates for projects and initiatives, scholarships and fellowships, and accredited university for international students.

Hong Kong China, the United States and Australia suggested to incorporate the template for scholarships and fellowships with the template of the projects and initiatives.

Australia acknowledged the importance of the Action Plan’s implementation – specifically – taking a strategic approach to this work, further developing the evidence base and developing a consistent approach to monitoring progress. On the reporting template Australia suggested including relevant bilateral and domestic projects and initiatives.

China expressed strong support for the implementation of the Action Plan, emphasized its significance in education development in APEC as the first long-term Action Plan and would try its best to contribute to the templates.

Regarding the template of accredited universities, Russia, Japan and Thailand noted the challenges of implementation due to the huge number of universities and scholarships within each economy.

The delegates agreed to keep the template of scholarship and fellowships and that of accredited universities optional for member economies.

The Chair also introduced the *Concept Note of APEC Report on Education and Economic Development* and encouraged the participants to join the workshop on the afternoon of 1st March.

* 1. **APEC Prize for the Promotion of Learning and Education (APPLE Prize)**

The Chair presented the updated version of APEC Prize for the Promotion of Learning and Education (APPLE Prize). The APPLE Prize is an annual award that recognizes outstanding individuals or teams that have demonstrated excellence in education and learning with innovative approaches and methods with proven outcome and impact. Two awards go to individuals or teams who perform outstandingly in teaching or administration with innovative approaches annually. The concept note also proposed the procedures of nomination and selection as well as the criteria and indicators, and provided a list of materials required for application.

Republic of Indonesia suggested to incorporate teams consisting of multiple economies and emphasized the significance of collaboration. In response, the Chair suggested to add one more type of award for collaborative project with the same prize amount as the educator which was agreed by all the delegates.

Russia inquired on who shall form the final selection council in case there are several co-sponsors that contribute to the budget of the Prize.

China considered the Prize as a good starting point for sharing best practices and prompting EDNET’s visibility. China expressed willingness to seek potential sponsors to contribute to the budget.

Australia offered to put EDNET representatives that are working on this initiative in touch with Australian colleagues who administer the APEC Science Prize for Innovation (ASPIRE) to share experiences.

It was agreed that an announcement of opening up the nomination of sponsorship would be made right after the meeting with a deadline for the end April 2018.

1. **Development of Website of EDNET**

The delegates reviewed relevant content on the webpage of HRDWG and discussed three potential approaches for presence of the EDNET on the internet.

The Chair invited the United States to introduce the function of HRDWG-wiki website which once served as website of the HRDWG and EDNET.

The Chair then presented the *Concept Note of APEC Website Development*. It proposed to create a website of the EDNET to provide a cyberspace to update and share information, knowledge and resources. The website aims to achieve six aspects of goals including sharing research findings, forecasting upcoming events, releasing news, informing educational policy-making process, collecting data and uploading publications. These will be realized through six sections, i.e. About Us, News, Projects, Insights, Resources and Contact Us.

The Chair acknowledged that the EDNET webpage could only be part of the HRDWG webpage which might not achieve the objectives expected in the *Concept Note*.

Alternatively, the United States displayed a webpage ‘education.apec.org’ which could potentially be developed into EDNET website.

APRU introduced the webpage for EDNET created on the website of the APRU and suggested to share information on EDNET through the website of the APRU.

Australia, China and APRU expressed support for the development of the webpage and considered it as meaningful in the digital age. In particular, Australia added that hosting arrangements for such a web presence for EDNET would need to be further considered.

The Chair concluded this session by emphasizing the importance of establishing the EDNET website in the digital age for sharing information and best practices.

1. **Reports on Recently Completed, Ongoing and Proposed Projects**

25 projects are presented in this session under four themes.

**Cross-Border Education & Academic Mobility**

**6.1** Australia presented an update on “APEC Guiding Principles for Research Integrity” which emphasized the importance of research integrity and quality improvement.

**6.2** Australia presented a new self-funded proposal on APEC-OECD Education Data Workshop which will be held by Australia in collaboration with OECD. It aims to gather data experts, government and education sector representatives from APEC member economies to share and learn from best practice in education data collection in the APEC region. The project is an important contribution to developing a consistent approach to monitoring progress of the APEC Education Strategy and the action plan.

**6.3** China presented an update on “Research on Mutual Recognition of Credits among Universities in the APEC Region”, which aims at facilitating student mobility by exploring practical cooperative scheme and standard of mutual recognition of university credits in the APEC region. In 2018, this project will conduct field investigation, develop APEC guidelines for mutual recognition of university credits, and releasing the final report.

**6.4** China presented a new proposal on “APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Education and Economic Development” aiming to push forward the implementation of APEC Education Strategy and its action plan. This would provide a platform to take stock of education achievements over the past several years, discuss our future work on education towards 2020 and beyond, tighten the relationship between education and economic development, and review the *APEC Report on Education and Economic Development*. This project was co-sponsored by Republic of Indonesia, Russia, Chinese Taipei, and Papua New Guinea.

**6.5-6.8** Republic ofKorea made a presentation on the progress report of the four projects: APEC Edutainment Exchange Program (AEEP), APEC Learning Community (ALCom), APEC Future Education Consortium (AFEC), and APEC Community for Education Innovation (CEDI). Future work will be focused on effectiveness, self-sufficiency of APEC Learning Community Builders (ALCoB) branches, and project sustainability by creating linkage between projects. Republic of Indonesia commended Republic of Korea for these projects.

**6.9** Russia presented the outcomes of the project “The Open Environment for Math Education in APEC Schools – Phase 2”.

**6.10** Russia presented the outcome of "The 6th APEC Conference on Cooperation in Higher Education in Asia-Pacific Region” under the theme of "Diploma and Qualification Recognition for People-to-People Connectivity". The Conference included three sessions: Modern mechanisms for ensuring recognition of education and qualifications in the APEC region, Developing APEC Education Strategy, and Education in the APEC.

**6.11** In addition, Russia presented a new proposal on 7th APEC Conference on Cooperation in Higher Education in Asia-Pacific Region “Education in the Digital Era: Challenges for APEC”, which was co-sponsored by Republic of Indonesia, China and Thailand.

**6.12** The United States presented a completion report on “Global Competencies and Economic Integration”, which aimed at a common understanding of global competencies and talents and the benefits of such competencies for employers and workers.  The United States shared an overview of project activities and outputs, including links to the project website, workshop report, and final report that contains policy recommendations for enhancing global competencies in education systems.

At the end of the session, the secretariat introduced the procedure for self-funded projects and encouraged economies to send detailed information about projects and workshops to be included in the APEC database. The Program Director also confirmed that self-funded projects require no co-sponsorship.

**Qualification Framework, Skill Development and Career and Technical Education**

* **6.13 & 6.14** Australia presented updates on “APEC Occupational Standards Framework: Test in the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry” and “APEC Integrated Referencing Framework for Skills Recognition and Mobility Phase II - Socialization and Consultation”. Republic of Indonesia, China, and Thailand commended this project. In addition, Republic of Indonesia commented on the importance of the integrated referencing framework being able to accommodate the diversity and varying maturity of each member economies’ domestic TVET systems.

**6.15** Chile presented an update for the project “Developing Technical Skills for All in APEC economies” that will take place this year and in the month of September a-one-and-a-half-day workshop and a site visit will be organized in Chile where there is a new technical public institution underway. Participating economies will present their experiences on creating technical institutions and how private and public actors can work together to promote local development through the enhancement of skills.

**6.16** Chinese Taipei presented an update on Advancing Career Development of Athletes in the APEC Region, aiming to build an information exchange platform for sports authorities of all the APEC Member Economies, and bring APEC sports officials together and work in line with APEC roadmap as well as the Olympic movement. Republic of Indonesia commended Chinese Taipei for this project.

**6.17** Chinese Taipei presented an update on “Regional Industry-Academia Collaboration for Talent Development: An Exchange of Skills Training, Internships, and Jobs Phase I and II”, which concerns cross-region industry-academia collaboration program design, exchange of skills training and talent mobility and evaluation for the regional impact on students, companies and universities, problem-based learning integrated in the program respectively.

**Education Innovation in the Digital Age**

**6.18** Australia sought EDNET endorsement of the completed Quality Assurance of Online Learning Toolkit which was developed following consultations and workshops in a range of APEC economies. Australia also presented a new self-funded proposal for an “Online Education Workshop Series” which involves a number of regional workshops based on the quality domains presented in the Toolkit. The project was co-sponsored by Republic of Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

**6.19** Republic of Korea presented an update on the “APEC e-Learning Training (AeLT) Program”, which seeks to provide a trainee-centered program to reduce the information gap and to share the policymakers’ innovative thoughts for better e-learning in the APEC region. Papua New Guinea, Republic of Indonesia, Chinese Taipei and Thailand commended the program which contributes to APEC by improving People-to-People connectivity among the educators in the region.

**6.20** The United States presented on “Digital Workforce Development” project, noting that initial research into successful practices in the field of digital career and technical education delivered through digital or distance learning and that planning is underway for a series of collaborative informational webinars and a workshop later this year. The United States invited economies to participate in the webinars and workshop and encouraged economies to share relevant practices from their domestic systems to be highlighted and shared through the project.

**6.21** Japan presented an update on “Lesson Study: Summary of 12 Years (Since 2006)” in collaboration with Thailand.

**6.22** Thailand presented a new proposal “Inclusive Mathematics for sustainability in a digital economy (InMside) in collaboration with Japan and Chile aiming to produce the tasks, strategies and guidelines to develop innovative curriculum. The project was co-sponsored by Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei, Russia, Republic of Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Malaysia.

**21st Century Competencies and Structural Education Reform**

**6.23** China presented an update on “Seminars for Basic Education Reform in APEC: Experiences from PISA and TALIS” which was held on October in Shanghai, China. 23 participants attended this 7-day event to study Shanghai’s practices in promoting basic education and share results, evidences, experiences from PISA and TALIS.

**6.24** Chinese Taipei presented a new proposal on the “Youth Innovation & Entrepreneurship: Inclusive Growth & Collaborative Connectivity for Young Entrepreneurs” with objectives of developing regional entrepreneurial ecosystems, promoting innovative and digital entrepreneurship, and fostering cross-border transfers of knowledge and experiences between entrepreneurs. The project was co-sponsored by Thailand, Papua New Guinea, and Republic of Korea. China reserves its opinions and will consult related ministries on the project.

**6.25** Chinese Taipei presented a new proposal “Human Capacity Building for Globalized Scientific Literacy: Phase 1 The Best Practice Models for Innovative STEM-Related Education for Teacher Professional Development”, which seeking to accelerate innovation. The project was co-sponsored by Thailand, Republic of Indonesia and Republic of Korea and Russia. China reserves its opinions and will consult related ministries on the project.

**1st March Session**

1. **Summary Notes Drafting Committee Session**

Membersof Drafting Committee reviewed the draft summary note from the meeting on Feb. 28.

1. **Cross-Fora Presentation and Collaboration**
	1. **UNESCO**

Ms. Nisha from UNESCO delivered a presentation on education work of the UNESCO, in particular, the Tokyo Convention.

Australia thanked UNESCO for its informative presentation and congratulated UNESCO on the recent entry into force of the Tokyo Convention from 1 February 2018. Australia encouraged member economies to consider ratification and would be pleased to work with member economies through sharing of information and expertise.

 **8.2 APRU**

Ms. Christina Schönleber from APRU presented on key initiatives conducted in collaboration with APEC economies and working groups as well as projects drawing on APRU members academic expertise across the Asia Pacific aiming to inform key APEC interest areas such as skills development, labor mobility and the impact of digital technology on societies.

China commended APRU’s work and acknowledged the need for joint efforts to implement Artificial Intelligence in teacher training. China also suggested arrangements for conferences or seminars to discuss the topic. APRU expressed willingness to work in collaboration on relevant workshops. UNESCO emphasized the need for joint efforts on this.

1. **Planning for APEC 2018 and Beyond**

The Chair presented on “the Future Work of EDNET: 2018 and Beyond”, focusing on the work of the EDNET including APEC Educational Ministerial meetings, annual EDNET meetings, projects, joint initiatives, and the problems and challenges faced by the EDNET. The Chair then invited the participants to discuss the strategies and approaches for achieving effective and efficient education cooperation in APEC.

The United States agreed that improvements could be made in visibility, noting that a greater web presence and partnerships with other organizations would benefit the EDNET, and in the use of meeting time, noting the recommendations from the 2014 HRDWG Independent Assessment to collaborate more closely inter-sessionally on project updates and concept notes to spend less time in meetings on presentations and more on discussion.

APEC Secretariat noted that the extra meeting time depends on the host economy, and will consult the APEC Secretariat colleagues for the possibility of extending the length of the meeting. She also encouraged member economies to utilize APEC collaboration website for posting documents and comments.

UNESCO resonated the structural constraints which are similar to the UNESCO and suggested to hold meetings together with UNESCO and establish an APEC institute in collaboration with UNESCO.

Papua New Guinea expressed appreciation to the EDNET’s leadership and commented that more time could be reserved for economies to present on projects and further consideration would be required to address the challenges.

Russia suggested to limit the duration of official part of EDNET meetings for up to two days and conduct all relative expert meetings on separate days.

Japan explained the close relationship with UNESCO MGIEP and mentioned that they have been collaborated in developing textbooks on mathematics for years.

Australia also noted the results of the HRDWG Independent Assessment from 2014 and suggested member economies to take the opportunity of the Independent Assessment in 2018 to explore these challenges. Australia also suggested to use social media to promote collaborative work of the EDNET. Furthermore, Australia commended the thematic approach to reporting the projects. Finally Australia suggested to align the projects and initiatives with APEC Education Strategy and its action plan.

China acknowledged the achievements made so far and the challenges confronted by the EDNET and emphasized the need for a platform for publicity of education work in APEC including website. China also expressed support for the establishment of an APEC institute for Education Development and is willing to collaborate with other economies for joint establishment of the institute.

Thailand suggested the use of webinars or videoconferences for inter-sessional exchange of information and knowledge. Thailand noted that the EDNET website would be useful yet acknowledged the challenge in maintaining the website.

APRU expressed support for the establishment of an APEC Institute for Education Development.

Republic of Indonesia echoed the view of Thailand in utilizing digital instruments for the EDNET’s work. Indonesia also suggested the use of digital instruments for sharing information and noted the importance of updating the information on the HRDWG website. The relevant policy in the APEC Secretariat needs to be looked up for the purpose.

1. **The Summary Report for EDNET Meeting on 28th and in the morning of 1st March was adopted.**
2. **Workshop on Implementation of the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy**

The workshop mainly focused on the implementation of the *Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy* through the *APEC Report on Education and Economic Development*.

The Report will integrate templates for monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy with updated *Baseline Report on Current Education Status in Asia Pacific Region* and outcomes from APEC-badged projects and initiatives, aiming to share best practices on competencies, innovation and employability, analyse the relationship between education and economic development in the region, and generate policy recommendation on education and economic development.

The Chair invited the delegates to discuss on the title and subtitle, the content, methodology and timeline of the Report.

The delegates agreed on the title “APEC Report on Education and Economic Development” (AREED).

Aiming at an annual report aligned with the implementation of APEC Education Strategy and the theme of APEC Year, Australia suggested the subtitle of “Inclusive and Quality Education—Embracing the Digital Future” for 2018 report which was agreed by all the delegates.

Regarding the outline of report, Australia suggested to employ the three pillars and nine priority actions of the APEC Education Strategy as the basis.

Chinese Taipei suggested to add a chapter referring to the background documents, such as the APEC Education Strategy, as a reference; in response, the Co-Chair suggested another chapter on policy context after introduction.

Indonesia commented on the titles of each chapter and suggested brevity for title of each chapter.

The delegates agreed on the following outline of the Report:

* Introduction
* Policy Context
* Education and Economic Development
* Three or Four Chapters on Education Development in Asia Pacific aligned with priority actions of the APEC Education Strategy
* Lessons Learned
* Policy Recommendations

The delegates also agreed on the methodology and timeline for developing the Reports as follows:

* Step 1: Development of the Framework of Report (February- March)
* Step 2: Reformation of the Taskforce (March)
* Step 3: Setup of Advisory Team (March)
* Step 4: Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development (May)
* Step 5: Completion of Draft Action Plan (May)
* Step 6: Online Consultation and Revision (May-August)
* Step 7: Launch of the Report (September-October)

The delegates agreed to form the Task Force and Advisory Team for the Report on Education and Economic Development on the basis of the Task Force and Advisory Team for Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy. The name list of the Task Force and Advisory Team for Action Plan of APEC Education Strategy will be circulated for confirmation after the EDNET Meeting.

The delegates agreed to set the deadline for updating the Baseline Report on Current Education in Asia Pacific Region and for submitting the templates for projects and initiatives as early May 2018 before the Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development.

Thailand confirmed to host the Workshop on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development in Bangkok in May 2018.

1. **Closing Remarks**

The Chair delivered the closing remarks. She expressed her gratitude to the host economy Papua New Guinea for their hospitality and high-standard and efficient work of organizing the meeting and to the APEC Secretariat for their warm-hearted support.

The Chair also thanked the delegates for their valuable contributions that made the EDNET meeting fruitful and successful.

Finally, the Chair thanked the note-taker Ms. Xu Congcong for her contribution to EDNET meeting.