

## **PPSTI Statement on Scientist Exchange**

Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) recognizes that expanding research and development collaboration, underpinned by shared values, through open innovation has the potential to play a vital role in addressing common challenges and enhancing the value of emerging technologies. This, in turn strengthens connectivity among APEC member economies and underpins prosperity across the region. The importance of regional capacities in science, technology and innovation to achieve these goals is widely acknowledged, and it is reaffirmed that such capacities can be enhanced through the appropriate exchange of scientific talent, scientific collaboration, and partnerships.

Drawing inspiration from the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 and Aotearoa Plan of Action in their pursuit of innovation, sustainable growth, and trade and investment, efforts to enhance scientists' connectivity are expected to stimulate innovation and lead to prosperity. The Scientist Exchange proposed by Korea, as a channel for the voluntary sharing of scientific knowledge and human insights, is recognized as an important means of supporting applied research and development, which in turn can foster innovation and deliver tangible benefits across the Asia-Pacific region.

Scientist Exchange aligns with the established concept of open science, which highlights the significance of scientific collaboration and the dissemination of knowledge in the Asia-Pacific region.

As demonstrated through the Scientist Invitation Program in 2025 APEC Korea, we encourage scientists' participation in academic activities held across APEC Member Economies. Appropriate people-to-people exchange among scientists should continue, and research networks in the region should be sustained across disciplines including basic science to foster long-term scientific development, thereby strengthening STI capacities in the region.

It is our sincere hope that the Scientist Exchange will serve as a meaningful instrument to connect scientific communities, cultivate innovation, and contribute to the sustainable growth of the APEC region through strengthened scientific cooperation.