

ANNEX 11

INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE ECOTECH IMPLEMENTATION OF APEC WORKING GROUPS AND SOM TASKFORCES: FISHERIES WORKING GROUP (FWG) AND MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP (MRCWG)

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or APEC Secretariat	Suggested Action to be taken by SCE or FWG/MRCWG	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by SCE or FWG/MRCWG	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCE				
<p>Recommendation to SCE1. Seek to enhance communication & information management between the newly merged group (including developing for the working group a range of procedural enhancements as appropriate) and the SCE to ensure that during times of transition in group membership or LS offices that communication processes are not unnecessarily affected.</p>		FWG, MRCWG, SCE and APEC Secretariat to work together on keeping strong communication during transition of merger	Ongoing	Yes
<p>Recommendation to SCE2. Provide guidance and realistic timeframes on when the newly merged working group should develop and finalise a Strategic Framework, and provide support for the group to develop more action-oriented work plans with achievable milestones and timelines.</p>	<p>APEC Secretariat Under the Guidance of the APEC Secretariat Executive Director a strategic planning guide for use by APEC sub-fora has been developed which can be used to help fora increase the value and relevance of their strategic planning processes.</p>	OFWG to apply, with the assistance of APEC Secretariat, the strategic planning guide	SCE2 2012	Yes
<p>Recommendation to SCE3. Guide finalisation of the newly merged working groups' Terms of Reference (TOR) to ensure that this instrument meets the expectation of APEC. In doing so, also encourage direct reference in the TOR to the 5 Medium term ECOTECH priorities (thus encouraging enhanced working group activity correlation to ECOTECH priorities).</p>		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCE				
<p>Recommendation to SCE4. In light of the decision to merge the FWG and MRCWG made by represented Economies at the 10th Joint FWG/MRCWG Meeting Sessions held in Bali, Indonesia, 6-9 June 2011, endorse the merge and support the formalisation of this decision.</p>	<p>APEC Secretariat The merger of the FWG and MRCWG was recommended by SCE and endorsed by SOMs at SOM3 2011 in San Francisco, California.</p>	completed	N/A	Yes
<p>Recommendation to SCE5. Seek agreement with the newly merged working group on the level of any additional administrative support that the SCE can reasonably provide and document such agreement if deemed necessary.</p>	<p>APEC Secretariat The level of support that the working group can expect from the APEC Secretariat is documented in the “Revised Guidelines for Lead Shepherd/Chair and Deputy Lead Shepher/Chair of APEC Working Groups and SOM Task Forces” endorsed in 2010.</p>	OFWG to consider additional administrative support required	SCE2 2012	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO FWG/MRCWG				
<p>Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 1 Under the guidance of the Program Director (PD) the newly merged working group should ensure that an adequate level of understanding is maintained by all Project Proponents (PP) in order to enhance project proposal development processes to deliver greatest benefit to Economies.</p>	<p>APEC Secretariat The Secretariat appreciates the value of effective dissemination of key project related information to the newly established Working Group. Most importantly, project proponents need to appreciate the importance of the project guidebook for guidance on APEC policies and procedures at all stages of the project cycle.</p>	As per the recommendation	Ongoing	Yes
<p>Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 2 Adopt an internal annual audit/review process to measure how well the working group has: met its objectives, and supported the objectives and goals of APEC and ECOTECH priorities.</p>		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
<p>Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 3 Upon the formalisation of the newly merged group document the history of the two working groups past significant events, work activities and projects. Include key decision or turning points in the evolution of the two groups becoming one. Update this document annually.</p>		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
<p>Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 4 Develop meeting agendas with a lead time of 2 – 3 months and place a higher level of importance on following the agenda more rigidly (unless otherwise needed) to provide greater certainty for meeting participants on the intended scope and subject matter of meetings which they may need to prepare for or address from their Economies perspective. Where minor or</p>		As per the recommendation	Ongoing	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO FWG/MRCWG				
significant deviation from an agenda is necessary, ensure that the reasons for this are adequately communicated to meeting attendees.				
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 5 During the inter-sessional period prior to tabling a finalised TOR for the merged working group ensure clarity of content and achievability of targets or outcomes if specified.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 6 Develop focused and descriptive action-oriented Work-Plans that are reviewed annually. These work plans should include indicators used to measure implementation success or challenges, as well as specific actions that will take place (in addition to annual meetings) to enhance working group performance particularly in the area of securing collaborative activity with other APEC fora and organisations external to APEC.	APEC Secretariat SCE requires each working group to develop an annual work plan using an approved template to be endorsed at SCE-COW each year. The annual work plan template includes a section on planned collaborative activities within and outside of APEC structures.	As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 7 Consider how the work of the working groups could provide an enhanced level of support through investigating avenues where fisheries and marine resource management play a role in REI.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012, ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 8 Strongly consider the benefit of making direct reference to all ECOTECH priorities within the new TOR.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 9 When developing new projects review to what level		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012, ongoing	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO FWG/MRCWG				
such projects can support ECOTECH priorities and communicate these links during the project proposal development process.				
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 10 As the merged working group begins to establish itself and future project work and activities carefully review first the need for project correlation to ECOTECH priorities and how these can be related to or inform new projects and activities.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 11 Additional to the guidance contained in 2011/SOM1/SCE/003 for annual meetings after 2011 to be “held at the same time and the same venue as SOM”, invite Lead Shepherds of other relevant working groups to future annual WG meetings (in addition to workshops) where scheduling permits.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 12 Within the merged working groups TOR specify in some detail the anticipated relationships with APEC and non-APEC fora and outline how collaborative/cooperative goals will be pursued.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 13 Clearly identify the desire for enhanced collaboration by the newly merged working group in its TOR.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 14 Seek to implement shared projects and activities on a regular basis with suitable organisations. Create a shortlist of the most viable collaboration potential		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO FWG/MRCWG				
entities and during inter-sessional periods seek to establish shared project work or activities.				
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 15 Adopt and maintain networking fora through existing IT solutions such as FACEBOOK or TWITTER. Suggest that the administration of a FACEBOOK or TWITTER account be managed by a 'friends of the LS group		OFWG to examine the feasibility and practicability of social media use.	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 16 Place a higher level of importance on achieving successful collaborative activities and report on the types and impacts of these at annual meetings and at SOM.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012, ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 17 To provide a platform for enhanced integration and cooperation, proceed with the working group merge and adopt a standard single tier structure.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 18 Adopt within the new groups TOR and Strategic Framework the four thematic areas of the Paracas Declaration, whilst ensuring that each instrument continues to account for the need to achieve Ecosystem Based Management (EBM).		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes
Recommendation to FWG/MRCWG 19 In the TOR formalise the position of a LS and a Deputy Lead Shepherd (DLS) and describe respective roles and functions.		As per the recommendation	SCE2 2012	Yes