

ANNEX 7

INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP (TPTWG)

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or APEC Secretariat	Suggested Action to be taken by SCE or TPTWG	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by SCE or TPTWG	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCE				
Recommendation to SCE1. To consider exhorting economies to carefully chose their delegations to have a successful participation in TPT-WG and APEC as a global forum. The objective would be to ensure that attendees are well informed and empowered to the best extent possible to commit work activities and projects.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to SCE2. Consider including in the ranking process of project selection some criteria related to the specific WG priorities and impact of the project, including how the project impacts other APEC fora priorities.		SCE reviews the project funding criteria each year to reflect APEC's overall priorities; fora are encouraged to develop proposals that align with those priorities.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to SCE3. APEC should consider funding the participation of economies personnel who are elected to official positions within fora (e.g., Experts Group and Sub-Group Chairs, Deputy or Vice Chairs, Lead Shepherd, etc.) as a means of encouraging developing economies to seek these positions. This should extend beyond the APEC travel eligible economies, however, as it would also encourage broader participation by all economies.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : This proposal has significant funding implications and could not be accommodated within the Secretariat's current budget.	Not at this time.	NA	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCE				
Recommendation to SCE4. SCE should consider a protocol to make communication more efficient with TPT-WG including the possibility of attending the TPT-WG meetings or at least giving feedback on TPT-WG documents before its meetings. A protocol should be established with TPT-WG to facilitate this dialogue.		SCE supports improved communication with fora and would welcome any specific proposals from TPTWG on how communication could be improved.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to SCE5. Review protocols to provide travel funds for elected working group officials to attend other fora meetings.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : This proposal has significant funding implications and could not be accommodated within the Secretariat's current budget.	Not at this time.	NA	Yes
Recommendation to APEC Secretariat 1. Consider the possibility of allowing project funds to be used for project management activities. The project manager will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the project and to work closely with the TPT-WG officer, the latter could also alleviate the APEC Secretariat workload.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : Strictly speaking the assessor is not supposed to make recommendations to the Secretariat but rather to SCE (and was supposed to limit herself to five such recommendations). Project administration falls under the BMC's responsibility, however allowing limited project funds to be spent on project management does not seem appropriate at present.	Not at this time.	NA	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO TPTWG				
Recommendation to TPTWG 1. The TPT-WG priorities are taken into consideration at the highest levels in APEC. The inclusive methodology and timing to present the economies priorities fostered by the TPT-MG should be maintained to ensure this outcome. TPT-WG could consider detailing this methodology so this result is permanent.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 2. Considering TPT-WG has a working web site and to facilitate a better understanding of the TPT-WG procedures as well as APEC mechanisms, it is recommended to prepare a presentation of the working group including the pertinent links to the experts groups and sub-groups' ToR as well as the APEC guidelines.		TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	SCE 2 2014	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 3. Make it standard protocol to have each Member Economy to provide a brief overview of their expectations and purposes of participation as part of their inputs to a draft agenda for an upcoming meeting.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : the TPTWG Lead Shepherd provided the following comment: "It is a regular practice to consult all Heads of Delegation and expert group chairs on the management, HODs and plenary agendas. It is not practical to <u>require</u> each economy to contribute to this exercise."	TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	Ongoing	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO TPTWG				
Recommendation to TPTWG 4. To consider developing a protocol to solicit those economies who haven't been active in terms of project supporting, their feedback on the alignment of the actual projects to their specific priorities. This should include an exercise of evaluating the obstacles they may have encounter to support or present projects to consider mechanisms to solve them.		As per the recommendation.	SCE2 2014	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 5. Prepare a presentation that explains the projects process including links to the pertinent documents.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : This recommendation should be implemented in consultation with the Program Director and Project Management Unit who have appropriate resources readily available.	As per the recommendation.	SCE2 2014	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 6. Revise protocols to permit projects to have a full year for execution from the time of contract issuance to avoid the difficulty to adhere to the timeframe projects implementation due to various unexpected factors.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : The TPTWG is unable to implement this recommendation as it falls within the BMC's responsibility. BMC regularly reviews project protocols in order to make them more effective.	Not at this time.	NA	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 7. Support the APEC Secretariat proposal to the BMC to extend project completion dates to two years after the date of approval.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 8. Identify best practices on joint project proposals to be strengthened and shared with other APEC fora.		TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	SCE2 2014	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO TPTWG				
Recommendation to TPTWG 9. TPT-WG could consider reviewing its Management Guide to contemplate the possibility of distributing responsibilities amongst more office holders to incentivize economies to access to these positions.		As per the recommendation.	SCE2 2014	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 10. To increase member economies participation workshop schedules should coincide with Ministerial Meetings.		TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 11. To incentivize participation, member economies should be involved since the preparation of the agenda, especially Expert Groups agendas, to ensure that their needs and topics of interest are covered. To achieve so, more time should be given to this preparation to include Member Economies feedback.	<u>APEC Secretariat:</u> the TPTWG Lead Shepherd provided the following comment: It is a regular practice to consult all Heads of Delegation and expert group chairs on the management, HODs and plenary agendas. Expert Group chairs consult with their membership on their agendas, and there is always the opportunity to add issues or raise other business at the meetings.	TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 12. Currently there are document submission deadlines that do not appear to be followed by Member Economies. The timings should be respected as, if documents are circulated with sufficient time prior to meetings, economies might be incentivized to better prepare their participation, which could contribute to higher quality meetings.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO TPTWG				
Recommendation to TPTWG 13. In order to assist office holders in better preparation of their meetings, a mechanism should be agreed so information of expected attendance is properly disseminated to the working group officers preferably in advance of document reproduction deadlines, but after registration deadlines.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : the TPTWG Lead Shepherd provided the following comment: The intent of this recommendation is not clear. If the idea is that Expert Group chairs should be in touch with their members intersessionally, it should be noted that this is often the case.	TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 14. Host governments should solicit work group chairs for desired meeting space conditions prior to sessions.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : the Program Director is expected to facilitate meeting room requirements with host economies to ensure fora requirements are met. The TPTWG Lead Shepherd provided the following comment: We are not aware of any concerns in this regard. Ample space for each Expert and Sub Group is provided as a matter of course.	Not at this time.	NA	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 15. Review existing protocols to ensure that website information is up to date to be an effective work tool for Member Economies and TPT groups.		As per the recommendation.	SCE2 2014	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 16. Review protocols to focus economy reports. Economy priorities should be given special consideration.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	Yes

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO TPTWG				
Recommendation to TPTWG 17. Review protocols on how to involve ABAC in TPT-WG activities. Participation in meetings does not seem to be sufficient. A more strategic relationship should be created so that the knowledge and experience that the private sector has in transportation issues could be effectively shared to government officials and vice versa.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : the TPTWG Lead Shepherd provided the following comment: ABAC is invited to participate in TPTWG meetings as a matter of course and participates as availabilities and scheduling allow.	TPTWG to consider and action, if feasible.	Ongoing	Yes
Recommendation to TPTWG 18. TPTWG could consider co-sponsoring the CTTF's Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) Conference or developing its own, similar, contact group in which TPT-WG issues are specifically discussed with a wide range of private sector entities.		As per the recommendation.	SCE2 2014	Yes