

Proposal from the United States, Australia, Japan, and Chinese Taipei

Work Plan to Identify Building Blocks to Facilitate Digital Trade for 2018

In order to continue to build on Ministers' instructions to identify practices to facilitate digital trade in the region, as well as the recent recognition by Trade Ministers acknowledging the effort to facilitate digital trade through case studies and building blocks, and to further our collective understanding of the issues surrounding digital trade, we propose that CTI endorse the following future work plan, and begin a more in-depth discussion based on the proposals put forward by economies, as well as take into account the recent Policy Support Unit's paper, *Facilitating Digital Trade for Inclusive Growth: Key Issues in Promoting Digital Trade* (PSU Digital Trade Study).

2017

CTI III: Discuss the possible elements of a future work plan, with an aim to agree to the Work Plan intersessionally.

CSOM: Finalize the Work Plan at the CTI level, and seek endorsement by Senior Officials.

2018

CTI: Working with the host economy, and with the TELWG, PPSTI, ECSG and other related fora, and in line with the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap, continue with Trade Policy Dialogues in 2018 in order to enhance the understanding of the possible building blocks to facilitate digital trade, and issues identified in the PSU Digital Trade Study, focusing on the trade-related aspects of these building blocks.

Work towards the development of a list of possible building blocks for facilitating digital trade;

- Exchange information on domestic policies and measures and international efforts related to the possible building blocks with a view on how they facilitate digital trade, and share [possible] best practices and experiences to better understand how the possible building blocks facilitate digital trade;
- Identify and discuss possible solutions and best practices with regard to facilitating digital trade through the promotion of the building blocks, focusing on the trade-related aspects of these building blocks, including identifying capacity building for developing economies and cross-border regulatory cooperation;
- Finalize a list of possible initial building blocks to facilitate digital trade as appropriate.

CSOM: Identify possible best practices and/or possible solutions to promoting building blocks to facilitate digital trade.