



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Action Plan and key findings on Good Regulatory Practices

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Action Plan for GRPs

Summary Executive

The 12th Conference on Good Regulatory Practices took place on August 19th and 20th, 2019 in Puerto Varas, Chile in the margins of the Third Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM3). This Conference gathered 100 participants and experts from 16 APEC economies in a total of 9 sessions in which was discussed GRP's among APEC economies, especially in areas related to: transparency and public comment procedures, internal coordination of rulemaking and the implementation of TBT obligations related to notifications. The 12th Conference on GRP registered the participation of 18 experts in Good Regulatory Practices from different sectors, including government, private sector, academia, and international organizations such as: the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), American Petroleum Institute (API), Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), ASTM International, IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, World Trade Organization (WTO), among others.

The discussions of the 12th GRP Conference provided the participants with a deeper perspective and the opportunity to update on regulatory transparency and GRPs among APEC Region.

Additionally, this Conference increased the awareness and the need to create initiatives and implement capacity building actions aimed to consider the necessary regulatory approaches to achieve the right balance between regulators, trade, stakeholders, regional bodies, while at the same time improving the rulemaking process and practices together with international regulatory cooperation IRC approaches. In the same context the conference supported the discussion of challenges and best practices for increasing transparency internal coordination and stakeholders' inputs trough case studies and sharing of economies improvements since the 11th Conference on GRP, which provided the basis to lay a groundwork for an action plan aimed to produce higher quality regulation and contribute to reduce the chances that a proposed measure will impede or obstacles trade through its applications.

The Action Plan serves as a central reference to future projects regarding GRPs. This document is devoted to include key findings gathered on the 12th Conference within the Recommendations and opinions delivered by delegates and participant according to what they consider essential on the correct implementation of GRPs on APEC economies, which will serve as guidelines for the planning and implementation of APEC projects and economy-level projects and initiatives regarding to GRPs.

I. Vision and Approaches

1.1. Vision

For nearly two decades, APEC has been at the forefront of international discussions on the importance of Good Regulatory Practice (GRP) to trade and investment. Commitment on better understanding GRPs on APEC economies has grown on the past years, delegates and economies consider as essential to implement new procedure to enhance the use of GRPs.

1.2. Approaches

APEC economies have agreed to work collaboratively to advance actions to realize the three pillars of the APEC Action Plan on GRPs:

1. To enhance and align competencies among economies to the correct implementation of GRPs.
2. To increase the awareness of the importance on GRPs in the rulemaking process.
3. To create synergy among APEC economies regarding to GRPs.

In the 2018 RAASR Mid-term Review Report, more economies cited regulatory improvement as a key area than any other topic. Nine APEC economies are pursuing work to improve regulatory coherence and quality, apply regulatory impact analysis (RIA) to the regulatory process, and to analyses the overall structure of their regulatory process as a cycle. Specifically, Chile identified promoting the application of GRP as one of its priorities and highlighted public consultation as an area for improvement.

Thus, APEC must continue to provide opportunities for economies to exchange information on progress achieved and the benefits of using GRP in public policies as a key element in the rulemaking process to achieve high level support for regulatory reform, especially when non-tariff barriers to trade and restrictions to investment become an increasingly important market access topic.

II. Action Plan basis:

This proposed project is a follow-up action of the 2018, Ministers statements called to develop continued efforts to promote GRP and, focus on regulatory reform in the digital age. Ministers also encouraged economies to make progress on international regulatory cooperation (IRC) and to collaborate through sharing experiences and capacity building. Therefore, this project is an opportunity to sophisticate and improve APEC's strategic objectives on GRP's.

III. Scope of the Action Plan

The most relevant key findings delivered on the 11th and 12th conference on GRPs regarding to all the elements that could boost this Action Plan in the future are the following 7 pillars.

1. Synergy between conferences and develop more interaction between standards bodies, regulators, and international organizations IOs:
 - It's becoming vital for conferences the create synergies between each year, SCSC and EC delegates must ensure to enhance and keep working on outputs delivered by each conference to undertake a stronger groundwork regarding GRPs. Standards bodies, regulators and international organization must have deeper influence during conference, guiding delegates on policy making process and regulatory cycle.
2. Continue to expand the use of GRP throughout all policy recommendation towards economic sectors for new regulatory schemes.
 - GRPs must be at the forefront discussion of policy recommendations, it has been shown through past work undertook that GRPs allows economies to reduce barriers to trade among APEC economies.
3. Implement more activities, conference, workshops, trainings, regarding GRPs.
 - More dynamic activities, conference, workshops, and training must be undertaken during meetings, it is vital to obtain robust results and motivate delegate spread the use of GRPs with a more dynamic approach.
4. In future workshops address key issues that are describe in the set of recommendation to focus on.
 - Key issues has been already recognized among delegates, agreeing that it must be at the forefront discussion, economies must look forward to developing solutions to obtain robust results.
5. Building Capacity and training for delegates on the subject as a technical setting.
 - Delegates agreed that training for regulators is vital to improve policy making process, many economies recognized that there is a lack of commitment on training efforts, therefore conferences should include workshops devoted to preparing delegates and regulators to obtain a wider impact while implementing GRPs.
6. Continue to include subject matter experts on this subject and commitment delegates to increase the GRP approach for the rulemaking process.
 - Delegates agreed that conferences should host experts and representatives from different international bodies, regulators, OECD, TBT enquiry point,

regional bodies, private sector, etc. to obtain a wider perspective of how GRPs should be implemented.

7. Train the trainers, for regulators, and standards representative in events/conference/workshops related to notification procedures.

-Training sessions, workshops, events, and conferences are vital to spread the use of GRPs among economies, including activities that can guide regulators to a better implementation of common chapters in GPS, notification procedures and rule-making process.