

2014/SOM2/040

Agenda Item: 4.3

# Summary Report of APEC High-Level Roundtable on Green Development

Purpose: Information Submitted by: China



Second Senior Officials' Meeting Qingdao, China 14-15 May 2014

# **Summary Report of APEC High-Level Roundtable on Green Development**

(Proposed by China, for Information)

### I. Introduction of the Roundtable

In Tianjin, on May 8, 2014, China successfully hosted the APEC High-Level Roundtable on Green Development to advance cooperation among economies on promoting green development and transformation in the Asia-Pacific region. The roundtable was designed to promote policy dialogue and share good practices on green and sustainable development and transformation with a view to increasing understanding, facilitating trade liberalization and investment facilitation and preventing trade frictions.

Over 150 participants from 15 APEC economies, including senior government officials from both trade and environment sectors, and experts, attended the roundtable. The 15 participating economies were Australia; Canada; People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; Peru; The Republic of the Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Chinese Taipei; The United States of America; and Viet Nam. Representatives of the APEC secretariat, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED), also attended the roundtable. Mr. Li Ganjie, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China and Mr. Cui Jindu, Vice Mayor of Tianjin Municipal Government, participated in the roundtable and made opening remarks.

## II. Outcomes

The roundtable was held under the APEC 2014 priorities of "Advancing Regional Economic Integration" and "Promoting Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth", focusing on three topics: a) Policies on Green Development and Transformation; b)Practices on Green Development, i.e. Green Supply Chain; and c)

Practices on Green Transformation.

Policies on Green Development and Transformation: Recognizing the opportunities and challenges in transition toward a regional green and sustainable economy of APEC, the roundtable underlined that policy dialogue could help APEC economies to address both economic and environmental challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. Further efforts and cooperation are necessary to achieve the green and sustainable development goal for all economies. The common interested topics, such as Improving Environmental Policies and Regulations for Green Transformation, Environment and Economy: Towards a Green Economy, Green Development Policies and Practices, Green Growth Strategy, etc., were presented and discussed.

**Practices on Green Development, i.e. Green Supply Chain:** APEC economies were promoting their implementation of green development practices. The roundtable emphasized the importance to construct and enhance the cooperation partnership on green development among APEC economies through sharing good practices and exchanging information.

The topics discussed include Researches and Practices of Green Supply Chain on Promoting Green Development, To Promote Green Development and Advance a Win-Win Cooperation: The Practices of Green Supply Chain in Tianjin, Government-Industry-Regional Collaboration to Create Sustainable Supply Chains, Climate Change and Green Development Strategies, Green Trade and Green Economy, etc.

How to link APEC economies to cooperate on green supply chains, so as to push forward green growth and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region was highlighted. Furthermore, how to support the private sector in its efforts to develop greener supply chains was also emphasized. Tianjin's contribution in setting up a green supply chain pilot center open to interested economies was welcomed.

**Practices on Green Transformation:** APEC economies' efforts with respect to green growth, including promoting green financing investment and trade, sustainable production and consumption, capacity building and joint research, green technologies, sustainable government procurement and certification and mutual recognition of environment labeling schemes, and corporate social responsibility, etc., was welcomed. Participants agreed that learning from each other and sharing information and views on best practices on green transformation can catalyze improvement of practices and green transformation.

To encourage APEC economies to implement and promote the outcomes of the roundtable, Declaration of APEC High-Level Roundtable on Green Development on promoting green and sustainable development and transformation in the Asia-Pacific region was discussed and adopted, attached as Annex. The roundtable believed that it can contribute to APEC common goal towards green and sustainable growth. Participants recommended that the Declaration to be submitted to the SOM2, MRT and 2014 APEC Leaders' Meeting, as 2014 APEC achievement in green development and environment protection, and also recommend that APEC Leaders send a strong message of support for future APEC work to support green growth and sustainable development across the region.

#### **Annex:**

#### **DECLARATION**

#### OF APEC HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE ON GREEN DEVELOPMENT

## 8 May 2014, Tianjin

The APEC High-Level Roundtable was held in Tianjin, China on 8 May 2014. Under the APEC 2014 priorities of "Advancing Regional Economic Integration" and "Promoting Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth", we articulated our common vision of promoting green development and transition in the Asia-Pacific region in the context of our regional economic integration efforts.

In recent years, APEC has sought to tackle both economic and environmental challenges in pursuit of a green and sustainable economy, including through its leadership in liberalizing trade in environmental goods and services (EGS).

Recognizing the opportunities and challenges faced by the Asia-Pacific region, we agree that further efforts and cooperation in APEC are necessary to advance work to enhance capabilities of economies to support green and sustainable growth in all of our economies.

To this end, we emphasize the importance of sharing best practices and continuing our efforts to facilitate and liberalize trade in EGS and promote green and sustainable growth.

We will assess how existing APEC work streams, such as the Committee on Trade and Investment's work on Supply Chain Connectivity and EGS will support the private sector in its efforts to develop greener supply chains and how to link APEC economies to cooperate on green supply chains, so as to push forward green growth

and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. We will work closely with the private sector to ensure that any future work by APEC in this area adds value to these efforts.

We welcome the work being done by individual APEC economies with respect to green growth, including promoting green financing investment and trade, sustainable production and consumption, capacity building and joint research, green technologies, sustainable government procurement and certification and mutual recognition of environment labeling schemes, and corporate social responsibility, etc, and emphasize that such work should be carried out in a WTO consistent manner. We welcome Tianjin's contribution in setting up a green supply chain pilot center open to interested economies.

Our work toward a seamless regional economy underpinned by green and sustainable growth is only in the beginning stages. We believe that this roundtable can contribute to our common goal towards green and sustainable growth. We recommend that our Leaders send a strong message of support for future APEC work to support green growth and sustainable development across the region.