



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2014/SMEWG38/038

Agenda Item: 13

Seminar on Cross-Border Trade in APEC Region

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Indonesia



**38th Small and Medium Enterprises Working
Group Meeting
Taichung, Chinese Taipei
26-27 March 2014**



REPORT of SEMINAR ON CBT IN APEC REGION

Bali-Indonesia, 4-5 February 2014

*APEC SMEWG Meeting
Taichung, 26 March 2014*

Participants

- Attended by 50, as follows:
 - 15 APEC Sponsored participants coming from 8 (eight) APEC Economies, namely: Chile, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Peru, Thailand, The Russian Federation and Vietnam
 - 35 participants were non APEC sponsored. They came from the government officials, Association of SMEs, Universities, and Research Institutions from host economy.

Speakers and Topics

5 APEC sponsored speakers from APEC member economies:

- Lu Yau Jr, Chinese Taipei (Trade Facilitation for SMEs: Experience of Chinese Taipei)
- Ganeshan Wignaraja, Japan (SMEs in Cross-Border trade Opportunities and constraints in APEC economies)
- Rafaelita Aldaba, Republic of The Philippines (Access of SMEs to Trade Facilitation: Philippine Case)
- Hong Yeol Lee, Republic of Korea (The Impact of SME Export Facilitation Measures (Korea Case Implication)) and
- Keng Hock Mark, GOH, Singapore (Best Practices to Stimulate APEC SMEs Involvement on CBT).

3 non sponsored APEC speakers from Host Economy:

- Shinto Nugroho, (APEC Initiatives)
- Tulus Tambunan, (MSMEs' Access to Trade Facilitation: A Story from Indonesia);
- Widia Ariadi, (Customs and Trade Facilitations).

Recomendation

- APEC should play strategic roles in giving assistance to support capacity building to SMEs, particularly those in the border area, in forms of vocational trainings, workshops, seminars, and the like. Other support that APEC could give is facilitating business meeting and business matching among SMEs in cross border areas with adjacent economies.
- conducting research and development, establishing online support center, giving assistance in registration, providing video meeting and online exhibition and online expert agencies to help SMEs penetrate global market, supporting for distribution channel and market searching, conducting FTA training and accreditation, establishing media to channel SMEs opinion regarding FTA, and setting up law to support to trade facilitation.

Cont.

- APEC needs to develop a manual or guidelines on best practices to help SMEs in using FTA. The manual should have tools to help SMEs to understand FTA, such as website in local language, customized training courses, etc.
- The government of APEC economies should also enhance the roles of different actors in supporting SMEs, such as private actors and related associations.

Cont.

- APEC need to establish internal database that can be accessed by each economy, particularly SMEs. APEC should also be able to provide practical information on CBT (e.g. market opportunities) which is also accessible for SMEs and always be updated. In this case, Chile gave an example of using APEC website directory.
- Creating funding on APEC level would be beneficial for SMEs, particularly to assist the improvement on cross border infrastructure.

Thank you for great participation from your economies, for sending an expert speakers especially Chinese Taipei, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and also The Philippines

