



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Agenda Item: 16.7

Harmonisation of Standards for the Movement of Data Across APEC Economies

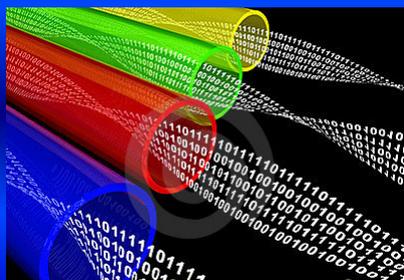
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APEC
PHILIPPINES
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**40th Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group
Meeting
Atlanta, United States
10-11 June 2015**

Harmonisation of Standards for the Movement of Data Across APEC economies



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An Emerging Issue

- The digital economy creates significant new opportunities for business.
 - E-commerce has been growing at 40 per cent per year for the last five years.
- New technologies and digital platforms (e.g cloud computing, social media) are creating borderless global markets and new possibilities – especially for MSMEs.
- Seamless data flows is essential to ensure digital markets are allowed to function efficiently and effectively.
 - Financial firms use cross border data flows to process credit card transactions
 - Airlines rely on cross-border data flows to ensure the safe and efficient transportation
 - Every business sector uses cross-border flows to participate in global supply chains
- Current examples of barriers to data movement include: restricting access to the internet; filtering of domain names, internet protocols or URLs; and international payment platforms not recognised.

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Project Summary

- Aligns with the APEC SMEWG Strategic Plan 2013-2016
 - Supports the Philippine's priority on 'Fostering SME participation in regional and global markets.'
 - Facilitates better co-operation and synergies between the SMEWG and the APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance
- The project will bring together APEC micro, medium and small enterprises (MSME) representatives, National Standards Boards (NSBs) and regulators to exchange views on the data management and interchange standards in the global economy.
- The project aims to build trust and reduce technical barriers to trade by providing a framework for understanding the barriers to the flow of data across borders.

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What the project will deliver



We encourage interested economies to participate in the survey and workshop.

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