



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2014/SMEWG39/037**

Agenda Item: 16.14

## **APEC SMEs Business Forum**

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: China



**39<sup>th</sup> Small and Medium Enterprises  
Working Group Meeting  
Nanjing, China  
3-4 September 2014**



**APEC SME BUSINESS FORUM 2014**

**DATE:** 2 Sept. 2014

**VENUE:** Hotel Novotel Nanjing East Suning Galaxy

**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 260 representing 13 member economies

**THEME:** "Innovation and Sustainability"

**CONTENTS:** Keynote speech + panel discussion + report release

**OUTCOMES:** Recommendations to the 21st APEC SME Ministerial Meeting

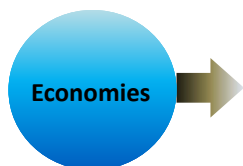
The collage consists of six photographs: 1. A group of men in suits standing on a stage in front of a banner for the forum. 2. A woman in a red dress speaking at a podium on a stage. 3. A man in a suit speaking at a podium. 4. A man in a suit speaking at a podium. 5. A man in a suit speaking at a podium. 6. A group of people sitting at a long table in a meeting room, engaged in discussion.

## APEC SME BUSINESS FORUM

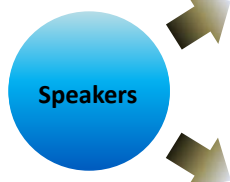
- Important supporting activity for APEC SME Ministerial Meeting
- Voice of the business community
- Platform for business leaders to share best practices
- Communicate channel for public and private
- Insightful discussions
- Suggestions and expectations to APEC SME ministers



## Diversity



Australia Brunei Darussalam Canada  
People's Republic of China Hong Kong, China  
Republic of Korea Malaysia Peru Singapore  
Chinese Taipei Thailand The United States Viet Nam

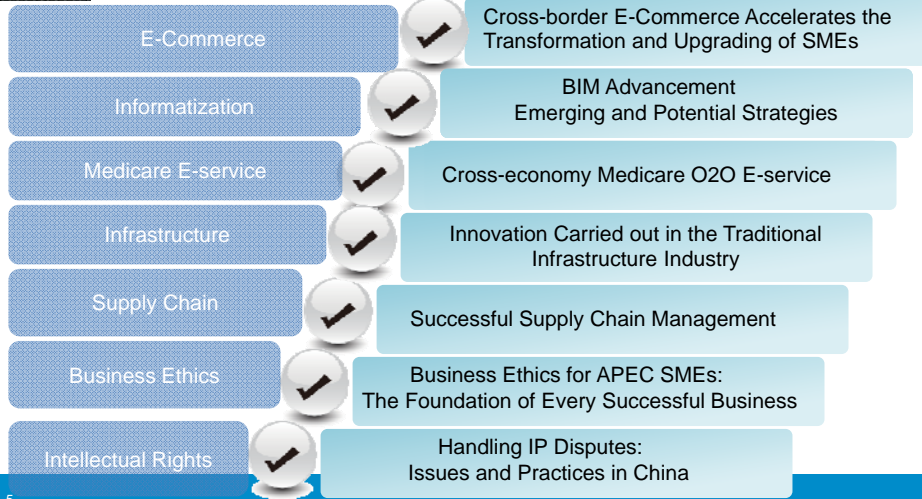


**Experts: Three Moderators** from Universities, such as Peking University, Renming University, Zhejiang University

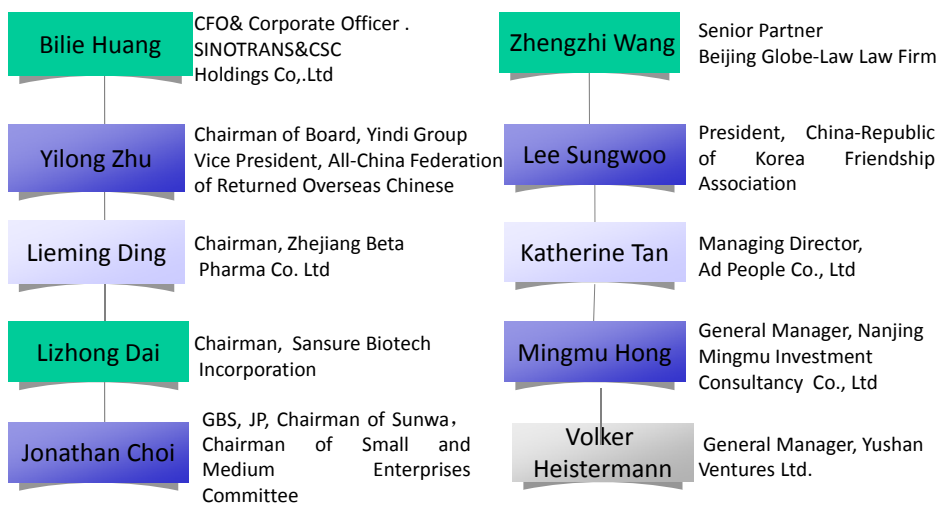
**Entrepreneurs: Nineteen**

**Male speakers: Fifteen**

**Female speakers: Four**



## Presidium



## Discussion Recommendations of APEC SME Business Forum

### Recommendations to the 21<sup>st</sup> APEC SME Ministerial Meeting

by APEC SME Business Forum 2014

Nanjing, China

September 2, 2014

On September 2, APEC SME Business Forum 2014 was held in the ancient city of Nanjing. As an important supporting activity for the 21<sup>st</sup> APEC SME Ministerial Meeting, this Business Forum represents the voice of the business community of the Asia-Pacific region, acting as a platform for dialogue between the governments and the business community in the Asia-Pacific. Taking "Innovation and Sustainability" as a theme, the Business Forum conducted frank and constructive discussions focusing on SMEs' innovative development, commonly concerned by each member economy, and conveyed suggestions and expectations of the business community to APEC Ministers responsible for SMEs, promoting the innovation and development of SMEs in the APEC region.

With the rapid advance of global economic integration, we have ushered in a new economic era guided by information technology and technological revolution, and innovation has become an inherent requirement for the development of SMEs. In this context, for SMEs under different development stages and facing different difficulties, APEC has designed and launched various development initiatives and innovation assistance programs including conferences, seminars and capacity building to improve innovation awareness and foresight of SMEs in the whole region to facilitate the sustainable development of the SMEs and promote the regional economic growth and full employment.

Based on the speeches and discussions in the plenary sessions in the Business Forum and upon the consensus of delegates of the member economies, President of the Business Forum intended to recommend the followings to the 21<sup>st</sup> APEC SME Ministerial Meeting.

#### I. Enhancing Innovation Initiatively

Innovation is an important source to enhance the competitiveness of SMEs and also an important driving force promoting sustainable development of the global economy. We believe that SMEs should actively adapt to the current trend of the new round technological revolution and industrial revolution that are triggered by the crossing and integration of information technology, biotechnology, new energy technology and new material technology. They should change perspectives and actively strengthen innovation while attaching importance to talent development to form the cultural atmosphere of innovation, increasing R&D investment, strengthening the integration of industry-academy-research, striving to become important subjects of innovation, and helping for their own healthy growth through innovation.



## Recommendations to the 21<sup>st</sup> APEC SME Ministerial Meeting by APEC SME Business Forum 2014

1. **Enhancing Innovation Initiatively**

2. **Actively Seeking and Using Innovation Platforms**

3. **Improving Innovation Service Abilities**

4. **Providing Financing Conveniences for the Innovation of SMEs**

5. **Improving the Policy Environment for Innovation**

6. **Promoting Internationalization of Innovation**

**Innovation & Sustainable Development**

Thank you!