

ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION



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Marine Resource Conservation

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Dr. Lung-bin Hau, Administrator
Environmental Protection Administration
Chinese Taipei

Supervisor

Dr. Gwo-Dong Roam, Director General
Environmental Protection Administration
Office of Science and Technology Advisors
Chinese Taipei

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Wen-Yan Chiau,
Department of Marine Environment and
Engineering,
National Sun Yat-sen University
Chinese Taipei

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Version,
please contact:

Bulletin on APEC MRC

Environmental Protection Administration
Office of Science and Technology Advisors
41, Sec.1, Chung-Hwa Road, Chinese Taipei
Tel: 886-2-2311-7722 ext. 2207
Fax: 886-2-2311-5486
Email: tyhsien@sun.epa.gov.tw

Printed By

National Sun Yat-sen University
70 Lian-hae Road, Kaohsiung 804, Chinese Taipei
Tel/Fax: +886-7-525-5166
Email: chiauw@mail.nsysu.edu.tw

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15-18 May, Hong Kong, China

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRC WG) was held 15-18 May 2001 in Hong Kong, China, and was attended by delegates from: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; Republic of Korea; Mexico; Peru; Russia; Chinese Taipei; Thailand, the United States of America and Vietnam. The APEC Secretariat also attended. New Zealand and the Philippines sent their regrets. The Pacific Islands Forum attended the meeting in the capacity of observer. Mr. Benny Wong, Assistant Director, Waste and Water, Hong Kong Environment Protection Department was elected Chair of the meeting and Dr. Gwo-Dong Roam, Chinese Taipei, the Lead Shepherd of the MRC WG, was elected co-chair. Mr. Philip Burgess, Australia was elected Rapporteur. Portions of the conclusions of the meeting are highlighted in the following. The full text of the conclusions will be available on the APEC Secretariat website (www.apecsec.org.sg) at a later date.

I. Progress Report on Marine Resource Conservation

After the Secretariat highlighted recent developments in APEC which are of particular relevance to the MRC Working Group, member economies reported on aspects of domestic progress with respect to their marine resource conservation efforts and interests in international events. It was widely felt that the meeting was a useful means with which to continue such exchanges. Member economies wishing to make a presentation at future meetings are asked to provide written statements in advance to facilitate discussion under this agenda item.

II. Coordination with Fisheries Working Group (FWG)

At the first joint meeting of the Fisheries and Marine Resource Conservation Working Groups, both bodies recognized areas of shared interest. The longer term aim of the joint meetings is to improve coordination and cooperation thereby promoting sustainable use of the marine environment. Chinese Taipei noted the increasing attention being paid to the conservation of biological diversity and suggested that the MRC WG should be looking at the preservation of future assets. Australia and Canada pointed out the importance of integration and the value of working more cooperatively with the FWG on projects of

mutual interest, particularly in light of possible future budgetary restraints indicated by the Secretariat. A number of economies raised additional issues they would like to see covered in discussions with the FWG, including the introduction of marine pests, exotic species and genetically modified organisms (Chile), aquaculture (Chile, USA), the proposed Oceans Ministerial meeting (Korea), as well as offshore oil and gas pipelines and fisheries (USA).

There was a brief interchange between various economies about the respective responsibilities of the two working groups, with the United States emphasizing its view of the importance of maintaining two separate working groups. At the joint session, Canada and the United States were invited to make a presentation on "red tides" and destructive fishing practices. Chinese Taipei recommended that the MRC WG adopt a more proactive approach to the development of joint agendas between the two working groups and all of participants at the meeting noted the importance of interaction between the two groups in addition to the value of presentations on issues of common interest.

III. Outcome of the MRC/FWG Joint Session

The Lead Shepherd observed concerns and interests from both working groups on the following issues:

1. management and law enforcement strategies for marine parks, aquaculture and fishery resources;
2. introduction of exotic marine species;
3. capacity-building in terms of marine and fishery resources and coral reef conservation;
4. strategies on the implementation of measures against destructive fishing practices;
5. proposed ministerial meetings on ocean-related issues; and
6. information sharing and mechanisms for cooperation between the two working groups.

Information has indeed been exchanged during the past year thanks in part to the distribution of the Bulletin of the Marine Resources Conservation Working Group. The Bulletin has been received by all contact persons of the MRC WG as well as by the Lead Shepherd of the other APEC Fora. Its purpose is to

provide information on the working group as well as on developments within APEC. In the future, the Lead Shepherd and the APEC Secretariat will be asked to take a more active role in information exchange and communication between the MRC and the Fishery Working Groups.

Although the working group acknowledged the report of the joint session that was prepared by the Fisheries Working Group, owing to some reservations about certain parts of the text, the group requested that the Lead Shepherds of both the MRC WG and FWG collaborate on an agreed final text to address those concerns.

IV. Involvement of the Business/Private Sector in MRC WG Activities

Chinese Taipei and the United States discussed the role the private sector could and should play in the development of ocean and coastal management strategies, noting that this was an often discussed theme by ministers and leaders and that the full engagement on the part of the private sector is one of the key policies of APEC. Chinese Taipei advised the meeting that they are preparing to host another two meetings related to the engagement of the private sector and other, non-government interests. Following the discussion on the proposed two meetings, Chinese Taipei agreed that they could be merged into one. Accordingly, the consolidated meeting has been rescheduled for October 11-12, 2001. The scope, format and agenda of the meeting will be circulated to all member economies for further suggestions and refinement. Member economies were requested to distribute information on the meeting and encourage participation by members of their local business/private sector. The United States pointed out that a previous workshop on ageing oil and gas facilities, which

they had jointly hosted with China, was a good example of engagement with the private sector.

V. New Project Proposals

The working group presentations by different economies on the projects listed below, and all of the projects were approved.

1. Development and Validation of Analytical Methods, Standards and Reference Materials for Seafood Product Safety and Certification;
2. Application of Monitoring & Mitigation Technologies of Harmful Algal Bloom (AMMHAB) in APEC economies;
3. Workshop to Exchange Information and Improve the Pacific Region Response Capabilities to Spills of Oil and Hazardous Materials;
4. Workshop on the Modern Approaches to Linking Exposure to Toxic Compounds and Biological Effects. (MRC 03/2002);
5. Ocean Model and Information System for the APEC Region 2002;
6. Whole of APEC Oceans Governance Forum;
7. Integrated Oceans Management in the APEC Region Stage II.

VI. Change of MRC Lead Shepherd

The delegated to the meeting expressed their deep appreciation for the excellent work that

Chinese Taipei had undertaken as Lead Shepherd of the Working Group. Australia requested, and it was agreed, they become the Lead Shepherd of the Working Group. Australia made known its commitment to the work of APEC and stated that it considered the MRC WG to be an important forum for developing capacity and addressing the many common regional issues which have an impact on the marine environment.

With the post of Lead Shepherd vacant, Australia also offered to assume this role for the next two years. The participants at the meeting welcomed and approved Australia's nomination to become Lead Shepherd of the MRC. Australia advised that the next Lead Shepherd would be Ms. Alison Russell-French, Assistant Secretary, Marine and Water Division, Environment Australia.

VII. Date and Location for the Next MRC Meeting

No economy was in a position to offer their facilities and serve as host for the next meeting during MRC WG14. Working group members, particularly those who had not yet hosted, or had not hosted for some time, were requested to raise this issue up on their return home. The meeting noted that the United States was looking at the possibility of hosting the next joint meeting of the FWG and MRC WG in 2003. The APEC Secretariat advised that in the case that no economy was able to host MRC WG15, there was the option of using the Secretariat's facilities in Singapore.



(Third Announcement)

APEC Roundtable Meeting on the Involvement of the Business/Private Sector in the Sustainability of the Marine Environment

October 11-13, 2001
Chinese Taipei



I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The marine environment is recognized as the most important resource on Earth and one which performs numerous functions for the sustainability of our oceans. However, safeguarding the marine environment while wisely making use of its full resources should not be the sole responsibility of the public sector. On the contrary, the private sector ought to do its fair share by playing a more dominant role in the development of ocean and coastal management, and it should redouble its efforts in conjunction with the public in all marine-related affairs. As stated in several ministerial and leaders' declarations, promoting a more active participation on the part of the private sector in the preservation of marine ecosystems and in the sustainable management of the marine environment has been one of the fundamental policies of APEC. In response to these policies, the "APEC Conference on the Sustainability of the Marine Environment – What Can the Private Sector Do?" was held on September 1-3, 1999 in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei. Some eighteen papers were presented at the conference and ten recommendations were made. In order to

maximize the benefits of all parties concerned in the APEC region, Chinese Taipei held a roundtable meeting from April 11-12, 2000. The resulting "Action Strategies and Work Programs: Engaging the Private Sector in Sustainable Management of Marine Resources in the APEC Region" was endorsed by the 13th APEC MRC Working Group Meeting, and it encourages member economies to undertake as well as take responsibility for activities outlined in specific sections.

Although encouraging public-private partnership has been part of the policy initiatives and strategies of APEC and its MRC Working Group, more substantial actions and/or mechanisms need to be developed. In this context, Chinese Taipei is preparing to host another roundtable meeting to provide a forum for stakeholders from agencies, academia, businesses, NGOs and other non-profit organizations.

The aim is to share information, address common concerns and evaluate future options. The roundtable meeting is designed to further both the 1997 "APEC Action Plan on Sustainability of the Marine Environment" and the 2000 "Action Strategies and Work Programs" by examining how best to promote public and private sector participation and partnerships so as to advance member economies' objectives of sustainable use of the marine environment. Additionally, the action strategies which were formulated in this meeting may be developed as project proposals with which to seek the appropriate funding from APEC or other sources as well as to encourage investment from the private sector in the region.

II. DATES AND VENUE

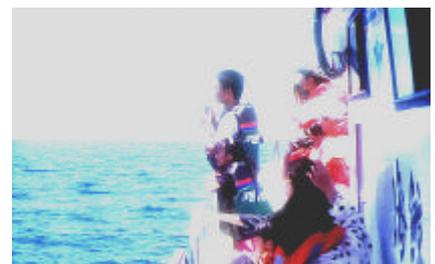
The roundtable meeting has been rescheduled for October 11-13, 2001. The meeting is being organized by National Sun Yat-sen University of Chinese Taipei and is to be held in Kenting, which is located on the southern peninsula of Taiwan Island about 100 kilometers away from Kaohsiung.

III. THEMES OF THE MEETING

With the focus on reinforcing our efforts to establish public-private partnerships, this meeting will respond to APEC themes in the Year 2001 – "Meeting New Challenges in the New Century: Achieving Common Prosperity through Participation and Cooperation" as well as to serve as follow-up to the Year 2000's "Action Strategies and Work Programs". Three major areas and related topics will be discussed as summarized below. Each member economy is encouraged to review these topics in order to select the most appropriate delegate(s) to attend the meeting.

Coastal and Marine Ecotourism

The rapid development and increasing demands of coastal recreation and marine ecotourism are a concern to all members of APEC MRC and the Tourism Working Groups. In line with Agenda 21, the objective of this meeting is to discuss ways of meeting these demands, sustainable forms of management of coastal and marine tourism, and measures for the protection of marine resources. The topics for the meeting can include - but in no way are limited to - the following:



Whale watching in Chinese Taipei.

1. Site selection of coastal resorts and the impact of these on coastal and marine environments.
2. Successful examples of marine ecotourism management involving the private sector.
3. Marine protected areas (MPAs) and their role in marine ecotourism development.
4. Collection, classification and dissemination of relevant market information to all member economies.
5. Fulfillment of the need for workshops on training vis-à-vis management strategies/measures.
6. Formation of a regional association or alliance for coastal recreation and marine ecotourism.



Cleanup of MV AMORGOS oil spill.

Oil Spill Prevention and Clean-up

Many member economies have experienced severe damage in their marine environments due to oil spills. However, the prevention and clean-up both heavily depend on private-public cooperation and integration to mitigate the impact of such oil disasters. The meeting topics include - but again are in no way limited to - the following:

1. Contingency planning, response systems and the knowledge gained from the previous experiences.
2. Integration of manpower and facilities from the private sector.
3. New technologies for oil spill clean-up.
4. Regional cooperation with respect to response capabilities to oil spills.
5. Education and training in the areas of oil spill response.
6. Discussion of case studies in the APEC region.



Cage aquaculture in Chinese Taipei.

Marine Aquaculture

Marine aquaculture has been one of the most prosperous and profitable industries both in the APEC region and elsewhere. However, an often-loose management of the marine aquaculture industry may account for the recent degradation of the marine environment as well as the impact of introducing exotic species. The high risks its operation presents in the open seas may necessitate the establishment of some sort of insurance system for the industry. A marketing mechanism is also essential for the sound development of marine aquaculture. The meeting topics include - but once again are not limited to - the following:

1. Establishment of a comprehensive marine farm to integrate cage aquaculture, artificial reefs and the restoration of larva fish so as to enhance the productivity of the marine environment.
2. Construction of standardized "Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)" aquaculture sites to enhance the quality of seafood production.
3. Setting up of a long-term monitoring system and waste management system to safeguard the quality of the marine environment.
4. Classification of the most profitable species and others with great potential in each economy for easy reference for investors in these industries.
5. Identification of endangered marine species and their population which have potential economic benefits for the preservation of natural functions in the marine environment.
6. Impact of exotic species on local marine environments.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Wen-Yan Chiau
 Department of Marine Environment and Engineering,
 National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung City, Taiwan 80424, Chinese Taipei
 Tel/Fax: +886-7-525-5166
 Email: chiauyw@mail.nsysu.edu.tw

Or

Dr. Tzu-Yang Hsien
 Environmental Protection Administration
 Office of Science and Technology Advisors
 41, Sec.1, Chung-Hwa Road, Chinese Taipei
 Tel: 886-2-2311-7722 ext. 2201
 Fax: 886-2-2311-5486
 Email: tyhsien@sun.epa.gov.tw

Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC

I. What is meant by gender?

Gender refers to the socially determined differences between women and men in terms of such factors as roles, attitudes, behavior and values. This is in contrast to the term, sex, which identifies the biological differences between women and men. Whereas sex is genetically determined, gender roles are learned, vary across cultures and over time, and are thus amenable to change.

II. What is the Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC?

The Framework responds to APEC Leaders' recognition that gender is a cross-cutting theme in APEC. It is a practical and systematic approach to guide APEC in the achievement of the integration of women in the mainstream of APEC processes and activities. The Framework is comprised of three inter-related elements and an Implementation Strategy, which together were identified by the 1998 APEC Ministerial Meeting on Women as essential to reinforce the important role of women in economic development. The inter-related elements are:

- Gender Analysis - a methodology for examining the differences in women's and men's lives;
- Collection and Use of Sex-disaggregated Data – data classified by sex and presented separately for women and men; and

- Involvement of Women in APEC - the increased participation of women in APEC fora.

In addition, practical guides for gender analysis, the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data and the involvement of women in APEC have been developed as tools to complement the Framework and assist APEC with its implementation. These are available in print and on the APEC Secretariat website (www.apecsec.org.sg).

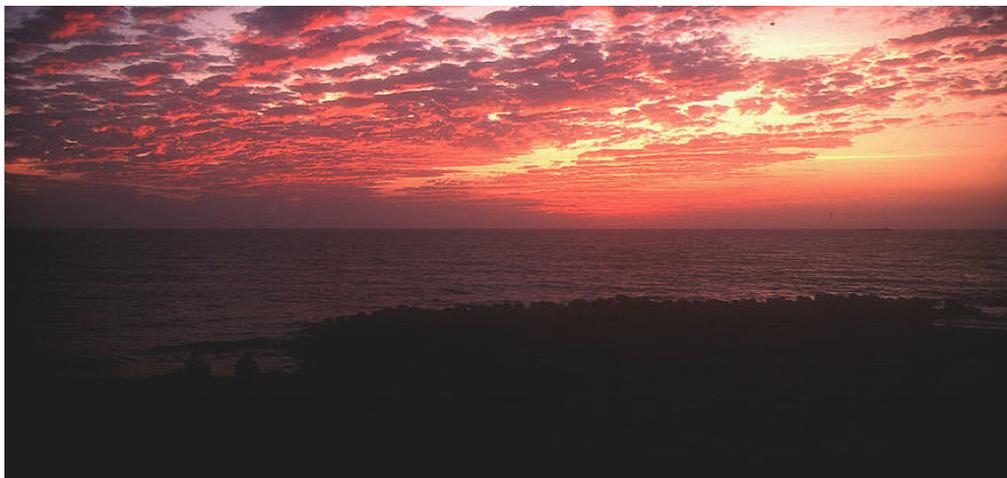
III. What is the mandate for the Framework?

The Framework follows up on the recommendations of the 1998 Ministerial Meeting on Women and on subsequent APEC Leaders' directives so as to develop a Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC as a means of accelerating the progress of integrating women in the mainstream of APEC processes and activities. The Framework has been prepared by the SOM *Ad Hoc* Task Force on the Integration of Women in APEC, which was established precisely for this purpose.

IV. What is the basis for the recommendations from the Ministerial Meeting On Women?

Ministerial recommendations are based on a series of principles contained throughout their Joint Ministerial Statement:

- Gender is a cross-cutting theme in APEC;
- APEC activities related to trade and investment liberalization and facilitation (TILF) and economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) are closely inter-linked and have major implications for women;
- Women are critical to the achievement of sustainable economic development in the region and. Women's unpaid work constitutes a major contribution to the economy;
- Close linkages exist between the issues and activities of other APEC fora and the issues affecting women in micro, small and medium enterprises, science and technology, human resources development, finance, fisheries, tourism, transportation, telecommunications, and other sectors;
- The specific realities faced by women must be recognized, understood and systematically taken into account in the formulation and implementation of policies, programs (including economic recovery programs) and projects;
- Efforts should be directed to empower and increase the capacity-building of women to respond to economic opportunities and challenges, and to eliminate barriers to women's full participation in the economy;
- Greater emphasis should be placed on the engagement of broader sectors of society.



Chinese Taipei's Statement of Progress in Marine Resources

Since the 13th Marine Resources Conservation Working Group Meeting held on 7-10 June 2000, there have been quite a number of activities related to marine resource conservation and development in Chinese Taipei.

I. White Paper on Ocean Policy

In March 2001, Chinese Taipei published its first White Paper on Ocean Policy, which outlines the goals of integrated ocean management as follows: 1) to complement the maritime legal system and structure while strengthening marine management and marine development; 2) to ensure sustainable usage and the well-being of marine resources; and 3) to enhance marine research development and humanities the education of all mankind, thereby establishing a foundation for ocean awareness.



The sustainable management of marine resources is one of the major objectives focusing on: 1) marine living resource conservation, usage and management; 2) marine non-living resource exploration, usage and management; 3) ocean transportation and harbor development and management; 4) marine recreation and tourism management; 5) marine environment protection and pollution management; and 6) coastal zone management.

Chinese Taipei also established the following aims to protect the environment: 1) to protect and manage the marine environment to safeguard public health; 2) to set up a comprehensive legal framework; 3) to prevent and reduce land-based pollution; 4) to strengthen and integrate marine monitoring and data processing; 5) to establish a marine disaster warning and forecasting system; 6) to develop marine emergency response plans; 7) to build capability; 8) to improve marine environmental research and technological development; and 9) to promote international cooperation. Different agencies, including the Council of Agriculture, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Environmental Protection Administration, Tourism Bureau and the Ministry of Interior are working hand-in-hand toward

these ends.

II. Marine Pollution Control Act

On November 1, 2000, Chinese Taipei enacted the Marine Pollution Control Act, which is a milestone in Chinese Taipei's efforts to protect the marine environment. The Act consists of a total of nine chapters and sixty articles, which provide the legal basis for handling harbor pollution, emergency response to marine oil spills, ocean dumping, and other marine pollution-related incidents.

The Environmental Protection Administration is in charge of delineating marine control zones, setting marine environment control standards, and formulating zone-based enforcement plans and pollution control measures. All port authorities are now required to install pollutant receptacle facilities and may collect a

disposable fee their use. Port authorities are empowered to restrict the movement of vessels suspected of polluting the marine environment or to prevent such vessels from leaving a harbor. In addition to preventing land-based pollution, marine construction, treatment of wastes on the ocean and pollution from marine vessels, the Marine Pollution Control Act also stipulates that vessels are liable for the damages they cause from marine pollution. Environmental agencies also take appropriate preventive measures, and when necessary, may request competent industrial authorities to restrict usage of marine areas. The Coast Guard Administration will be the main executive agency in charge of enforcement, collection of evidence and apprehension of suspects.

III. Domestic GPA Action Plan

After participating in the APEC Workshop of the Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (GPA), held in Townsville, Australia, in April 1998, Chinese Taipei adopted GPA, which is an integrated coastal management approach. An action plan was established, and it includes: the enforcement of a pollutant discharge elimination system, industrial wastewater control measures,

agricultural pollution control measures, industrial park wastewater control measures, watershed management programs (Tanshui River clean-up project and the Kaopin River Water Quality Conservation project), as well as non-point source control programs. The action plan aims at enhancing the current water quality of five major rivers that are the main source of drinking water for 12 million inhabitants in Chinese Taipei. The total cost of these action plans amounts to NT\$ 40.2 billion (about US\$ 1.2 billion), and the construction, including the sewer systems, is expected to last for eight years.

IV. Joint Activities with APEC MRC WG

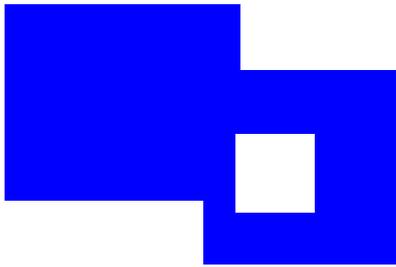
Chinese Taipei also actively cooperates with other APEC member economies to implement some of the MRC WG's projects, such as the Ocean Models and Information System for the APEC Region, Involvement of the Business / Private Sector in MRC WG Activities, the Development and Validation of Analytical Methods, Standards and Reference Materials for Seafood Product Safety and Certification, etc. The results of these projects will be presented in a specific section during the 14th MRC WG Meeting.

Chinese Taipei is more than willing to cooperate with other APEC member economies to work towards the sustainability of our common marine resources for our future generations. It is expected that in the future, greater efforts and additional financing will be invested to boost the quality of the coastal and marine environment on which the marine resources rely.



14th MRC Meeting

Conservation D Conservation



Protect the High Seas Before It's Too Late

Urgent measures are needed to protect the vast hidden treasures of the deep seas from over-exploitation, according to a new report by the WWF, the conservation organization, and the IUCN, the World Conservation Union.

The report, *The Status of Natural Resources on the High Seas*, says that the deep sea, along with the creatures that live within it, are threatened by unregulated fishing and oil exploration, CO2 dumping, biotechnology and the exploitation of gas



hydrates and hydrothermal vent heat. Particularly at risk are corals in the South Pacific and Indian Oceans which have been damaged by industrialized fishing trawlers which drag heavy chains over reefs, the orange roughy fish, whales, dolphins and porpoises. The report calls for international agreements to be put in place to regulate the management, protection and exploitation of the high seas beyond the 200 nautical-mile limit of the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) of coastal states.

About half of the Earth's surface is covered by high seas that are outside national jurisdiction. Within them exists marine life that is rich in diversity as well as scientific and geologically significant deep-sea coral reefs, seamounts, deep-sea trenches and fish stocks. The WWF/IUCN report, written by specialists from the Southampton Oceanography Center in the United Kingdom and Dr. Charlotte de Fontaubert, calls on states to assess the magnitude of these resources, the threats to them, their potential for sustainable use and action to protect biodiversity.

In October 2000, the IUCN's Amman World Conservation Congress urged governments,

international agencies and NGOs to review existing legal agreements and to identify areas of the high seas suitable for collaborative management, and to agree on ways to manage and conserve them. Part of the solution, says the report, could be the designation of different types of High-Seas Marine Protected Areas (HSMPAs) to address the uncertainty of exploitation of their living resources. Some elements of international agreements already require states to cooperate in managing resources of the high seas. What governments and international conservation organizations

need to do is to go a step further and take urgent action to overcome political, legal and institutional obstacles to the practical implementation of activities to protect the high seas.

For more information, please contact Dr. Simon Cripps, Head of Marine Programme. WWF International, Mobile: +41-79-477-3559, Office Tel: +41-22-364-9032/33, Email: Scripps@wwfint.org

techniques, lack of regional co-operation in conservation programmes and poor law enforcement. As sturgeon is a migratory fish that regularly crosses international borders during their life cycle, international co-operation is a critical component of any plan to conserve them.

In the late 1990s, in response to international concern over the survival of sturgeon, both the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) included sturgeon on their lists of concern. CITES, which controls international trade in caviar and other sturgeon products and to which most producer and consumer countries are signatories, placed sturgeon on Appendix II, which means all international trade would be strictly controlled by both importing and exporting countries. Given the continuing urgent situation, CITES has recommended highly reduced international trade until producer countries can prove show that any proposed trade will not threaten the species in the wild.

While recognizing the complex nature of issues facing sturgeon conservation, the experts recommendations for future action include the following:

1. Control poaching and illegal trade in caviar through:
 - development and implementation of regional trade and law enforcement agreements;
 - improvement of social and economic conditions of people in the sturgeon range states;
 - stricter enforcement of existing laws.
2. Improve efficiency in aquaculture, stock assessment and re-stocking through:
 - development of a unified method for stock assessment and monitoring;
 - formulation of a "code of conduct" for each species that will increase the effectiveness of re-stocking programs.

Experts Outline Action for Sturgeon Conservation

More than 40 experts, including scientists, government and non-governmental organization representatives plus caviar traders from 11 countries gathered in Moscow from 9-11 February, 2001 to identify priorities for sturgeon conservation and to formulate recommendations for future action.

Several of the 27 sturgeon species have a high commercial value on international markets by virtue of the caviar, meat as well as sport fishing they provide. However, populations are declining because of increased poaching, illegal trade, habitat loss due to dam construction (preventing migration to spawning grounds), pollution, inefficient aquaculture and re-stocking

Programs

3. Enhance regional and international co-operation for sturgeon conservation through:

regional agreements for sturgeon conservation and management particularly for the Amur River, the Black Sea, Azov Sea, and the Caspian Sea;

identification of potential protected areas in sturgeon habitat;

national level action stimulated by NGOs, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), conventions and other organizations;

funding support for sturgeon conservation from major financial and economic mechanisms, such as the Global Environment Facility and World Bank as well as the private sector;

increased public awareness of the threats facing sturgeon and opportunities for their conservation;

an information exchange network involving all parties involved in sturgeon conservation, including the FAO, Convention on Biological Diversity, Sturgeon Specialist Group, Convention on Migratory Species and the IUCN European Sustainable Use Specialist Group.

More information is available at the IUCN web site (http://www.iucn.org/info_and_news/press/index.html)

What Can You Do to Save the Dolphins?

What's killing the dolphins?

Sewage - Sewage includes household toxic wastes, such as cleaning fluids, bacteria and viruses and industrial effluent that can affect dolphins directly.

Organochlorines - DDT (a pesticide still used in China) and PCBs (used in the electronics industry) from unidentified sources have been found in very high concentrations in tissue samples of dolphins.

Overfishing - Increasingly sophisticated and virtually unregulated fishing fleets are depleting the dolphins' food supply.

Boat traffic - Dolphins are usually adept at sensing and staying out of the way of boats, some show signs of collisions.

What can You do to save the dolphins?

Report strandings - Dolphins washed up on shore, or floating, or in danger (wounded, tangled, behaving strangely) should be reported immediately to the 24-hour dolphin hotline. Report any illegal dumping, dynamite fishing, or violations of the marine parks (trawl fishing, high-speed boats, or water sports in the sensitive areas) to the Marine Police and/or Coast Guard.

Protect sea life - Eat less seafood, and

never buy coral or shells, or take them from the seabed.

Reduce pollution -

- **Conserve water** - This helps sewage treatment facilities operate more efficiently.

- **Avoid using toxic cleaning products** - Many cleaning agents sold for household use contain heavy metals and other toxins. Soap, vinegar, and bicarbonate of soda (baking soda) will clean almost everything. Other toxic materials, such as paint, solvents and oil should be disposed of properly, not dumped down the drain. Look for detergents that are biodegradable.

- **Don't litter** - Even if you throw it on land, it usually ends up in the sea. Use garbage bins. If you're really motivated, join a beach clean-up or organize one yourself.

- **Eat organic vegetables** - Encouraging pesticide-free farming will have far-reaching benefits.

More information is available at the Hong Kong Dolphinwatch website (<http://www.hkdolphinwatch.com>)



White Dolphin (Photo: Hong Kong Dolphinwatch)

Contact List of APEC

Marine Resource Conservation Working Group

LEAD SHEPHERD

Ms. Alison Russel-French
Assistant Secretary
Marine, Coasts and Wetlands Branch
Marine and Water Division
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA
Tel: 61 2 6274 1090
Fax: 61 2 6274 1006
E-mail: alison.russell-french@ea.gov.au

AUSTRALIA

Mr. Philip Burgess
Director Marine Strategy
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
Tel: 61 2 6274 1418
Fax: 61 2 6274 1006
E-mail: philip.burgess@ea.gov.au

Dr. Conall O'Connell
First Assistant Secretary
Portfolio Marine Group
Environment Australia
GPO BOX 787
Canberra ACT 2601
Tel: 61 2 6274 1919
Fax: 61 2 6274 1006
E-mail: conall.o'connell@ea.gov.au

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Mr. Sabri Hj Mohd Taha
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources
Bandar Seri Begawan 1220
Tel:
Fax: 673 2 770 665
E-mail: sabri_taha@fisheries.gov.bn

Ms. Munah Haji Lampoh
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources
Jalan Menteri Besar,
Bandar Seri Begawan BB 3910
Tel: 673 2 383 067 / 673 2 382 068
Fax: 673 2 382 069
E-mail: bruneifisheries@brunet.bn

CANADA

Mr. J. Roderick Forbes
Coordinator, International Science Cooperation
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Institute of Ocean Sciences
P O Box 6000
Sidney, B.C. V8L 4B2,
Tel: 1 250 363 6443
Fax: 1 250 363 6787
E-mail: forbes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Ms. Athana Mentelopoulos
Regional Director, Policy and Communications
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
300 – 555 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5G3
Tel: 604 666 0470
Fax: 604 666 1847
E-mail: mentelopoulosa@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

CHILE

Mr. Hernan Gutierrez
General Directorate
International Economic Relations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Av Lib Bernardo O' Higgins 1315
2nd floor, Santiago de Chile
Tel: 56 2 565 9350/70
Fax: 56 2 696 0639
E-mail: hgutier@direcon.cl

Mr. Ricardo Norambuena
Head of Fishing Department
Undersecretary of Fisheries
Bellavista 168, 17th floor
Valparaiso,
Tel: 56 3 223 4315 / 56 3 221 2811
Fax: 56 3 225 1693 / 56 3 221 2790
E-mail: mrambu@subpesca.cl

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Ms. Yue Chen
Director, Division of International Organisations
Department of International Cooperation
State Oceanic Administration (SOA)
1 Fuxingmenwai Avenue
Beijing 100860
Tel: 86 10 6801 9791
Fax: 86 10 6802 0283
E-mail: soadio@public.east.cn.net

HONGKONG, CHINA

Mr. Billy Au
Director-General
Trade and Industry Department
The Govt. of the Hong Kong SAR
Trade and Industry Department Tower
700 Nathan Road, Kowloon
Tel: 852 2398 5446
Fax: 852 2787 7799
E-mail: hkcapec@tid.gov.hk

INDONESIA

Mr. Suharyo Husen
Director of International Cooperation Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture
JI Harsono R.M. No 3
Pasar Minggu
Jakarta 12550,
Tel: 62 21 780 4176
Fax: 62 21 780 4428 / 62 21 780 4176 / 62 21
781 8259

JAPAN

Mr. Keisuke Tamura
Deputy Director
Developing Economies Division
Economic Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku
Tokyo 100
Tel: 81 3 358 5794 / 81 3 358 3592 ext 3330
Fax: 81 3 3592 0504
E-mail: keisuke.tamura@mofa.go.jp

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Ji-In Hong
Director
Regional Economic Cooperation Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Sejongro Government Building
77 Sejongro, Jongro-Gu
Seoul 110760
Tel: 82 2 738 4380 / 82 2 738 4381
Fax: 82 2 733 7588
E-mail: apeco@mofat.go.kr

Mr. Kwang-Soo Lim
Director
Marine Environment Planning Division
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

139 Chungjong-No 3, Seodaemun-Gu
Seoul 12-715
Tel: 82 2 3148 6540
Fax: 82 2 3148 6545
E-mail: bestsea@chollian.net

MALAYSIA

Dr. Kamaruzaman Hj. Salim
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture
Wisma Tani
Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50624 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 60 3 298 2011 ext 4620 / 60 3 295 4620
Fax: 60 3 291 0305
E-mail: kamsal01@dof.moa.my

Mr. Lokman Hakim Ali
Assistant Director
Regional Economic Cooperation
Ministry of International Trade & Industry
3rd floor (Right Wing), Block 10
Govt Offices Complex, Jalan Duta
50622 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 60 3 651 0033 ext 4908
Fax: 60 3 653 1293 / 60 3 653 1305
E-mail: lokman@mti.gov.my

MEXICO

Lic Mara A Munillo Correa
Periferico Sur 4209 5 piso
Fracc. Jardines en la Montana
14210, Mexico, D.F.
Tel: 52 5 628 0718 / 52 5 628 0721
Fax: 52 5 628 0898
E-mail: mmunillo@semamap.gob.mx

Lic Jose Luis Samaniego Leyva
Periferico Sur 4209, 6 piso
Fracc. Jardines en la Montana
14210 Mexico, D.F.
Tel: 52 5 628 0650
Fax: 52 5 628 0644

NEW ZEALAND

Mr. Danny Burkhard
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Stafford House, 40 The Terrace
Wellington
Tel: 64 4 494 8442
Fax: 64 4 472 9596

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr. Luke Tanikreg
Environment Impact Assessment Branch
Office of Environment and Conservation
Cnr. Sir John Guise Drv.
7th Floor Somare Foundation Building
P O Box 6601, Boroko, NCD
Tel: 675 325 0194
Fax: 675 325 0182

PERU

Mr. Alvaro Valdez Fernandez-Baca
Vice Minister
Ministry of Fisheries
Calle Uno Oeste Nro.66 Piso 7 CORPAC
Lima 27,
Tel: 51 1 224 3334
Fax: 51 1 224 2950
E-mail: avaldez @minpes.gob.pe

Vice Admiral (AP) Fernando Jimenez Roman
President
Peruvian Sea Institute (IMARPE)
Esq Gamarra y Gral. Valle sm
Chucuito, Callao 1
Tel: 51 1 429 7630
Fax: 51 1 429 3931
E-mail: presidencia@imarpe.gob.pe.

Mr Salvador Carrion
President
Fishery Technological Institute (ITP)
Carretera a Ventanilla Km. 5.200
Callao, Peru
Tel: 51 1 577 0116
Fax: 51 1 577 0019
E-mail: postmast@itp.org.pe

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Undersec Rosario G Manalo
Office of the Undersecretary for

International Economic Relations
Department of Foreign Affairs
9/F DFA Building
2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro
Manila
Tel: 63 2 834 3259 / 63 2 834 4000 ext 3100
Fax: 63 2 834 1451
E-mail: rgmanalo@dfa.gov.ph or
hqs@dfa.gov.ph

RUSSIA

Mr. Manzhosov Aleksei Yurievich
International Cooperation Board Chief
Tel: 7-095 921 3180
Fax: 7-095 921 3463

Mr. Petrov Victor Borisovich
Contact Official
The State Committee for Fisheries of the
Russian
Federation
E-mail: fpetrov@relline.ru

SINGAPORE

Mr. Ong Ye Kung
Director/Trade
Ministry of Trade and Industry
The Treasury
100 High Street #09 -01
Singapore 179434
Tel: 65 332 7249
Fax: 65 334 8140
E-mail: Ong_Ye_Kung@mti.gov.sg

Mr. Koay Sim Huat
Head, International & Legal Affairs Section
Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
Primary Production Department
5 Maxwell Road #03-00



Tower Block, MND Complex
Singapore 069110
Tel: 65 325 7638
Fax: 65 220 6068
E-mail: Koay_Sim_Huat@ava.gov.sg

CHINESE TAIPEI

Dr. Gwo-Dong Roam
Director General
Office of Sciences and Technology Advisors
Environmental Protection Administration,
Chinese Taipei
41, Sec. 1, Chung-Hwa Road, Taipei
Tel: 886-2-2382 2841
Fax: 886-2-2311 5486
Email: gdroom@sun.epa.gov.tw

THAILAND

Mr. Udom Bhatiyasevi
Senior Fishery Advisor
Department of Fisheries
Kasetsart University Campus
Phaholyotin Road
Bangkok 10900,
Tel: 66 2 940 6523
Fax: 66 2 562 0571

Mrs. Duangmal Sinthuvanich
Director of Natural Resources and
Environmental
Management Coordination Division
Office of Environmental Policy and Planning
60/1 Soi Phibun Wattana 7
Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10400
Tel: 66 2 279 5202
Fax: 66 2 279 8088 / 66 2 271 3226
E-mail: neric@oepp.go.th

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Thomas L Laughlin
Deputy Director
Office of International Affairs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
Rm 5230 HCHB
14th Constitution Ave, NW Washington DC
20230
Tel: 1 202 482 6196
Fax: 1 202 482 4307
E-mail: Tom.Laughlin@noaa.gov

Ms. Maureen Walker
Deputy Director
Office of Oceans Affairs
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W., Washington DC 20520
Tel: 1 202 647 3946
Fax: 1 202 647 9099
E-mail: WalkerMO@state.gov

VIET NAM

Prof. Ph.D Van Khuong Do
Deputy Director
Institute of Marine Product Research
170 Le la Street
Ngo Quyen District, Hai Phong City
Tel: 84 31 836 135
Fax: 84 31 836 812 / 84 31 836 542
E-mail: Nhduc@netnam.org.vn

Mr. Hoang Thuy Nguyen
Official
Multilateral Trade Policy Department
Ministry of Trade
31 Ngo Quyen Street
Ha Noi, Viet Nam
Tel: 84 4 826 2545
Fax: 84 4 824 2873
E-mail: apec@mot.gov.vn

Mr. Tran Quoc Hai Cao
Head of APEC Division
Department of Multilateral Economic
Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
8 Khuc Hao Street
Ha Noi, Viet Nam
Tel: 84 4 199 3700
Fax: 84 4 199 3618
E-mail: bphn.mfa@mofa.gov.vn

APEC SECRETARIAT

Mr. Timothy Hsiang
Director (Program)
APEC Secretariat
438 Alexandra Road #14-00
Alexandra Point
Singapore 119958
Tel: 65 276 1880
Fax: 65 276 1775
E-mail: TTH@mail.apecsec.org.sg

OFFICIAL OBSERVER

Mr. Jindra Kumar
Director
Legal & Political Division
Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
G.P.O. Box 856
Suva, Fiji
Tel: 679 312 600
Fax: 679 312 226

Mr. Mahadi Haji Wasli
Deputy Secretary General
ASEAN Secretariat
70 A Jalan Sisingamangaraja
P O Box 2072
Jakarta, Indonesia
Tel: 62 21 726 2991
Fax: 62 21 739 8234

Dr. Mignon Chan
Director General
PECC International Secretariat
4 Nassim Road
Singapore 258372
Tel: 65 737 9822/23
Fax: 65 737 9824
E-mail: peccsec@pacific.net.sg



SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS OF THE SECOND APEC SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM)

FOR THE THIRTEENTH APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING

SHENZHEN, CHINA
2-3 JUNE 2001



1. The Second Senior Officials Meeting (SOMII) for the Thirteenth APEC Ministerial Meeting was convened in Shenzhen, China on 2-3 June 2001. Senior Officials from Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; the People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; the Republic of Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Republic of the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States and Viet Nam participated in the Meeting. The Chairs of the SOM Sub-Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ESC), Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI); Economic Committee (EC) and the Budget and Management Committee (BMC) were present. The APEC Secretariat also attended. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat and PECC were also present as observers. The list of principal delegates appears as Annex 1.

I. Chair's Opening Remarks

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Wang Guangya, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China. The Chair welcomed all participants to Shenzhen, which epitomizes China's remarkable openness and growth as a Special Economic Zone, especially Dr. Gerardo Traslosheros, who was newly appointed as the Senior Official of Mexico, and Ambassador Alejandro de la Pena, Deputy Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat from Mexico, who joined the SOM for the first time.

3. The Chair observed that SOM II stood as the mid-point on the road to Shanghai Leaders' Meeting. The Chair highlighted in greater detail the three major tasks at this Meeting:

- 1) Drawing a rough sketch for the outcomes of the Leaders' Meeting, to give a better sense of purpose and direction to the APEC process;
- 2) Substantively advancing various initiatives on our agenda, as specified by the three sub-themes in the China year;
- 3) Preparing for the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT), which would be a critical indicator on the outcomes of the whole year.

II. Adoption of Agenda

4. The revised annotated Agenda was approved and is attached as Annex 2.

III. Business Arrangements

5. The Chair briefed Senior Officials on the arrangements for the Meeting.

IV. Key Outcomes of the SOM Retreat

6. The Chair briefed the Meeting on the discussions of the SOM Retreat, which took place around 4 elements: (1) Send out a clear and strong signal in support of the launch of the WTO new round in 2001; (2) Build up the consensus among member economies on agenda setting; (3) Exchange views on a number of specific initiatives; and (4) Make progress on APEC's WTO capacity-building programs.

7. The SOM Chair informed the Meeting that, based on the outcomes of the Retreat, a SOM Chair's Report on APEC's Contribution to WTO (Annex 3) would be compiled and submitted to the Shanghai MRT Meeting.

Advancing Trade and Investment

V. Trade and Investment Liberalization and Facilitation

A. Strengthening the multilateral trading system

8. SOM reaffirmed that APEC's support for the launch of WTO New Round in 2001 remains the highest priority in the lead up to the October Meeting. The Meeting exchanged views on the issue of APEC's contribution to the multilateral



MRC/FWG Joint Session

trading system, and in particular, to the preparatory process for the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference. They emphasized that all APEC economies are fully committed to and strongly support the multilateral trading system, which benefits all WTO members. It was also reaffirmed that APEC would play a leading role in strengthening the multilateral trading system and combating trade protectionism. It was recognized that the 4th WTO Ministerial in Doha, Qatar provides an important opportunity for the expeditious launch of a New Round. Senior Officials agreed to work to ensure that APEC MRT Meeting in Shanghai sends out a clear and strong message that APEC determines to work towards a successful launch of WTO New Round and Doha conference.

9. It was agreed that while issues regarding agenda-setting should be primarily addressed in Geneva, a statement by Trade Ministers outlining APEC's commitment to actively participate and contribute in this regard would give political impetus to the work of the WTO. Senior Officials agreed that the launch of WTO New Round requires a balanced and sufficiently broad-based agenda, responding to the interests and concerns of all WTO members, especially those of developing economies. Initiatives were proposed and discussed with a view to building momentum for WTO New Round, aimed to avoid the surge of protectionist measures, including the proposed moratorium on increasing applied tariffs or other measures of equivalent effect before Doha, on which economies expressed varying views.

10. Senior Officials strongly emphasized the importance of the APEC WTO-related capacity building programs as a unique, value-adding contribution to confidence-building for the New Round. They welcomed the approval of six projects under the APEC TILF funds since SOM I to assist developing economies in the implementation of WTO agreements, and committed to further, accelerated implementation of such programs and projects in the future. SOM also took note of the views expressed on the formulation of tailor-made project proposals under the strategic APEC Plan (Annex 4) and the call for flexibility to be exercised in the consideration of such proposals under the existing APEC TILF funding procedures.

11. SOM exchanged views on the suggestion by several economies to involve bilateral aid agencies and regional and international financial institutions in APEC WTO-related capacity building efforts, and noted the importance of involving these aid agencies and institutions in leveraging resources to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed specific bilateral initiatives from Japan and Canada for APEC WTO-related capacity building activities, as well as ongoing bilateral assistance from Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, the United States and other economies within the region. SOM approved an invitation to ADB and WTO to participate in the next Meeting of the Informal Group on Implementation of WTO Obligations and Rules of Origin.

12. The Meeting had a preliminary exchange of views on the US proposal for a "Shanghai Charter" (Annex 5) to demonstrate APEC's dynamism in moving toward the achievement of Bogor goals of free and open trade and investment. The Meeting noted that elements as outlined in the proposal should be further clarified and developed in consultation with member economies with a view to arriving at a consensus in the lead up to the October Ministerial Meeting.

13. SOM reaffirmed that existing and emerging FTAs should be consistent with WTO rules and disciplines. They also believe that these FTAs should be in line with APEC architecture and supportive of APEC goals and principles. With regard to the Chile-US proposal on views and information exchange on FTAs (Annex 6), SOM agreed that such an exercise would help increase the transparency of FTAs.

B. Individual Action Plans

14. SOM reaffirmed that Individual Action Plans (IAPs) remain the most important mechanism for member economies to lay out their individual paths toward achieving the Bogor Goals. SOM took note of the SOM Chair's Report on the preliminary plans for improvements of IAPs in 2001 (Annex 7), which would be submitted to the MRT Meeting. The plans showed many positive steps being taken by APEC economies towards the Bogor Goals. SOM urged all member economies to upload the final version of their IAPs using the agreed templates to the e-IAP website by 20 September 2001.

15. SOM also discussed how the IAP peer review process could be improved further, with particular focus on Japan's proposal (Annex 8). Member economies were of the view that they need to further consider this proposal, keeping in mind the voluntary nature of the peer review

process. In this regard, SOM instructed CTI to look at this issue and submit its recommendations to SOM III.

16. SOM took note of the recommendations tabled by the CTI on improving the electronic Individual Actions Plans (e-IAP) system (Annex 9) and endorsed the CTI's proposal for progressively refining and improving the e-IAP system as instructed by Ministers. In view of the complexity of the e-IAP system, SOM instructed the project team to arrange a demonstration of the revised prototype at SOM III for SOM to review before it is fully launched.

17. The Meeting heard a report by the CTI on its recommendations on the review of OAA guidelines (Annex 10) and thanked the CTI and its sub-fora for their work and the progress made to date. SOM agreed to recommend that Ministers Responsible for Trade recognize the progress made to date in updating the OAA guidelines and instruct officials to continue work in this regard, building upon the areas where agreement has been reached and report to the October Ministerial Meeting.

C. Collective Action Plans

18. SOM noted and welcomed the work that has been accomplished by CTI and its sub-fora. SOM also noted the progress that CTI sub-fora have achieved in order to produce tangible deliverables in 2001. SOM commended CTI sub-fora for their efforts in making the CAP process relevant to the business sector and producing credible outcomes on trade in the region.

D. Trade Facilitation

19. Senior Officials approved the "APEC Principles on Trade Facilitation" prepared by the Ad Hoc Task Force on Trade Facilitation (TFTF) and approved by CTI (Annex 11), and agreed that SOM Chair will forward the document to MRT for endorsement.

20. The Meeting commended the efficient work of the Task Force under the chairmanship of Hong Kong, China, and noted that TFTF is terminated with its mandate fulfilled.

21. It was noted that these principles could form an important element of APEC's outreach and communication. SOM instructed CTI officials to study ways to continue their work in this field, including the development of capacity building

programs to assist member economies in implementing the principles. Economies and APEC Secretariat were encouraged to take every opportunity to publicize the principles to the business community. In this connection, Senior Officials called for the early entry into force of the revised Kyoto Customs Convention.

22. SOM noted the ongoing research on benefits of trade facilitation led by Canada and Korea within the Economic Committee, and looked forward to reports on further progress in those exercises at future SOM Meetings.

Sharing the Benefits of Globalization and the New Economy

VI. Human Capacity Building Initiative

23. SOM thanked China and Brunei for their briefing on the outcomes of the APEC High Level Meeting on Human Capacity Building on 15-16 May 2001, which exemplified the tripartite partnership among government, business and education and training institutions, and opened up new opportunities for result-oriented cooperative activities. SOM agreed that the 'Beijing Initiative', which contains the outcomes of the Meeting, should be widely disseminated, followed up with specific individual or collective actions, in closer association with business, education and training sectors. It was delighted to note that China and relevant parties are developing follow-up programs, and called for early progress. Senior Officials also encouraged member economies to follow up on the Opportunities for Future Work produced by the HCB Meeting, and initiate or support pilot projects based on the tripartite model of cooperation in specific areas of their interest.

24. The Meeting affirmed that human capacity building remains a central theme of the year

and years ahead, and requested APEC fora, especially the Human Capacity Building Coordinating Group and the e-APEC Task Force, to take full account of the outcomes of the Meeting into their work.

25. SOM took note that China and Brunei will brief the 4th HRD Ministerial Meeting on the outcomes of the HCB Meeting and report to the Leaders' Meeting (AELM). SOM welcomed Mexico's intention to continue pursuing human capacity building during its chairmanship of APEC in 2002, focusing on SMEs especially microenterprises, and gender issues.

VII. Ecotech Issues

A. Work Program of the ESC

26. SOM was briefed by the ESC Chair, Dr. Medhi Krongkaew on the progress of key taskings by Ministers (Annex 12). SOM endorsed the recommendations by ESC, including its 2001 Work Program (Annex 13), the Terms of Reference of the Human Capacity Building Coordinating Group (Annex 14) and inclusion of publishing costs of annual reports, such as the Ecotech Report, in the APEC Secretariat's publication budget.

27. The Meeting highlighted the importance of further developing OAA Part II and directed ESC to continue this effort and report the final result to SOM III, taking into account the need to preserve the balance of interests as embodied in OAA in its entirety. SOM also noted progress in the work of the Human Capacity Building Coordinating Group and the GEI, including the RISE project.

28. SOM noted that the ESC would be preparing a single report on APEC's human resources development, skills development and human capacity building effort. It also noted that APIAN had offered to act as a sounding board for the various ESC activities.

29. Senior Officials welcomed the nomination of

Ambassador Elard Escala from Peru as the Chair-designate of the ESC for the next two years commencing in 2002. Senior Officials welcomed the offer by the United States to fund the maintenance costs of the Ecotech Clearing House for the next five years.

B. Possibility of Developing Ecotech IAPs

30. SOM commended and endorsed the outcomes of ESC in developing Ecotech IAP, now renamed as "Ecotech Action Plan" (EAP), and its template for the reporting of domestic and cooperative activities as well as its status as a pilot for two years on a voluntary basis (Annex 15). SOM welcomed offers from several economies to prepare their EAPs, and encouraged others to do the same and submit their EAPs to the Leaders and Ministers' Meetings as a concrete deliverable.

C. Biotechnology

31. SOM took note of the ATCWG's progress report on biotechnology including the development of the Implementation Plan: Strategy and Timetable and decided to submit it to the MRT for consideration (Annex 16). SOM also asked ATCWG to keep it informed of the progress in the implementation of the plan.

32. SOM noted that Thailand will host the 5th Workshop on Research, Development and Extension of Agricultural Biotechnology in early September 2001 and looked forward to positive outcomes from this workshop. SOM also noted that Chinese Taipei would host the 6th Workshop in 2002.



33. SOM welcomed the US initiative on a policy dialogue (Annex 17) at SOM level on agricultural biotechnology activities and agreed to seek the Ministers' guidance on this at MRT.

D. Infectious Diseases

34. SOM took note of the progress report of the ISTWG on strengthening cooperation in combating emerging infectious diseases (EID) in relation to developing an APEC strategy to address HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases (Annex 18). SOM asked ISTWG to work in an expeditious manner in developing the strategy. SOM also encouraged member economies to broaden their participation and increase their inputs in the cooperation including identifying and securing health experts to participate in the ongoing electronic dialogue to develop the said strategy. SOM noted the need to avoid duplication of activities being undertaken in this area by other fora.

E. Energy

35. SOM took note of the progress report made by the United States on the energy security initiative endorsed by Leaders last year to respond to oil market volatility, as well as other broad-based energy-related activities, promoting economic growth, energy security and environmental protection (Annex 19).

VIII. Strengthening the Functioning of Markets

- **The Cooperative Initiative on Regulatory Reform jointly with the OECD**

36. SOM took note of the report made by Peru on the implementation of the APEC-OECD Cooperative Initiative on Regulatory Reform including the outcomes of the opening conference held at the APEC Secretariat in February 2001 (Annex 20). SOM also endorsed the work program for the first workshop to be held in China in September this year.

- **The Cooperation Framework for Strengthening Economic Legal Infrastructure**

37. SOM endorsed the Menu of Options on Capacity and Institutional Building, Corporate Law and Competition Policy (Annex 21) and encouraged member economies to adopt them on a voluntary basis taking into account their own conditions. SOM took note of the work of the coordinating group, including the work program to develop proposals for



capacity building projects in implementing the Menu of Options.

- **The Cooperation Program in the area of SME and New Business Support**

38. SOM took note of the progress report made by Japan on SME and New Business Support cooperation program centered on information sharing and capacity building (Annex 22). SOM also noted that Japan would host the SME and New Business Support Workshop in July 2001 to review the implementation of the program.

- **Improving Economic and Corporate Governance**

39. SOM welcomed the PECC update on developing a voluntary code of corporate governance (Annex 23). SOM encouraged PECC to complete this project in an expeditious manner so that it would be a deliverable to the Leaders' Meeting in October.

- **Facilitating an Environment Conducive to Entrepreneurship and Start-up Companies**

40. SOM took note of Chinese Taipei's initiative on the "Best Practices Guidance to Entrepreneurship and Start-up Companies" (Annex 24) and welcomed its offer to host a seminar in this regard in early August 2001.

IX. New Economy Issues

B. New Economy

1. E-APEC

41. The e-APEC Task Force Chair, Mr. Chen Yin, briefed the Meeting on the progress of the Task Force's work as well as the outcomes of its first Meeting on May 31. Mr. Chen outlined the Task Force's mission and goals for 2001, its composition, preliminary work and recommendations to SOM.

42. SOM commended the Task Force for the progress it has achieved and expressed appreciation for the efforts of its Chair and Vice Chairs for steering the work of the group. The Meeting endorsed the progress report submitted by the Task Force as well as its Annexes (Annex 25). SOM also



agreed to hold a substantive discussion on the major priorities and the draft report of the e-APEC Task Force at SOM III. SOM urged the Task Force to complete its work as scheduled and to submit its final output to SOM III or Informal SOM as a major deliverable for APEC Ministers and Leaders in October. The Meeting also noted the Task Force's recommendation to organize a showcase event at the Leaders' Meeting in Shanghai to demonstrate its achievements.

43. SOM called on the various APEC fora, mechanisms and Lead economies to provide inputs to and cooperate fully with the

e-APEC Task Force to facilitate its work. At the same time, SOM instructed the Task Force to interact closely with all relevant APEC fora including the Finance Ministers' process and APEC business groups, with a view to avoiding duplication of work. The Meeting urged the Task Force to fully take into account the suggestions put forward at the SOM.

44. SOM took note of the report of the Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL) and the eminent role of TEL particularly in addressing the issues of e-commerce and dealing with the digital divide and skills shortages (Annex 26). The Meeting urged the e-APEC Task Force to draw on the efforts made by TEL, and incorporate its valuable findings and ideas into the future work of the Task Force. SOM encouraged TEL and the e-APEC Task Force to work together.

2. Implementation of Other Related Initiatives

45. Progress report on the following initiatives related to the New Economy were presented at the Meeting:

- **Readiness Evaluation Action Partnership**

46. The United States requested member economies to provide useful examples and case studies in cooperation with the private sector. Such partnerships will demonstrate how electronic transactions and market places are making operations more efficient, with an eye towards profiling effective practices and roadblocks in the final e-APEC report.

- **Transforming the Digital Divide into Digital Opportunity**

47. Chinese Taipei informed the Meeting that the first phase, focusing on the application of E-Commerce, of the project would be held in Taipei on July 24-27 composing of a 3-day workshop and a one-day symposium (Annex 27).

- **APEC Guide to Enact Legal Framework for Electronic Commerce**

48. Viet Nam informed the Meeting that the ECSG had included Viet Nam's proposal into the ECSG work program for 2001 (Annex 28).

- **Cyber Education Cooperation**

49. Korea informed the Meeting that following the establishment of the APEC Cyber Education Network (ACEN) Homepage in May the first batch of APEC Youth Internet Volunteers would be sent to Thailand and Indonesia in July and August (Annex 29).

- **Project on KBE**

50. Korea informed the Meeting that Korea, Australia and Canada are preparing the implementation plan for the three recommendations contained in the EC report "Towards Knowledge-based Economies (KBE) in APEC" submitted to Ministers and Leaders last November. The implementation plan will be presented at the next Meeting of the Economic Committee, followed by SOM III (Annex 30).

51. The Meeting noted and welcomed the progress reports and urged the e-APEC Task Force to take into account these initiatives and to draw from them in its future work.

B. E-Commerce

52. SOM took note of the report of ECSG and its work priorities (Annex 31), which have incorporated the recommendations from the High Level Symposium on Electronic Commerce and Paperless Trading in China in February. SOM requested the ECSG to take follow-up actions in particular on involving business sector in the work of the ECSG. SOM also urged that the ECSG and the e-APEC Task Force coordinate their work more closely. To further promote the benefits of e-commerce by APEC economies, SOM encouraged Business Mobility Group to develop the Advanced Passenger Processing System.

Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth

X. Macroeconomic and Financial Issues

A. Economic Committee

53. The EC Chair briefed the Meeting on the progress of the Committee's work in line with its Work Program for 2001-2002 (Annex 32). The EC has four core projects for this year, namely: the 2001 APEC Economic Outlook; the New Economy project the Benefits of Trade and Investment Liberalization and Facilitation; and the Implementation Plan for the Knowledge-based Economies (KBE) recommendations.

54. SOM welcomed the efforts and progress made so far by the Committee in preparing the 2001 APEC Economic Outlook Report and conducting the other three projects. SOM Chair commended the efforts made by Hong Kong, China, in coordinating the preparatory work for the 2001 Economic Outlook Report. SOM noted that an Outlook Symposium was scheduled to be held in Hong Kong, China on June 28-29. SOM encouraged the Committee to continue its work and looked forward to further successful work and deliverables from the Committee.



55. Professor Catherine Mann from the Institute for International Economics (IIE) of the US made a presentation of the preliminary research work on the EC project of New Economy (Annex 33). Prof. Mann touched on, among other things, the definition of the New Economy and the structural policy issues that APEC needs to consider as member economies moved towards the New Economy.

56. SOM expressed its appreciation for the

presentation by Prof. Mann and efforts made by EC and IIE together with other academic institutions in the Asia Pacific region in this regard, and suggested that the e-APEC Task Force take into account ideas contained in the presentation and incorporate valuable findings into the future work of the Task Force.

B. Interaction with the Finance Ministers' Process

57. The SOM Chair reported that he addressed the Meeting of the Finance and Central Bank deputies in Washington, DC on May 1 (Annex 34). In light of the challenges posed by current economic slowdown, both Finance Ministers and SOM have identified sustainable economic growth and development as a top priority. The adopted theme of the 8th AFMM, "growth with restructuring, stability and equity", is also in line with the goals and objectives of the SOM process this year. It was agreed that linkages between the two processes should be further strengthened in order to respond to the challenges facing the Asia-Pacific region.

58. SOM also heard a briefing from the representative of the Finance Ministers Process, Ms. Zou Jiayi, on the APEC Finance Deputies' Meeting in Washington, which identified three main agenda items: (1) Strengthening dialogue on macroeconomic policies to promote economic and financial stability and sustainable growth; (2) Deepening structural adjustment and reform, establishing a sound financial system to build a solid foundation for sustainable economic growth; and (3) Promoting economic growth on a fair and equitable basis in order to minimize the adverse impact and maximize broad-based benefits in the process of globalization and to ensure that the majority of people benefit from globalization.

59. Ms. Zou also briefed the Meeting on the APEC Finance and Development Program, which promises to become a strong deliverable from the Finance Ministers' process to the Shanghai Leaders' Meeting in October.

60. The Meeting was informed that an ECSG representative has been invited to attend the 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Electronic Financial Transactions Systems in Kuala Lumpur in August. Australia reported the development of a proposal for an APEC Future Economic Leaders think tank and its first Meeting to be held 1-4 August in Sydney.

C. Social Impact of the Crisis

61. SOM was briefed by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Task Force on the Strengthening APEC Social Safety Net on the result of its second Meeting in May (Annex 35). The Task Force is now undertaking a preliminary research on the social safety net activities under way in APEC members and international organizations with a focus on capacity building, and submit its findings to SOM III for consideration. SOM



noted that discussions on the proposal to establish an APEC Social Safety Net Facility would continue.

62. SOM thanked Thailand and Korea for their leadership. It also asked the Task Force to include gender dimension and micro enterprises into its work program.

XI. Interaction with the Community

A. Dialogue with ABAC

63. ABAC Chair, Mr. Qin Xiao briefed the Meeting on ABAC Meetings in Scottsdale and Moscow. He reported that ABAC discussed 21 recommendations in five separate fields in Moscow. All recommendations will be further discussed by ABAC's Action Plan Monitoring Committee, Trade and Investment Task Force, Finance Task Force and Technology Task Force and SME Caucus respectively. At its August Meeting in Singapore, ABAC will finalize its report to Leaders, whose theme will be common development through capacity building and full participation.

64. The ABAC Chair also advised that ABAC has sent a letter to APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT). The letter calls for MRT to commit, at its June Meeting, to launch a New Round at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha; encourages Ministers to consider highlighting the Shanghai Model Port Project as a useful model of APEC public-private partnership during the Shanghai Leaders Meeting; recommended further action to implement the APEC Food System; and encouraged further steps to strengthen the e-IAP system and improve business awareness of this information.

65. SOM commended the timely work done by

ABAC, and noted the importance of the issues they have raised, including messages on support for the WTO new round, challenges to maintaining financial stability, and the need to ensure that capacity building and market opening are mutually reinforcing.

66. SOM noted that the business community has been the cornerstone of APEC outreach program and reiterated the importance of interaction and cooperation with ABAC. Further, SOM urged ABAC to be more frank and provocative in the years to come and to have more dialogue with domestic business communities.

67. The SOM Chair cited the matrix prepared by the Secretariat detailing what APEC has done in response to ABAC recommendations (Annex 36) and encouraged fora to continue these efforts.

B. The Automotive and Chemical Dialogues

68. SOM reviewed the report of the third Automotive Dialogue held in Bangkok in April 2001 and noted the progress achieved to date, with the understanding that a report from the Automotive Dialogue will be submitted to the MRT Meeting.

69. SOM noted the endorsement by CTI of the Terms of Reference for the Chemical Dialogue, and the call for the first Meeting of the Steering Group to take place as soon as possible.

C. Communications and Outreach Strategy

70. The APEC Secretariat reported the progress made in formulating APEC Communications and Outreach Strategy (Annex 37) with a presentation by the project consultants Ogilvy PR Worldwide on their communications audit findings and recommendations. SOM noted the completion of the first phase of the Communications and Outreach Strategy project under the direction of the APEC Secretariat, and expressed its appreciation of both the works undertaken by Ogilvy and the Secretariat's important role in driving the exercise.

71. SOM stressed the significance of communicating the benefits that APEC process has delivered to the people in the region, and the necessity of building support from the public to APEC's agenda on various issues. The Meeting called for strengthening the Secretariat's capacity to undertake enhanced communications functions, and instructed Secretariat, in developing the draft Communications and Outreach Strategy, to make recommendations and submit a strategic plan to SOM III for its endorsement, drawing on the consultant's report. The observations

made by some members about the opportunity for leadership on this issue by the Secretariat were noted.

72. SOM considered the report of the Ad Hoc Study Group of Officials on APEC Interaction (Annex 38). SOM affirmed the importance for APEC to benefit from the insight and expertise in communications, and instructed APEC fora to be proactive in seeking out and identifying interaction with relevant non-governmental entities, which have positive contributions to make to their work. Concerning suggested confidence-building measures, SOM also agreed that a more effective outreach and communications strategy was important for making APEC better understood by the public, and instructed the APEC Secretariat to take account of this in formulating its draft strategic communications plan. SOM also requested the Secretariat to collate non-member participation information more systematically.

73. With respect to examination of possibility of simplifying the management and administration of non-member participation, SOM referred the issue to the BMC for further examination, while retaining the policy principles.

74. With its report submitted, the Ad Hoc Study Group of Officials on APEC Interaction completed its mandate.

75. Representative of APEC Study Centers Consortium presented SOM a briefing on the key outcomes of the Meeting held in Tianjin, China, in May 2001 (Annex 39). SOM welcomed the report and encouraged ASCs to further their cooperation with APEC Fora and key APEC stakeholders.

D. Youth

76. SOM thanked co-hosts China and Canada for their briefings on preparations underway for the APEC Youth Festival/APEC Young Leaders and Entrepreneurs Forum scheduled on 9-14 July 2001 in Beijing and Shanghai, China (Annex 40). SOM encouraged participation of member economies and looked forward to the successful conclusion of the event.

E. Framework for Integration of Women

77. SOM welcomed AGGI's progress report (Annex 41) and commended the extensive results achieved by AGGI. SOM welcomed Mexico's offer to host the 2nd APEC Ministerial Meeting on Women in 2002. SOM noted the AGGI proposal on the institutionalization of gender integration in APEC processes and decided to discuss AGGI's mandate in SOM III.

XII. Sectoral Ministerial Meetings in 2001

- **Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade, Shanghai, China, 6-7 June 2001**

78. China updated the Meeting on preparations for the MRT to be held in Shanghai on 6-7 June 2001 and reaffirmed that the Meeting will focus on the launch of a new WTO Round as well as TILF related initiatives.

- **8th APEC SME Ministerial Meeting, Shanghai, China, 26-31 August 2001**

79. SOM took note of the report by China on the preparation of the 8th SME Ministerial Meeting, and the associated Business Forum and Exhibition (Annex 42).

- **4th APEC Human Resources Ministerial Meeting, Kumamoto City, Japan, 29-30 September 2001**

80. Japan briefed the Meeting on preparations underway for the 4th Human Resources Development Ministerial Meeting which will be held in Kumamoto, Japan on 29-30 September 2001. SOM took note of the following sub-themes being developed after SOMI:

- Labor market for the New Economy;
- Skills development to bring 9 opportunity for success to all in the context of globalization; and
- Involvement of stakeholders such as labor and business to develop human resources development strategies.

- **3rd APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting, Lima, Peru, 3-5 October 2001**

81. Peru informed the SOM that the theme of the 3rd APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting would be "Connecting APEC: Pathways to Prosperity". SOM noted preparations for the Meeting and Peru's plan to host a seminar to outreach the media prior to the Meeting (Annex 43).

82. Brunei Darussalam and the United States informed the Meeting of the signing on 1 May 2001 in Washington D.C. of the first plurilateral Open Sky agreement between their economies and Chile, New Zealand and Singapore.

83. Ministers in 2000 tasked a review of the implementation of initiatives arising out of sectoral ministerial Meetings. In this connection, SOM requested relevant APEC working groups to submit review reports on implementation of initiatives from pertinent sectoral ministerial Meetings to the APEC Secretariat prior to SOM.

XIII Management Issues

A. Report by the Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat

84. The Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat presented his report on the work of the Secretariat (Annex 44). SOM expressed its satisfaction with the continuing support and advice of the Secretariat.

B. Report of BMC

85. The Meeting endorsed the recommendations and decisions of the BMC contained in the BMC Chair's report (Annex 45).

C. Working Group Activities

86. SOM took note of the progress reports of APEC working groups (Annex 46). SOM asked the APEC Secretariat to revise the APEC Food System Tasking in Matrix in accordance with the ATC's request. SOM also requested the BMC to consider the TEL Sponsorship Guidelines for wider application.

XIV. Other Matters

A. Briefing on Future Meetings in China

87. China informed the Meeting on the dates for APEC Meetings and events to be held in China (Annex 47). SOM III and related Meetings will be held in Dalian on August 16-24. China also briefed the Meeting on the arrangements, including advance visits for the Informal Leaders' Meeting.

B. Update from Official Observers

88. ASEAN updated the Meeting of its latest developments since SOM I held in Beijing in February (Annex 48). It included the progress of the initiative of ASEAN integration, ASEAN economic cooperation, and the broadening and deepening of cooperation with China, Japan and the Republic of Korea under the ASEAN



plus 3 framework, and the AFTA/CER dialogue with Australia and new Zealand.

89. PECC briefed SOM of the outcomes of its coordinating group and standing committee Meeting, which was held on 10-14 April in Kyoto, Japan (Annex 49). PECC appreciated the opportunity to be the partner of APEC and stood ready to collaborate with APEC in various fields ranging from trade, finance to community building.

C. Classification of Documents

90. SOM endorsed for public release the documents identified in Annex 50.

XV. Adoption of Chair's Summary Report

91. The Summary Conclusions were adopted on the basis of consultations with all member economies.

For more information and annexes, please visit:
<http://www.apecsec.org.sg/download/virtualib/es/c/EscChinaPapersFeb.exe>

APEC Themes in the Year 2001 "Meeting New Challenges in the New Century: Achieving Common Prosperity through Participation and Cooperation"

Sub-themes

- I. Sharing the Benefits of Globalization and the New Economy
 - II. Advancing Trade and Investment
 - III. Promoting Sustained Economic Growth
- For more information, please visit
<http://www.apec-china.org.cn/>



Thailand is going to host the Fifteenth APEC Ministerial Meeting and the Eleventh APEC Economic Leaders Meeting in 2003. For more information, please visit
<http://www.apec2003.org>



