

2013/SOM3/ACT/008

Agenda Item: 3

ACTWG - Decision on Independent Assessment Recommendation

Purpose: Information Submitted by: ACT Chair



17th Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts' Working Group Meeting Jakarta, Indonesia 25 June 2013

ANNEX 7

INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE ECOTECH IMPLEMENTATION OF APEC WORKING GROUPS AND SOM TASKFORCES: ANTI-CORRUPTION AND TRANSPARENCY WORKING GROUP (ACT)

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Decision by ACTWG
Recommendations to ACT 1	
The ACT reverts to the biannual rotation of the Chair in line with Consolidated Guidelines on the Rotation System for Lead Shepherd/Chair and Deputy Lead Shepherd/Chair of APEC Working Groups and other APEC Fora.	The assertion upon which this recommendation is based is inaccurate. The annual rotation of the ACT chairmanship does not hinder continuity of work plans—the existence of the 5-yr ACT strategy and the fact that the former and subsequent year's chairs serve as vice-chairs of the ACT provide for continuity. Moreover, the current annual rotation of the ACT, synchronized with the overall APEC chairmanship, allows the ACT to strategically incorporate and address issues that are important to the host economy's overall priorities where appropriate and consistent with the ACT's 5-yr strategy. ACT supports the current annual rotation of the ACT Chairmanship.
Recommendations to ACT 2 and 3	
	Second part of this recommendation re. "section indicating the action taken relative to this particular activity" is unclear. Can't state what action has taken place in a work plan; can only state what the proposed activity is.
Annual Work Plans prepared by the Chair are to include a table listing the proposed activities to be addressed for the relevant period. The table is to include reference to the link between the particular activity and the Terms of Reference of the ACT and section indicating the action taken relative to this particular activity.	

Recommendations to ACT 4	
The Chair (at the end of his/her period) is to provide a status report on each of the activities. This report to address which activities were successfully completed, those not achieved (with reasons why) and those terminated.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 5	
The incoming Chair (with the support of the ACT) is to identify what specific activities will be carried over from the previous period. These activities will then form part of the work plan for that period. Reasons must be provided if it is determined any activity is to be terminated.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 6	
All work plans and attachments (including tables) must be presented and form part of the formal record of the relevant SOM.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 7 and 8	
The Chair of the ACT (or nominee/s) examines the involvement of all Economies in specific projects to identify the Economies that have not been active in either proposing or participating in specific programs. That, once these Economies have been identified, the Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) to meet with these Economies to identify ways they can either directly sponsor or become a co-sponsor of specific initiatives. (combining recommendations #7 and #8)	Sub-group proposed in recommendation 9 could help, as could APEC secretariat. ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 9	

The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) identifies a sub-group within the ACT to identify programs such as workshops, symposiums or conferences which could be conducted in Economies that have not been directly involved in previous events. This may involve an Economy providing financial assistance and/or guidance in the presentation of the program.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 10	
The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) reviews the current Terms of Reference of all other APEC Work Groups and Task Forces a to identify any potential synergistic relationships with the purpose of the ACT as outlined in the Terms of Reference of the ACT.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 11	
Once this occurs, the Chair of the ACT (or nominee/s) is to arrange meetings with the respective Fora to explore this relationship.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 12	
The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) is to explore scheduling of SOM meetings to allow direct liaison between Fora where there is a common linkage.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 13	
The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) identifies other organisations engaging in similar anti-corruption activities within the APEC region in order to determine where the ACT and these organisations engage in similar activities.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 14	

The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) is to identify unique activities in line with the ideals of APEC and consistent with the Terms of Reference of the ACT to allow the ACT to differentiate its activities from other similar organizations.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 15	
The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) is to then develop projects and /or programs to allow the ACT to capitalise on this unique positioning.	All economies should be encouraged to develop projects or programs, per recommendation 7 & 8, not only the Chair or Vice Chair. ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 16	APEC Secretariat
The Chair of ACT (or nominee/s) identifies an appropriate process to enable quantitative and qualitative measurement of all ACT projects and/or programs.	The BMC is currently undertaking a pilot to review the effectiveness of a small subset of APEC projects. In undertaking work in this regard the ACT may wish to engage the BMC to encourage synergies in effort.
Recommendations to ACT 17	
The results of this research to be utilised to monitor and modify projects and/or programs to ensure APEC achieves maximum results from these activities.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.
Recommendations to ACT 18	
Member Economies should be encouraged to nominate women either as representatives of the Economy or guests at ACT meetings and/or seminars, the workshops, symposiums.	ACT agrees with this recommendation.

Recommendations to ACT 19	
The Chair of the ACT (or nominee/s) to form a sub-group with representatives from the PPWE to ensure the interests of women is considered in all planned activities.	ACT Chair could certainly consult with PPWE to discuss whether forming a sub- group is necessary. PPWE should also be encouraged to reach-out to/welcome consultations with other subgroups.
Recommendations to ACT 20	APEC Secretariat
That the web site for the ACT is subject to regular review at least once every six months to ensure the links are updated and operative.	Responsibility for ensuring the ACT section of the APEC website lies with the relevant Program Director. Updates are expected following each ACT meeting.