APEC Symposium 'Good Policy and Regulatory Practices for Facilitating Trade and Investment in Telecommunications and ICT Services'

9 & 10 December 2014, The Peninsula Hotel, Manila, Philippines

Objectives
- To build capacity of policy officials and regulators to understand how policies and regulations which limit the openness of services markets have a negative effect on economic growth and productivity.
- To develop policy officials' and regulators' understanding about the range of regulatory settings which can impact on ICT services, including in relation to the expansion of new technologies such as cloud computing.
- To develop good practice principles in relation to the telecommunications and ICT services sectors to assist development of a more open regulatory environment for trade in services.
- To explore barriers to women's economic participation through telecommunications and ICT services-related policies and regulations.
- To investigate the need for, and offer, targeted assistance to economies who wish to reform their services-related policies and regulations.
- To generate ideas for future work for APEC.

Introduction

The APEC Services Action Plan promotes a continued need to enhance understanding among policy makers of the value of open and competitive services for delivering economic growth and development. This symposium offers a conceptual framework for adding to APEC members' understanding of the benefits of open and competitive services markets in telecommunications and ICT Services.

This symposium brings together trade officials, regulators, academics and industry representatives to discuss the direction of future reform in telecommunications and ICT services in a practical, collaborative atmosphere. The symposium will identify and discuss how market access in these sectors is regulated, key impediments to further trade in these services, and reform priorities. Participants will also explore the impact of policies and regulations in the sector on women's economic participation. The outcomes of the symposium will inform a set of Good Practice Principles which will be shared with participants and representatives of the APEC Group on Services early next year.

This symposium is designed to be highly practical and interactive, examining "what works and what doesn't" when it comes to the regulation of the telecommunications and ICT services sectors across multiple jurisdictions and different economic circumstances. Participants will be encouraged to engage in question and answer (Q&A) and break-out sessions and share experiences from their own economies.

To facilitate business awareness of policies and regulations in APEC economies in services sectors, APEC has developed the Services Trade Access Requirements (STAR) Database (www.servicestradeforum.org). The business-friendly website covers eight services sectors across all 21 APEC economies. The relevance and utility of the STAR Database will be discussed at the symposium.

DAY ONE: 9 December 2014, Balmori Room, Level 1, Peninsula Hotel
8.45am – 9.00am: Registration

9.00am – 10.30am Session One: Welcome and introduction

9.00am	**1.1 Welcome and introduction** (20 mins) ➢ Deciana Speckmann, Policy Officer, APEC Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia ➢ Edward Sulikowski, Facilitator, EJS Consulting Services, Australia
9.20am	**1.2 Convergent technologies and regulatory challenges** (20 mins) Speaker: Peter Lovelock, Director, Technology Research Project Corporate, Hong Kong, China
9.40am	**1.3 APEC's contemporary work on telecommunications and ICT** (30 mins) ➢ Deciana Speckmann, Policy Officer, APEC Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia ➢ Maria Lourdes A. Yaptinchay, Director, E-Commerce Office, Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines, and Chair, Electronic Commerce Steering Group APEC (ECSG), Philippines ➢ Margot Kilgour, Senior Manager, the Australian APEC Study Centre at RMIT University, Australia
10.10am	**1.4 Q&A** (20 mins)

10.30am – 11.00am: Morning Tea & Group Photo

11.00am – 12.30pm Session Two: Understanding regulatory barriers to the provision of telecommunications and ICT services in regional economies

11.00am	**2.1 Market access restrictions and the importance of a pro-competitive environment** (20 mins) Speaker: Natasha Beschorner, Senior Information & Communications Technologies Policy Specialist and Regional Coordinator for the East Asia & Pacific team, Global ICT Department, World Bank, Washington
11.20am	**2.2 Regulatory challenges in new and emerging ICT services** **a. Cross-border data flows and cloud computing** (30 mins) ➢ Simon Smith, Director Regulatory Affairs, Pacnet, Singapore ➢ Darryn Lim, Director of Trade and Innovation Policy, Microsoft, Singapore
11.50am	**b. Mobile banking services** (15 mins) ➢ Speaker: Betty Wilkinson, Director, Public Management, Finance and Trade, Asia Development Bank, Philippines
12.05pm	**2.3 Q&A** (25 mins)

12.30pm – 1.30pm: Lunch

1.30pm – 3.00pm Session Three: Cross-sectoral business perspectives on developments in telecommunications and ICT services and barriers to trade

1.30pm	**3.1 Developing pan-Asian business strategies: challenges and opportunities** (20 mins) Speaker: Danny Kotlowitz, Legal Counsel, Telstra, Australia
1.50pm	**3.2 Off shoring services in the Philippines** (20 mins) Speaker: Jose Mari Mercado, President and CEO, Information Technology & Business Process Association of the Philippines (IBPAP)
2.10pm	**3.3 Women in telecommunications and ICT services** (20 mins) Speaker: Diane Wang, CEO, DHgate.com/ABAC, China
2.30pm	**3.4 Q&A** (30 mins)

3.00pm – 3.30pm: Afternoon Tea

3.30pm – 5.00pm Session Four: Break-out group discussions to consider barriers to telecommunications and ICT sectors
8-10 participants per group, including facilitator/subject matter expert and/or delegate

3:30pm	**Group 1- Identifying and prioritising key regulatory barriers/impediments to trade and investment in telecommunications services (basic & value added)** Facilitators: Natasha Beschorner / Hilary McGeachy **Group 2- Identifying and prioritising key regulatory barriers to facilitating trade and investment in ICT services (including cross border data services)** Facilitator: Simon Smith / Danny Kotlowitz **Group 3- Identifying and prioritising regulatory barriers to participation by women in telecommunications and ICT services** Facilitator: Betty Wilkinson / Peter Lovelock
4.15pm	**Group presentations** (30 mins)
4.45pm	**Facilitator wrap-up of Day One** (15 mins)

DAY TWO: 10 December 2014, Balmori Room, Level 1, Peninsula Hotel

9.00am – 9.10am	**Welcome to Day 2** Speaker: Edward Sulikowski, Facilitator, EJS Consulting Services

9.10am – 10.30pm Session Five: Case Studies: regulatory challenges and best practice

9.10am	**5.1. PNG** (15 mins) National Information and Communications Technology Authority (NICTA) Speaker: Kila Gulo-Vui (TBC)
9.25am	**5.2 Peru** (15 mins) OSIPTEL Speaker: Claudia Roxana Barriga
9.40am	**5.3 Mexico** (15 mins) Federal Telecommunications Institute (IFT) Speaker: Hector Paniagua
9.55am	**5.4 Q&A** (35 mins)

10.30 – 11.00: Morning Tea

11.00 – 12.30 Session Six: Policy reforms and measures to strengthen market access to and foreign investment in telecommunication and ICT services

11.00am	**6.1 Telecommunications and ICT services in trade negotiations, including the WTO GATS Agreement** (20 mins) Speaker: Hilary McGeachy, Office of Trade Negotiations, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
11.30am	**6.2** Q&A and p**anel discussion** (70 mins) Facilitator: Peter Lovelock, Director, TRPC

12.30pm – 1.30pm: Lunch

13.30pm – 15.00pm Session Seven: Group discussions and presentations

1.30pm	**7.1 Break-out group discussions** (40 mins) Three separate break-out groups will focus on identifying: *1)* Policy objectives in converging communications markets; *2)* Regulatory principles important in guiding telecommunications and ICT policy-making in their APEC economies; (Facilitators will be the same as for Session Four break-out)
2.10pm	**7.2 Group presentations** (30 mins)
2.40pm	**7.3 Summary of symposium proceedings and next steps** (20 mins)

3.00pm – 3.30pm: Afternoon Tea

3.30pm – 5.30pm	**Site visit** Telstra, 2258 Don Chino Roces Extension corner EDSA, Magallanes Makati City Buses Provided

Conclusion of Symposium