

ABAC ACTION PLAN & ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP MATRIX

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
2. Matters arising from ABAC II		Monitor	
Issue			
No document available at this time.			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
No document available at this time.			

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
3. APEC Briefing		Monitor	
Issue			
No document available at this time			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
No document available at this time			
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
No document available at this time			

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
4. Advocacy outcomes from SOM III		Monitor	
Issue			
No document available at this time			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
No document available at this time			
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
No document available at this time			
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
No document available at this time			

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
5. ABAC Working Group Advocacy		Monitor	
Issue			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
Ensure that ABAC is on track for working group deliverables.			
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
All	None	N/A	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
ABAC USA should note that regulatory coherence should be listed under REIWG.			

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
6. Driving efficiency and effectiveness in ABAC		Monitor	
Issue			
Attempting to ensure that ABAC meetings and the report to Leaders are focussed, concentrating on practical outcomes and clear messages for action to improve economic integration and growth in APEC economies			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
Identify a new working group structure/working group program structure to better align		ABAC USA introduced a new working group structure in 2011 during the USA chairmanship. ABAC USA also held chairs calls in advance of each ABAC Meeting to ensure clear program messaging. ABAC USA also encouraged working groups to identify a limited number of objectives per year, a process which has been followed in 2012 and 2013.	
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
ABAC Hong Kong	None	N/A	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
ABAC USA is supportive of efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ABAC meetings.			

Agenda Item	ABAC USA Action
7. Managing business-official interaction: early lessons from the Policy Partnerships	Monitor
Issue	
New “Policy Partnership” bodies being created by APEC to facilitate business input to Government officials in APEC WGs are not working as efficiently and effectively as possible.	
Deliverable/Objective	Status
Recommendations to be formulated for APEC officials’ consideration, in particular chairs of PPFS, PPSTI and	Over the past two years, APEC has created three new “Policy Partnerships” intended to improve the scope of

PPWE		business input to APEC working groups – principally the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS); the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI); and the Policy Partnership on Women in the Economy (PPWE).			
Supporting ABAC Economies		Dissenting ABAC Economies		USG Position (if known)	
N/A		N/A			
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- NCAPEC has been closely involved in the APEC policy partnerships over the past couple years.- One of the biggest problems with these groups is having the chairman rotate every year. This leads to a lack of continuity and far too much downtime as a representative from the incoming host economy is identified.- Our recommendation would be to establish a multi-year chairmanship with the champion economy taking the lead.- The nominations process also varies. In some cases ABAC is charged with nominating private sector participants, in other cases government agencies are tasked with this. In the end it results in a lack of clarity on how to keep participants engaged. This has created unnecessary bureaucracy that has delayed meaningful dialogue.- There is also no set number of times in which a group meetings. The PPFS meets up to 3-4 times per year (between the plenary meetings and management council meetings) whereas others meet 1-2 times per year.					

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
8. Media outreach and engagement		Monitor	
Issue			
No document available at this time			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
No document available at this time			
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
No document available at this time			

Agenda Item		ABAC USA Action	
9. Other business		Monitor	
Issue			
No document available at this time			
Deliverable/Objective		Status	
Supporting ABAC Economies	Dissenting ABAC Economies	USG Position (if known)	
ABAC USA Position/Talking Points/Recommendations			
No document available at this time			

Action Plan and Advocacy Working Group Meeting Agenda
ABAC3, Kyoto, Japan
13.00-15.00 July 10 2013

Agenda

Agenda Item No	Issue	Lead Economy/ Speaker	Time	Doc. No.
1.	Welcome, introductory remarks, approval of agenda	APAWG Chair	5 mins	APAWG 33-012
2.	Minutes and matters arising from ABAC2 in Singapore April 2013	APAWG Chair	5 mins	APAWG 33-011
3.	APEC Briefing	Tu Anh Tuan	5 mins	
4.	Advocacy outcomes at SOM2 and SOM3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services • Global Data Standards • IEG • Food Security • Regulatory Coherence 	Nightingale/Dodwell Nowell/Jacobi Dodwell/Parle Buduls/Jacobi Parle/Boman	15 mins	
5.	ABAC Working Group advocacy priorities: review and update of WG Action Plans in light of developments in SOM2 and SOM3	WG Chairs to lead	25 mins	APAWG 33-013
6.	Driving efficiency and effectiveness in ABAC	ABAC Australia to lead	25 mins	
7.	Managing business-official interaction: early lessons from the Policy Partnerships	Dodwell	20 mins	APAWG 33-014
8.	Media outreach and engagement – local and regional	Mike Chapnick	20 mins	
9.	Any other business			

APAWG Meeting Document Summary Sheet Template
Agenda item 5

Document Title: Working Group Draft Action Plan 2013
Purpose: For discussion
Issue: ABAC needs to clarify and prioritise its advocacy objectives for 2013
Background: The Working Group Action Plan, aims to clarify and prioritise each Working Group's objectives, to specify optimal advocacy strategy and tactics, and to locate lead responsibility for achieving progress on objectives. It also seeks input on potential new practices aimed at optimizing ABAC leverage into APEC at its various levels.
Proposal /Recommendations: For ABAC member discussion
Decision Points: Endorsement from ABAC members

Finance & Economic Working Group (FEWG)
Draft Action Plan 2013

Initiative	Proposed 2013 Objective(s)	Status	ABAC Next Steps	Champion
FEWG and AGFSCB				
Internationalisation of emerging economies currencies	Stimulate policy focus on facilitating internationalization of emerging economies currencies	Receive regular updates on RMB's internationalization, including the development of offshore RMB	Closely monitor the internationalization progress of RMB	FEWG
Mobilisation of savings for long-term investment	Create a process framework to promote long-term infrastructure investments by mobilizing savings held in SWFs among other institutional vehicles	First stage of a three-year initiative which includes a report to examine the potential of SWFs in this process	Symposium will be held in Beijing in September; The report will build on the work of a report on SWFs published at ABAC2 in Moscow in 2008	FEWG
Unintended consequences from financial reforms	Voicing concerns over unintended consequences from financial reforms on trade finance	Received an initial paper by ABAC Japan	Drafting ABAC letters with upgraded rhetoric to voice concerns from business perspective to finance ministers, G20, and Basel committee	FEWG
Asia-Latin America Cooperation	Enhance regional financial integration between Asia and Latin America	Received a presentation from Inter-American Development Bank at ABAC1 in Manila	Further updates to be provided by the Asian Development Bank at ABAC 3 in Kyoto	FEWG
Financial Inclusion	Provide inputs to the APEC FMP's work on financial inclusion	Preparation being undertaken for Forum	The 2013 Financial Inclusion Forum will be held in Batam, Indonesia in June	AGFCB
APFF	Create institution to lead planning for development of Asia-Pacific capital markets	APFF Symposium planned for Sydney, April 2013.	Based on outcomes from Sydney Symposium, develop agreed work streams and lay detailed plans for Finance Ministers' consideration in Bali Sept 2013. External publicity needed	AGFSCB
Infrastructure	Provide inputs to the APEC Finance Ministers' work on infrastructure; continue providing advice to individual governments	APIP has held two dialogues so far in 2013, with the Governments of the Philippines and Thailand	Work with Chair of APEC SFOM to develop agenda and promote private participation in the APEC FMP infrastructure workshops in Makassar (April) and Palembang (August); Set up further dialogues with interested	AGFSCB

			economies (Malaysia, Indonesia)	
Angel and Venture Capital Finance	Build capacity across the region for Angel and Venture Capital finance for start up enterprises	Discuss proposals delivered by ABAC Canada and ABAC Malaysia	Finalize proposals in ABAC 3	AGFSCB
Credit rating agencies	Participate in international debate on reform of global credit rating activity	Receive briefings from outside agencies and concerned member economies.	Formulate proposals for leaders, and for senior financial officials	AGFSCB

Draft: Jun 2013

Regional Economic Working Group (REIWG)
Draft Action Plan 2013

Initiative	Proposed 2013 Objective(s)	Status	ABAC Next Steps	Champion
REIWG				
Bogor Goals and FTAAP	Endorsement for TPP, RCEP and other regional liberalization initiatives	Tracking TPP and RCEP progress.	Monitor progress and provide support as appropriate	REIWG Chair
Supply chain connectivity	Promote initiative on Global Data Standards	Proposal tabled at CTI1 in Jakarta, Jan 2013. No support for formal Task Force, but strong support to press initiatives through existing fora	Agree key APEC Fora and tailor proposals for each. In letter to MRT	NZ
Services trade	Advocate liberalization of services trade and investment	SOM Services Dialogue in Surabaya: monitor various global and regional initiatives	Agree next steps in light of Surabaya outcomes.	HKC
Investment liberalization and facilitation	Marshall School study. Draw up investment “checklist”. Continue to leverage IFAP	Marshall School study in progress, due for review ABAC3 and completion ABAC4 US in process of drafting “check list”	Intercede in all relevant APEC bodies on key facilitating role of investment liberalization in improving competitiveness Advocacy on “check list” in relevant APEC fora	NZ US
Labour mobility	Complete Skills Mapping project	APEC presentation on interim findings in SOM3 Medan, July. Project targeted for completion December 2013	ABAC Working Group to review Skills Mapping papers and make recommendations	Philippines (APEC Australia)
APEC Travel Card	Win agreement on speedier processing, and on electronic updating of information	Considered at BMG1 in Jakarta and BMG3 in Medan. ABTC Survey under way, due for completion ABAC4	Build presentation for BMG1 in China in Jan 2014, with survey findings as basis	Japan

Draft: Jun 2013

Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)
Draft Action Plan 2013

Initiative	Proposed 2013 Objective(s)	Status	ABAC Next Steps	Champion
SDWG				
Strengthening food security	Consolidate PPFS	Road Map to 2020 being prepared by WG1 for PPFS2 in Medan, July. Working Groups 2,3 and 4 to clarify objectives on agreement on Road Map	Ensure Road Map passes “business plan” test at PPFS2 on Medan. Then draw up work plans for WG2,3 and 4	SDWG
Science, Technology and Innovation	Clarify appropriate business sector role in PPSTI	PPSTI Working Group met at SOM1, with three day meeting planned for SOM2 in Surabaya.	Participate in PPSTI Plenary in Surabaya to ensure clear and appropriate business role in PPSTI	China
Blue Economy	Clarify main aims and objectives	Workshop on Blue Economy led by Indonesia in SOM1 in Jakarta. One presentation on the Role of Aquaculture in the Blue Economy was delivered by ABAC Australia at ABAC2 in Singapore; Another presentation on Blue Economy will be provided by ABAC Australia at ABAC3 in Kyoto.	Clarify business sector priorities in marine development	Australia
Green Growth, EGS and Energy Security		APEC member economies reporting back on progress in implementing EGS List.	Clarify business sector priorities to facilitate input in APEC fora.	SDWG
Improving infrastructure	Aid governments in pursuing infrastructure programs	APEC Chair prioritizing infrastructure building, including infrastructure finance. Workshops planned over the 2013 APEC year. US in process of drafting “check list” for attracting infrastructure finance	Encourage linkage with APIP initiative	US

Draft: Jun 2013

SMME & Entrepreneurship Working Group (SMMEEWG)
Draft Action Plan 2013

Initiative	Proposed 2013 Objective(s)	Status	ABAC Next Steps	Champion
SMMEEWG				
SME Summits	Regular SME Summits, each attached to an ABAC meeting	Manila and Singapore Summits successfully completed on margins of ABAC1 and ABAC 2, and Kyoto Summit at ABAC3	Summits China, Peru and Indonesia to be held this year.	ABAC meeting host, China and Peru
Innovation and entrepreneurship	Input to PPSTI	Discussion in ABAC3	Report on PPSTI July meeting	SMMEEWG
SME Access to Finance	Encourage development of micro-finance products	Presentations and proposals in progress in SMMEEWG and Advisory Group	Development of an APEC framework for SMEs access to finance. Deliverable for 2014	Canada, China, USA and Malaysia.
IT for SMEs	Develop E-Commerce portals' acknowledgment to improve SME access to international markets	Presentations being developed and tabled by ABAC China	Diffusion of IT opportunities within APEC economies and deeper study on a "all in one" platform.	China
Women in the Economy	Capacity-building for women in business	Preparation of an ABAC Report on Women and the economy: Endorsed.	Report on Women and the economy to be delivered in Bali.	Chinese Taipei, Japan, New Zealand and USA

Draft: Jun 2013

Meeting Document APAWG Kyoto

Document Title:

Report to ABAC APAWG – Effectiveness of ABAC meetings and work programs carried out by ABAC ... is there room for change/improvement?

Purpose:

For consideration

Issue:

Attempting to ensure that ABAC meetings and the report to Leaders are focussed, concentrating on practical outcomes and clear messages for action to improve economic integration and growth in APEC economies

Background:

Observations of recent ABAC meetings have prompted ABAC Australia to note them and raise for discussion some suggestions for possible improvements, for consideration by ABAC colleagues

Proposal /Recommendations:

- ABAC should consider trying to be more strategic in its choice of working group programs in order to deliver a crisper more focussed message to Leaders each year
- ABAC should consider setting the program for the following year's Working groups at ABAC 4 or at ISOM in December
- ABAC Working Group chairs should utilise the wisdom and resources of their co-chairs more effectively
- No issue should be pursued by a Working Group in ABAC meetings without a strong "champion" for it and consensus amongst ABAC members that the issue has broad application and merit in the APEC region

Decision Points:

- Endorse the recommendations outlined above.

Effectiveness of ABAC meetings and work programs carried out by ABAC ... is there room for change/improvement?

Following ABAC Indonesia's Chair's expressed desire to have more focussed and meaningful messages for the Leaders this year, and ABAC China endorsing this as the way forward for the China year next year, I have thought about what we might need to do at ABAC to achieve greater impact with governments and more cogent dialogue with them.

In my view, in order to get more focussed outcomes with the Leaders in our session with them, we need to start with the design of the working group programs in the ABAC 4 meetings, where it appears that the following year's agenda is more or less set. We clearly need to have enunciated to us and take into account what will be the priorities of the following year's host economy. We may have carry over themes from one ABAC year to the next that still require extra work, but in my view these should be in the minority unless most economies believe in their potential worth to the economic development of the region. Giving the same message to the Leaders year in year out reduces the potency of the message.

If it is not possible to agree Working Group programs at ABAC 4, then it has also been suggested that an alternative might be to have the chairs and/or Lead co-Chairs of the following year's Working Groups to attend the iSOM meetings in December, following ABAC 4, in order to participate in discussions taking place in iSOM in which the host country's priorities are laid out. However, the practical challenge is that this would require an extra commitment of time and travel that perhaps not all Working Group chairs are able to make.

In addressing this challenge, it may also be helpful to examine the substance and structure of staffer support available to ABAC members. Members will be able and willing to contribute more if practical follow-up can be reliably undertaken by staffer support – whether this comes from the ABAC Secretariat, from the ABAC Chair's ABAC team, or staffer arrangements at home. These arrangements vary widely at present, and an examination of “best practice” could enable changes that greatly facilitate ABAC Members' ability to engage more intensively.

In my view, the chairs of the working groups should involve more intensively the collective wisdom and resources of the co-chairs, in order to work up a program of no more than three or four key subject areas where business input will help solve a problem (and where government officials are receptive to the solution). We should have the chairs and co-chairs meeting, either in person or at least via email, to determine agendas, and what gets included and developed into a theme and what doesn't. We need to communicate in our plenary meetings that we intend to become more strategically focussed and “business like”; that as a result, no issue will be prioritised without the strong support of a subject “champion” and broad application across the APEC region will be part of the ABAC work program. This might include abandoning issues that APEC or the SOMs might suggest for ABAC, but for which there is little buy-in amongst ABAC members.

A related issue is for the WG chairs and the lead staffers to be more disciplined about the time allocated for individual presentations. There are always examples of the presentations being much too long, getting the programme delayed and sometimes wiping out any discussion time. I believe that meetings would be more valuable if ABAC members always get a chance to talk. When the presentations are too many and/or too long, the meeting is less collaborative and productive.

Finally, perhaps we even need to assess whether we currently have the appropriately defined working groups and the correct number of them. It is conceivable that if fewer topics were handled per group, you could have slightly/completely different working group names and more of them, with more of the ABAC membership more actively participating in moulding work streams and their outcomes.

I recognise that not every ABAC member is able to participate more actively than they currently do, but I think that at the moment ABAC is sitting on underutilised resources by not tapping more effectively into the wisdom, experience and business networks of all its members. Some of the above ideas might achieve this greater resource utilisation.

I write this in the spirit of being helpful and wanting to see a vibrant and relevant ABAC. Others may/will have contrasting views and I would welcome having a forum to discuss them.

Anna Buduls
ABAC Australia

Meeting Document Summary Sheet Template

Document Title: Optimising Business input to APEC
Purpose: For discussion
Issue: New “Policy Partnership” bodies being created by APEC to facilitate business input to Government officials in APEC WGs are not working as hoped. This paper identifies problems that have become apparent, and raises possible solutions for discussion
Background: Over the past two years, APEC has created three new “Policy Partnerships” intended to improve the scope of business input to APEC working groups – principally the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS); the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI); and the Policy Partnership on Women in the Economy (PPWE). The most mature of these – the PPFS launched in Moscow early in 2012 – has had significant birthing problems and delays. Problems have emerged, perhaps even more severely, in the PPSTI, which was conceived in haste in Vladivostok in September 2012. This paper and the supporting powerpoint presentation draw on the experience of the PPSTI to illustrate the nature and importance of the problems, and to provide a basis for ABAC discussion.
Proposal /Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABAC Members to discuss the problems identified• Recommendations to be formulated for APEC officials’ consideration, in particular chairs of PPFS, PPSTI and PPWE• Recommendations to be sent to APEC Secretariat for consideration, in particular Executive Director and Programme Directors for PPs.
Decision Points: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABAC Members to agree recommendations on how to address the problems identified.

Optimising Business input to APEC

Preamble

Historically, ABAC members have fulfilled their mission of providing advice to APEC leaders mainly through their annual Report to Leaders, through their Dialogue with Leaders, and at select APEC Ministerial meetings. This priority is embedded in the original instruction from leaders. It reflects the practical reality that busy business leaders are unable to devote large amounts of time (at their own or company's expense) travelling to large numbers of diverse APEC meetings. It also reflects the reality that a group of 63 business leaders, no matter what their formidable competences, cannot be expert in, or contribute to discussion on, every APEC policy concern. As a body, ABAC has to prioritise and then focus carefully on a limited menu of policy concerns.

Nevertheless, in recent years, APEC officials have increasingly sought business input in a wide range of policy discussions, in particular during the Senior Official Meeting clusters, and in a growing number of Policy Dialogues and Capacity Building events which tend to be held on the margins of SOM clusters and in which business perspectives are valued. On the APEC Finance Track, ABAC Members have also built strong and effective advocacy links into APEC's senior finance officials, and a wide range of global financial institutions with policy interests in the region.

One of the key tasks of the Action Plan and Advocacy Working Group (APAWG) has been to reinforce the effectiveness of ABAC's original mission, and to broaden where possible ABAC's outreach to SOMs and other senior official activity, in particular where this outreach can help to reinforce ABAC's priority messages to Leaders.

The recent conception of a number of "Policy Partnerships" (so far, Food Security, Science and Technology, and Women in the Economy) has provided a potentially valuable new channel of business advocacy into APEC officials. These Policy Partnerships provide new, specialized fora in which specialized subjects can be addressed. As ABAC has been approached to help structure these PPs, and to recommend business members, so the PPs have provided an opportunity to gather a critical mass of business experts to bring practical experience to bear on APEC policy discussion – expertise that the broad-based membership of ABAC itself is ill-placed to provide.

These new fora can play a valuable new role in securing sustained and reliable business input to the APEC policy discussion process, enabling ABAC Members to play a pivotal role without burying them under a proliferation of meetings focused on issues at the margins of their expertise. But perhaps inevitably in the early conception stages, practical and logistic challenges have emerged which need to be addressed if the new bodies are to function effectively, and if business is to succeed in providing sustained high quality input for the long term.

This paper addresses these challenges and seeks ABAC Members' input on how best to overcome them. It proposes a specific set of solutions as a possible way forward, based on discussions with business participants in all relevant fora, and developed from discussions with a minority of ABAC Members, some Government officials, and involved APEC Secretariat members.

Starting Frame of Reference

First, some general realities and principles need to be discussed and agreed. Among them:

- It is important to confirm the value of ABAC building stronger links with Senior Officials and the APEC working committees as a complement to the priority given to the annual report to leaders, and the Leaders Dialogue
- It is impractical to expect ABAC Members to attend these clusters in any systematic way. They are too busy, and the meetings are often too "technical" to justify their time.
- As such, Members should continue to prioritise the Leaders Dialogue, and specific, prioritized Ministerial meetings. When imperative, designated “champions” can aim to present at key Senior Official meetings.
- Thus, the only practical way of augmenting ABAC input at the important SOM clusters is to facilitate ABAC Staffer attendance and input, and to draw upon subject-specific expertise in the APEC business community for input to PPs as they proliferate.
- If ABAC Members wish to remain pivotal in this process, as the ultimate body reflecting business opinion and concern in the region, then this in turn means a) preparation of strong briefing materials so that staffers can speak with some authority on ABAC's behalf
- It also means b) that funding arrangements need to be formalized to enable staffers to attend more frequently and in larger numbers.

The challenge and opportunity of Policy Partnerships

For convenience, this paper will focus on the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI). Many of the insights have clear and direct relevance to the Policy Partnership on Food Security, which was launched in Moscow in February 2012, and has met subsequently in Kazan and Jakarta (with the next meeting planned for Medan in June 2013). My exploratory conversations with those planning the first Policy Partnership on Women in the economy (PPWE) in Bali in September suggest that the PPSTI lessons and insights apply with equally force.

The PPSTI was formally created at the ABAC4 in Vladivostok in September 2012, and was endorsed by Leaders in Vladivostok. After initial meetings in Jakarta in January 2013, and in Surabaya in March 2013, business and official concerns have arisen on a number of issues:

- Business voices in PPSTI are **uncoordinated**, with no mechanism to develop a regional “business” view
- The **standing of business members** of PPSTI and their inputs is unclear
- The PPSTI **Principal Advisor’s authority/status** as the region’s business advisor is not underpinned (this ABAC-appointed business leader has no links to, or standing in ABAC)
- The **Principal Advisor has no “anchor”** in ABAC, nor to the business representatives ABAC has selected to sit in the PPSTI, or even to Asian business in general
- The result is that the business input in PPSTI does not have the standing needed to influence policy discussion
- Following the initial Surabaya meeting – which was attended by just four business representatives – and the Medan meeting, which had none (**update after Medan**), there is a real danger of **business “disillusion”** with the PP process, which, if it sets in, could undermine business engagement with APEC rather than strengthen it.

Current unclarity on private sector status in the PPSTI has resulted in confusion and disagreement:

- Is a private sector representative **part of an economy’s “delegation”**? Or is he or she an ABAC representative? Or an independent voice?
- If private sector representatives are to be considered members of economy “delegations”, how, then, are the **distinct views and concerns of business** expressed?
- Who is responsible for **authorizing and registering** private sector participants in PPSTI meetings?
- How do private sector members get **access to relevant meeting documents**?

Potential amendments to the PP structure to address these shortcomings

A key priority is to build structural arrangements that lend genuine authority to the “Principal Advisor” and the business members of the PPSTI. Key thoughts were:

- A new entity spliced out from PPSTI could be created that includes all of the business representatives appointed to the PPSTI
- This entity could be chaired by the Principal Advisor
- The Principal Advisor could then get some formal status in ABAC – maybe an “ex officio” member; maybe an “advisor – that secures his access to, and standing in ABAC.
- Positions on science-related policy taken by this new business sub-committee of the PPSTI might then be reported into ABAC by the Principal Advisor for discussion and endorsement.
- This would then enable the “business view” presented into full PPSTI meetings to have authority underpinned by thorough discussion in the new spliced-off entity, and by discussion and endorsement in ABAC.

Advantages of such a new architecture?

- The Principal Advisor’s status and authority as a voice for the region’s business community would be clarified and underpinned
- The process would deliver a genuine regional voice of business into the PPSTI
- PPSTI business members would have opportunity to discuss and agree positions on issues/priorities being raised by government officials – and formulate business priorities
- The status and credibility of business members of PPSTI, and their contributions to policy discussion, would be clarified and strengthened
- This template might assist in resolving similar challenges in the PPFS, and other future PPs

And the challenges?

- There would be logistical challenges in convening autonomous PPSTI Business representative meetings (but could they, like ABAC’s Advisory Group on Financial System Capacity Building (AGFSCB), be convened on the margins of ABAC meetings?)
- There would be a controversial precedent in creating an “ex officio” ABAC Member. Are there other approaches, like a formally designated “advisor” to ABAC?
- Questions about who authorizes and registers private sector representatives and disseminates documents would still need to be resolved

- The status of non-business private sector members of PPSTI – mostly academics – remains unresolved.

Issues for discussion

APAWG seeks thoughts on the broad **general challenge** – augmenting the business view in Senior Official Meetings, etc... - and the **specific challenge** – how to structure the new “Policy Partnerships” to optimize consistent and sustained expert business input.



Business in PPSTI | Some Concerns

APAWG,
ABAC3 Kyoto

Jakarta
January 31 2013



Alert

- While this is clearly not yet reflecting an ABAC view, it was tabled at SOM2, Surabaya as a “Non-paper” to seed discussion
- Since these concerns have bearing on all actual or potential PPs, and in general on optimising business engagement with APEC bodies, they need urgent discussion and resolution
- These were “blue sky” thoughts tabled in haste
- But had been developed from discussions with a significant minority of ABAC Members, some Government officials, and involved APEC Secretariat members, including Executive Director

• What problems concern ABAC?

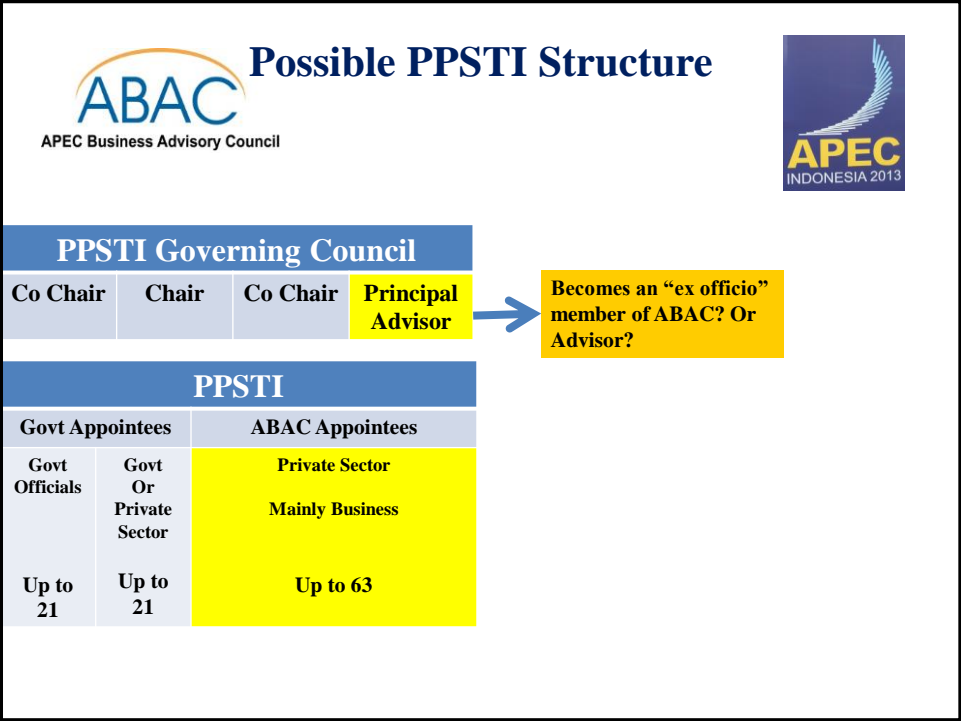
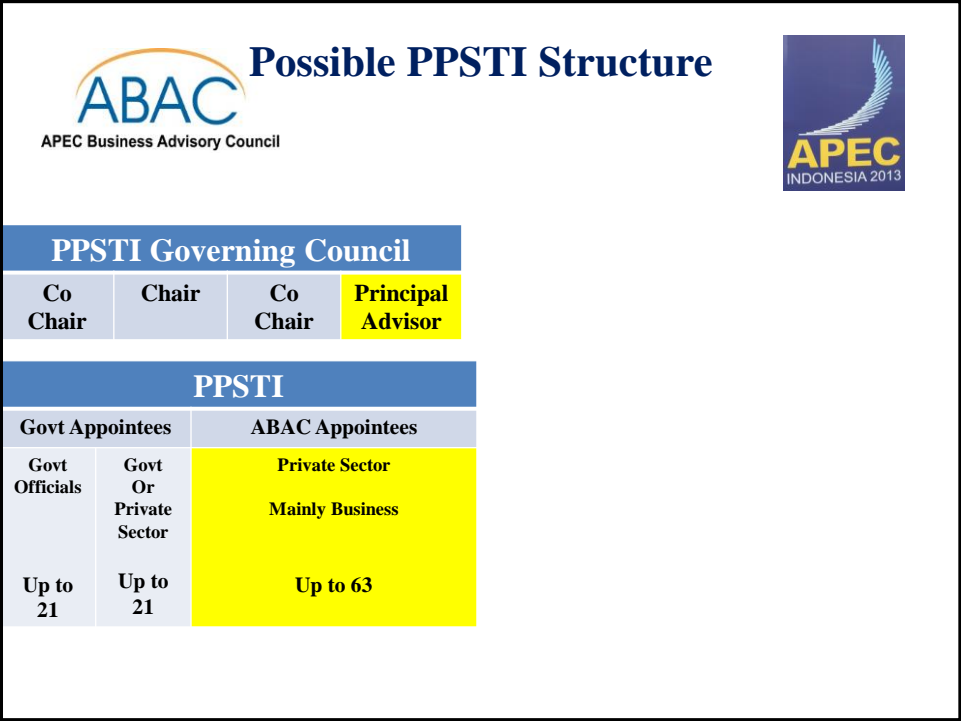
- Business voices in PPSTI are **uncoordinated**: no mechanism to develop a regional “business” view
- **Unclear status** of business members of PPSTI
- **Principal Advisor’s authority**/status as the region’s business advisor is not underpinned
- **PA is “unanchored”** to ABAC, to business members of PPSTI, or even to Asian business in general
- **Result**: business input in PPSTI does not have the **standing** needed to influence policy discussion
- Real danger of **business “disillusion”** with the PP process
- Instead of strengthening business input, this could undermine it

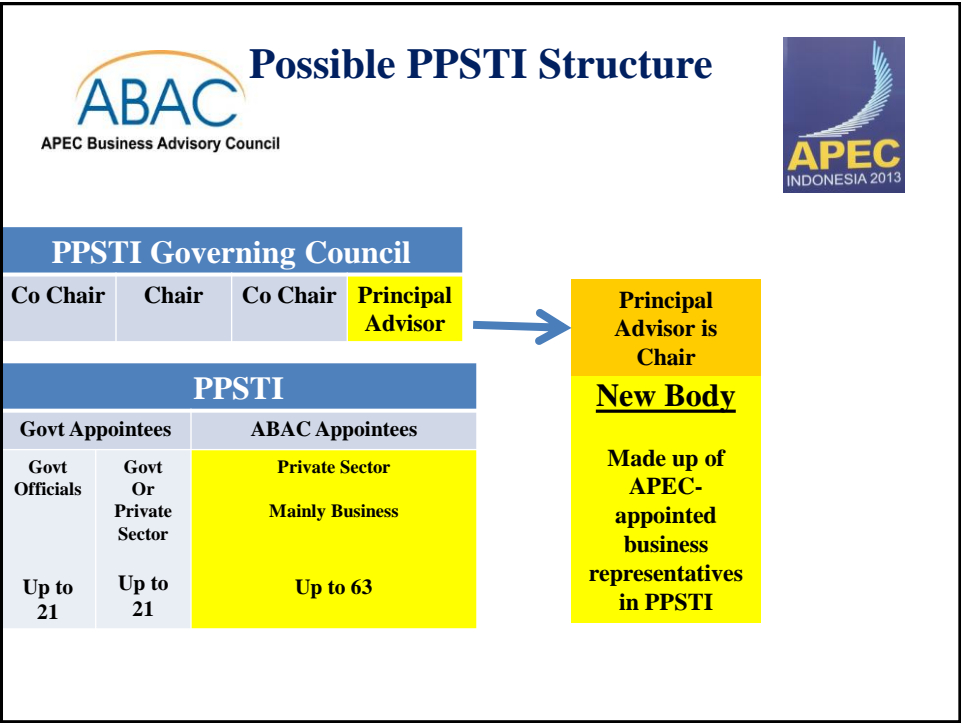
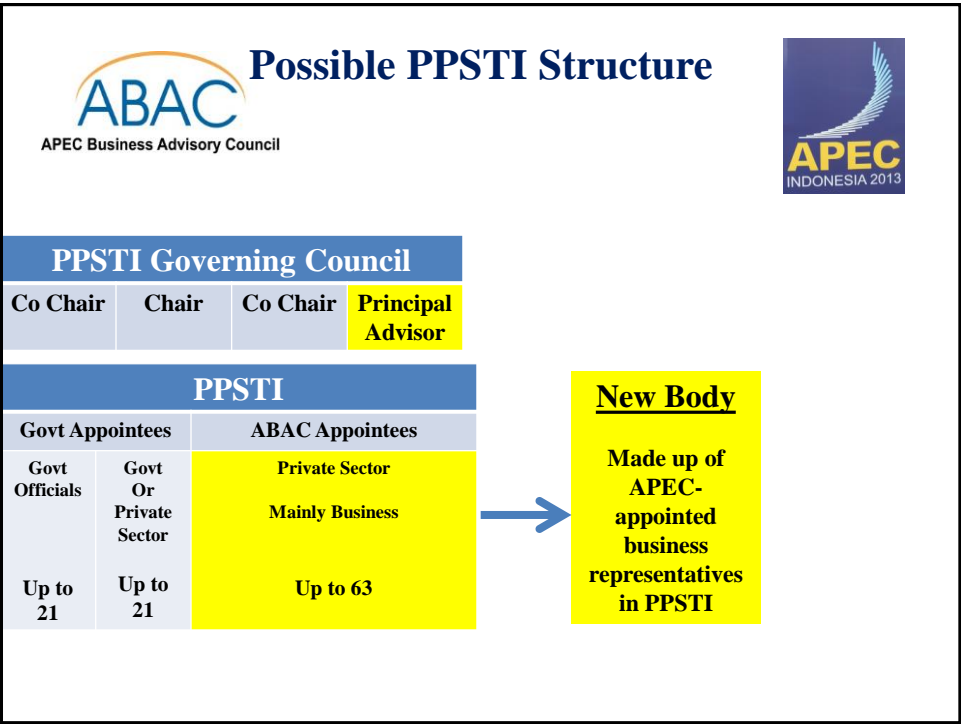
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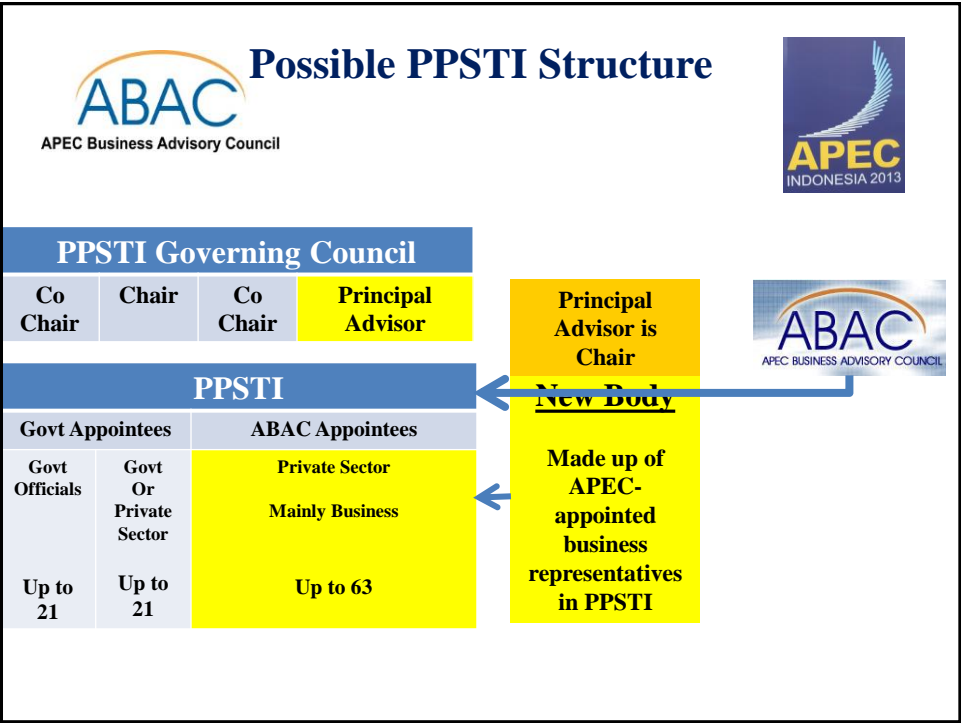
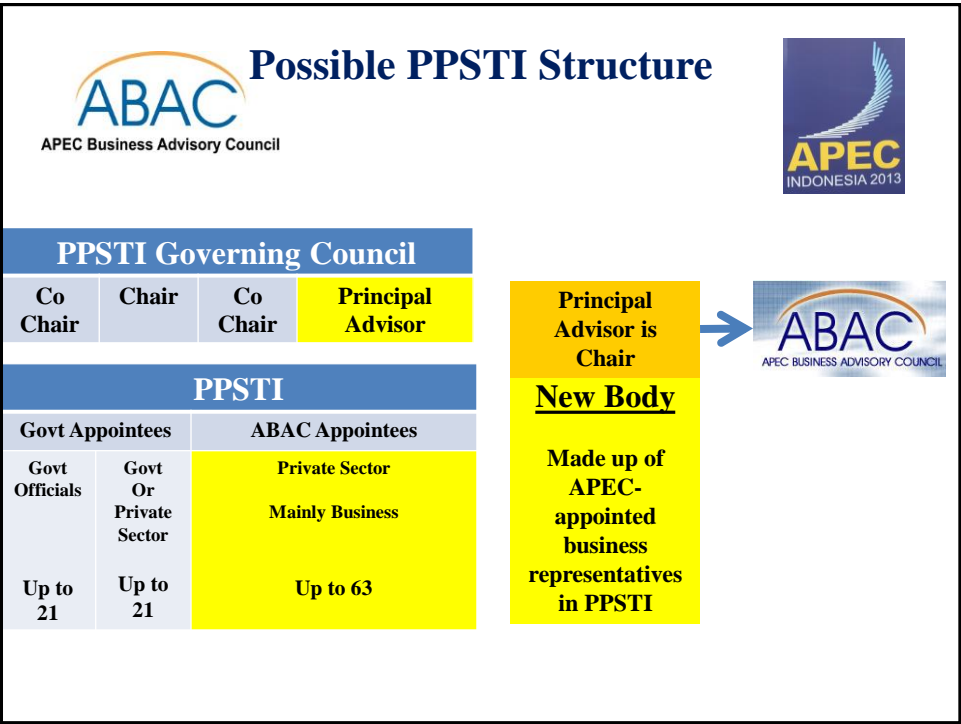
• What problems concern ABAC

- **Current unclarity on private sector status results in confusion and disagreement:**
 - Is private sector representative part of an economy’s “delegation”? An ABAC representative? An independent voice?
 - How is the distinctive business view expressed?
 - Authorisation and registration for PPSTI meetings?
 - Private sector access to meeting documents?

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• Advantages of such a structure?

- **Principal Advisor's status and authority** as a voice for the region's business community is clarified and underpinned
- The process can deliver a **genuine regional voice of business**
- PPSTI business members have opportunity to discuss and agree positions on issues/priorities being raised by government officials – and **formulate business priorities**
- The **status and credibility of business members** of PPSTI, and their contributions to policy discussion, is clarified and strengthened
- This template might assist in resolving similar challenges in PPFS, and **other future PPs**

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• Issues arising?

- Logistical challenges in convening autonomous PPSTI Business representative meetings
- Controversial precedent in creating an “ex officio” ABAC Member or Advisor
- Still questions about who authorizes, registers private sector representatives and disseminates documents
- Leaves unresolved the status of non-business private sector members of PPSTI

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