

2012 Leaders' Declaration

Summary of Trade and Investment Related Outcomes

Under the APEC 2012 theme of "Integrate to Grow, Innovate to Prosper" the Vladivostok Declaration focused on revealing the pathways to strengthen the region's prosperity and leadership in the global economy.

Trade and Investment Liberalization, Regional Economic Integration

- Strengthen the multilateral trading system, refrain from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services, roll back protectionist measures, and expand the coverage and membership of the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA).
- Underline the importance of the Bogor Goals, address issues that will help APEC economies to achieve them, and facilitate APEC's role as an incubator of a FTAAP and provide leadership and intellectual input into the process of its development.
- Address next generation trade and investment issues, including transparency, as an important aspect of our work to further integration of APEC economies and expansion of trade throughout the region.
- Advance regulatory convergence and coherence to achieve our shared objectives of strengthening regional economic integration and ensuring product safety, supply chain integrity, and environmental protection.
- Improve the investment climate in the APEC region, including the exchange of experiences in mechanisms for dispute resolution, and broader work in public-private partnerships.
- Reduce applied tariff rates to five percent or less on the APEC List of Environmental Goods and Services by the end of 2015, taking into account economies' economic circumstances.
- Ensure that our actions to protect the environment are least trade restrictive and consistent with our international trade obligations.
- Strengthen multi-stakeholder cooperation to continue efforts to expand and strengthen the Asia-Pacific Information Infrastructure and to build confidence and security in the use of ICT.

Strengthening Food Security

- Strengthen food security through the implementation of the Niigata Declaration and Kazan Declaration on Food Security, facilitate trade and develop food markets, enhancing food safety, and improve access to food.

- Raise productivity in agriculture, boost investment in innovative agriculture technologies, create open and transparent market mechanisms, and encourage increased public and private investment in agriculture.
- Ensure fair and open markets, reduce price volatility, and establish greater regional and global food security, develop food markets infrastructure, and reduce post-harvest losses along the food supply chain.
- Bring relevant private and public sector stakeholders together into APEC's food security efforts and encourage the development of the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS).

Establishing Reliable Supply Chains

- Achieve an APEC-wide target of a ten percent improvement in supply-chain performance by 2015, in terms of reduction of time, cost, and uncertainty of moving goods and services through the region.
- Adopt a systematic approach to addressing existing chokepoints as well as targeted capacity-building in making supply chains more reliable, resilient, safe, efficient, transparent, diversified and intelligent.
- Engage the business community and other relevant stakeholders on the diversification of transportation routes in the region and resiliency planning in order to build the most efficient supply chain networks.
- Promote greener, smarter, more efficient and intelligent supply chains, including discussion with the business community and other relevant stakeholders on Authorized Economic Operators programs.
- Fostering public-private partnerships, operational trade recovery communications mechanisms, and emergency management systems to enhance disaster response preparedness.

Intensive Cooperation to Foster Innovative Growth

- Support the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) to bring together innovation stakeholders to address common challenges, enhance innovation capacity.
- Support SMME growth potential, assist SMMEs' internationalization, strengthen their access to markets and financing, support intellectual capital, optimize SMME core competencies, and minimize potential disputes that would discourage SMME development.
- Address health issues across sectors, and encourage further concrete steps to strengthen health systems by preventing non-communicable diseases, promote and invest in health and healthy lifestyles, and encourage wellness across the life course starting from maternal, infant and child health through to the end of life.
- Reaffirm the crucial role of women in achieving economic prosperity and inclusive growth in the APEC region and encourage investing in women through the creation of better business opportunities for women and including them in the innovative economy.

Strengthen Public-Private Cooperation

- Increase engagement with the APEC Business Advisory Council and facilitate the role of APEC's business community and to provide more opportunities for its participation in APEC's work.