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MEETING RECAPS

- JAPAN 2010 ISOM, DECEMBER 11, 2009 TOKYO, JAPAN
- ABAC IV, NOVEMBER 9 – 12, 2009 SINGAPORE

ABAC UPDATE

ABAC members met in Singapore during the week of November 9 for the final ABAC meeting of 2009. At the ABAC meeting members discussed key messages for their dialogue with Presidents and Prime Ministers of the APEC economies. They agreed to raise five main themes in the Dialogue: investment facilitation, resisting protectionism, creation of a transparent and predictable framework to address carbon reduction efforts, taking concrete steps towards a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific, and addressing temporary worker mobility. The Dialogue was subsequently held on November 14, 2009 and was a very productive event. USTR Ambassador Ron Kirk represented President Barack Obama in the dialogue, as the President was unable to arrive in Singapore in time for the meeting.



Peter Scher and Deborah Henretta, seen here on day 2 of the ABAC meeting in Singapore last year, will continue on in their roles as U.S. ABAC Members.

At the conclusion of the meeting, outgoing ABAC Chairman Teng Theng Dar handed the reins to incoming

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JAPAN 2010 ISOM

During an informal meeting of APEC Senior Officials in Tokyo last month, Japan's two senior officials outlined the themes that will shape the agenda for APEC 2010, and provided additional insight into how Japan will guide the organization's work during its year as chair economy. Japan's stated theme for APEC 2010 is "Change and Action". The intent is to emphasize not only the changes APEC hopes to undertake in response to a changing regional and global economic environment, but also the actions necessary to realize these changes.

SOM Chair Hidehiko Nishiyama, Director-General for International Trade Policy at METI, outlined two priorities for work in 2010. The first he noted was the need for assessing progress on the Bogor Goals. As 2010 marks an important milestone for these goals – the date by which developed economies are supposed to have achieved free and open trade and investment. Japan has indicated it will take as a priority its role in ensuring APEC addresses this milestone via agreed mechanisms for assessment.

Much of the session discussion revolved around Japan's second declared work priority, that of providing a 'new vision' for driving APEC forward. Nishiyama and his co-SOM Chair, Ambassador Shigeru Nakamura, Ambassador for International Economic Affairs at MOFA,

described this new vision as consisting of 3 primary 'pillars':

- Regional economic integration – continuing to move towards liberalization and facilitation of regional trade and investment, including continued exploration of pathways towards a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP);
- Promulgating a 'New Growth Strategy' for the region, to realize long-term growth for the region post-crisis. Importantly, this growth should be:
 - Balanced, to seek the right mixes in emphasis between aspects such as consumption and savings, reliance on exports versus domestic markets, and so on;
 - Inclusive, to ensure growth and the benefits of growth are distributed across all levels of societies, with an emphasis on SMEs, employment, education and training, and development of robust social safety nets;
 - Sustainable, to ensure growth is environmentally sustainable and rational within existing resource constraints;
 - Knowledge-based, to properly leverage multipliers like

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NCAPEC LEADERSHIP CORNER

ABAC *(Continued from page 1)*



2009 marked the Obama Administration's first participation in APEC, which culminated with President Obama's formal interaction with APEC at the annual APEC Economic Leaders Meetings in Singapore last November. These meetings brought a number of highly anticipated announcements from the Administration, including the formal selection of Honolulu as the 2011 Leaders Week host city and U.S.T.R. Ron Kirk's announcement at the CEO Summit of the United States' intention to participate in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). Along with the active engagement and presence in Singapore of Secretaries Clinton, Geithner and Locke, it was a strong signal to our APEC partners that the United States continues to be committed to APEC and intends to play a leadership role in the region.

2009 was also the last ABAC meeting for U.S. ABAC member Nick Reilly of General Motors. Nick has served with tremendous distinction, and has been a tireless advocate for U.S. companies within the ABAC. As many of you know, Nick's ABAC tenure followed immediately upon a two-year term as the National Center's Chairman as well, and we are extraordinarily grateful for Nick's dedication, commitment and energy – all traits will serve him well in his new post as President of GM Europe. We expect a new U.S. ABAC Member will be named by Obama Administration soon.

With Japan in the APEC Chair in 2010, the National Center will be looking closely at how to maximize the impact of



Left to right: ABAC Chairman Gempachiro Aihara, Undersecretary for Energy, Agriculture and Economic Affairs Robert Hormats, Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Masayuki Naoshima, and NCAPEC Chairman Karan Bhatia take part in a traditional "Kagamibiraki" or sake-barrel breaking ceremony at the 2009 NCAPEC Annual luncheon to celebrate Japan's year in the chair of APEC and ABAC for 2010.

our efforts over the next two years (Japan and U.S. APEC chairmanships) to advance U.S. business priorities over the long term, through 2011 and beyond. We are particularly grateful for the efforts of the National Center's Board Members and company representatives in Japan, who have already been a great help to us and who we know we will call upon extensively as we prepare for the November meetings in Yokohama.

Monica H. Whaley

- Monica Hardy Whaley, President

ABAC Chairman Gempachiro Aihara from Japan, who will lead the ABAC through 2010. As his first duty as Chairman Mr. Aihara introduced the following key themes for the Japan year: strengthening economic structure for balanced growth, advancing regional economic integration, and enhancing economic growth in harmony with the environment. Mr. Aihara will further elaborate on Japan's themes at the National Center's Executive Roundtable in January.

The Singapore meeting also marked Nick Reilly's last meeting as an ABAC member.



Nick Reilly, seen here with USTR Kirk at the 2009 ABAC Dialogue with Leaders, finished his term as a U.S. ABAC Member in 2009.

Nick joined the ABAC in 2007 and served as Chairman of the Facilitation Working Group in 2009. Nick's departure leaves a vacancy on the U.S. ABAC, but we expect that a replacement will be named by the Obama Administration shortly. Current U.S. ABAC member Deb Henretta of Procter and Gamble will take over leadership of the Working Group starting in 2010. U.S. ABAC member Peter Scher of JP Morgan Chase will continue to serve as a co-chair of the Finance and Economics Working Group next year. The first ABAC meeting of 2010 will be held in Melbourne, Australia in early February.

ISOM *(Continued from page 1)*

information technology by creating an environment that encourages innovation, mobility of skilled labor, and coordinated technological and technical standards.

- Human Security and a Secure APEC – working for a secure and resilient economic and social environment, with emphasis on food security, counter-

terrorism for safe business operations, addressing the challenge of infectious diseases including potential influenza pandemics, and emergency/disaster preparedness.

Both Chairs emphasized that while pursuing a new growth model, APEC should continue to leverage one of its greatest strengths, its emphasis on capacity building and technical cooperation, to advance these pillars and build on previous successes.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE



New Board Member Aflac International, Inc. will be represented by Mr. Andrew Conrad, Senior Vice President & Counsel, Director of Governmental & Legal Affairs.



New Board Member ConocoPhillips Company will be represented by Mr. Red Cavaney, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs.



New Board Member Levi Strauss & Co. will be represented by Ms. Laurie Goldman, Senior Manager of Worldwide Government Affairs and Public Policy.



New Board Member Monsanto will be represented by Ms. Janice Armstrong, Vice President Corporate Affairs for Asia-Pacific and China.

NCAPEC HIRES PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

The National Center for APEC welcomes Robert Fiddick as the newest member of the NCAPEC team. As the Center's Program Associate, Rob is responsible for providing support for the Center's role as U.S. APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Secretariat, as well as facilitating the Center's engagement with Board Members in the planning and implementation of sectoral projects.

Rob has worked with the Pacific Northwest Economic Region and the Washington Council on International

Trade. He brings with him experience in website development, communications design and event management as well as a passion for international trade issues. Rob has a bachelor's degree in international business from the University of Western Ontario, and a masters degree in international law/international relations from the University of New South Wales.

He is a welcome addition to the Center staff and its ongoing work facilitating U.S. private sector engagement in APEC and serving as Secretariat to the U.S. ABAC representatives.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP FORGES AHEAD

On December 14th, the Obama Administration officially notified Congress of its intention to enter negotiations to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a regional free trade deal that currently includes APEC Economies Singapore, New Zealand, Brunei, and Chile. The U.S. would join the trade deal as part of an expansion round that could also include Vietnam, Australia, and Peru. The eight-country Asia-Pacific deal would be the largest U.S. free trade agreement in terms of member countries, and would likely grow in the future to include additional countries.



USTR Kirk, seen here at the Singapore CEO Summit, described the TPP as "the most dynamic trade collaboration of our time."

At an event the following day jointly sponsored by NCAPEC and the Washington International Trade Association (WITA), USTR Ron Kirk delivered a keynote address focused on the Administration's trade priorities within the Asia-Pacific community. In it, he described the TPP as "the most dynamic trade collaboration of our time," adding that it would, "...reflect U.S. priorities and values, enhance American competitiveness, and generate job-creating opportunities for American businesses and workers."

Throughout the address, Ambassador

Kirk reaffirmed the Administration's commitment to trade and to collaboration with the private sector in the formulation of trade negotiating priorities. NCAPEC supports a trade agenda that enhances and strengthens U.S. economic relations in APEC. The Center's leadership feels that Ambassador Kirk's remarks, along with recent commitments by the Obama Administration, are encouraging signs for the U.S. private sector. NCAPEC looks forward to working with the Administration on increasing opportunities for U.S. companies within the Asia-Pacific region. For Ambassador Kirk's full remarks, please visit the National Center website.

NCAPEC LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

The National Center for APEC's new website was officially launched on December 18, 2009. The new site enhances the Center's web presence and features simplified navigation and improved access to information for our Board Members. These advanced communication capabilities are designed to more effectively highlight the Center's work, and are particularly important as part of the build up to APEC 2011 USA. We encourage members and others interested in the Center's work to visit the website regularly at www.ncapec.org to stay up to date on all National Center activities, as well as APEC developments of interest to business.

2010 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January		
14	State Department CEO Roundtable	Washington, DC
19 – 20	NCAPEC Executive Roundtable	Half Moon Bay, CA
February		
9 – 12	ABAC I	Melbourne, Australia
22 Feb – 7 Mar	Senior Official Meeting (SOM1), Related Meetings	Hiroshima, Japan
March		
5-6	30 th Meeting of Intellectual Property Experts Group	Hiroshima, Japan
April		
TBA	36 th Tourism Working Group	Lombok Island, Indonesia
May		
18 – 21	ABAC II	Taipei, Rep. of China
24 May-4 June	Senior Official Meeting (SOM2), Related Meetings	Sapporo, Japan
June		
5 – 6	Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade	Sapporo, Japan
19 – 20	Energy Ministerial Meeting	Fukui, Japan
August		
7 – 8	Economic Committee High Level Policy Roundtable	Beppu, Japan
24 – 27	ABAC III	Bangkok, Thailand
September		
TBA	3 rd APEC Oceans-Related Ministerial Meeting	Paracas, Peru
15 – 26	Senior Official Meeting (SOM3), Related Meetings	Sendai, Japan
22 – 23	Tourism Ministerial Meeting	Nara, Japan
October		
2 – 3	SME Ministerial Meeting	Gifu, Japan
16 – 17	Agricultural Ministerial Meeting	Niigata, Japan
30 – 31	Ministerial Meeting on Telecommunications and Information Industry	Nago, Japan
November		
6	Finance Ministers' Meeting	Kyoto, Japan
7 – 8	Concluding SOM (CSOM)	Yokohama, Japan
10 – 11	22 nd APEC Ministerial Meeting	Yokohama, Japan
12 – 13	CEO Summit	Yokohama, Japan
13 – 14	18 th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting	Yokohama, Japan

STATE DEPARTMENT CEO ROUNDTABLE JANUARY 14, 2010

The National Center is preparing for the upcoming State Department CEO Roundtable to be held on Thursday January 14th, 2010 in Washington D.C. The roundtable presents an excellent opportunity to foster dialogue among senior U.S. company executives conducting business in the APEC area and top-level U.S. government officials. This year's roundtable will be moderated by Under Secretary of State for Economic, Energy, and Agricultural Affairs Robert D. Hormats, and will also include a participation by Secretary of Energy Steven Chu and USTR Ambassador Ron Kirk. Senior representatives from the Departments of Treasury, Commerce, State, and the National Security Council are also expected to participate.

With the United States hosting the APEC Leader's Meetings in 2011, dialogue between the public and private sector is more critical than ever. This year's CEO Roundtable will provide a critical forum in which to recognize and encourage the private sector's role in shaping U.S. trade and economic policy towards the dynamic Asia Pacific region. A summary of the discussions and list of participants will be available from the National Center in the coming weeks.

NATIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE JANUARY 19-20, 2010

The National Center for APEC will be holding its Annual Executive Roundtable on January 19-20, in Half Moon Bay, California. With APEC set to be hosted in succession by the world's two largest economies, Japan and the U.S., this Roundtable will be an important opportunity to set the agenda for prioritizing the issues and objectives that matter most to business.

The agenda will focus on key regional and global issues such as: leveraging information technology to promote and sustain growth, energy and food security, health and human security, capital market development, and trade facilitation. We will also take a look at the overarching, crosscutting themes that are common to many of these sectoral concerns, including regulatory reform and harmonization, transparency issues, IPR, investment, and more.