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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** **The OIC Assistant Secretary for Climate Change and Director, BMB**  
**The Directors**  
EMB, MGB, FMB, LMB, ERDB

**FROM :** **The Undersecretary**  
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

**SUBJECT :** **YEARLY REVIEW FRAMEWORK FOR THE APEC CONNECTIVITY BLUEPRINT 2015-2025**

**DATE :** October 7, 2020

May we respectfully refer a copy of the email dated 05 October 2020 sent by APEC National Secretariat, Office of the Undersecretary for Economic and International Relations- Department of Foreign Affairs, forwarding the email dated 01 October 2020 of Mr. Steven Milon Esparza, Program Director- APEC Secretariat regarding the 2020 Yearly Review Framework for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015-2025.

The objectives of this yearly review are (i) to monitor achievements or other relevant progress within the year (2020); and (ii) to identify new initiatives that support the APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015-2025. The APEC Secretariat requests for new initiatives for 2020 and the progress/achievement of on-going activities related to domestic initiatives helping to improve APEC's connectivity.

In view of this, may we request for inputs on the APEC Connectivity Blueprint Mapping Template 2020 and submit to the Office of the OIC Director, Policy and Planning Service for consolidation by Friday, 16 October 2020. In addition, kindly send an advance copy of your inputs to [oueiea.denr@gmail.com](mailto:oueiea.denr@gmail.com).

For your information and appropriate action.

  
**ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES**

Copy furnished : Office of the OIC Director, Policy and Planning Service

MEMO NO. 2020 - 488



OUEIEA Secretariat &lt;oueiea.dnr@gmail.com&gt;

## Fwd: [SOM for action; DL: 23 OCT 2020] 2020 Yearly Review Framework for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint

1 message

**APEC PH National Secretariat** <apec@dfa.gov.ph>

Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 3:38 PM

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**Message sent on behalf of Undersecretary Lourdes O. Yparraguirre, Philippines APEC Senior Official**

Dear TBAM Colleagues,

Attached herewith is a copy of an email request from the APEC Secretariat on the 2020 Yearly Review Framework for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint, for your reference.

To give us ample time to collate agency submissions, we would appreciate receiving your **inputs by Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

Thank you for your continued support on the APEC process.

Sincerely,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Steven Milon Esparza** <sme@apec.org>

Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 10:22 AM

Subject: [SOM for action; DL: 23 OCT 2020] 2020 Yearly Review Framework for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint

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Dear Senior Officials,

The APEC Secretariat is tasked to gather information for the **Yearly Review Framework for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015 - 2025**. The objectives of this yearly review are (i) to monitor achievements or other relevant progress within the year (2020); and (ii) to identify new initiatives that support the APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015 - 2025.

The APEC Connectivity Blueprint consists of three pillars:

- Physical Connectivity improves supply chain performance by connecting and integrating logistics, transport, energy, and telecommunication infrastructure in the APEC region
- Institutional Connectivity advances regulatory and procedural cooperation and coherence among economies

- People-to-People Connectivity enhances interaction, mobility and joint endeavours

[More detailed information about the blueprint is available here]

In this regard, we would appreciate if **Economies** could **submit relevant information using the attached Word template**:

1. **Annex A for “Key Initiatives for Enhanced APEC Connectivity”**; and
2. **Annex B for “Aspirational Targets for the Individual Pillars”**.

Please only include **new initiatives for 2020, and the progress/achievement of ongoing activities for this exercise related to purely domestic initiatives** helping to improve APEC’s connectivity. We would therefore be expecting **individual economy responses from APEC Senior Officials**.

We would highly appreciate if you could **submit your inputs to the Secretariat** (Steven Milon Esparza [sme@apec.org](mailto:sme@apec.org), copying Akhmad Bayhaqi [ab@apec.org](mailto:ab@apec.org)) **no later than Friday, 23 October 2019**. The 2019 Yearly Review for the APEC Connectivity Blueprint is also attached for reference purposes.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best regards,

**Steven MILON ESPARZA (Mr)**

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**2 attachments**

-  **APEC Connectivity Blueprint Mapping template 2020 (Annex A and B).docx**  
26K
-  **2019 Yearly Review Framework for APEC Connectivity Blueprint.pdf**  
1355K



# Yearly review framework for APEC Connectivity Blueprint (Annex A)

*Note: Recognizing that women and the economy has been identified as an area of APEC cooperation by APEC Leaders', including in 2014, and that the APEC Connectivity Blueprint encompasses inclusive growth and commits to leveraging the Internet Economy to foster an enabling environment for empowering vulnerable and disadvantaged groups especially women, youth, people with disabilities, and the poor, APEC economies are also invited to report on initiatives that contribute to these objectives.*

**ECONOMY/APEC COMMITTEE/FORUM/WORKING GROUP:** \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Initiatives relevant to Physical Connectivity being implemented/completed in 2020

Title	Brief description (including sectoral coverage and key stakeholders)	Objectives/ Timeframe/Impact (qualitative and/or quantitative)	Description of progress or achievement

## B. Initiatives relevant to Institutional Connectivity being implemented/completed in 2020

Title	Brief description (including sectoral coverage and key stakeholders)	Objectives/ Timeframe/Impact (qualitative and/or quantitative)	Description of progress or achievement



# Yearly review framework for APEC Connectivity Blueprint (Annex B)

**ECONOMY/APEC COMMITTEE/FORUM/WORKING GROUP:** \_\_\_\_\_

Objectives	Policy Actions/Aims	Description of progress or achievement / relevant measures taken for 「Policy Actions / Aims」 together with their evaluation
<b>Physical Connectivity</b>		
<b>Sub-pillar 1: Public-private Partnership</b>		
Promote public-private Partnership (PPP)	1. Support the establishment of PPP centers in APEC economies, where appropriate; by taking into account the outcome of the reviews of the pilot PPP center. 2. Prioritize infrastructure financing through PPP and other means to attract capital into infrastructure markets.	
<b>Sub-pillar 2: Quality of Infrastructure</b>		
Increase the quality of infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region	In the case of competitive bidding for infrastructure projects, increase the number of APEC economies that adopt a comprehensive assessment method in proposal evaluation of infrastructure projects: the method of considering not only the purchase price, but also key quality elements such as lifecycle cost including performance and durability, environmental impacts, safety and maintainability.	
<b>Sub-pillar 3: Other Important Principles of Infrastructure Development</b>		
1) Enhance people-centered investment, and (2) good practices and principles	In the case of planning and implementing investment projects, take due account of (1) people-centered investment which emphasizes the importance of having as many local people as possible enjoy the economic benefit through creating local employment for example, enhancing social resilience to economic fluctuations, climate change and natural disasters, and advancing capacity building among local	

Objectives	Policy Actions/Aims	Description of progress or achievement / relevant measures taken for 「Policy Actions / Aims」 together with their evaluation
	people; and (2) good practices and principles such as on environmental and social considerations, transparency, sustainability, financial soundness and accountability.	
<b>Sub-pillar 4: Transportation</b>		
Increase the quality of APEC transport networks	Raise quality of APEC transportation networks to average OECD figures, based on the World Economic Forum's Enabling Trade Index.	
<b>Sub-pillar 5: ICT Infrastructure Development</b>		
Increase broadband internet access throughout APEC	Achieve universal access to broadband.	
	Collaborate to increase access to next generation high-speed broadband to world leading standard using average OECD figures as a benchmark.	
<b>Sub-pillar 6: Energy Infrastructure Development</b>		
Ensure quality electricity supply for all APEC members	Raise quality of electricity supply to world leading standard using average OECD figures as a benchmark.	
<b>Institutional Connectivity</b>		
<b>Sub-pillar 1: Customs and Border Administration</b>		
To modernize customs and border agency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application of Single Window (SW) system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2013: 14 economies had introduced SW system.</li> <li>- 2020: 21 economies to introduce SW system.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. To increase the number of authorized economic operators (AEO) and mutual recognition of AEOs.</li> <li>3. Improve customs and (electronic) SW system toward interconnectedness within and between domestic SW.</li> <li>4. Encourage the development of automated data exchange system(s) to exchange preliminary information on the movement of shipments between border customs authorities of APEC economies.</li> </ol>	

Objectives	Policy Actions/Aims	Description of progress or achievement / relevant measures taken for 「Policy Actions / Aims」 together with their evaluation
<b>Sub-pillar 2. Supply Chain Performance</b>		
Improve supply chain performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advance logistics and transport facilitation.</li> <li>2. Improve supply chain performance for time, cost and uncertainty.</li> <li>3. Ensure performance and provide security to the supply chain, promoting the mutual recognition agreements in the framework of the AEOs.</li> </ol>	
<b>Sub-pillar 3: Regulatory Coherence and Cooperation and Good Regulatory Practices</b>		
Enable a whole-of-government approach in the development of regulations, including coordination across regulatory, standards, and trade agencies	To have at least one economy to participate in the self-assessment of APEC-OECD Integrated Checklist on Regulatory Reform each year.	
<b>Sub-pillar 4: Structural Reforms</b>		
Fostering transparency, safety, competition and better functioning markets (including e-commerce) in the Asia-Pacific	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve regulatory business environment to be at par with OECD performance.</li> <li>2. Expand the application of safe and trusted ICT and e-commerce environment.</li> </ol>	
<b>Sub-pillar 5: Trade Facilitation</b>		
Enhance trade facilitation through removal of technical barriers to trade	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Formulate a comprehensive regional policy and framework for harmonization of standards and conformity assessment procedures.</li> <li>2. Implementation of the alignment of national standards to international standards and strengthening conformity assessment capability.</li> </ol>	

Objectives	Policy Actions/Aims	Description of progress or achievement / relevant measures taken for 「Policy Actions / Aims」 together with their evaluation
<b>People-to-people Connectivity</b>		
<b>Sub-pillar 1: Business Travel Facilitation</b>		
Meet preclearance processing time as established in the ABTC Operating Framework	Per the principles set forth in the ABTC Operating Framework, economies should make their best endeavor to complete preclearance within two weeks of the request and, in cases where further information is required, within three weeks of the request.	
<b>Sub-pillar 2: Cross-border Education Exchange</b>		
Increase the number of intra-APEC international students	1. Sustained 1,000,000 intra-APEC students. 2. Increase number of student exchanges to developing economies.	
Cultural exchange events by each economy in every other economy	At least one cultural awareness event by each APEC economy in every other APEC economy per year.	
Advance work on cross-border science, technology, and innovation exchange	At least one APEC-wide knowledge sharing and dissemination event conducted per year.	
<b>Sub-pillar 3: Tourism Facilitation</b>		
Higher number of total tourist arrivals in APEC	Increase the number of total tourist arrivals in APEC to 800 million.	
Reduce travelers' costs and uncertainties relating to tourism	Establish an APEC-wide Code of Conduct for Travel Providers.	

Objectives	Policy Actions/Aims	Description of progress or achievement / relevant measures taken for 「Policy Actions / Aims」 together with their evaluation
<b>Sub-pillar 4: Professional and Labor Mobility</b>		
Establish an APEC-wide mechanism to monitor and respond to regional skills gaps	Establish a timely and accurate labor market and skills monitoring mechanism appropriate for APEC members, taking into consideration national contexts and legislation.	
Increase number of APEC-wide mutual recognition agreements for skilled and technical workers, where appropriate	Increase, where possible, the number of bilateral or multilateral MRAs within APEC relative to 2014 figures in appropriate sectors.	