



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2017/SOM3/EPWG/002**

Agenda Item: 5

## **11<sup>th</sup> Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting Summary**

Purpose: Consideration  
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat



**12<sup>th</sup> Emergency Preparedness Working Group  
Meeting  
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam  
21-22 August 2017**

## **Summary of the Meeting**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting, Nha Trang, Viet Nam, 18-19 February 2017**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Emergency Preparedness Working Group was held in Nha Trang, Viet Nam on 18–19 February 2017. The meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Kyoko Kondo (Japan) and Dr. Tuan Quang Le (Viet Nam).

The meeting was attended by 13 out of 21 APEC Economies namely: Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, United States, and Viet Nam. The meeting was also attended by 5 (five) Guest Participants: JICA, Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (PDC), World Food Program (WFP), and Rotary Club.

#### **Agenda Item 1: Welcome Remarks by Host Economy**

1. The meeting was opened by Mr. Tran Quang Hoai- Vice Director, Directorate of Water Resources cum Permanent member of Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, Vietnam and by Mr. Le Tan Ban, Director General of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) of Khanh Hoa Province.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Opening Remarks by Co-chairs**

2. Both Co-chairs delivered their opening remarks.

#### **Agenda Item 3: Administrative and Logistic Arrangement**

3. Host Economy Representative presented the 2017 theme and hosting priorities. The theme of 2017 is “Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future” with 4 (four) priorities namely: (i) Promoting Sustainable, innovative, and inclusive growth; (ii) Deepening regional economic integration; (iii) Strengthening MSMEs Competitiveness and Innovation in the digital age; (iv) Enhancing food security and sustainable agriculture in response to climate change. (2017/SOM1/EPWG/016)
4. Host economy also informed that there will be fieldtrip after the meeting concluded.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Adoption of the Annotated Agenda of the 11<sup>th</sup> EPWG Meeting**

5. The meeting adopted the final annotated agenda. (2017/SOM1/EPWG/001)

#### **Agenda Item 5: 10<sup>th</sup> EPWG Meeting Summary Report**

6. The meeting endorsed the 10<sup>th</sup> EPWG Meeting Summary prepared by the Secretariat. (2017/SOM1/EPWG/002)

#### **Agenda Item 6: Discussion on Major outcomes from the 2016 Leaders and Ministers Meetings**

7. Co-Chair (Japan) on behalf of Peru briefed the meeting on the major outcomes from 2016 Leaders and Ministers meetings as well highlighted the key statements made by Leaders and Ministers relevant to the work of the EPWG. She mentioned that the Ministers’ recognized the contribution of the 10<sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF) on the issue of food security.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Advanced Science and Technology to live with “New Normal”**

##### **7.1 Presentation of the main theme of the Viet Nam year and SDMOF by host economy**

8. At this agenda item, Mr. Tran Quang Hoai - Vice Director, Directorate of Water Resources and Permanent member of Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control was moderated the discussion of the theme of SDMOF proposed by the host economy.
9. Co-Chair (Viet Nam) introduced the initiative to live with the “New Normal” by enhancing APEC’s coastal delta to live more resilience by fostering Science Technology. The “New Normal” terminology has been agreed by APEC Leaders in the Philippines’ year of 2015 by adopting the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (DRRF). He highlighted in his presentation the importance of strengthening resiliency in delta area as according to World Ocean View, more than a billion people – most of them in Asia – live in low-lying coastal regions which during the course of this century some of these areas could be inundated by rising sea levels. Apart from that infrastructure have been constructed in coastal deltas as well as disaster in urban deltas is not receiving enough attention and they are at the front line in the battle to adapt to climate change. Presentation is contained in document **2017/SOM1/EPWG/017**.
10. Co-chair (Viet Nam) presented the Concept Note for 11<sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF) as document **2017/SOM1/EPWG/028**. According to the Concept Note, the SDMOF will be held on 21 – 22 September 2017 in Vinh City, Viet Nam. In line with 2017 theme and priorities, Viet Nam then proposed “Enhancing inter-regional cooperation and advance technology innovation and application to effective emergency response facing the New Normal in the APEC Economies” as the theme for 2017 SDMOF. The forum will address the issue of “Enhancing cooperation and advance technology innovation to effectively response to the “New Normal””. Co-chair requested member economies to submit their inputs to the Concept Note so that at the upcoming EPWG meeting the CN could be finalized. Co-chair (Viet Nam) also requested support from member economies to put some paragraphs for SDMOF outcome to be submitted to Ministers/Leaders.
11. Representative from Viet Nam National Center for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting – Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment presented on disaster risk in Vietnam for the period 2006-2016 and forecasting and warning system. She mentioned that Viet Nam is one of the natural disaster prone economy and she presented the statistic of top 10 Natural Disasters in Vietnam for the period 2006 to 2016 with their economic damage costs, total number of affected peoples, and number of deaths. Typhon, tropical storm, flood, inundation, flash flood, landslide, drought, and desertification were the most disasters occur in Viet Nam. She further elaborated on the work done by National Centre for Hydromet Forecasting and Hydromet forecasting system. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/018)**
12. Representative from Vietnam Search and Rescue presented Natural Disaster Search and Rescue in Vietnam. With three quarters of Vietnam's territory is made up of mountainous and hilly regions; diversified terrain; complex river system thus make Viet Nam annually suffers from many kind of natural disasters such as droughts, typhoons, flash-floods, landslides and earthquakes. There are an average of around 7 to 8 storms and 5 to 7 tropical low pressures hitting Vietnam per year. Further he elaborated on SAR System in Viet Nam National Committee for Search and Rescue of Vietnam (Vinasarcom) that was established by the Government to conduct SAR operations effectively. He also informed on its function and tasks as well as highlighted specific cooperation bilaterally, regionally and multilaterally. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/019)**
13. Representative from Ministry of Health of Viet Nam presented on the activities to ensure safety environment after disaster. He elaborated on Ministry of Health’s role and responsibilities as member of Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, Central Committee of Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) as well as Health Environment Management Agency’s responsibility for environmental health, drinking and domestic water quality management, climate change in the health sector. He stated that most common health concerns in natural disaster were physical injury or deaths, water-borne diseases, vector-borne diseases, food poisoning, and infection by contacting flood water. He further explained on activities related to preparedness and recovery as well as challenges and gaps in the implementation. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/020)**

## **7.2 Inputs from economies on Advanced Technology in Facilitating DRR**

14. Singapore shared with the meeting on how Singapore leverage on technology to achieve their mission of protecting and saving lives and properties. As Singapore is an urban city state, thus risk and vulnerabilities are coming from high rise building, deep tunnels, as well as major chemicals industrial zones. Singapore is faced with 2 (two) key challenges: firstly is demographic by increasing in ageing population and tightening labour market and secondly is manpower constrain. Because of these challenges thus there is a need to transform and advance in new technologies by leveraging on emerging technologies and innovations. By these, it is hoped that there is an effective use of resources and increased productivity and better service to customer. Further he elaborated on how Singapore used and adapted to new technology and will continuously use technology to their operations. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/013)**
15. Chinese Taipei shared some experiences in Taipei about how to use information to inform people in time of disasters and Taipei investment in the technology. Since 1982 Chinese Taipei has continuously invest on DRR through 5 large-scale scientific projects and developed Common Alerting Control (CAP) since 2013 and Open Data Platform for Disaster Information (CAP format). Chinese Taipei also has Public-Private collaboration with google by sharing information on the google platform. By this, industry, government, academia and personal app developer all apply for interfacing alert data. He conclude that technology is very important in DRR. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/021)**
16. Philippines presented on the Philippines experiences on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the new normal. Over the last five (5) years, the number of typhoons that hit the Philippines averaged to fifteen (15) typhoons. During the same period, two (2) of the considered strongest typhoons hit the Philippines namely Super Typhoon Yolanda and Super Typhoon Lawin. He further highlighted that to live with the “New Normal”, the Philippines optimized the application of Science and Technology in the infrastructure by installing radars that can monitor a typhoon and its movements, amount of rainfall either moderate or heavy and real-time atmospheric forecasts using a visual radar monitor. In addition to the radars, a web-based online application to locate the nearest active fault from a specified location or the named community is also developed. This application facilitates easy access to quality data for disaster preparedness, land use, risk assessment and in real-estate. He then summed up that the foregoing accomplishments of the Philippine Government towards the attainment of resilient communities to disaster show the importance of Science and Technology as a necessary element in achieving the goal of APEC. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/022)**
17. China presented on their 13<sup>th</sup> five year plan for DRR that was launched last year which is guidelines for future work in the area of DRR. Scientific research and technology will be the main part of the plan including satellites application. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/023)**
18. Indonesia presented on Managing Risk through Preparedness Activities. He briefed the meeting on the increasing disaster events in Indonesia and the average annual impact of the damages and losses caused by disasters in Indonesia around 30 trillion Rupiah (excluding catastrophe). He also informed that the Disaster Management policy according to National Mid-Term Development Plan is “to reduce disaster risk and improve resilience of the government, local governments and people in dealing with disaster”. He also briefed the meeting on Indonesia’s Scenario Assessment for Emergencies (InaSafe), Inarisk, and Inaware as tools to increase awareness, disaster preparedness and real time warning system in Indonesia. For future initiatives, Indonesia was looking forward for future collaboration to customize information of Multi Hazzard Early Warning System (MHEWS) for APEC economies, to identify possible and related fora and/or subfora to be involved in the implemented of MHEWS for APEC region, to implement and to make contingency plan for APEC region, and to share knowledge and practical experiences in systematically managing disaster risks through preparedness instruments, institutions and the supporting policy regimes. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/015)**

### **7.3 Inputs from international organizations and private sector**

19. Representative from Asian Disaster Preparedness Center presented on ICT and risk informed decision making for resilient development. He highlighted on the importance of focusing on development as disasters set back development programming and destroying years of development initiatives. Development programs can also increase an area’s susceptibility to disasters and development programs can be designed to decrease the susceptibility to disasters

and their negative consequences. Further he informed on ADPC's work through their vision and approach. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/024)**

20. Representative from Pacific Disaster Center presented on "A comprehensive approach to disaster early warning. He highlighted on PDC overview, DisasterAWARE Overview, and Institutionalizing EWS Operations. PDC has collaboration with EPWG and US-ATAARI on strengthening public alert and warning capacity in APEC economies. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/025)**
21. Representative from JICA presented on "Promotion of Evidence-based Disaster Risk Reduction using Science and Technology". He mentioned about JICA's support for promoting flood DRR with a long-term perspective in Vietnam by Integrated Flood Management Plans (IFMP) and JICA project on multi-reservoirs emergency operation. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/026)**
22. Representative from World Food Programme presented on WFP support and activities on emergency and humanitarian operations as well as sharing of experiences in the Asia Pacific Region on emergency preparedness and food security. He highlighted on the cash transfer program in Asia Pacific.
23. Representative from Rotary Club of Hong Kong Sunrise shared information on Rotary Club works and activities related to humanitarian activities and emergency preparedness in particular disaster relief. He emphasized on the work related to water supply after disaster and helping the victims in particular disabled person.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Discussion on the Proposed EPWG 2017 Workplan including SDMOF and Strategic Plan 2017-2020**

24. Co-chairs presented the EPWG 2017 Workplan that was submitted for SCE for their consideration. The meeting formally endorsed and agreed to submit the workplan without additional input. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/003)**
25. Co-chair (Viet Nam) presented again draft Concept Note of 11<sup>th</sup> SDMOF to the group and seek support towards the CN **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/028)**. Co-chair also highlighted the importance of maintaining the high level nature of the forum and having a document or message to the leaders.
26. Co-chairs presented the EPWG Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020 that was intersessionally endorsed by the group. There was no further comment on the draft thus the meeting formally endorsed the Strategic Plan. The SP will be submitted to the SCE for their endorsement. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/004)**

#### **Agenda Item 9: Review of Intersessional Work and Project implementation**

27. Chinese Taipei informed the meeting that APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center (EPCC) has operationalized since January 2017. In 2017, EPCC will focus efforts on supporting of APEC properties to make contributions to upholding APEC's main pillars of human security. Meanwhile, EPCC will bring in innovative landscape of disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness for the coming year. It will directly benefit both public and private sector of APEC economies and non-governmental organizations. He then elaborated on EPCC activities in 2017 which include among other host APEC summit/high level dialogue/meeting among critical stakeholders and host workshop. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/011)**
28. Chinese Taipei through EPCC proposed an initiative on Plant Back Better to help affected area with vegetable plantation. In his intervention, he stated that since vegetables will provide required nutrition and are rapid-harvest cash crops, "**Plant back better**" is aimed at introducing the best practices, toolkits, knowledge and regional resources to assist in livelihood recovery by vegetable plantation after disasters. This initiative fully echoes to one of four 2017 priorities, "Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in response to Climate Change." "**Plant back**" is helping to boost micro economic momentum and "**Plant better**" will develop disaster-resilient plantation of vegetables to cope with future challenges, including climate change. EPCC is seeking supports from EPWG, ATCWG and PPFS to deliver a cross-fora collaboration and will plan a back-to-back event with "the 11th APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF)" to be held in September, 2017. Chinese Taipei submitted paper on plant back better for EPWG information. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/038)**

29. Chinese Taipei introduced new Concept Note for Project Session 1 – 2017 on Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Initiatives on Enhancing Connectivity for Protecting Trade and Investment. The proposed project initiatives will form six pillars namely supply chain resilience, digital resilience, critical infrastructure resilience, financial resilience, labor mobility resilience, and food security in order to uphold the APEC values on sustainable resilient growth through connectivity to better protect business trade and investment. Chinese Taipei requested support from EPWG and will work intersessionally for endorsement. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/010)**
30. USA reported briefly on the outcome of the “Strengthening Public Alert and Early Warning Capacity” Project. Workshop was held prior to SDMOF in Iquitos, Peru in October 2016. The workshop was attended by 34 public and private representatives from 11 APEC Economies. Two day training aimed to improve participant’s knowledge on various public alert and early warning topics, including APEC public alert and warning study result, social vulnerability and risk assessment, interoperability of warning systems, case studies in public alert and warning, and the public alert and warning chain of actions which include risk awareness, hazard monitoring, dissemination and communication and response. APEC principles on alert and early warning systems were introduced during the closing session. USA thanked all participants to support the project who have involved in the study and in the workshop.
31. USA reported final report on Appropriate Donations Communication Toolkit. Following the endorsement of APEC Guidelines for Appropriate Donations in time of disaster in 2014, the United States supported the completion of case study report on communication toolkit to promote the use of appropriate donation across the APEC region. The case study report on promoting appropriate donations in APEC was completed in early 2016. The report was circulated to EPWG members for review and comments. Case studies were gathered from 4 (four) economies namely China, the Philippines, Mexico and the United States. The report contained information on economy level of experiences and good practices as well as examples of good communication strategies and public messaging on managing donations in the aftermath of disaster. A self-funded capacity building workshop on operationalizing APEC “Guidelines on appropriate donations best practices approach and strategy” was implemented by the United States in August 2016 on the margin of SOM3 in Lima Peru. The objective of the workshop was to increase participant’s awareness on the guidelines and validate the draft Appropriate Donations toolkit. The toolkit was also endorsed by the group after the workshop and uploaded to the APEC website for easy access.
32. USA further reported on the gap analysis report “Assessing the Economic Value of Natural Infrastructure in Coastal Ecosystems for Disaster Risk Reduction, Response and Coastal Resilience in APEC Region” that came through Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG). The work of this assessment was in three phases namely: gap analysis, evaluation study, and the dissemination of the report. The project team has finalized the gap analysis report and circulated through OFWG for input. She then informed that one of the challenges in making the gap analysis was low level of response to the survey, which only 7 (seven) economies responded. Given that situation, limitation in data availability will also affect phase 2. The project team was taking this consideration while developing the methodology and approach for the second phase.
33. Japan reported on the outcome of APEC Workshop on Tsunami Disaster Reduction that was held in 2016 in the margin of SOM 3 and Workshop in Thailand as the second workshop that was held on 22 September 2016 in Krabi, Thailand. In 2016, ADRC organized in close cooperation with cabinet office, Japan, two tsunami DRR workshops to help elaborate Anti-Tsunami Measures requiring multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary efforts by sharing lessons learnt from the past experiences and new policy measures. In her presentation she emphasized that to face mega tsunami, local participation is a key. A whole of community approach is important in facing tsunami disasters including both local people and non-residents, visitors towards tsunami awareness. Early warning system is another point of discussion that cannot work if people do not respond to the alert. Tsunami DRR is a challenge facing Asia-Pacific region and multi-lateral cooperation is essential to build up efficient early warning systems and to get prepared against mega tsunami, which may involve world economy through global value chain. She summarized

that discussion on anti-tsunami policy should be continued in the EPWG work. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/029)**

#### **Agenda Item 10: Major Disasters in APEC Region and new policy initiatives**

34. Representative of Peru who was not able to participate in the meeting presented video presentation regarding disasters in Peru's and their efforts in disaster management. Member economies thanked Peru's effort in providing information on el-nino as well as their hospitality in hosting the APEC meeting and SDMOF in 2016.
35. Chinese Taipei presented on Reviews and Reflections on 2016 Typhoon Season in Chinese Taipei. The first typhoon of 2016, Nepartak, formed in July, a late-first one compared with historical records but reached Category 5, equivalent to a super typhoon. Wind damages to lifeline systems were major impacts power, telecommunications and transportation systems Typhoon Meranti and Typhoon Megi brought million-household blackouts. He highlighted that 3 of top 4 agricultural losses in last 4 years happened this year, over USD\$ 209.7 million, in 2016. He further shared the operation stages to cope with the typhoon. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/030)**
36. China briefed on major disasters in China 2016. In 2016 China was affected by flood, typhoon, hail and geological disaster that effected 190 million people including 1432 people dead, 274 were missing and 9.10 million people evacuated, 3.53 million people in need of help, 520000 houses collapsed, 26 million hectares crops affected, with direct economic losses equal to 503.29 billion Yuan. These disasters were more severe than 2015.
37. Australia reported on Recent Major Disasters and New Policy Initiatives. He informed on a number of recent major disasters and new policy initiatives that have been undertaken in Australia. Major natural hazards in Australia are bushfire, cyclones and flooding. He also reported on economic losses due to those disasters. Australia also shares the view of the importance of technology and science in the emergency preparedness. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/005)**
38. Mexico presented video on the passing of hurricane Patricia in 2015 and Mexico measures to cope with the disaster.
39. Russia presented a paper on Bridging Gap in Economic Development and Integration of Remote Areas for Sustainable Growth in the APEC Region. Russia suggests working out comprehensive approach to the subject and providing ground for the appropriate cross-sectoral cooperation in a systematic manner, which could be set forth in an APEC Blueprint for Development and Economic Integration of Remote Areas in the Asia-Pacific. This paper will be presented to the Senior Officials for their consideration. She further informed that this paper has been supported by the Philippines and invited member economies for supporting this paper and initiative. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/033 and 2017/SOM1/EPWG/034)**
40. Indonesia briefed on Indonesia Post Disaster Needs Assessment Application (I-PDNA) in Aceh Earthquake on 7 December 2016. In his presentation, he informed on Indonesia Recovery Framework, I-PDNA Operational guide with the objectives of provide guidance to undertake assesment of effect, impact and post-disaster needs, provide evidence based information for the formulation of action plan for early recovery and rehabilitation and reconstruction, as well as provide entry point/support for the application of disaster risk reduction principles in post-disaster phase – implementation of ER and RR programmes. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/006)**
41. Viet Nam reported on floods that hit central Viet Nam in 2016. He stated that from mid October 2016, there have been 5 big floods in 18 Central provinces, which caused flooding in the rivers that reached warning level 3, irrigation and hydropower reservoirs in the region were full of water and had to be discharged at the biggest flow of 10,400m<sup>3</sup>/s and as well as severe flooding in all 13 provinces causing separated roads landslides, production stalled, and serious losses. He further informed on the government response towards those 5 big floods, damages caused, recovery activities and short-term and long term solution as well as calling for international support and cooperation. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/032)**

42. Singapore briefed on Strengthening Leadership in Disaster Management in Singapore in particular the role of Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) as the National authority for the provision of firefighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services in Singapore which has the capabilities for responding to a wide range of civil disasters and incidents. He was then elaborate on Singapore's Overseas Involvements among others within ASEAN through ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance in disaster management (AHA Centre), ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT) as well as involvement at the the UN through Disaster Assistance and Coordination and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. He further informed on strategic approaches and CDA as Leadership Center for Disaster Management. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/014)**
43. Japan briefed on follow up policies for Kumamoto earthquake in 2016 and ADRC study visit to affected areas. She informed that on 14 and 16 April 2016, earthquakes occurred in the middle of Kyushu Island, in southwestern Japan, measuring seven on the seismic intensity scale of the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), causing 137 deaths in Kumamoto prefecture including those passed due to the injury or stress after the disaster. In order to learn from this experiences, DRR officials from 22 Asian countries visited together with Cabinet Office and ADRC and discussed DRR challenges, and on-site discussion in the affected areas significantly facilitated exchanges on DRR policies. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/035)**

**Agenda Item 11: APEC Cross-Fora Report and Outreaching Collaborations to promote the Action Plan**

44. Vietnam (PPFS Chair Office) presented the Draft Ministerial Can Tho Statement on Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change that will be tabled and endorsed by Minister during the Food Security Week in August 2017. The draft is based on the Piura Declaration on APEC Food Security adopted in 2016 at the Fourth APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security in Peru and it consists of facts and commitments of APEC economies towards food security in the Region as well as Emphasis on the 5 priorities to be implemented by joint efforts of APEC to realize the target of food security. Viet Nam PPFS Chair's Office was requesting EPWG inputs and contribution to the said draft. Indonesia thanked Viet Nam for presenting the draft and will study the draft for further input. Chinese Taipei stated that he supported the Can-Tho food security event as the initiative is in line with their initiative under EPCC on Plant Back Better that is useful for enhancing food security and agriculture, in this regard EPCC seek support from EPWG to conduct cross-for a collaboration with ATC Working Group to conduct a back to back event with SDMOF in September. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/036)**
45. USA briefly informed on "Best Practices in Policies, Regulations and Flexibility for Resilience of Global Value Chains", a TPT WG Project endorsed by EPWG. Since 2014 the USA has supported a series of capacity building workshop to promote a resilience of supply chain. In 2016 the USA implemented the APEC co-funded project on Global Supply Chain Resilience Phase 3 Continued Implementation in September in Bangkok, which focusing on improving the resiliency of individual and organization to improve the resilience of supply chain across the region and globally. To ensure effective dissemination of the project, several experts conducted a series of short Ted-Talks which now uploaded onto the youtube. This project was followed with targeted member economy which started with Viet Nam. In 2017 the United States plans to implement the APEC co-funded project on Best Practices in Policies, Regulations, and Flexibilities for Resilience of GVC that will address 7 principles of GVC.
46. Co-chair (Japan) briefly reported that she was attending the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APEC Chief Science Advisor and Equivalentents during SOM3 in Peru and the meeting adopted recommendations to Leaders on Science Advice in and Around Emergencies stressing importance of appropriate scientific advisory input as a core part of their economy's disaster preparedness and response systems and so on. The recommendation was distributed to EPWG members for their reference. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/009)**
47. Mexico informed that her economy is also vulnerable to natural disasters and national civil protection system was created to address these risks 30 years ago. More recently Mexico has included private sector and relevant stakeholder for their disaster management policies. DRR is

a national priority in Mexico. Mexico was actively involved in establishing indicators to measure and evaluate in meeting its target, and the adoption of Sendai Framework is a logical steps for Mexico. She emphasized the importance the Sendai Framework not only for mankind but also a fundamental tools towards achieving the SDGs. In that connection Mexico will host the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, in Cancún, Mexico, on 22 – 26 May 2017 and invited member economies to participate in the meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 12: Report on the project on “Enhancing Rural Disaster Resilience through Effective Infrastructure Investment**

48. Co-chair (Japan) updated the meeting on Project Enhancing Rural Disaster Resilience through Effective Infrastructure Investment and thanked the co-sponsor economies (the Philippines, Viet Nam, Chinese Taipei, and USA) as well as other economies for supporting the project. Currently the project is identifying the best practices and challenges of rural infrastructure BBB and will organising workshop in Vinh in September, back to back SDMOF September, 2017, in Viet Nam. After the workshop the project will aim to compile a case book for promoting effective and resilient infrastructure investment. The project will invite 11 (eleven) travel eligible economies to submit their nomination. Member economies discussed and submitted their inputs to the project. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/037)**

#### **Agenda Item 13: Report of the Secretariat**

49. APEC Secretariat Program Director presented an update on the project management process in particular deadline for Project Session 1 for 2017 and Funding Criteria for all APEC Funded Projects in 2017 which EPWG falls under Rank 1 and Rank 2. She also informed that New APEC Collaboration System (ACS) was fully function and encouraged member economies to utilize the system. This system will also be in line with APEC Policy on paper light meeting. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/007)**

#### **Agenda Item 14: Results of the 2016 EPWG Independent Assessment**

50. Secretariat informed the meeting on EPWG Independent Assessment Response that was circulated and agreed by the group in 2016 and submitted to SCE for their consideration. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/008)**

#### **Agenda Item 15: Documentation Classification List**

51. APEC Secretariat together with member economies reviewed the Document Classification List and endorsed the document. **(2017/SOM1/EPWG/000)**

#### **Agenda Item 16: Other Business**

52. Co-chair (Viet Nam) informed briefly on the study visit scheduled to be held in the afternoon after the EPWG meeting concluded.
53. Viet Nam informed that the next EPWG Meeting will be in Ho Chi Minh City in August 2017 as a SOM 3 meeting series.
54. Co-Chairs invited member economies for any other issues and no any other issues were raised by member economies.

#### **Agenda Item 17: Closing Remarks by Co-Chairs and representative of Host Agency (Directorate of Water Resource- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.**

55. Both co-chairs (Japan and Viet Nam) delivered their closing remarks to close the meeting. Both co-chairs also thanked all delegates for their active participations and important inputs given throughout the meeting.

**- End of the 11<sup>th</sup> EPWG Meeting-**