

10 February 2007

Drivers and impediments to Asia-Pacific growth

As we begin 2007 – the year that Australia hosts APEC – the Australian APEC Study Centre has already started preparing for the Annual Conference of APEC Centres. This year, which sees Australia charged with giving APEC a fresh vitality that will set it on a new path, this conference will be an important part of that process.

Titled ‘Driving Growth – APEC’s Destiny’ and funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, this annual conference will bring together high level economic and trade academics from the region as well as business leaders, APEC officials and key local fund management and financial services decision makers. They will discuss some of the dominant issues on APEC’s agenda and will set the tone for the rest of 2007 and beyond.

The conference will take place in **Melbourne from 18 to 20 April at the ANZ Pavilion, Victorian Arts Centre** and is part of the official schedule of APEC Australia 2007 events. It will be nominally divided into two parts – the APEC Centres Symposium and the Business Program – though all delegates are encouraged to attend the entire conference.

Some of the issues to be discussed at the conference will include: the Feasibility of an APEC FTA; Gains from Trade Liberalisation; the Threat to Human Health; Intellectual Property and Innovation; Ageing Populations and the Impacts on Pensions; Energy and Climate Change; Carbon Market and Emissions Trading; Asian Growth; Secure Trade; Global Imbalances in Financial Flows; and China’s Impact on the Global Economy. Some of the people attending will be from places like: the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; the International University of Japan; the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy; UCLA; Department of Health and Ageing; CRA International; Cato Institute and many others.

Further information about the conference and the speakers will be distributed prior to the event. For specific details please contact the Australian APEC Study Centre at Monash University on 03-9903 8757.

About the Australian APEC Study Centre in 2007

The Australian APEC Study Centre at Monash University forms part of an international network of Study Centres located throughout the Asia-Pacific. The Centre works to inform the broader Australian community of the growing importance of trade integration, economic progress and relations in the region by engaging academia, the public sector and private enterprise to publish research, stage conferences and deliver training programs on matters concerning Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.



In 2007 as part of the official APEC Australia 2007 schedule of events, the Australian APEC Study Centre is responsible for hosting the Annual Conference of APEC Centres.