

FTAAP - Charting A Pathway For Trade in Turbulent Times

Tuesday 2 May 2023 1100 - 1300 AEST

The aim of the dialogue is to advance APEC thinking on the concept of a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) and how it can contribute to inclusive growth, economic integration, stability and cooperation in the region.

The dialogue will discuss the PECC FTAAP Signature Project. It is intended to share perspectives on how the Project can best add value, how PECC can advance work on the issue and why we should revisit the FTAAP concept now given developments in the region. The dialogue will also discuss the selection of specific issues on which PECC could focus initially to advance the FTAAP agenda.

10:50 – 11:00 Participants join the meeting lobby of virtual platform (10 minutes)

11:00 – 11:05 Introductory and welcome remarks (5 mins)

Christopher Langman, AusPECC Chair

Background to the PECC Project and the aim of the dialogue.

11:05 – 11:15 Session 1: What do we mean by an FTAAP? (10 mins)

Craig Emerson, FTAAP Taskforce Chair

The project approach and the broad principles.

11:25 – 12:05 Session 2: Why a refreshed look at the FTAAP concept? (40 mins)

Moderated by Gloria Pasadilla, Leadership Design Pte

Session 2.1: The economic benefit of the FTAAP - 'the size of the prize' (10 mins)

Michael Plummer, John Hopkins University

Economic benefits and potential economic gains - the size of the prize - from enhanced collaboration and integration in the region.

Session 2.2: The systemic importance of the FTAAP concept (10 mins)

Shiro Armstrong, Australian National University

The systemic importance of further regional integration, new and wider pathways now available and the complexity of the current environment.

Session 2.3: Discussion (20 mins)

12:05 – 12:55 Session 3: How can the FTAAP concept add value on specific issues?

Moderated by Christopher Langman, AusPECC Chair

How the PECC FTAAP Project can add value to existing discussions and work on FTAAP in APEC and make a contribution towards regional cooperation and integration, including possible topics for deeper analysis.

Moderated discussion (35 mins, 3-5 mins each)

Taskforce members' and participants' perspectives on the topics and issues which the project could focus on in making its contribution.

- AusPECC
- NZPECC
- CANCEC
- Other PECC Members

Open discussion (20 mins)

12:55 – 13:00 Session 4: Wrap and next steps (5 mins)

Craig Emerson, FTAAP Taskforce Chair

Outcomes of the prior session and possible next steps in the project.

The Australian APEC Study Centre

Participant online survey