

**APEC Financial Forum (APFF) - Progress on the Asia Region Funds Passport and Regional Financial Market Integration - Industry/Regulator Dialogue**

**8.45am – Wednesday, March 23, 2016**

**Financial Services Council – King Meeting Room - 24/44 Market St, Sydney**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**8.45am: Coffee**

**9.00am: Introduction to APFF and the Asia Region Funds Passport (ARFP)**

**9.15am - 10.15am: Session 1 - Discussion on regulatory and industry issues to ensure wide acceptance of the ARFP, including current regulation, investor protection, operational and governance arrangements.**

*Significant progress has been achieved with broad agreement on a memorandum of cooperation on the content of the ARFP by officials and regulators from seven APEC economies: Australia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Regulators from these economies are expected to sign the memorandum soon. A benchmarking and mapping exercise as proposed by Asia Pacific Financial Forum (APFF) is underway and a tax reference group has been established to facilitate public disclosure of tax rules across participating economies. The ARFP is on track for commencement by 2017. Against that background, panellists will provide regulatory and industry perspectives on operational challenges – marketing, design and distribution of ARFP products – and suggestions to deal with them.*

**10.15am - 10.30am: Morning Tea**

**10.30am – 11.30am: Session 2 - Discussion on the effective use of hedging and derivative markets and risk management tools to promote regional capital market integration.**

*Promoting the effective use of hedging and derivative markets and risk management tools are critical in promoting regional capital market integration, as are measures to enhance information in relation to bond issuance to facilitate investor knowledge. Panellists will critique APFF recommended measures to deal with these challenges and as appropriate suggest additional measures.*

**11.30am -12.30am: Session 3 - Promoting a cross-border securities investment ecosystem - financial market infrastructure - cross-border practices to facilitate cross-border portfolio investment.**

*The APFF has proposed a series of measures to promote connectivity platforms and standards as components in an efficient cross-border securities investment ecosystem. The key issues identified for immediate attention are ways to shorten the settlement cycles (T+2) and to enhance efficiencies in managing “know your customer” and cross-border tax matters and in improving price discovery. Panellists will critique this work of the APFF in advancing regional market integration.*

**12.30pm - 12.45pm: Concluding Remarks**

**12.45pm: Light Lunch**