

**Advisory Group  
Meeting III  
PAPER 6-C**

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## **UPDATING THE APFF STRUCTURE**

- 1) Several recent developments necessitate a review of the APFF structure to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness in carrying out the tasks assigned to it by the APEC Finance Ministers under the Cebu Action Plan (CAP).
- 2) Following are the developments referred to:
  - a) APFF's work on Fintech has been expanding and there have been suggestions to establish a separate work stream. However, fintech is also intrinsic in the work of existing work streams, e.g., FIDN's work on credit data, FMI Fintech substream's work on e-payments, Trade and Supply Chain Finance Work Stream's work on e-platforms, FMI-CBP's work on new technology-based platforms. Other fintech issues such as blockchain (DLT), AI, machine learning and big data would potentially intersect with the work of various work and sub-streams.
  - b) The substream on information for investors in capital markets has wrapped up its work.
  - c) There is a change in the management of the Australian APEC Study Centre (AASC), which has been leading the work of the Linkages and Structural Issues Work Stream. While the Centre has a strong commitment to APEC, ABAC, APIP and APFF flowing from its nature, the way in which this commitment will be translated will be communicated by the new management once it is in place.
  - d) There are now a number of ABAC members who have retired or will soon be retiring who have been closely involved in APFF. There is continuing interest on their part to utilize their networks of high-level contacts and knowledge in support of ongoing APFF activities. A mechanism to keep them involved would be beneficial to APFF.
- 3) Following are proposals to update the APFF Structure in light of the above mentioned developments:
  - a) Rather than create a separate Fintech Work Stream that may duplicate or conflict with ongoing fintech-related issues in existing work streams, create a Fintech Coordinating Group composed of the sherpas/co-sherpas of the fintech parts of FIDN, FMI-CBP, and FMI Fintech. In addition to them, the Coordinating Group could also invite 2-3 other people who could focus on cross-cutting issues not yet currently dealt with, such as DLT, AI, cybersecurity. This Fintech Coordinating Group will be directly under the office of the APFF Chair and Coordinator.
  - b) Close the substream on information for investors in capital markets.
  - c) Await communication from the new director of the AASC regarding the work of the Linkages and Structural Issues work stream.
  - d) Create an APFF Emeritus Council made up of a small number of former ABAC

members who had very close ties to APFF with the purpose of (a) providing advice on APFF activities based on broad perspectives; (b) supporting APFF activities in various ways, such as by leveraging high-level networks and active involvement in APFF events; and (c) engaging ABAC members more closely in APFF and facilitate their participation in APFF activities.