

2016 APEC COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTION PLAN

ECONOMY: Australia

CALENDAR YEAR: 2016

LAST UPDATED: May 2016

Objective: Where appropriate, to self-assess progress against APEC Leaders' and Ministers' counter-terrorism commitments, and to identify capacity building needs to assist the CTTF to identify priority areas for future cooperation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Summary of main achievements/progress in implementing Leaders' and Ministers' commitments since last update.

- Implementation of a package of measures to strengthen Australia's international and domestic aviation security regime against emerging threats. This follows an Australian Government commitment on 9 February 2010 to invest \$200 million over four years on new and improved security technologies, increasing policing at airports, enhanced security procedures, and strengthened international cooperation. The use of new technologies, better training and greater domestic and international cooperation are an important step in helping to further secure Australia's domestic and international aviation sector and to remain one step ahead of terrorist organisations.
- Since 2014 the Australian Government has invested \$1.3 billion to address the threat posed by violent extremists in Australia through the implementation of countering violent extremism activities and building intelligence capabilities with more than \$40m invested over four years to enhance the work of communities, industry and international partners to undermine the online propaganda of extremists through two key programmes:
 - The *Countering Violent Extremism* programme aims to prevent at-risk or vulnerable Australian citizens, including dual-citizens, from participating in offshore conflicts and managing the diversion and deradicalisation of returnees. Under this programme, an intervention case management framework has been developed and implemented to guide referral and support processes to disengage and/or de-radicalise individuals. A high priority focus has been put on the delivery of sustained community engagement and counter-narratives to build community awareness of the dangers of involvement in foreign conflicts.
 - The *Challenging terrorist propaganda in Australia* programme aims to limit the impact of terrorist narratives on domestic audiences, thereby undercutting flows of foreign fighters and material support to the conflicts in Syria and Iraq. This will be a critical Australian contribution to international efforts to challenge terrorist propositions aimed at pulling individuals toward the ideology of terrorist groups, and alienating them from identification with Australian values.
- Since February 2012, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) has:
 - established the AFP-led National Disruption Group (NDG) which includes a number of capabilities including a Diversion Team
 - the NDG brings the AFP together with its partners to investigate, prosecute, disrupt or divert foreign fighters and their supporters;
 - the Diversion Team focuses on developing alternatives to prosecution, such as reintegration and rehabilitation, as well as identifying suitable individuals for diversion into the Australian Government's CVE Intervention Framework.
 - maintained dedicated Community Liaison Teams in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane and Community Liaison capabilities in Canberra, Adelaide and Perth to strengthen ties between the AFP and the community;
 - enhanced engagement with foreign law enforcement and intelligence partners through the AFP's International Network. New liaison officers were deployed to Ankara, Turkey; Amman, Jordan; and The Hague (Europol);
 - continued to maintain Joint Counter Terrorism Teams in each jurisdiction comprising AFP, state and territory police, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation officers and members from other relevant agencies. The teams conduct investigations to prevent, respond to and investigate terrorist threats and attacks in Australia.

- The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP, including its operational arm the Australian Border Force, has in place counter-terrorism measures designed to support national security outcomes, including stemming the flow of those travelling to, or returning from conflict zones through a range of intelligence, targeting and enforcement measures and activities. These include:
 - the Strategic Border Command which is a centralised function for oversight and control of all operational activities in Regional Commands in the State and Territories. This function includes deployment of Counter-Terrorism Units (CTU) to Australia's international airports. The CTU teams, established on 22 August 2014, enhance our ability to deal with both inbound and outbound national security threats, including potential foreign fighters. They intervene in suspicious situations or intercept persons of national security interest in airport controlled areas. CTU teams also track movements or attempted movements of large sums of undeclared cash over the required reporting threshold. They have detected approximately AU\$6 million in excess undeclared currency between August 2014 and 15 October 2015. While some of the currency detected by the CTU teams is legitimate, some is likely to be the proceeds of crime and/or intended to finance terrorist related activities.
 - the National Security Intelligence team which works closely with the AFP and domestic and international intelligence partners to identify and provide assessments on the threat to the Australian border from Islamist extremists, including those travelling to participate or provide support to extremists in Syria and Iraq.
 - the Border Intelligence Fusion Centre (BIFC) which is a physical hub of information sharing and intelligence targeting. It is a multi-agency 24/7 watch floor which brings together the targeting capabilities of participating agencies to facilitate effective whole-of-government information sharing and intelligence production. This collaboration enables earlier and better-informed risk assessments, allowing for the development of appropriate operational responses to all types of border threats (including known and suspected returning foreign fighters).
 - the Airline Liaison Officer (ALO) Programme which further supports the integrity and security of Australia's borders. ALOs work with airlines and airport security groups at major overseas airports, as well as colleagues from other countries to prevent travel of improperly documented passengers and to facilitate the travel of genuine passengers. ALOs provide training to airline and airport staff in document examination, passenger assessment, facial image comparison techniques and Australia's entry requirements. The Australian ALO network comprises 30 ALOs, strategically located at 17 key international airports, including Airline Liaison Principal Migration Officers who are based in Dubai, Guangzhou and Kuala Lumpur.
 - Advance Passenger Processing (APP) which operates at check-in overseas and verifies if travellers hold a valid visa or other authority to travel to and enter Australia. It enables DIBP to issue directives to airlines in real time and to prevent a person without a valid visa from travelling to Australia.
 - eGates/SmartGates which use facial biometric technology to confirm the identity of the traveller and authenticate travel documents. They enable the focus to be on travellers who pose a risk to Australia, while legitimate travellers are facilitated more efficiently with less manual intervention.
 - the National Security Branch which provides a specialist investigation and enforcement capability to address national security threats. It operationalises DIBP's command and control over national security investigations and other operational responses by leading, authorising or setting the priorities for those responses.
 - the Maritime Border Command, a multi-agency operational authority, which protects Australia's national maritime interests. It mitigates or eliminates the risk posed by a range of maritime security threats, including maritime terrorism.
- DIBP also engages with international counterparts on counter-terrorism to improve interoperability, share best practice, and negotiate and establish robust data sharing arrangements. It works closely with other Australian Government agencies, including the Department of Defence, the AFP, AUSTRAC and the Australian Crime Commission, to support whole-of-government efforts to detect and disrupt terrorist activities.
- DIBP delivers a range of counter-terrorism activities in the region. In Southeast Asia we provide specialist training under RSDP to enhance counterparts' ability to identify and assess foreign fighter threats and strengthen border processes. We also deliver Border Security Workshop and Regional Maritime Awareness activities focused on transnational crime threats and interagency cooperation. Under the Bali Process, we are working with the IOM to implement a Regional Biometric Data Exchange Solution (RBDES) with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. We participate in a number of multilateral fora to address counter-terrorism and counter violent extremism efforts and to respond to the threat of foreign fighters. In South Asia we continue to support major capacity building activities to address transnational crime. Although these projects may not focus on counter-terrorism, they contribute to national security. We also deliver workshops for counterpart agencies in the region to demonstrate the value of a whole-of-government approach to addressing transnational crime. We work with UNODC in Pakistan and India on human trafficking and border strengthening activities, with more than AU\$5 million provided in support over the period 2010–15. In the Pacific, we have established information sharing dialogues with Pacific countries, including international organisations and in-country Five Country Conference representatives. A Regional Border Training Officer position has been

established to create operational linkages to share information with airport border security agencies. To strengthen border capabilities, we also provide specialist training. In 2015, we participated in a counter-terrorism workshop with Fiji military, police, customs and immigration.

2. Summary of forward work program to implement Leaders' and Ministers' commitments.

- The aviation industry is expected to continue to adopt technological improvements during the forecast period. This is likely to be achieved through increased automation and integration of processes. Airline carriers and border agencies may implement new check-in and processing technologies, such as additional biometrics for border processing. Screening technologies show a trend of reduced interaction in order to cause minimal disruption to passenger flows. For example, developments are being focused into smarter detection algorithms to reduce the need to divest, leaving laptops and liquids in bags and the screening of multiple people or items simultaneously.
 - Australia will continue to provide targeted aviation and maritime security capacity building assistance such as the provision of formal and informal training and workshops, on-the-job mentoring, desk-top exercises, short term secondments and the development of policy papers to help improve transport security outcomes by working with APEC economies.
- In 2015 the Australian Government hosted Australia's Regional Summit to Counter Violent Extremism. The Summit included ministers and heads of delegation as well as academics, civil society organisations and industry representatives from 24 countries, including 13 APEC economies. The Summit aimed to improve regional coordination and build the capacity of governments, civil society and local communities to challenge violent extremism in order to prevent terrorism and provided an opportunity for practical training and capacity building workshops for both government and civil society participants. The Australian Government is working with countries across Southeast Asia to implement the five outcomes agreed at the Summit.

3. Summary of capacity building needs and opportunities that would accelerate/strengthen the implementation of APEC Leaders' and Ministers' commitments by your economy and in the region.

A. ENHANCING THE SECURE FLOW OF TRADE AND PEOPLE IN THE APEC REGION

A.1 Protect Cargo:

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Implement the APEC Framework for Secure Trade (2005).
- Implement the common standards for electronic customs reporting developed by the World Customs Organization (WCO) that provide data to target high-risk shipments and facilitate trade (2002).
- Implement as practicable as possible a container security regime that facilitates the smooth flow of trade while enhancing the integrity of containers (2002).
- Promote private-sector adoption of high standards of supply chain security, as developed by the private sector and law enforcement officials (2002).
- Continue cooperation between APEC member economies to facilitate trade recovery after a terrorist attack (2006, 2007, 2011).
- Work towards more consistent security measures that reduce transaction costs, and to enhance cooperation with the private sector (2007, 2011).
- Complete the APEC Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Best Practices Guidelines Document (2011)
- Continue work on the Trade Recovery Program to work toward an operational system for ensuring trade recovery and resilience across the region in the wake of natural disasters and other major disruptions, such as terrorist attacks. (2011)

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- Australia maintains its risk-based approach to cargo intervention. This places a greater focus on intelligence-led and risk-based deployment of resources for the inspection and examination of high-risk cargo and delivers benefits to legitimate industry by reducing the proportion of low-risk cargo inspected.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- Australia continues to develop its capacity to undertake intelligence-led risk based interventions in all cargo streams, supported by appropriate assurance and disruption activities.
- Australia will continue to participate in the APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures and assess the development of APEC initiatives related to supply chain security issues as well as in relation to issues around the Authorised Economic Operator concept and trade recovery programs.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APEC CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOUR ECONOMY PARTICIPATED DURING THE LAST YEAR. WHAT BENEFITS DID YOUR ECONOMY DERIVE FROM THESE ACTIVITIES? WHAT FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES WOULD BE USEFUL?

WHAT SPECIFIC CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS DOES YOUR ECONOMY HAVE THAT HINDER YOUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS, AND WHAT CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES COULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH APEC TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE TYPES OF CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD BENEFIT YOUR ECONOMY (E.G., SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, INFORMATION SHARING, BEST PRACTICES, SPECIALIZED TRAINING, ETC.)

WHAT KIND OF EXPERTISE AND/OR ASSISTANCE COULD YOUR ECONOMY PROVIDE TO OTHER APEC MEMBERS THAT COULD HELP ADDRESS THEIR CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS? PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE TYPES OF CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT YOUR ECONOMY COULD PROVIDE (E.G., SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, INFORMATION SHARING, BEST PRACTICES, SPECIALIZED TRAINING, ETC.)

A.2 Protect Port Facilities and Ships Engaged in International Voyages:

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Contact Point: (policy) Name: Eva Becos-Cole

Title: Director, International Security Section, Department of Immigration and Border Protection

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Contact Point: (operational) Name: Paul Edwards

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Review ship and port facility security plans; automatic identification systems (AIS) installed on certain ships (2004).
- Support international efforts to fight piracy (2002, 2008).
- Support the implementation of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (2004).
- Cooperation between APEC **member economies** on training to enhance ship and port security in the region (2002).
- Cooperate with the International Maritime Organisation on its efforts to undertake an analysis of small boats as potential threats to maritime security (2009).
- Enhance ability to identify, assess, and share information on threats to transportation facilities, vehicles, people and cargo, to prevent and combat acts of unlawful interference (2011)

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- All operators of Australian security regulated ships undertaking international voyages were requested to review their security risk assessment to give specific consideration to the risk posed to the ship, crew, passengers and cargo by acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships and to ensure that the mitigation strategies and security measures contained in ship security plans are sufficient for the current security environment.
- Australia disseminated a new Maritime Security Risk Context Statement in 2012 and has since provided regular updates to the maritime industry sector, including conduct of the Maritime Industry Security Consultative Forum in 2013.
- Maritime Border Command (MBC) is the Australian Government's lead agency for coordination of offshore maritime counter-terrorism response and recovery operations. It is responsible for whole-of-government coordination in response to a maritime terrorism incident. The National Counter-Terrorism Plan sets out Australia's strategic approach to preventing and dealing with terrorism in Australia and its territories. The Plan states that the Commonwealth has direct responsibility for offshore maritime counter-terrorism prevention and response including the protection of oil and gas facilities and the interdiction of ships and that MBC is the lead agency with respect to offshore maritime security.
- Australia became a formal member of ReCAAP in 2013 and in March 2016 attended the 10th Governing Council meeting and 10th Anniversary Event.

- Australia became a member of the Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) in 2015, which will allow for the shaping and influencing of regional civil maritime security on a multilateral basis by promoting the rule-of-law and observance of international convention in the protection of seafarer safety and security of sea lanes. There is no other forum in which regional operational counterparts in Asia get together for the express purpose of civil maritime security.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- Under the Regional Skills Development Program (RSDP), DIBP is delivering Regional Marine Awareness and Maritime Vessel Search Training (Australia-based) in Indonesia and Malaysia; and Bilateral Vessel Search Training in Indonesia and Thailand, which is customised to the needs of each country/agency.
- DIBP has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Singaporean Navy, which provides for sharing and protection of information relating to Maritime Domain Awareness.

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- Australia is delivering the Maritime and Aviation Security Awareness Workshop (MASAW) project. MASAW has brought together transport security regulators and industry participants from the Asia-Pacific region with international peak bodies to share transport security best practice on security awareness and identification of suspicious activities. This project will provide participating countries with a handbook that will provide information, tools and guidance to support the development of Suspicious Activities Programs that is specific to the local threat and risk environment. (2015-2016)
- Australia also continues to work with APEC economies to build capacity and improve maritime and port security through a range of activities including formal and informal training, mentoring, desktop exercises and assistance and advice in maritime security policy formulation and implementation.
- Australia continues to work with international maritime organisations to assist, collaborate and deliver capacity building activities where appropriate.

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A.3 Protect International Aviation:

Contact Point: Name: _____ Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Emergency Aviation Security Point of Contact: Name: _____ Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Email Address: _____

LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Introduce highly effective baggage screening procedures and equipment in all APEC international airports as soon as possible; and accelerate implementation of standards for reinforced flight deck doors for passenger aircraft wherever possible (2002).
- Support International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) [mandatory aviation security audits](#) (2002, 2009).
- Enhance air cargo security by promoting adoption of the guidelines developed by the [ICAO](#) (2002).
- Examine emerging approaches to air cargo security; share information on efficient screening technologies and training; and harmonise aviation security measures (2009).
- Adopt strict domestic export controls on Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS); secure stockpiles; regulate production, transfer, and brokering; ban transfers to non-state end-users; and exchange information in support of these efforts (2003).
- APEC economies which did not do so before 2007 to conduct one MANPADS' assessment of a major international airport using the MANPADS' Vulnerability Assessment (MVA) guide established by the ICAO or similar international guidelines (2005).
- Work towards continuous improvement of aviation security oversight and quality control (2009).
- Implement effective capacity building programs for air cargo and air traveller protection, which help develop institutions and mobilize expertise and resources efficiently (2010).

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- The Government has been working closely with industry to progress regulatory changes to reduce red tape while maintaining or enhancing security outcomes. By reducing red tape, the Department is also focusing the Government's and industry's efforts and resources on areas of higher risk, which will also improve aviation security outcomes.
- New screening technology was introduced at Australia's eight gateway international airports between 2012 and 2014, including body scanners, multi-view X-ray units with automated explosive detection algorithms, and liquid explosive detections systems.
- Australia continues to operate its National Cargo Security Program to identify cargo that may potentially threaten the safety of aircraft and has continued to integrate aviation security measures with border management processes where appropriate.
- Australia is delivering the Maritime and Aviation Security Awareness Workshop (MASAW) project. *See Protect Port Facilities and Ships Engagement in International Voyage section for further details.*
- Australia continues to work closely with APEC economies including Indonesia, Timor-Leste, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam to achieve mutually beneficial aviation security outcomes within the region. This work will continue to focus on strengthening preventative security processes at airports through enhancing screening supervisor capabilities, regulatory frameworks and establish effective governance and regulatory controls and processes.
- Australia continues to work with international aviation organisations to assist, collaborate and deliver capacity building activities where appropriate.
- Under the ALO Programme DIBP currently has ALO officers deployed in Indonesia (3), Malaysia (4), and Thailand (3).
- DIBP delivers Advanced Passenger Processing Data Training.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- In late 2014, the Australian Government identified the need to develop a more risk-based and cost-effective approach to aviation transport security regulation that is better adapted to meet the diverse needs of Australian aviation. The intention is to ensure that, in the long term, our efforts, resources and legislation are focused on managing areas identified as of higher security risk. This is a piece of longer-term work. It is expected that it will take a couple of years to design and implement a new regulatory framework.
- The Australian Government continues to work with the aviation industry to encourage uptake of advanced security screening technologies, and to make the most efficient and effective use of equipment current in place.
- Australia will further strengthen air cargo security through the implementation of a Known Consignor scheme with enhanced examination of cargo. This will be developed in close consultation with industry and other stakeholders and will be consistent with ICAO guidelines.
- Australia will strengthen industry's capability to identify and deal with high-risk cargo in accordance with ICAO guidelines.
- Australia is engaged with the Quadrilateral partnership to develop comparable approaches to secure the air cargo supply chain and develop common understandings of efficient screening techniques for air cargo commodities.

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A.4 Protect People in Transit:

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Contact Point: (operational) Name: Susan Drennan Title: Superintendent (Director) Border Operations Centre

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Implement as expeditiously as possible an Advance Passenger Information system for the collection and transmission of advance passenger information (2002).
- Consider joining the Regional Movement Alert System (RMAS) (2006).
- Adopt and implement agreed standards for machine readable travel documents, and application of biometrics in entry and (where applicable) exit procedures and travel documents consistent with ICAO and the International Standards Organization (2002).
- Assure the highest possible integrity of all government officials who are involved in border operations (2002).
- Develop a standardized strategic safety and security master plan for tourists, a crisis management model, and promote the development by industry of simple-to-use safety and security measures for tourism businesses (2002).
- Voluntarily provide information on lost and stolen travel documents to the existing database of the International Criminal and Police Organization (ICPO-Interpol) on a best endeavours basis (2005).
- Implement APEC Travel Facilitation Initiative to facilitate regional international travel, while ensuring the security of the overall travel system. (2011)

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- Australia has continued to be an active participant in the RMAS scheme, progressing bilateral arrangements with New Zealand, the US, and the Philippines for RMAS checking and working with other economies at different stages of RMAS adoption.
- Australia led a Business Mobility Group exercise to conclude an APEC Best Practice Border Capabilities Model for Air Travel in the APEC Region. The Model focuses on achieving the dual objectives of security and facilitation throughout every stage of the traveller pathway (where a person travels between APEC economies). In February 2016 Malaysia accepted Australia's offer of assistance to implement API.
- Australia continues to actively engage Indonesia on API.
- The Australian Government legislated in 2003 for mandatory reporting on airlines for all travellers (passengers, crew and transits) arriving on an international flight to Australia. Australia requires airlines to provide Advance Passenger Processing (APP) reports on each traveller which is a form of interactive Advance Passenger Information (iAPI). iAPI provides highly effective 'real-time' immigration screening which allows the Government to respond to airlines and provide appropriate boarding instructions.
- Commencing 1 July 2015, existing APP arrangements for airlines was expanded for travellers departing Australia to enable the early detection of foreign fighters and enable a more streamlined automated departure process. Outward APP was fully implemented on 4 November requiring airlines to report on all travellers departing Australia.
- The critical functions of Australia's APP system are to: verify that a person has authority to travel to and enter Australia, or depart Australia, before boarding the flight; enhance the Australian Government's ability to assess a traveller's risk prior to travel; and enable our systems to verify a passenger and refer any high-risk passenger for interview or investigation at border clearance.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- Australia will continue to lead work on the development and finalisation of an APEC Best Practice in Border Capabilities Model related to air travel.

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A.5 Combat Threats to Security:

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Review progress on commitments to dismantle trans-national terrorist groups (2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008).
- Eliminate the severe and growing danger posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by strengthened non-proliferation regimes and adopting and enforcing effective export controls as well as take appropriate individual and joint actions to protect legitimate financial and commercial system from abuse.
- DIBP facilitated several Strategic Trade Controls (Counter Proliferation) Workshops under RSDP in Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia with the intent to include Myanmar in 2016/17. The workshop objectives include sharing ABF management of strategic goods at the border; outlining the importance of border agencies role in the identification, disruption and investigation of strategic goods; and creating opportunities for closer operational cooperation where appropriate.
- DIBP collaborates with the World Customs Organisation in a multilateral capacity on Strategic Trade Controls.
- DIBP delivers a number of capacity building programmes within the APEC region: Border Enforcement/Border Security Workshops and Foreign Terrorist Fighter Training in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.
- Under the RSDP, DIBP delivers Counter Terrorism Training/Workshops and Investigations Training in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. Document Examination Techniques Training in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand; and Intelligence Analysis Course in Malaysia and Thailand. The Foreign Terrorist Fighter Training is separate to Counter Terrorism Training delivered under RSDP.
- Under the Australian-Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, DIBP holds annual Commissioner-level consultations with Singapore's Immigration Checkpoints Authority covering transnational crime and counter-terrorism. DIBP convenes the Officials Border Technologies Working groups meetings on improving travel facilitation through enhanced technologies.
- In Singapore DIBP delivers Facial Image Comparison Training under RSDP.
- Ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all relevant obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law (2005).
- Relevant economies to take steps towards the ratification and implementation of, or the commitment to ratify all basic universal antiterrorist conventions (2004, 2008).
- Increase and better coordinate counter-terrorism activities, where appropriate, through effective collaboration, technical assistance and capacity building, and cooperation between APEC's Counter-Terrorism Task Force with relevant international, regional and functional organizations (2003) in accordance with the relevant APEC rules and practices.
- Relevant economies to implement the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources as well as the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources (2005).
- Continue efforts and cooperation on food defense to mitigate the terrorist threat to the food supply following the voluntary APEC Food Defence Principles (2007).
- Implement the APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy to make regional commerce and travel more secure, efficient, and resilient (2011).

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- Australia co-sponsored a discussion exercise on money laundering and countering the financing of nuclear terrorism
- Australia works cooperatively with APEC countries to implement effective export controls in order to combat WMD proliferation, to prevent terrorist acquisition of WMD, and to help meet obligations under the CWC, BWC and UNSCR 1540.

- Australia continues to be a strong supporter of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) which aims to stop or impede the illicit trade of WMD, their delivery systems, and related materials.
- Australia works with partners to deliver workshops on chemical and biological security in the region (2015, 2016)
- Australia continues to work closely with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to ensure the international anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing standards extend to cover non-proliferation activities.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- In 2012, Australia ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of Nuclear Terrorism.
- Australia is working with APEC partners on workshops on chemical and biological security (2015-2016).
- Australia continues to work with APEC partners to implement the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, including through the Australia-Japan convened Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative, and the Biological Weapons and Chemical Weapons Convention.
- In May 2016, Australia hosted a workshop under the Global Initiative to Counter Nuclear Terrorism work program on international communication and assistance requests in relation to a terrorist incident and an associated tabletop exercise.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APEC CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOUR ECONOMY PARTICIPATED DURING THE LAST YEAR. WHAT BENEFITS DID YOUR ECONOMY DERIVE FROM THESE ACTIVITIES? WHAT FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES WOULD BE USEFUL?

WHAT SPECIFIC CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS DOES YOUR ECONOMY HAVE THAT HINDER YOUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS, AND WHAT CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES COULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH APEC TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE TYPES OF CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD BENEFIT YOUR ECONOMY (E.G., SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, INFORMATION SHARING, BEST PRACTICES, SPECIALIZED TRAINING, ETC.)

WHAT KIND OF EXPERTISE AND/OR ASSISTANCE COULD YOUR ECONOMY PROVIDE TO OTHER APEC MEMBERS THAT COULD HELP ADDRESS THEIR CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS? PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE TYPES OF CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT YOUR ECONOMY COULD PROVIDE (E.G., SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, INFORMATION SHARING, BEST PRACTICES, SPECIALIZED TRAINING, ETC.)

B. HALTING TERRORIST FINANCING:

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Cut off terrorists' access to the international financial and commercial system, including by implementing standards and agreements on combating terrorist financing and money laundering (2002, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009).
- Enhance law enforcement and regulatory capabilities by establishing or identifying a financial intelligence unit (FIU) in each member economy, and enhancing information sharing with other FIUs (2002).
- Relevant economies to implement [UN and other international instruments](#) (2002).
- Implement, where applicable, the [FATF's Special Recommendations](#) on terrorist financing, including those relating to non-profit organizations, alternative remittance systems and illicit cash couriers (2002, 2008).

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- In September 2014, the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) established a dedicated team producing financial intelligence analysis to better understand terrorism financing in the context of foreign fighters travelling to Syria and Iraq, and financial support provided to ISIL. This team also links to other AUSTRAC capabilities, including reporting entity compliance and enforcement matters, industry outreach on terrorism financing methodologies, strategic intelligence and policy.
- AUSTRAC is a core member of the Egmont multilateral information sharing project on the financing of foreign terrorist fighters. As part of this project, AUSTRAC has generated intelligence leads for domestic and international partners. AUSTRAC also led contributions to the project from participants in South East Asia, including leading the development of a regional foreign terrorist fighter financial profile that identifies financial attributes of those travelling or returning from Syria and Iraq.
- AUSTRAC is Australia's lead representative for the Anti-Daesh Coalition's Counter-ISIL Finance Group. Under this group, AUSTRAC is leading a working group on financing of ISIL affiliate organisations, including leading engagement with jurisdictions in South East Asia where ISIL affiliate organisations operate.
- AUSTRAC and Indonesia's FIU, PPATK, jointly hosted the inaugural regional CTF Summit in Sydney on 17-18 November 2015. Delegates from 19 countries (which included ASEAN and Five Eyes countries) agreed to work together to deliver a range of outcomes including a regional terrorism financing risk assessment prepared by stakeholders from across the Asia-Pacific region – the first of its kind, and the establishment of a taskforce to deliver a regional framework for improved financial intelligence sharing and analysis on terrorism financing that expands upon established bilateral arrangements. The 2016 CTF Summit will be held in August 2016 in Indonesia and will be co-hosted by PPATK and AUSTRAC.
- Australia endorsed the revised Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation in February 2012.
- Australia introduced a more comprehensive anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulatory regime for the alternative remittance sector that will reduce the risk of criminal infiltration and abuse of the remittance sector in Australia by giving the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) greater knowledge of, and control over, those operating in the sector.
- Australia established the Anti-Money Laundering International (AMLI) working group and the Anti-Money Laundering Legislation and Policy (AMLLAP) forum. The AMLI group was established to facilitate coordinated international policy and operational engagement by Australian Government departments and agencies with relevant bodies, institutions and countries. The AMLLAP forum reviews Australia's AML/CTF policy and legislative framework and advises Government on policy initiatives to effectively counter ML/TF risks and comply with FATF standards.

- Australia provided guidance pamphlets to non-profit organisations that outline best practice principles that NPOs can adopt to help reduce the risk of misuse by terrorist organisations.
- AUSTRAC increased the number of Exchange Instruments (EIs) for the bilateral exchange of financial intelligence to 61 jurisdictions, in addition to an EI for the exchange of regulatory information with a counterpart AML/CTF regulator, bringing the total number of EIs to 62.
- Under AusAID's Public Sector Linkages Program (PSLP) (July 2010 – June 2013), AUSTRAC continues to enhance the AML/CTF operational capabilities of FIUs in the 15 Pacific Island Forum Countries. AUSTRAC's Pacific program comprises bilateral workshops, in-country mentoring, visits and regional forums targeting areas of analysis and compliance. In May 2012, AUSTRAC worked with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (UNCTED), the Asia Pacific Group (APG), the Pacific Islands Forum, the Government of Tonga and DFAT to deliver 2 regional workshops focusing on cross border movement of currency and suspicious transaction reporting compliance to participants from 16 Pacific nations.
- Under AusAID's PSLP, AUSTRAC continues to deliver Technical Assistance and Training (TA&T) to Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka under its Strengthening AML/CTF Regulation in South Asia (SARISA) program (until November 2014). AUSTRAC's SARISA program aims to strengthen the AML/CTF supervision of securities and insurance sectors in Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka as well as develop the capacity of each country's AML/CTF regulatory regimes to identify, detect and manage the ML/TF risks that undermine the stability and security of the region's financial systems and markets.
- In September 2012, AUSTRAC commenced a new program entitled Developing Economic Security in Pakistan (DESP) funded under AusAID's PSLP until August 2013. The program aims to enable AUSTRAC to build on the successful collaborative working relationships established during its 2009 and 2010-11 programs with the Pakistani Financial Monitoring Unit (FMU) and anti-corruption AML/CTF stakeholders and continue to build capacity of Pakistan's private sector, regulators, FIU and LEAs to better detect, analyse and investigate the laundering of serious crime proceeds.
- AUSTRAC has worked with Indonesia's FIU, Pusat Pelaporan dan Analisis Transaksi Keuangan (PPATK) since 2002 to build PPATK's operational and IT capacity. AUSTRAC now provides on-site assistance to PPATK through the AusAID funded Government Partnership Fund (GPF). An AML/CTF partnership and capacity-building program, PAPP, jointly designed with PPATK, has enabled AUSTRAC to enhance and foster relationships with Indonesian AML/CTF stakeholders, such as Bank of Indonesia (BI), the Indonesian National Police and the Indonesian Regulatory Authority for Indonesian Capital Market, as well as Indonesia's anti-corruption body. In June 2012 AUSTRAC in collaboration with the Attorney General's Department (AGD) and PPATK co-hosted a 'Domestic Coordination' workshop on interagency cooperation in following the proceeds of crime for participants from the Indonesian agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting ML/TF and other financial crimes. The workshop demonstrated a whole of government approach to effectively combat ML/TF and had a strong focus on implementing the UNCT listing regime in Indonesia, in particular UNSCR 1267. AUSTRAC, under funding from AusAID's GPF, will continue to deliver TA&T initiatives under the PAPP until December 2012. Throughout 2012, AUSTRAC's "Enhancing Capacity to Regulate the Indonesian Alternative Remittance Sector Program" (until December 2012) aims to assist Indonesia's efforts in combating terrorism by working in collaboration with PPATK and Bank of Indonesia (BI) to enhance their capacity to regulate the alternative remittance sector in Indonesia through the development of AML/CTF guidelines, as well as enhance protection of Indonesia's informal remittance sector from abuse by terrorist support networks by educating the Indonesian remittance sector on their obligations. In May 2012, AUSTRAC conducted an 'Indonesian Remitter Education' Campaign which comprised a total of 7 education sessions for Indonesia's alternative remitters based in Jakarta and other regional locations. This activity ran information and awareness raising sessions for the approximately 300 alternative remitters on their AML/CTF obligations and new licensing requirements.
- Under AusAID's PSLP, AUSTRAC commenced its new Improving Governance in South-East Asia (IGiSEA) program in July 2012. The IGiSEA program aims to provide targeted technical assistance to the FIUs, AML regulators and anti-corruption agencies of the Philippines, Thailand and Cambodia to improve regional detection and deterrence of the laundering of corrupt proceeds. The program builds on AUSTRAC's previous "Combating Corruption and Anti-Money Laundering" program and is designed to assist the Philippines, Cambodia and Thailand in their understanding of both the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption international standards and principles. AUSTRAC's IGiSEA and CCAML programs of assistance are endorsed by the APEC Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts and Anti-Money Laundering Task Forces. AUSTRAC will continue to deliver TA&T under the IGiSEA program until June 2015.
- Throughout 2011-12, AUSTRAC continued provision of a financial analysis and investigations trainer to the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation in Semarang which saw the delivery of 6 financial management courses to Indonesian LEAs to enhance understanding of transnational crime and the benefits of multi-jurisdictional law enforcement cooperation. JCLEC is a joint initiative between Indonesia and Australia to provide a regional training centre to facilitate cooperation and capacity building associated with counter-terrorism and transnational crime prevention.

- AUSTRAC has continued to issue information circulars (AICs) on its website to advise regulated entities of developments in the anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing framework, including the listing of terrorist organisations and sanctions against jurisdictions that are not cooperative with FATF.
- AUSTRAC provided an AML expert to participate in a 2-day Asia-Pacific Economic Forum led workshop on counter-terrorism financing and the non-profit organisation sector in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in January 2012. AUSTRAC delivered presentation sessions on sanction compliance implementation and enforcement, and on addressing ML targeting techniques and case development from an FIU Perspective.
- AUSTRAC hosted visits from AML/CTF delegations of Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, United States, and Zambia during the year.
- In late 2010, the Australian Government introduced amendments to the Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 (Cth) to improve the standard for when the Minister for Foreign Affairs must list a person or entity in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 relating to terrorist financing. The Minister must now be satisfied 'on reasonable grounds' of the prescribed matters before listing a person or entity. This amendment brings Australia's legislation in line with international best practice.
- AML/CTF countermeasures against Iran are being implemented to counter the ML/TF risk posed by Iran. Regulations received royal assent on 7 December 2011 and commenced on 1 March 2012 to prohibit high risk transactions of \$20 000 or more involving parties in Iran, unless an exemption has been granted. Additionally, new enhanced vigilance requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Rules* require businesses regulated under the AML/CTF Act to treat all transactions involving parties in Iran as 'high risk' and take appropriate action under their AML/CTF compliance programs.

Australian Federal Police Terrorism Financing Investigations Unit

- The AFP's Terrorism Financing Investigations Unit (TFIU) is a multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency team comprising police, financial investigators and financial analysts which advances Australia's counter terrorism efforts by contributing to the creation of an environment which is hostile to terrorism financing both domestically and internationally.
- In late 2015 and early 2016, the TFIU provided advice and input into a statutory review of Australia's AML/CTF Act, which was coordinated by the Attorney General's Department.
- In 2015, the head of Lebanon's Special Investigation Commission (Lebanon's FIU) visited AFP HQ in Canberra, with members of the TFIU and AFP executive providing him with an overview of Australia's terrorism financing landscape and an overview of connections between Australia and Lebanon in the terrorism financing space.
- Also in 2014, the FATF conducted its Mutual Evaluation of Australia's compliance with its standards and recommendations. The TFIU provided input to Australia's response.
- In 2014, AUSTRAC released a classified and unclassified National Risk Assessment on terrorism financing risks in Australia. The TFIU provided significant input into the report, drawing on case studies and emerging methodologies, and has also contributed to two updates to that assessment.
- In 2013, Australia's Independent National Security Legislation Monitor conducted an inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's terrorism financing legislation and law enforcement investigations, one of several annual reviews into Australia's CT legislative regime. The TFIU coordinated the AFP's response, working closely with the Monitor to provide him with an overview of each terrorism financing case to date and its outcome, as well as providing suggestions on amendments to existing legislation which may increase the robustness of Australia's terrorism financing legislation
- Since the 2012 APEC CTAP, the TFIU has seen an increase in its workload and maturation of its investigative capabilities, with 2014 and 2015 being very busy years with respect to investigations centred on foreign terrorist fighters and their supporters.
- Working closely with AUSTRAC and the Australian intelligence community, the TFIU's work is extensive and varied, including investigations support; intelligence analysis and assessment; public, private and international stakeholder engagement; provision of domestic and international training on countering terrorism financing; and providing support into reviews of Australian terrorism financing legislation, policies and investigations.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- The International Legal Assistance Branch in the Australian Attorney-General's Department will continue to provide assistance to Asian and Pacific countries to implement Financial Action Task Force recommendations and other international obligations and to develop and strengthen legal frameworks to combat terrorism financing.
- The Australian Government (DFAT, in partnership with AGD and AUSTRAC) is leading a project aimed at protecting Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (ie lawyers, accountants, casinos, real estate agents, trust and company service providers) from terrorist financing. Australia will partner with the APEC economies of Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Peru to deliver the project. Supported by funding from AusAID, the project comprises the production of a risk assessment report, the delivery of two workshops (19-20 November 2012 in Singapore, and February/March 2013 in Jakarta) and the production of guidance for government officials from APEC economies on how to address the TF risks posed to DNFBP sectors in their economies.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APEC CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOUR ECONOMY PARTICIPATED DURING THE LAST YEAR. WHAT BENEFITS DID YOUR ECONOMY DERIVE FROM THESE ACTIVITIES? WHAT FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES WOULD BE USEFUL?

- In January 2012, the AFP attended the APEC workshop on Counter Terrorism Financing and the Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) Sector in Kuala Lumpur.
- AUSTRAC provided an AML expert to present on Australia's whole-of government approach to corruption and money laundering linked to activities associated with illicit trade at a 2-day APEC Capacity Building Workshop in Phuket, Thailand in July 2012.

WHAT SPECIFIC CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS DOES YOUR ECONOMY HAVE THAT HINDER YOUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS, AND WHAT CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES COULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH APEC TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE TYPES OF CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD BENEFIT YOUR ECONOMY (E.G., SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, INFORMATION SHARING, BEST PRACTICES, SPECIALIZED TRAINING, ETC.)

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- AUSTRAC's technical assistance and training (TA&T) programs aim to build capacity of financial intelligence units (FIU)s, through the delivery of regional seminars, in-country mentoring, and bilateral work tailored to meet specific anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) environments. AUSTRAC's TA&T programs focus primarily on improving regional FIU effectiveness and regulatory compliance in alignment with international recommendations.
- The capacity building programs delivered by the International Legal Assistance Branch in the Australian Attorney-General's Department focus on strengthening the legal frameworks to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, as well as recovering the proceeds of crime. This includes the provision of legislative assistance and the training of police, prosecutors, policy officers and judicial officers.

C. PROMOTING CYBER SECURITY:

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LEADERS' AND MINISTERS' COMMITMENTS

- Countering terrorism by implementing and enhancing critical information infrastructure protection and cyber security to ensure a trusted, secure and sustainable online environment (2002).
- Enhance mutual cooperation on countering malicious online activities and engage in efforts to increase cybersecurity awareness (2010).

MEASURES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS

- Australia continues to conduct awareness raising, outreach and educational activities to help all Australian online users – including individuals, schools and business – to better secure their online activities, including annual Stay Smart Online weeks that promote cyber security awareness. The most recent occurred in October 2015. The next one will be held in late 2016. Stay Smart Online provides useful advice to help everyone protect personal and financial information online. The Government is coordinating cyber security awareness internationally and has aligned Stay Smart Online Week with the global Cybersecurity Awareness Month coordinated by the US.
- Australia continues to operate trusted information exchanges with the private sector. These exchanges cover the banking, finances and telecommunications sectors, and water and power utilities.
- In 2013, Australia became the 39th country to sign as a party to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the Budapest cybercrime convention) meaning that local law enforcement agencies will be able to obtain data about cybercrime from international partner agencies.
- In 2014, the Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN) was launched. It is an easy way for the public to report cybercrime and contribute to a national intelligence database which authorities can use to identify and shut down criminals.
- Under the National Plan to Combat Cybercrime, Australian governments committed to taking concrete steps to tackle cybercrime.
- In parallel to our cyber security partnerships, the Government is enhancing cooperation with international partners to detect and prevent terrorists' use of the internet and counter violent extremism online. This includes Australia being a lead partner in the East Asia Summit and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's efforts to counter online extremism and combat online terrorist propaganda.
- The AFP contributes to global law enforcement and security partnerships to detect and mitigate the use of the internet as a tool for terrorism. The AFP recognises that violent extremism is compounded by extremist propaganda on the internet and is working collaboratively with other agencies and the private sector to address this challenge.
- The Australian Federal Police works with policing agencies throughout the Indo-Pacific region on training and capacity building initiatives to counter cybercrime. For example, the Cyber Safety Pasifika initiative is a collaborative project between the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police and the Australian Federal Police. It has now been launched in 14 Pacific Island countries and has trained 40 Pacific Island instructors to deliver cyber safety education in their own countries and mentoring support in other Pacific Island countries. Over 72,000 children and young people in the Pacific have now attended its education and awareness workshops.
- The national Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Australia partners with over 500 businesses and advises on cyber security threats to the owners and operators of Australia's critical infrastructure. CERT Australia also works directly with other computer emergency response teams around the world. As part of their partnership arrangements, CERT Australia regularly convenes National and Regional Information Exchanges with businesses.
- The national Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Australia presently chairs the steering committee of the Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (comprising 28 teams from 20 economies across the region) and shares threat information with other response teams around the world.
- A new Australian Cyber Security Strategy was released in April 2016. The Strategy outlines practical initiatives for how Australia can be more secure online – through governments, businesses and the research community working together to make Australia's networks harder to compromise, especially those that hold sensitive information and to ensure more Australians have the right cyber security skills and know-how.

- Australian businesses and our research community are partnering to improve cyber security information sharing and innovation. Boards are increasingly considering cyber security issues. Some businesses share their data on malicious software with the Government while others are investing in research and development in cyber security technologies.
- The Australian Cyber Security Centre, opened in 2014, brings together cyber security capabilities across the Australian Government to collaborate and share threat information.
- The Australian Signals Directorate maintains world-leading cyber security advice in its Strategies to Mitigate Targeted Cyber Intrusions. The strategies are based on the Directorate's analysis of reported security incidents and identified vulnerabilities.
- The Australian Media and Communications Authority facilitates the Australian Internet Security Initiative, a voluntary public-private partnership helping to reduce malicious software and service vulnerabilities occurring on Australian internet protocol (IP) address ranges.
- Recognising the particular importance of secure telecommunications networks, the Government is working with telecommunications companies to manage supply chain risks by providing advice on protecting their networks and the information stored and carried across them. This includes work the Government is doing on Telecommunications Sector Security Reform to establish more formal and comprehensive arrangements to better manage national security risks of espionage, sabotage and interference.
- The Australian Attorney-General's Department provides assistance to Pacific Island countries to reform their criminal justice frameworks to address cybercrime.
- The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission operates SCAMwatch, providing information to individuals and businesses on identifying and reporting scams.
- The Australian Cyber Security Research Institute (ACSRI) is Australia's first coordinated strategic research and education effort between Government agencies, the private sector and researchers. It seeks to support the Government's focus on cyber security by bringing together a collaborative network to deliver an Australia-wide approach to respond to cyber threats and improve opportunities for developing highly skilled cyber security professionals.

FURTHER MEASURES PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS (indicate timeframe)

- Australia will continue to conduct awareness raising, outreach and educational activities to help all Australian online users – including individuals, schools and businesses – better secure their online activities.
- The Australian Government will continue to operate trusted information exchanges with the private sector. These exchanges cover the banking, finance and telecommunications sectors, and water and power utilities.
- To help ensure Australia's networks and systems are hard to compromise and resilient to cyber attack, the Government will:
 - establish a layered approach for sharing real time public-private cyber threat information through joint cyber threat sharing centres, initially piloted in a capital city, and an online cyber threat sharing portal.
 - co-design national voluntary Cyber Security Guidelines with the private sector to specify good practice.
 - update the Strategies to Mitigate Targeted Cyber Intrusions, published by the Australian Signals Directorate.
 - introduce national voluntary Cyber Security Governance 'health checks' to enable boards and senior management to better understand their cyber security status.
 - support small businesses to have their cyber security tested.
 - boost the capacity of the Australian Cyber Security Centre to respond to cyber security threats and cybercrime.
 - update and align our cyber incident management arrangements with international partners and jointly exercise responses to malicious cyber activity with the private sector.
 - support Government agencies to improve their cyber security, including guidance for Government agencies to manage supply chain security risks for ICT equipment and services.
- To reinforce Australia's efforts to actively promote an open, free and secure cyberspace, the Government will:
 - appoint Australia's first Cyber Ambassador.
 - publish an international cyber engagement strategy.
 - champion an open, free and secure internet that enables all countries to generate growth and opportunity online.
 - partner internationally to shut down safe havens and prevent malicious cyber activity, with a particular focus on the Indo-Pacific region.

- build cyber capacity in the Indo-Pacific region and elsewhere, including through public-private partnerships.
- To raise cyber security skills and knowledge, the Government will:
 - address the shortage of cyber security professionals in the workforce through targeted actions at all levels of Australia’s education system, starting with academic centres of cyber security excellence in universities and by increasing diversity in this workforce.
 - work with the private sector and international partners to raise awareness of the importance of cyber security across our community.

WHAT SPECIFIC CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS DOES YOUR ECONOMY HAVE THAT HINDER YOUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS, AND WHAT CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES COULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH APEC TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS?

N/A

WHAT KIND OF EXPERTISE AND/OR ASSISTANCE COULD YOUR ECONOMY PROVIDE TO OTHER APEC MEMBERS THAT COULD HELP ADDRESS THEIR CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS?

- Australia continues to seek opportunities to improve linkages between national computer emergency response teams (CERTs), including with partners in the APEC region, to facilitate better information sharing on cyber incidents and to better coordinate international responses to cyber security incidents. Where feasible, Australia is also seeking greater formalisation of existing relationships between national CERTS.
- Australia’s law enforcement agencies actively engage with international law enforcement agencies to strengthen cyber security and combat cybercrime.
- Note, initiatives listed above.

POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE AND EXPERTISE TO OFFER

Contact Point for Assistance and Expertise not included above:

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Economies with particular expertise and resources to offer could indicate this here and/or refer members to relevant websites.