



**Asia-Pacific
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Best Practices of Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Implementation within APEC Economies: Opportunities and Challenges

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Best Practices of Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Implementation within APEC Economies: Opportunities and Challenges

I. Introduction of the Project

The 2-days workshop was successfully held in Bali, Indonesia, on 19-20 June 2019. It generally has three objectives. First, it aims to give a thorough understanding of the importance of TFA implementation through a workshop. Second, this workshop also aims to identify the challenges and obstacles in TFA provision implementation, particularly in the regulation side. The last one, it aspires to establish a recommendation as guidance for APEC economies to formulate a proper policy. However, this workshop emphasizes the discussion of four priorities in implementation of TFA according to TFA Database Website, which is adjusted to the current needs of APEC economies. Those four topics are Streamlining Bureaucracy, Legislative Framework, Institutional Procedure, and ICT Development.

The participants of the workshop including APEC member economies, Policy makers (e.g. Custom Officer, International Trade Analyst, the World Customs Organization, and Economic Researcher) and Academics with expertise in international trade, border logistic, or customs

II. Briefings of the Case Studies Presented at the Workshop

This workshop aims to identify the challenges and obstacles in TFA provision implementation in each economy, particularly in the regulation side. Through the help of the experts, the economists are able to share their views on TFA implementation, especially about their challenges and obstacles. Moreover, the speakers came from different backgrounds of expertise such as Governance, Academician, TFA Experts, and Business. The case studies are divided into five sessions:

1. Session 1: APEC's Trade Facilitation Agenda

Moderator: Mr Djatmiko Bris Witjaksono, Director of Centre of International Trade and Cooperation Studies, Ministry of Trade Republic of Indonesia

In the first session, the moderator asked the speakers to give a short presentation to refresh the participant's knowledge about the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). This session gave a highlight on the work development of TFA in APEC and also an understanding on how TFA would help the APEC region to enhance trade through trade facilitation.

Presentation by Mr Benjamin Tan, Senior Assistant Director, Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore

Mr Benjamin Tan's presentation recalled APEC's role in trade facilitation and how APEC had brought useful ideas to the WTO TFA. Explaining that trade facilitation increases trade flows and ultimately helps achieve sustainable and inclusive, he explained that trade helped to drive inclusive growth and poverty reduction. Mr Tan gave an overview of the APEC current initiative, which is the "Phase II of Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan (SCFAP II)" with the goal is to reduce trade costs across supply chains and also to improve its reliability in supporting the competitiveness of business in the region by examining and addressing the chokepoint of supply-chain connectivity. He highlighted the need to look further into policy and regulatory infrastructure for e-commerce as this was an area that is increasingly becoming more important.

He also shared APEC's current initiatives to support WTO TFA, citing the monitoring of economies' implementation and notifications for the WTO TFA; capacity building initiatives to improve economies ability to implement the WTO TFA; and seeking economies to rectify and clarify information gaps, such as in the implementation of Advance Rulings. In addition, APEC is also working on other trade facilitation initiatives such as Authorized Economic Operator (AEO); Single Window; Transit; and Asia-Pacific Model E-Port Network (APMEN).

Presentation by Mr Akhmad Bayhaqi, APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU)

In the beginning, Mr Bayhaqi gave a short brief about the purpose of the

WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; which aims to reduce corruption and facilitate a smoother flow of goods and services across borders through greater transparency and broader opportunities for GVC participation. He also informed that developed members will have to ensure its full implementation by 22 February 2017. All of the other members have been provided with three categories to allocate their measures to Category A, Category B and Category C. The implementation rate within all WTO members is 81.8%, meanwhile for APEC economies is 96.3%. Within APEC economies, 12 economies have already notified all their measure under Category A, 9 economies have notified some measures in Category B, 3 economies notify some measures in Category C and only one economy who has notified all its measures. The measure most APEC economies categorize under B or C is article 7 of the TFA, which is the release and clearance of goods.

After that he explained about the UN Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation. He pointed out that the regional average implementation of trade facilitation is about 75%, while developed economies is 83.5% and developing economies is 72.5%. As for paperless implementation together with enabling the seamless electronic exchange of trade data and documents across borders have only 20% reduction for APEC as a whole according to the UN survey. For the conclusion, Mr Bayhaqi highlighted that trade facilitation will continue to be an important agenda for APEC in the coming years. He also pointed that APEC economies should gradually move towards cross-border paperless and digital trade facilitation to maintain competitiveness.

2. Session 2: Case Study of TFA Implementation – Opportunity and Challenges in the Area of Legislative Framework and Streamlining Bureaucracy

Moderator: Akhmad Bayhaqi – APEC Policy Support Unit

This session aims to identify the challenges and obstacles in TFA provision implementation in each economy, particularly in the area of legislative framework and streamlining bureaucracy.

Presentation by Ariyo Dharma Pahla Irhamna - Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF)

The title of the presentation is Opportunity and Challenges Implementing TFA in Developing APEC Economies. There are 3 key points in this session, which are recent trends on TFA in Asia Pacific, challenges and the opportunities to implement TFA in APEC Economies. Regarding TFA implementation within Asia Pacific, there are top 5 measures with high implementation rate, which are: 1) the use of customs brokers, 2) pre-shipment inspection, 3) specific disciplines on fees and charges, 4) common border procedures and procedures for appeal or review. Meanwhile, the low implementation rate are: 1) Border Agency Cooperation, 2) Risk Management, 3) Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections, 4) Authorized operators, and 5) Single Window.

The speaker mentioned 5 challenges that identified as a hindrance for economic development, particularly in developing economies in which they are lack of intergovernmental coordination mechanism, adoption of common international standards, harmonization of legal frameworks, capacity gaps among the parties (Infrastructure and HR) and cooperation between public and private sectors. However, there are opportunities on moving forward to fully implement TFA to cross border paperless trade, which are: 1) provides an opportunity to leverage the agreement to get reluctant government affiliates on board, and 2) provides a structured, consistent and inclusive environment for regular consultations between the private and public sectors. Those who are ready to move forward on trade facilitation projects will have greater likelihood of support from contributor, identify the most important priorities to business, and identify business issues on trade, open discussions to solve the problems with the tools provided by TFA.

Presentation by Danang Prasta Danial – Deputy Director, WTO Transparency Policy Review and Trade Facilitation, Ministry of Trade Republic of Indonesia

The Speaker's Presentation titled "Indonesia's WTO TFA Implementation

on Legislative Frameworks and Streamlining Bureaucracy”. It was a sharing session from the perspective of Indonesia related to TFA implementation, particularly in the area of legislative framework and streamlining bureaucracy. After the TFA entered into force on 22 February 2017, Indonesia ratified the TFA on November 2017, and by April 2018 all TFA Commitments notified as Category A (88,7%) except Advance Rulings, Notification for Enhanced controls or inspections and Risk Management on Category B. Indonesia has Established the National Committee of Trade Facilitation (NCTF) on May 2018 whereas on February 2022 Indonesia set a Target to Fully Implement TFA. The Speakers presented the Indonesia’s Legislative Framework from the Indonesia Constitution (Customs, Trade and TFA Ratification), Presidential Regulation on Indonesia National Single Window and Coordination Minister for Economic Affairs Decision on Establishing the NCTF.

Indonesia has also taken the steps on streamlining bureaucracy by establishing Indonesia National Single Window (INSW), AEO, E-Payment and E-SKA. Challenges for Indonesia to fully implement the TFA are regulatory changes, financial resources and human resources, inter agencies coordination, and commitment.

3. Session 3: Case Study of TFA Implementation – Opportunity and Challenges in the Area of ICT and Institutional Procedure

Moderator: Mr Alexandre Larouche-Maltais, United Nations Conference on Trade Development (UNCTAD)

The moderator opened the session by giving a brief direction to the speakers about the challenges facing by economies in implementing TF. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is considered as one of the key factors for economy to be able to implement TF effectively and efficiently.

Presentation by Mr R. Syarif Hidayat, Director of International and Public Affair, Directorate General of Customs & Excise, Ministry of Finance of the Republic Indonesia

Mr Hidayat presented “Role of ICT and Institutional Procedural on Trade Facilitation”. He began his presentation by informing the participants about what had been done by Indonesian customs in carrying out institutional reforms in his organization. Institutional reform is a necessity because of the demands of business communities, government regimes, and demands to improve integrity. The strategy is to facilitate trade by utilizing ICT through export / import administrative procedures, such as single submission and inspection, auto reconciliation/exchange information, single document, and single tracking. That can be realized because Indonesia has an ICT-based Single Window which enables the coordination of 16 institutions that play a role in the administrative procedures for international trade. In regional, it was mentioned about ASEAN Single Window that helps the information exchange among ASEAN customs authorities to electronically simplify the submission of the original certificate. Moreover, the speaker also mentioned about other provisions that had been done by Indonesian customs to support TF implementation, such as authorized economic operator, and mutual recognition agreement with other economies.

On the other side, even though Indonesia acquired supporting ICT to implement TF, challenges would always exist. The speaker informed that it was difficult for Indonesian customs to check all the movements of goods across borders thoroughly. However, Indonesian customs has an operating procedure to manage the risk that appears due to the increasing of goods flow. Moreover, regarding TFA implementation, although Indonesia has also increased their effort to implement categories in TFA, Indonesia still needs time to implement the advance ruling, enhance control and risk management that are classified as Category B.

Presentation by Mr Djatmiko Bris Witjaksono, Director of Centre of International Trade and Cooperation Studies, Ministry of Trade, Republic of Indonesia

In his presentation on “Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Institutional Procedural: A Preliminary Study”, Mr Witjaksono explained the previous studies about how TFA implementation would flourish world economic growth. It is because TFA could encourage more efficient management of trade procedures and encourage the modernization and automation of the trade process, especially through the implementation of electronic document exchanges and the implementation of risk management. The group of developing economies recognized to experience a higher impact than the other groups and increased their attractiveness on FDI. However, among APEC economies, not all economies have fully implemented TFA. There are 9 economies that are still on Category B/C and needs time to fully implement TFA.

Furthermore, the speaker also mentioned about how to take benefits from the implementation of TFA. There are two issues that should be considered by all APEC economies to be managed properly, inter alia utilizing ICT to implement TFA effectively and efficiently, and maximizing National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) to make better institutional procedures and effective policy evaluation. In the end, the speaker underlined the opportunity and challenge in implementing TFA on achieving continuous improvement to make trade facilitation reforms.

4. Session 4: Case Study of TFA Implementation – From Academics and Private Sector

Moderator: Benjamin Tan, Senior Assistant Director, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore

Presentation by Ms Fatimah Alsagoff, United Parcel Services (UPS) Singapore

Ms Fatimah delivered her presentation on “Benefits of the TFA Implementation – Business Perspective”. She elaborated on how UPS became world’s largest package delivery-company and a global leader in supply chain services. The implementation of TFA benefits business sectors in many ways. China alone account for a quarter of TFA global benefits, mostly from custom process. While the Philippines pass the 2016

Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

E-commerce nowadays proceeds a new trend which created a surge in called “Tsunami of Small Parcels”. There are many inexperienced players of the trade who aren’t familiar with the rules. Thus, APEC economies have introduced new border measures [e.g. x-ray screening, additional paperwork/data requirements, new channels] to the trade even more complex for MSMEs.

Presentation by Mr Tony Irawan, Senior Lecturer of Bogor Agricultural University

Mr Irawan conveyed his academics views regarding TF with the title “Trade Facilitation Agreement: Research Findings”. He began his presentation by defining what TFA is and the correlation between international trade theory and TFA. Then, he continued his presentation by giving information about previous researches regarding TF implementation, and how the researchers had been conducted in the matter of methodology, level of data, etc.

In the end of his presentation, Mr Irawan concluded that based on scientific evidences, TF implementation can increase economic strength of an economy. It became relevant because TF implementation could reduce border trade transactional cost and enhance business competitiveness in an economy. Therefore, it was important for an economy to develop TF mechanism effectively, and to provide better provisions to make trade procedures efficiently.

5. Session 5: TFA Implementation and Further Work

Moderator: Mr Tony Irawan, Senior Lecturer of Bogor Agricultural University

In the last session, the moderator gave direction to facilitate the exchange of knowledge among economies about the implementation of TFA. This session gave an understanding on how TFA will help the economies to

improve their quality of international trade by implementing more transparent regulations, streamlining bureaucracy, and supporting infrastructure, particularly in information and communication technology.

Presentation by Mr Yann Duval, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Mr Duval started his presentation by giving a short recalling on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement notifications by APEC economies, which basically almost all economies have implemented each category. He also gave a short recall on the UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2019 for Asia and the Pacific. He highlighted that the scope of survey is to implement WTO TFA+; paperless trade; and sustainable TF.

After the brief recalling, Mr Duval began to give a possible recommendation from the aspect of streamlining bureaucracy. First, he recommended to implement Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) as a core function of National Committee for Trade Facilitation (NTFCs). Second, he purposed to enhance domestic business environment as he defined that poor business environment is the second largest source of trade costs after logistics. The third recommendation is to have more responsive Trade Portals that was explained based on study at ESCAP on NTPs in ASEAN, which shows a lot of rooms for improvement. The last recommendation is from the aspect of streamlining bureaucracy that Mr Duval suggested to automate or go paperless, which means that electronic will be replaced paper submission and cross-border data exchange.

From the aspect of legislative frameworks, Mr Duval gave recommendation to engage the development of international standards and conventions whenever it is possible. He also recommended to invest in mutual recognition, which includes AEOs, e-document, and compliance procedures. Then, Mr Duval recommended to engage and build upon regional or plurilateral frameworks.

He finished his presentation by giving other recommendations for sustainable trade facilitation. He envisaged to think about economic, social and environmental aspects when implementing trade facilitation measures. He also suggested to focus on capacity building and implementation on “All but Customs” which means customs support the knowledge transfers to Other Government Agencies (OGAs).

Presentation by Mr Alexandre Larouche-Maltais, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Mr Larouche-Maltais presentation's covered the possible recommendations from the aspects of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and institutional procedural. First, he gave recommendation to quickly comply with urgent obligations under the TFA. He elaborated his first recommendation by saying that 3 APEC members have not yet submitted definitive implementation dates for Category B commitments, 1 member has not yet submitted definitive implementation dates for Category C commitments, and 3 APEC developing economy members have not yet notified the contact points for the assistant coordination. Mr Larouche-Maltais also added that economies contributors have to make sure that the information of assistance and support of capacity building that is provided and process and mechanisms for requesting assistance and related contact points is up-to-date.

The second recommendation that he mentioned is go beyond the TFA legal requirements. This means that developed economies and developing in the commitment of Category A have to make sure that they fully comply with the TFA requirements. Then, APEC economies should go beyond the legal requirements and implement all the best practices that are included in the TFA. APEC member also have to try a continuous improve cross-border procedures and processes by enhanced the transparency, simplification, harmonization, and standardization.

The third recommendation given by Mr Larouche-Maltais is using ICT solution for improving trade facilitation. He explained that ICT solutions is proved to be essential tools for facilitating cross-border trade. Internet has

become the most widely and easily accessible communication channel globally. Thus, comprehensive information on cross-border procedures, trade laws and regulations, costs and tariffs should be available online. Online enquiry points should be created as possible it can be and most of the transactions should be available online to reduce time and costs for traders.

Fourth, he recommended to maintain a strong NTFC for coordinating reforms. He explained that the establishment and roll-out of an NTFC can greatly help in prioritizing, sequencing, and coordinating the implementation of trade facilitation reforms. He also pointed out to make sure that NTFC welcomes private sector representatives on board and their words will be listened.

Mr Larouche-Maltais last recommendation's is to do not hesitate asking for help. It means that international organizations should stay available for providing technical assistance based on economies' needs and priorities. He also added to do not postpone technical and financial assistance request to development partners, in order to get fully benefit from the momentum.

III. Briefings on Discussions at the Workshop

In this session, the economists actively participated during the discussion.

1. Session 1

- The first question came from Mr Hamzah from University of Trisakti. His question concerning on Single Window and the way to implement it among APEC economies. Then Mr Bayhaqi explained that the simplest form of Single Window involves a single entry and the submission of information from the trader. On the other word, as long as the traders have the information, it can belong to Single Window. Nowadays, most of the APEC economies already have Single Window. However, Province Single Window or Port Single Window should be integrated with the National Single Window. He also explained how economies have their own practices to establish a

National Single Window. The establishment of National Single Window concerns on regulatory and legal issue. Moreover, one of the keys to achieve the National Single Window is data privacy, which includes data protection when it is being transferred out of the economic jurisdiction. Those kinds of issues are still raised in APEC.

- Furthermore, the next question was from Ms Christina Bas from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile. She asked about the most relevant provision of TFA regarding e-commerce and which one of APEC economies should be more developed. Then Mr Tan told that APEC is currently interested at the e-commerce issues, which involves release and clearance. There are a lot of issues that have been discussed regarding e-commerce, especially something that is related to customs and declaration. Nowadays, trade has shifted from using containers to parcel, in which this is also issue that is currently handled by APEC.

- Papua New Guinea also gave the forum an updated information that PNG has notified WTO of all its measures, hence it means that all APEC members have now notified WTO of the same.

2. Session 2

- In this 2nd session, the representative of the US asked about the effort that is done by Indonesia to improve the coordination of inter-agencies. Meanwhile, the representative from Australia asked the way Indonesia maximize the Utilization of National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) to handle the coordination across ministry. These questions were answered by Mr Danang. He mentioned that the political will of the Government, came from the President then to the Ministry or Agency that related to TFA under the coordination of Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs NCTF was established and led by the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs. Thus, the NCTF has the authority to push related ministries of agency to have the same level of understanding and to tackle obstacle regarding implementation of TFA.

- The next question came from the academic representative. He asked about the challenge that is faced by Indonesia in implementing TFA and the way economies could obtain benefit through TFA. Then it was explained that the challenge is the gaps of resources (infrastructure and human resource) among APEC Economies, and harmonizing legal framework and lack of intergovernmental coordination. The benefit for the government is the increasing capacity of human resources to the government and private sector.

3. Session 3

- One of the participants asked about how Indonesia could drastically implement their TF implementation, how it could be, and whether there is a political will or just other causes. Mr Witjaksono exposed that it is a must for Indonesia to provide better services for stakeholders, especially to increase business competitiveness in Indonesia. Moreover, Mr Hidayat answered that it was more likely to be political will after the Indonesian government saw a problem in the practice of Indonesian international trade, for example the matter of dwelling time. Therefore, Indonesian customs was forced to reform its policies that should in line with efforts to increase Indonesia's competitiveness.
- Moreover, Vietnamese representative asked about the way to balance e-commerce and TF in the context of risk management implementation. Whether is it possible for Indonesian customs to check all cross-border goods flows from e-commerce transactions and whether it is necessary to exchange data between economies? Then Mr Hidayat answered these questions. He explained that it is impossible to check everything, but better implementation of risk management and supporting ICT will make the work easier. Moreover, he also informed that between Indonesia and Viet Nam had not had a cooperation in data exchange and perhaps it could be happened shortly to facilitate trade between two economies.

4. Session 5

In this last session, representative from Viet Nam asked regarding to the TFA implementation in APEC economies and kind of support or assistance that APEC should provide especially for developing

economies. Then Mr Yann Duval responded that APEC is actually a “club” with a strong bond in the group. Developing economies should take profit from this advanced group to learn from developed economies because they have knowledge, money and resources. As long as the purpose is to enhance the TFA implementation, then advanced economies should be willing to give support.

Moreover, Mr Larouche-Maltais also added that first, economies should have regional initiatives because some TFA provisions are easier to implement at the regional level. Second, sharing share best practices between economies because it will constantly improve the procedure in the right way. He gave an example from a simple step such as forming a WhatsApp group between economies, so each economy could share their own practices. This also gives benefit because it is not costly. Besides, economies don't have to waste their time on implementing something that it may not work in its domestic level but instead shares experience to the neighbor economies to give a proper solution.

IV. Suggested Recommendation on TFA Implementation for APEC Member Economies

Eventually, this workshop proposes a recommendation for CTI APEC and APEC economies in particular for a better TFA implementation in the future. Experts from UNCTAD and UNESCAP were invited to discuss this matter in a special session. This session also invited all economies, academician, and business representatives to share their perspectives on the proposed guidelines in the concluding session. The proposed guidelines of TFA implementation in this workshop consist of four different topics as listed below.

This session started by reminding the participants about the purpose of the workshop. This workshop aimed to improve participant's knowledge about the Trade Facilitation Agreement, particularly in 4 specialization aspects. They are (1) Streamlining Bureaucracy, (2) Legislative Framework, (3) Information and Communication Technology, and (4) Institutional Procedure.

In this session, every economies and representatives was asked to answer several questions that will be used to develop a general guidance and

recommendation as a result for this workshop. The questions were listed as follows:

- What can be added for the recommendation for the entire workshop?
- Classification of the recommendation (in short, medium, and long term)
- Is there any adjustment in each economy related to the recommendation?
- Further work and initiatives from each economies or other stakeholders related to the development on TFA Issues.

The committee also outlined the draft recommendation for this session. This draft was summarized from all of the speakers in all sessions and with the help of Mr Yann Duval (UNESCAP) and Mr Alexandre Larouche-Maltais (UNCTAD). The draft recommendations were as follow:

- From Bureaucracy Streamlining Aspect
 - Establishment of Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM)
 - Enhance (domestic) business environment
 - Enhance responsiveness of Trade Portals
 - Automate / go paperless
- From Legislative Framework Aspect
 - Engage in the development of - and adopt - international standards and conventions whenever possible
 - Invest in mutual recognition
 - Engage and build upon (sub)regional / plurilateral frameworks
 - Sustainable Trade Facilitation – incorporating economic, social, and environmental aspects
- From Information Communication Technology and Institutional Procedural Aspect
 - Quickly comply with urgent obligations under the TFA
 - Go beyond the TFA legal requirements
 - Use ICT solution for improving trade facilitation
 - Maintain a strong NTFC for coordinating reforms
 - Looking for assistance on TFA issues from other relevant organization

We asked all the economy representatives to elaborate their answers to the questions above.

- a. Benjamin Tan – Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore

Engagement with business sector is crucial in TFA implementation.

- b. Akhmad Bayhaqi – APEC Policy Support Unit
Developing economies in APEC need to invest in ICT infrastructure. In the long term, legal aspects of all documents in TFA should be concerned.
- c. Consulate General of Australia
Australia has a high standard of risk management system, especially in the implementation of TFA. Other economies in APEC should pay attention to this aspect too. Australia also willing to give assistance to other economies in APEC in Risk Management issues.
- d. Representatives of Canada
Canada would like to emphasize on women issues. Economies in APEC should give equal opportunity and access to women, particularly women entrepreneurs, to every aspect related to TFA implementation.
- e. Representatives of Chile
Chile supported Canada's voice on women's equal access to investment and opportunities, as it is in line with this year APEC's priorities on women empowerment. Chile also elaborated that the implementation of TFA should be done in every level as possible as could be. In Chile's case, the coordination on TFA implementation began on the domestic level, where Chile's government gave capacity building to different stakeholders related to TFA. In the regional level, TFA issues had also been brought up to Chile's trading partner like Pacific Alliance.
- f. Representatives of China
China already established National Trade Facilitation Centre, in coordination with 16 different Ministries and Agencies.
- g. Representatives of Hong Kong, China
Hong Kong, China, have been already in the process of completing three different phases of single window. The first phase had already completed and they are now ready to continue to the next phase.
- h. Representatives of Indonesia
Indonesia emphasized on the role of MSMEs in the implementation of TFA. For the future capacity building in APEC forum, Indonesia expects a capacity building about TFA implementation in logistic sectors.
- i. Representatives of Korea
Korea expected that the future agenda on TFA in APEC would be more specific, for example agenda related to advance rulings or single window.

- j. Representatives of Malaysia
The Representatives of Malaysia emphasized on “How” is more important than “What”. Economies may already have the proper knowledge on what next related with TFA implementation, yet the way to it is somewhat confusing.
- k. Representatives of Mexico
Mexico was currently working on their initiatives in TFA issue. They were making a series of continuous amendment on Single Window implementation. Mexico was also working with World Custom Organization (WCO) and suggested that other APEC economies to look for other institutional instrument in TFA implementation like seeking assistance from international institution like WCO since most of APEC economies are member of WCO and may utilize the Kyoto Convention.
- l. Representatives of Peru
Peru established its NTFC in 2017 and is currently receiving international assistance on TFA implementation. Furthermore, Peru would like to emphasize the use of technology solutions for the improving trade facilitation. For instance, Peru is currently working on the improving Single Window through implementation of following modules: operations management system for SMEs, risk management system, regulation portal and other modules.
- m. Representatives of PNG
PNG proposed that future capacity building exercise/workshops, both at regional and domestic level, must consider all of the stakeholders/actors related to TFA and do not focused on customs only. Strengthening of NTFC is also considered important for PNG and especially in light of the proposal on the establishment of the TTFMM under NTFC.
- n. Representatives of Thailand
Thailand expected that the future workshop will be related with the best practices and benchmark of TFA implementation.
- o. Representatives of Viet Nam
Viet Nam emphasized the importance of information exchange in digital platforms. They also outlined the rise of e-government issues, thus it highlighted the aspect of ICT.
- p. Representatives of the United States (US)

The US is obviously concern on TFA issues. The US had held several workshops related with TFA issues like Workshop on Advance Rulings and Workshop on Border Agency Cooperation (article 8 and article 10 TFA). It had also established its NTFC by incorporating more than 20 federal agencies. The US supported other economies in APEC on implementing TFA by using another forum in APEC like APEC Alliance on Supply Chain Connectivity.

q. Fatimah Alsagoff – United Parcel Services

Government should pay attention to the need of business sector in a sectorial manner.

r. Danang Prasta Danial – Ministry of Trade Indonesia

Economies should establish a domestic work plan on TFA implementation. In APEC, there is a compendium of best practices on TFA implementation that can be used for other economies as a benchmark.

s. Yann Duval

UNESCAP already gathered economies best practices on TFA implementation that can be used by APEC economies as benchmark.

t. Alexandre Larouche-Maltais

UNCTAD was currently providing assistance for TFA implementation, and one of the forms is training for establishing NTFC in APEC economies. UNCTAD is eager to help the prepartation for training session and the training-for-trainer session.

V. Pre-Test and Post-Test Evaluation

Pre and post-test consisted of 15 matches of true or false and multiple choices that were designed to examine the same area of knowledge for each set of before and after the test. The participants were asked to finish and submit the pre-test before the beginning of the instruction. Meanwhile, the post-test workshop evaluation survey was submitted in the concluding session of the workshop.

There were 123 participants attended the workshop, in which 82 of them were valid or 62%. The comparison of the match of pre or post-test was available to be analyzed. The data for each question was entered into Microsoft Excel

and the analysis was conducted by using Eviews Version 13.0.

The data was analyzed by using two methods. The first one is "Traditional" correct/incorrect tally. Meanwhile the second method was by considered the answers to the qualifier question with a correct "Knew" and correct "Guess" tally. Any question that was indicated being guessed by the participants was counted as incorrect for the qualifier method of determining the number of correct responses.

The result in Table 1 shows the percentage of participants with correct answers using the "Traditional" method compares to the qualifier method of Correct "Knew" and Correct "Guess". The average score of participants in pre-test under "Traditional" method is 46.20% with the number of correct answers are 15. However, the result of the post-test shows 76.33% of correct response. Thus, the gain of knowledge in the participants is 30.13%, which is based on "traditional" scoring.

Table 1. Percentage of Pre- and Post-Test Correct Results

Question	Pre-Test Results			Post-Test Results		
	% Correct Traditional	% Correct Selecting "Knew"	% Correct Selecting "Guess"	% Correct Traditional	% Correct Selecting "Knew"	% Correct Selecting "Guess"
Q1	54	22	32	81	72	9
Q2	53	10	43	68	52	16
Q3	51	40	11	78	72	6
Q4	49	37	12	81	76	5
Q5	53	29	24	78	68	10
Q6	46	30	16	79	77	2
Q7	39	27	12	74	74	0
Q8	50	32	18	74	68	6
Q9	38	14	24	80	71	9
Q10	44	12	32	72	59	13
Q11	40	14	26	69	60	9
Q12	42	15	27	77	65	12
Q13	38	23	15	79	74	5
Q14	52	21	31	75	60	15
Q15	44	29	15	80	73	7

Source: TFA Workshop Test 2019

If the answer of participant is "Yes" to the qualifier question of, "Are you guessing?", then it is considered as incorrect answer as an impact of the increase of instruction. The actual impact statement of knowledge that is

gained by participants in the workshop becomes "The workshop participants increased their post-test score from 44.40% to an average of 68.07% when compared to their pre-test score average of 23.67%". %." The qualifier of "Are you guessing?" increased the gained knowledge by 14.27% over the "Traditional" counting method. The workshop significantly increased the confidence that participants to their answers in the post-test.

Another factor that can be evaluated with the qualifier method is the number of participants that have an incorrect answer, but it is indicated that they do not guess the answers. Table 2 highlights the results of this comparison. In Table 2, several questions generated a high incorrect to the "Knew" response in pre-test. However, the percentage is far below the percentage post test. It can be argued that correcting the incorrect knowledge will become more important result of the workshop than just the increase the percentage of correct responses.

Table 2. Summary by Question of Incorrect Responses When the Participant Indicated They "Knew" the Answer Was Correct

Question	Pre	Post
	% Incorrect Selecting "Knew"	% Incorrect Selecting "Knew"
Q1	0	0
Q2	24	10
Q3	28	3
Q4	15	0
Q5	0	0
Q6	24	1
Q7	21	5
Q8	9	4
Q9	9	1
Q10	12	5
Q11	18	5
Q12	15	4
Q13	9	1
Q14	6	2
Q15	15	1

Source: TFA Workshop Test, 2019

***The Summary Report of CTI 13 2018A Project is intended to be the APEC Publication.**