

MARKET ACCESS GROUP
Report for the
CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

For AMM’s information

(a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2024

- Environmental Goods Workplan – The endorsed 2024 Environmental Goods Workplan provides a framework for APEC’s expanding agenda on environmental goods and addressing ministerial directives. The updated Workplan encompasses MAG’s ongoing efforts on key issues such as HS transposition, the Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods, and further work on non-tariff measures and regulatory issues for environmental goods, as directed by the Ministers.
- HS Transposition of the APEC Environmental Goods List from HS 2017 to HS 2022 Nomenclature for Reference Purposes – Members have successfully completed the transposition of the APEC Environmental Goods List from the HS 2017 to the HS 2022 nomenclature. The economies engaged in productive exchange of views and members worked collaboratively through intersessional efforts to address remaining issues. The completion of the transposition exercise underscores the collective commitment to ensuring that the list remains updated and relevant, supporting the region’s environmental and trade goal.
- Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods: Progress continues on the Draft Framework, led by Australia. Australia informed members about the advancement towards sharing the Third Draft of the Framework, which supports the creation of a new, voluntary, and non-binding APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods. In addition, economies engaged in discussions about the potential elements to be included in the Framework, contributing to its ongoing refinement and development.

(b) Work undertaken by fora in pursuit of the [Putrajaya Vision 2040](#), including through the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\)](#)

- Under the Trade and Investment Driver – Collective Actions Progress liberalisation of trade in goods by reducing unnecessary barriers, strengthening trade facilitation, and fostering regulatory reform:

Work on Support for The Multilateral Trading System (MTS)

- The MAG discussed the **WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA) Expansion**, emphasizing the growing importance of digital technologies and the pivotal role of ICT goods in the global digital economy. Two key studies were reviewed: the first was the final report of a project led by Japan titled "*Study on the Impact of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and the Future of ICT Trade*", which included recommendations and future initiatives gathered from an online workshop. These contributions aim to enhance discussions on how APEC

<p>economies can further leverage ICT trade for sustainable development. Additionally, the Policy Support Unit (PSU) presented its study titled <i>"More than Just Another Expansion: How Can Economies Reinvigorate the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) through a Bolder ITA3?"</i> This study proposed various strategies for a potential ITA3, including fostering stronger dialogues between governments and industries, adopting a more flexible approach, and more effectively addressing non-tariff barriers.</p> <p>Work on Support for Regional Economic Integration (REI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MAG continues to implement the APEC Pathfinder on Facilitating Trade in Remanufactured Products, with significant progress made through the US-led project titled <i>"Trade of Remanufactured Consumer Electronic Products in APEC"</i>. The outcomes of the workshop aim to support APEC economies in developing and strengthening policies around remanufactured consumer electronics, while enhancing capacity building efforts and promoting trade in these products across the region. • The MAG supported the use of the APEC Trade Repository, as Indonesia and the Philippines shared their experiences and best practices during the discussions. They emphasized the need to raise awareness of the tool and the importance of using promotional materials effectively to boost its adoption across the region, and to increase the utilization of the APEC TR for greater economic integration in the region.
<p>(c) Work Undertaken by the fora in response to Ministerial, SOM and CTI direction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on (1) Environmental Goods Workplan, (2) HS Transposition of the APEC Environmental Goods List from HS 2017 to HS 2022 Nomenclature for Reference Purposes, and (3) Framework of Discussions for Producing an APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods.
<p>(d) Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora (if any); &</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other important initiatives that contribute to the CTI's objectives were discussed, including work on the APEC Trade Repository, APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity (A2C2), and Asia-Pacific Model E-port Network (APMEN) to support regional economic integration.
<p>(e) Private sector / Stakeholder engagement and cross-fora collaboration in 20204 (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>(f) Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers (if applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil