Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures

The APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP), which reports to the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI), was established in 1994 as a forum to fulfil the commitments of APEC Leaders and Ministers relating to customs matters. The SCCP's goals are focused on trade facilitation, trade security and related enforcement matters, taking into account the responsibility of each customs administration for the effective implementation of legitimate border measures. The goals, structure and administration of the SCCP are laid out in its terms of reference.

The sub-committee has adopted "facilitation, accountability, consistency, transparency and simplification" as its basic guiding principles.

The SCCP will identify and pursue:

- Actions for regional enhancement of harmonized and simplified customs procedures
- Actions on enforcement matters related to trade facilitation
- Joint actions and linkages with other government agencies and business/private sector organizations related to trade facilitation
- Actions which contribute to the common development of customs human resources
- Actions which foster an IT-friendly environment in customs procedures including paperless trading initiatives such as single window within individual economies
- Actions which promote the security of the global supply chain and promote trade facilitation

The SCCP also addresses customs chokepoints or bottlenecks as listed in the APEC <u>Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan Phase II</u> (SCFAP II 2017-2022), and in alignment with the <u>World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)</u> and the <u>Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs</u> in the Asia Pacific Region.

These are examples of initiatives and outcomes the SCCP has carried over the past 20 years:

The SCCP's efforts over the past two decades have contributed greatly to the two-time 5 percent reductions of APEC trade transaction costs and have played a fundamental role in the 10 percent improvement in supply chain performance among APEC economies in 2015.

These efforts will contribute to contribute in the development of a fair, transparent and dynamic economic and trading environment in the Asia-Pacific region.

The SCCP has three guests (with 3-year terms) that participate at its official meetings:

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