

# **36<sup>th</sup> APEC HRDWG Education Network Meeting**

## **May 5-6 2019 Viña del Mar, Valparaíso, Chile**

### **Summary Report**

#### **Highlights**

The 36<sup>th</sup> APEC HRDWG Education Network Meeting (hereinafter referred to as the EDNET meeting) was held in Viña del Mar, Valparaíso, Chile on 5-6 May 2019.

Sixteen member economies (Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Peru; Russian Federation; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and the United States) and representative from APRU attended the meeting. The EDNET meeting focused on APEC Report on Education and Economic Development and follow-up; policy discussion; reports on recently completed, ongoing and proposed projects; preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting; and cross-fora collaboration.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Wang Yan, EDNET Coordinator, with Ms. Eliana Chamizo, Officer of International Relations in Ministry of Education (Chile) as co-chair.

#### **Key Outcomes**

##### **Planning for APEC 2019**

1. Chile presented Chile's 2019 priorities and its link to EDNET work.

##### **APEC Report on Education and Economic Development**

2. EDNET Coordinator introduced the process of drafting, editing and finalizing APEC Report on Education and Economic Development (abbreviated as REED), followed by presentations on each chapter by authors from China; Chile; Australia; Russian Federation and Malaysia.

The delegates acknowledged substantial contribution of REED that reflected the contribution of multiple governments and topics that are relevant to APEC economies and the education community writ-large. The report was commended by the delegates for its quality and breadth. The delegates expressed their appreciation to EDNET Coordinator Dr. Wang Yan, authors of each chapter and case studies as well as those who have contributed to it.

3. Member economies agreed to disseminate the REED online and through hard copies within their respective Ministries and Departments and beyond. APRU acknowledged its relevance to the universities and would support the dissemination of the report through the platform of APRU.
4. The delegates agreed to consider developing this style of Report every three or four years potentially as part of preparation for APEC Education Ministerial Meetings.

5. For sustainability of joint efforts of member economies for sharing up-to-date knowledge and information, member economies considered to produce an education policy brief or think piece report on an annual basis that could be featured in future policy discussions at annual EDNET meetings and/or submitted to leaders where appropriate.
6. The delegates will further discuss the theme of the policy brief or think piece report, with host economy playing a leading role and member economies being involved inter-sessionally or at EDNET meetings.

### **Policy Discussion**

7. Australia, Chile, USA and Indonesia presented on “Qualification Frameworks”, “Qualifications Recognition and Regional Mobility”, “Digital Skill Development” and “Leveraging Digital Technology to Improve Education Quality in Rural and Remote Areas” respectively at policy discussion.

### **Reports on Recently Completed, Ongoing and Proposed Projects**

8. The delegates presented three projects completed by Australia; China; and Chile; 12 ongoing projects undertaken by Japan/Thailand/Chile; Australia; Republic of Korea; Chinese Taipei; and Russian Federation/Canada; as well as projects newly proposed by Japan/Malaysia/Thailand; Malaysia/Singapore; Malaysia; China; Chinese Taipei; and New Zealand.
  - China, USA, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand and Russian Federation co-sponsored the project “Informatics and Data Science Education Reform for Digital, Inclusive and Sustainable Society (InMside II)” proposed by Japan, Malaysia and Thailand.
  - Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, China, Chile, Indonesia, Thailand and Japan co-sponsored the project “Actualization of Integrated STEM Degree Programmes” proposed by Malaysia and Singapore.
  - China co-sponsored the project “My digitalmaker APEC Challenge” proposed by Malaysia.
  - Thailand co-sponsored the project “Boosting APEC People to People Connectivity Through Digital Media: University Based Approaches and Strategies” proposed by China.
  - Singapore, Russia and Chile co-sponsored the project “Expand Cooperation among APEC Economies throughout Language Education II: Innovative Modes of APEC Cooperation for APEC Bilateral and Multilateral Education” proposed by China.

- Indonesia confirmed co-sponsorship of the project “APEC Forum on Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship II: Building Capacity and Collaborative Connectivity for Young Entrepreneurs” proposed by Chinese Taipei.

### **Preparatory Session on 7<sup>th</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting**

9. The delegates deliberated on preparation of the 7th APEC Education Ministerial Meeting. The delegates will wait for Malaysia’s decision on hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> AEMM in 2020. Meanwhile, the delegates welcome other member economies to consider to host, co-host or support the 7<sup>th</sup> AEMM or preparatory meetings after consultation with their government agencies or authorities respectively.
10. Australia presented a proposed Progress Report on APEC Education Strategy and its Action Plan and options for deliverables for the next AEMM, supported by the USA. The delegates agreed to develop the progress report and submit it to education ministers of APEC member economies with or without a physical meeting of education ministers of APEC member economies in 2020.
11. The delegates are welcome to host preparatory meetings for the next AEMM including developing the progress report. Malaysia will hold one preparatory meeting on the progress report during SOM1 in February 2020.

### **Cross-Fora Presentation and Discussion.**

12. APRU shared their work relating to education.
13. The delegates welcomed presentation made by Mr. You Liang, former chair of Group of Friends Disability, and discussed Coordinating Mechanism on Disability Issues. To address commonly concerned disability issues from an education perspective, delegates agreed to have disability issues as a standing item for policy discussion on the agenda of future EDNET meetings and consider disability issues in developing education projects and initiatives. The delegates also discussed the issues relating to other under-represented people and will propose to the HRDWG to consider these issues appropriately.

### **Discussion on Baseline Report on Current Education Status in Asia Pacific Region**

14. The delegates agreed to update the 21 chapters in Baseline Report on Current Education Status in Asia Pacific Region by the end of this year as part of the preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> AEMM.

