



APEC Business Advisory Council

SOM1 PPFS
2024

Presentation of ABAC to Ministers and
2023 Outcomes

Policy Partnership for Food Security Plenary Day 1

Lima, Peru
February 24, 2024

www.abaonline.org

The APEC Business Advisory Council



- Recognizing the integral role of business and the value of representative business advice on key issues, APEC leaders established the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) in November 1995.
- The APEC Business Advisory Council is the **private-sector arm of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation**. The main mandate of this council is to advise leaders and other APEC officials on issues of interest to business. ABAC also responds to requests from various APEC sub-groups for information about the business perspective of specific areas of cooperation.
- 1 • ABAC has been engaged in food security efforts since 1999. **In 2009 ABAC issued a strategic framework for food security** which among its recommendations called for the establishment of an ongoing mechanism at a high level to ensure the policy and technical cooperation necessary to achieve an integrated food system.
- In 2010, APEC Ministers Responsible for Food Security declared that consultation with relevant stakeholders is critical to making sustained progress towards food security goals and instructed Senior Officials to **integrate ABAC into APEC's food security efforts** in a more substantive manner. In 2011, APEC Senior Officials agreed to create a Policy Partnership on Food Security.

The APEC Business Advisory Council



1st ABAC Meeting

Auckland, New Zealand
12-14 February, 2023

2nd ABAC Meeting

Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam
27-30 April, 2023

3rd ABAC Meeting

Cebu, Philippines
27-30 July, 2023

4th ABAC Meeting

San Francisco, California,
USA
11-13 November, 2023

Activities

2

- Four in-person meetings each year
- Annual Letter and Report to APEC Economic Leaders
- Other Letters and Reports
 - APEC Ministers for Women
 - APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade
 - APEC Food Security Ministers
 - APEC Energy Ministers
 - APEC Health Ministers
 - APEC SME Ministers
 - APEC Finance Ministers



2

2023 ABAC Letter to APEC Food Security Ministers



1

Recommendations

1. Promote Sustainable Agriculture
2. Enhance Market Access and Trade Facilitation
3. Foster Public-Private collaboration

APEC 2023 Food Security Ministerial Chair Statement

2

- APEC Food Security minister acknowledged the “benefits in engaging with the private sector” to address the current food security crisis.
- Encouraged “strengthening public-private partnership in expanding digitalisation and promoting innovation.”
- Appreciation for ABAC’s continued leadership as Vice Chair and engagement with PPFS.



30 July 2023

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
Chair, APEC Food Security Ministerial Meeting
Secretary of Agriculture
United States

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

On behalf of the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC), I would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to address the critical issue of food security in the APEC region. ABAC recognizes the vital importance of ensuring access to safe, nutritious, sufficient, sustainable and affordable food for all, and we believe that strong collaboration between APEC economies and the private sector is essential in achieving this goal.

As the APEC region continues to grapple with the harmful impacts of climate change, food insecurity, population growth, and lingering challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, ABAC acknowledges the efforts made by APEC economies to maintain production, distribution, and trade of food and agricultural goods. Now, more than ever, innovative, sustainable, and resilient food systems are needed to adequately support the APEC region. By working together, we can create an enabling environment that ensures food security, promotes inclusive economic growth, and safeguards the wellbeing of our communities.

As the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS) advances the Implementation Plan of the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030, ABAC is eager to see the completion of a comprehensive review of the functioning of PPFS, as agreed by all APEC economies in paragraph 18(b) of the Food Security Roadmap. This is fundamental to ensuring that there is a meaningful partnership with the private sector, one which “better reflects the priorities and the interests of the private sector and seeks to optimize their involvement.”

In alignment with the APEC 2023 agriculture sub-theme “Together Achieving Sustainable, Equitable, and Resilient Agri-Food Systems,” ABAC remains steadfast in our support for these efforts, as a way to enable opportunity, equity and sustainability for our communities. Your meeting presents a critical opportunity for members to advance concrete actions that will address both the immediate challenges facing our region and contribute to realizing the Putrajaya Vision by 2040, including through the implementation of the Aotearoa Plan of Action, to ensure lasting food security, food safety, and improved nutrition for all as well as reducing food loss and waste in the region by promoting agricultural and food trade, sustainability, innovation, and by promoting green, resilient, and low-emission agriculture. To that end, we put forward the following recommendations:

3

2023 SOM3 PPFS ABAC Recommendations



ABAC Recommendations on Food Security endorsed by 21 economies during SOM3 PPFS meeting in Seattle (August 2023).

- PPFS Vice Chair representing ABAC facilitated the endorsement.

- 1 **Explore and adopt the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) economic model in alignment with the Bangkok Goals on BCG Economy**, which will drive agricultural transformations, reduce food loss and waste, and encourage regenerative agricultural practices.
- 2 **Encourage the growth of future food**, such as alternative and plant-based protein and insect-based protein..
- 3 **Facilitate the flow of agricultural products** by reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers, simplifying customs procedures, and harmonizing regulatory standards while ensuring food safety and consumer protection.
- 4 **Explore the development of a Regulatory Sandbox for Agricultural Technology (AgTech)** as potential tool for regulators and innovators to conduct testing with AgTech prior to their full entry into the marketplace to boost innovation while ensuring that consumers are protected by adequate regulations.
- 5 **Encourage public and private investments** in agricultural research and development, infrastructure, and human capital development to enhance productivity and competitiveness.

4

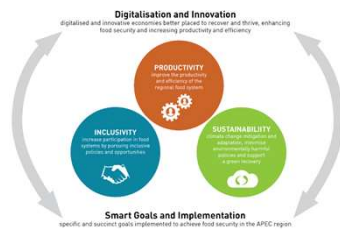
2023 ABAC IV Discussions



1 The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 (New Zealand 2021)

Public-Private Partnership for Food Security

leveraging the public – private sector partnership to achieve food security in the APEC region



Public Private Partnerships

18. (a) Promote **regular dialogue between public and private sectors** within each economy to advise PPFS on how to enhance the business environment for the food sector.

18. (b) **Review the functioning and terms of reference of the PPFS** to ensure a meaningful partnership with ABAC and the broader private sector, which better reflects the priorities and interests of the private sector and seeks to optimise their involvement.

2 Endorsed Implementation Plan of the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 (Thailand 2022)

18. (b) Evaluation of progress: By 2025, a review of the PPFS TOR as specified by this target has been completed.

ABAC PPFS Vice Chair will seek ABAC's input to submit recommendations on PPFS TOR review in SOM3 2024.

2023 ABAC Letter to APEC Food Security Ministers: "ABAC is eager to see the completion of a comprehensive review of the functioning of PPFS."

- Creation of ABAC unified and endorsed recommendations for the PPFS TOR review.
- Discuss potential coordination to **streamline ABAC's role** in representing the private sector and present a unified 21 economy response to discussions for 18. (a) and (b).

5



Thank You