

2023 Status Update of CTI Pathfinder Initiatives

CTI Pathfinder	Lead Economy/ies	Year Launched	Update on Implementation (Indicate progress such as status of discussions and projects/capacity building initiatives)	Membership (as of October 2023)
Pathfinder on the APEC Technology Choice Principles (here)	United States	2006	<p>In 2017, the United States tabled a proposal for an FTAAP work program on technology choice in CTI. The work program did not move forward, but aimed to enable the sharing of policy objectives and experiences that help spur the development of innovative technologies, promote freedom of technology choice, and maximize flexibility for goods and service providers in choosing which technologies to use for the provision of goods and services.</p> <p>The United States continues to consult with economies on the Pathfinder and welcome economies' views on its applicability to APEC's work on the digital economy and opportunities to further the discussion.</p>	<p>15 (AUS; CDA; CHL; HKC; JPN; MAS; MEX; NZ; PNG; PE; PHL; SGP; CT; US; VN)</p>
Pathfinder to Enhance Supply Chain Connectivity By Establishing a Baseline De Minimis Value (here)	United States	2011	<p>APEC's continued effort to improve supply chain connectivity is important to maximizing the economic benefits of the internet and digital economy, especially MSMEs.</p> <p>A key aspect of supply chain connectivity is streamlining customs procedures and lowering shipping costs for our businesses and consumers – that is the goal of the Pathfinder to Enhance Supply Chain Connectivity by Establishing a Baseline De Minimis Value. Commercially significant de minimis levels streamline customs paperwork, but also lower shipping costs for our businesses by eliminating collection of commercially insignificant duties and taxes. The Pathfinder's de minimis threshold is the equivalent of \$100USD, which the United States sees as a baseline that all economies can</p>	<p>11 (BD; HKC; JPN; ROK; MAS; NZ; PH; RUS; SGP; CT; US)</p>

			<p>work towards meeting or exceeding, and we would encourage other economies to consider joining the Pathfinder as a concrete action to support the further internationalization of MSMEs in the region and making progress towards the Bogor goals.</p> <p>The United States encouraged more economies to join the Pathfinder as a concrete action to support internationalization of MSMEs in the region and to make progress towards the Bogor Goals.</p>	
<p>Pathfinder on Permanent Customs Duty Moratorium on Electronic Transmissions, Including Content Transmitted Electronically (here)</p>	United States	2016	<p>This Pathfinder enables APEC economies to lead the global standard of removing traditional trade impediments in the digital world, such as agreeing not to impose customs duties on electronic transmissions, including content transmitted electronically, in order to provide predictability for businesses and consumers.</p> <p>Based on the common FTA practice, the supporting APEC economies seek Leaders’ endorsement of this Pathfinder to maintain a permanent moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions, including content transmitted electronically.</p> <p>The United States encouraged more economies to join the Pathfinder on Permanent Customs Duties Moratorium on Electronic Transmissions (Hong Kong, China was the most recent economy to join in SOM1 2020). This Pathfinder was discussed at the U.S.-hosted Digital Trade Policy Dialogues (TPD) May 2021 and October 2021, February 2022, and February 2023.</p> <p>Some economies are also working to develop a potential “APEC statement in support of the WTO Work Programme and Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce” which could potentially include language on the moratorium. It was noted that ahead of the 2023 MRT meeting, ABAC at CTI2/2023 and in their letter to MRT (2023/SOM2/CTI/004), called to make permanent the WTO Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions.</p>	<p>13 (AUS; BD; CDA; CHL; HKC; JPN; ROK; MEX; NZ; PE; SGP; CT; US)</p>

			New Zealand hosted a virtual APEC Workshop on the “Impacts of the Moratorium on Customs duties on electronic transmissions (Moratorium on CDET) on the business sector”, (CTI 02 2023S) in July 2023.	
Pathfinder on Building Blocks for Facilitating Digital Trade (here)	United States	2019	<p>This Pathfinder provides the opportunity for APEC economies to continue examining issues related to digital trade, and to use these “building blocks” to implement policies and frameworks, in addition to identifying new issues for discussion. The purpose of this Pathfinder is to enable economies to facilitate digital trade both within and outside their economies, and promote innovative, inclusive, and sustainable growth in the region and globally. CTI endorsed the Work Plan to Identify Building Blocks to Facilitate Digital Trade for 2018.</p> <p>The United States encouraged more economies to join this Pathfinder and adopt these building blocks. It was also discussed at the U.S.-hosted Digital Trade Policy Dialogues in May and October 2021, February 2022, and February 2023.</p> <p>More recently in 2023, the United States tabled a proposal for a “Workshop on Implementing the APEC Pathfinder on Building Blocks for Facilitating Digital Trade”.</p>	11 (AUS; CDA; CHL; JPN; KOR; MEX; NZ; PE; SGP; CT; US)
Pathfinder on Inclusive Trade (here)	Chile & Korea	2017	<p>Korea held "Supply Chain Forum for MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific: Improving MSMEs' Supply Chain Resilience and Enhancing Cooperation in APEC" on October 13, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examine the current challenges that MSMEs in the APEC region are facing in terms of supply chain disruptions - Share best practices in addressing supply chain disruptions and explore the role of digital technology with other APEC economies 	12 (BD; CDA; CHL; PRC; HKC; ROK; MAS; MEX; NZ; PHL; RUS & THA)

			- Formulate actionable policy recommendations tailored to the needs of MSMEs	
Pathfinder to enhance supply chain connectivity by establishing a baseline de minimis value (here)	United States	2011	Nil	11 (BD; HKC; JPN; ROK; MAS; NZ; PH; RUS; SGP; CT; US)
Facilitating Trade in Remanufactured Goods (here)	United States	2011	A self-funded project “Trade of Remanufactured Consumer Electronic Products in APEC” (MAG 01 2023S) is currently under implementation Brunei joined the pathfinder on 16 October 2023	13 (AUS; BD, CDA; CHL; JPN; KOR; MAS; MEX; NZ; PNG; SGP; CT; US)
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Mutual Recognition Arrangement (EEMRA)	Participating economies	1999	See https://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/Sub-Committee-on-Standards-and-Conformance/apec_eemra	Part 1: <u>Information Exchange</u> 18 (AUS; BD; CHL; PRC; HKC; INA; JPN; ROK; MAS; NZ; PNG; PE; PHL; RUS; SGP; CT; THA; VN) Part 2: <u>Acceptance of test reports</u> 5 (AUS; BD; MAS; NZ; SGP) Part 3: <u>Acceptance of Certification</u> 4 (AUS; BD; NZ; SGP)