

Report of the First Technical Workshop on International Implementation of the APEC Privacy Framework, 2009

“Data Privacy & E-Commerce: Fostering Economic Growth”

19-20 February 2008

Introduction

The first technical workshop was held in Lima, Peru on February 19 and 20 of 2008. Approximately two hundred attendees included delegates from 15 economies.

The themes and goals of the meeting built upon the findings of the Data Privacy Subgroup at its meeting in Canberra, Australia in September 2007. At that meeting, the Subgroup agreed to a Pathfinder program of projects to provide resources for the adoption of the APEC privacy principles and to test its practical implementation.

Purpose of the Workshop

The purpose of the workshop was to foster a collaborative environment through an enhanced understanding of the diverse cultures of privacy among APEC member economies and to highlight the manner in which the APEC Framework can address privacy in the region in a manner that is effective and that respects the differences across the region.

The work of the workshop was further intended to provide information and resources to emerging economies about the benefits and opportunities provided by APEC adoption. Specifically, the workshop included sessions focusing on the needs of organizations seeking or providing processing services in the APEC region.

Finally, the workshop goals included encouraging the involvement of economies, particularly emerging economies, in the Pathfinder projects and to further the progress of those projects.

Structure of the Workshop

The workshop began by providing an opportunity for Asian and Latin American economies to discuss their culture of privacy and the governance structure for privacy. It provided time for group discussion, including audience participation, about the manner in which the APEC Framework could provide effective privacy protection and accountability across the region in a manner that takes into consideration and respects the diverse perspectives of individual economies.

The first day also included two panels that focused on the requirements of organizations seeking or providing processing services within the APEC region.

The second day examined in detail the manner in which adoption and implementation of the APEC principles may foster economic growth. Attention was then turned to the Pathfinder projects and how they might be used to build capacity for privacy governance under the APEC Framework. Before the workshop closed, the Pathfinders were again the subject of discussion, this time to consider the findings of the workshop and the implications of the workshop's findings on future work of the Pathfinder projects.