

## DIGITAL ECONOMY STEERING GROUP (DESG)

*including DESG Data Privacy Subgroup (DPS)*

### CONVENOR'S REPORT AND INPUTS FOR 2021 CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

In line with 2018 CSOM recommendations, the DESG preserves the functions of the former Electronic Commerce Steering Group (ECSG) and continues to report to the CTI on matters of the ECSG's work programme on e-commerce and trade-related digital economy issues.

*NOTE: For matters related to the implementation of the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap (AIDER), the DESG reports to the SOM.*

#### (a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2021

- Survey on E-Commerce Regulations in APEC, **Singapore**. This database of information, which is available to the public on the APEC Trade Repository, facilitates the transparency of economies' domestic regulations and approaches on e-commerce
- Ongoing work on the Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) and Privacy Recognition for Processors (PRP) Systems which promote interoperability between different data privacy regulations to facilitate trade and build trust in e-commerce
  - Re-certification of 2 Accountability Agents (AA): Korea Internet and Security Agency (KISA) as a CBPR AA for Korea, and NCC Group as a CBPR & PRP AA for the United States
  - Certification of 2 new AAs: BBB National Programs as a CBPR & PRP AA for the United States, and Institute for Information Industry (III) as a CBPR AA for Chinese Taipei
- Promoting regulatory cooperation through the Cross Border Privacy Enforcement Arrangement (CPEA)
  - CPEA Administrators accepted the participation of Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) as the sole privacy enforcement agency for Korea, replacing the Ministry of Interior and Safety (MOIS) and the Korea Communications Commission (KCC)
- Submission of updated Information Privacy Individual Action Plans (IAP) by **Australia, New Zealand and the United States**
- Study "Review of APEC CBPR System", **Japan and PSU**
- Comparative study on best practices to detect and avoid unintended biases in Artificial Intelligence systems, **Chile**

#### (b) Work Undertaken by the fora in response to COVID-19 (in particular in fulfilling the [2021 Ministers Responsible for Trade Statement & two annexes](#) & the [2020 Declaration on Facilitating the Movement of Essential Goods](#))

- In March 2021, DESG Data Privacy Subgroup (DPS) members issued a joint statement on data privacy in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

#### (c) Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora (if any)

- Open invitation to all member economies to participate in the work of the small voluntary working groups such as the Accountability and Administration Study Group (AASG) and the Study Group on data portability
- Further discussion about the development of the CBPR system within the DPS

- Consideration of further areas of work in the Privacy Framework
- Submitting and updating Information Privacy IAPs, and consideration of possible ways to make IAPs more useful

(d) Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers (if applicable)

- N/A