



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

**Independent Assessment  
of the  
Experts Group on Illegal Logging  
and Associated Trade**

**Report to the APEC SOM Steering Committee  
on Economic and Technical Cooperation**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                                              |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Table of Contents.....                                                       | i   |
| Abbreviations and Acronyms.....                                              | iii |
| Executive Summary .....                                                      | iv  |
| Overview.....                                                                | 1   |
| 1. Methodology .....                                                         | 1   |
| 2. Alignment with APEC Priorities .....                                      | 4   |
| A. Alignment of Forum Outputs with APEC priorities.....                      | 4   |
| Leaders and Ministerial Statements .....                                     | 4   |
| ECOTECH .....                                                                | 5   |
| Table 1: EGILAT contribution to ECOTECH medium priorities .....              | 5   |
| APEC INDONESIA 2013.....                                                     | 6   |
| Table 2: EGILAT contribution to APEC INDONESIA 2013 priority areas .....     | 6   |
| APEC Forestry Initiatives .....                                              | 6   |
| Table 3: Proposed Structure for APEC Forestry Initiatives .....              | 9   |
| Table 4: Ministries attending EGILAT meetings.....                           | 10  |
| Gender.....                                                                  | 10  |
| B. Alignment of Forum Projects with APEC Priorities.....                     | 10  |
| Quantitative/ Qualitative Analysis of Projects .....                         | 10  |
| Project Funding Challenges .....                                             | 10  |
| Table 5: Opportunities for EGILAT projects to source APEC funding .....      | 11  |
| In-kind funding .....                                                        | 13  |
| Capacity building needs .....                                                | 13  |
| Table 6: Level of understanding of APEC project funding .....                | 13  |
| New EGILAT initiatives .....                                                 | 14  |
| Table 7: Survey results: level of active discussion in EGILAT meetings ..... | 15  |
| C. Forum Operations .....                                                    | 16  |
| Structure of the forum .....                                                 | 16  |
| Relevance of the Terms of Reference.....                                     | 16  |
| Strategic Direction.....                                                     | 16  |
| Table 8: Level of satisfaction with EGILATs strategic direction.....         | 16  |
| Priority topics/ issues for EGILAT.....                                      | 17  |

|                                                                                |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table 9: EGILAT priority topics/ issues .....                                  | 18 |
| Professional Networks .....                                                    | 19 |
| Compliance with APEC policies .....                                            | 20 |
| EGILAT Leadership .....                                                        | 20 |
| Meeting and inter-sessional arrangements.....                                  | 21 |
| Candidate for streamlining/ merger .....                                       | 22 |
| D. Cooperation .....                                                           | 22 |
| With other APEC fora.....                                                      | 22 |
| Table 10: APEC forums for potential collaboration with EGILAT .....            | 23 |
| With the private sector .....                                                  | 24 |
| With other international organizations .....                                   | 24 |
| Table 11: Non-APEC priority organizations for exploring joint cooperation..... | 25 |
| Table 12: Should EGILAT seek non-APEC sources of funding? .....                | 26 |
| 3. Summary of Recommendations .....                                            | 27 |
| Appendix.....                                                                  | 28 |

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|         |                                                             |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| ABAC    | APEC Business Advisory Council                              |
| ACT     | Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group              |
| AIMP    | APEC Information Management Portal                          |
| APEC    | Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation                           |
| ATCWG   | Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group            |
| BMC     | Budget Management Committee                                 |
| CTI     | Committee on Trade and Investment                           |
| EC      | Economic Committee                                          |
| ECOTECH | Economic and Technical Cooperation                          |
| EGILAT  | APEC Experts Groups on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade |
| EWG     | Energy Working Group                                        |
| MAG     | Market Access Group                                         |
| MRT     | Ministers Responsible for Trade                             |
| PPFS    | Policy Partnership on Food Security                         |
| PPST    | Policy Partnership on Science, Technology                   |
| PPWE    | Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy                 |
| RCG     | Regulatory Coherence Group                                  |
| SCCP    | Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures                         |
| SCE     | SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH                           |
| SCSC    | Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance                  |
| SOM     | Senior Officials' Meeting                                   |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Expert Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT; ‘the group’) is the newest APEC forum. It was established in 2011, under direction of the APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade and held its first meeting in February 2012 in Moscow, Russia.

A review of its operations and outputs after only one year of operation presents both opportunities and challenges.

In the normal four year SCE review cycle there would routinely be a number of years of meetings and project outcomes against which to make a forum assessment. Following discussion with the Secretariat, to be most useful for both the SCE and EGILAT, this assessment has therefore sought to also consider forward-looking aspects and issues to assist with enhancing the capacity of EGILAT.

The assessment of such a new group also provides an opportunity through which Senior Officials can be provided with a ‘snap-shot’ evaluation of contemporary efforts to implement new initiatives in APEC. Some of the assessment analysis and recommendations may therefore be instructive for Senior Officials’ consideration of wider issues in the administration and oversight of APEC fora – particularly new groups.

The policy strength and value of EGILAT to regional forestry dialogues is its specific focus on illegal logging and associated trade. There is no other forestry organization that brings together major timber producer, processor and consumer economies to cooperate and build capacity on this important and sensitive topic. EGILAT is therefore uniquely placed to make a strong contribution to addressing the problems of illegal logging and associated trade in the region.

The group has formed well and successfully outlined its strategic objectives through strong member-driven leadership. Delivering the EGILAT multi-year Strategic Plan and 2013 Work Plan at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT meeting in Jakarta was a significant achievement and milestone in the establishment of the group. It is recommended the group continue to enhance strategic discussions by also considering cross-cutting issues relevant to illegal logging and associated trade in APEC.

The assessment identified useful information on the membership’s view of EGILAT’s priority issues/ topics. It is recommended EGILAT prioritise its limited resources onto those priority issues of interest to most of the membership. This will ensure the broadest engagement and impact of EGILAT activities in the short to medium-term.

The key issue of concern arising from the review is inadequate access to sustainable APEC funding for EGILAT projects. Specifically, the focus of most concern is the lower priority categorisation of illegal logging projects as ‘Rank 2’ for consideration by the Budget Management Committee (BMC) under the current APEC project criteria. The assessment recommends SCE consider reviewing APEC funding criteria to improve opportunities for

illegal logging projects to access APEC funding. Disciplined, well-coordinated and low-cost approaches in EGILAT will likely characterise its first successful projects. Better access to APEC project funding will be required to support the continued establishment of the group and successful capacity building initiatives in the medium-term.

There is a strong sense among the membership that EGILAT to date has served as a useful platform for policy and regulatory information exchange. There is also a widely held view that EGILAT should be seeking to transition from rigid set-piece exchanges to a more dynamic and outcome-focused agenda. Such an agenda would include well-supported projects and more active dialogue to strengthen efforts to address illegal logging and associated trade in the region.

Leadership of the group has been well served to date by: direction from the Chair, Dato' Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman; initiative from individual lead members; and key support from the Program Director, Ms Natalie Nii. There is genuine sense of goodwill among delegates to work together to successfully establish the group. The group should continue to recognize and afford a high priority to establishing the foundations for strong professional networks within EGILAT.

The report recommends the group consolidate on its success and formalize a member-driven leadership approach – either through establishing Deputy Chair(s) or an Advisory Committee to assist the Chair to drive priorities. Such an approach recognises that resources are scarce and current funding criteria unfavourable for securing sustainable APEC project funds. Therefore, the EGILAT will need to draw upon internal talent, experience and resources (self-funding/ in-kind) to ensure the momentum of the group can be maintained at this key point in its establishment. Progress in the short-term will largely be dependent on well-coordinated and low-cost member-driven efforts.

The assessment also finds there is generally good policy alignment between APEC goals and objectives and those articulated in EGILAT's key governance documents: terms of reference; multi-year strategic plan; and 2013 work plan. There is however; significant scope to improve EGILAT's connection and alignment with broader APEC forestry initiatives. Currently, there are relatively weak linkages between the Ministers Responsible for Forestry meeting and the work of EGILAT – both new APEC initiatives.

The work of EGILAT could be more strongly supported by linking up with broader APEC forestry initiatives in order to maximise synergies and political support for action on illegal logging and associated trade. The assessment recommends Senior Officials give consideration to the establishment of a new APEC Forestry Working Group to coordinate and progress APEC forestry initiatives. The EGILAT would then report through the Forestry Working Group to Senior Officials and be responsive to the priorities and goals of both Ministers Responsible for Forestry and Ministers Responsible for Trade. The proposed structure for consideration by Senior Officials reflects general practice for sectoral initiatives in APEC.

There is also scope for improving awareness within the membership of APEC gender objectives and in encouraging the participation of women in all EGILAT activities.

Greater linkages with other priority APEC groups and collaboration with priority non-APEC organization will also be key to advancing EGILAT's objectives and maximizing its contribution in the region. It is recommended that Senior Officials give consideration to developing models of best practice in sourcing appropriate non-APEC funding contributions to assist working groups such as EGILAT.

It will be important to set the right level of ambition and have realistic expectations of EGILAT's progress over the near term. In a challenging funding environment, EGILAT will need to continue to draw upon internal resources and seek new funding avenues in order to consolidate on the good progress made in the group's establishment.

It is the conclusion of the independent assessment that EGILAT is not a candidate for streamlining or merger with other APEC fora.

## OVERVIEW

In 2011, APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade directed officials to establish an experts group in order to promote trade in legally harvested forest products, combat illegal logging and associated trade, and build capacity. In Honolulu, Hawaii in 2011, APEC Leaders committed to work to implement appropriate measures to prohibit trade in illegally harvested forest products and undertake additional activities in APEC to combat illegal logging and associated trade.

The Experts Group directly supports the overarching goals envisaged by APEC Leaders and Ministers. Specifically, in Yokohama, Japan in 2010, APEC Leaders pledged to seek growth that is compatible with global efforts for protection of the environment and to transition to a green economy. APEC Leaders further agreed to enhance cooperation to address concerns with illegal logging and associated trade and to promote sustainable forest management and rehabilitation. APEC Leaders reaffirmed this commitment in Vladivostok, Russia in 2012.

The Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) coordinates and manages APEC's economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) agenda, which is outlined in the Osaka Action Agenda. In 1996, an APEC Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development was adopted to guide members in implementing the Osaka Action Agenda.

The SCE supervises the independent assessment of APEC fora on a four year rotating basis to identify ways to improve the operation and function of the group and to strengthen their strategic priorities and direction for future work. The EGILAT was identified by SCE for an independent assessment to be completed in 2013.

### 1. Methodology

The independent assessment was designed to address a wide range of needs of the EGILAT in order to strengthen its work process.

Mr Vincent Hudson, an independent consultant from Australia, was contracted by the APEC Secretariat to undertake the independent assessment of EGILAT for the SCE. The independent assessor worked with the EGILAT Chair and members, the SCE, and the APEC Secretariat, to provide the analysis in this report of the work and operations of the group and recommendations for ways to ensure the overall goals and objectives of APEC are met.

In meeting the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the independent assessment, the following methodology was employed:

The assessment was intended to cover a wide range of issues and identify opportunities for the EGILAT to improve its processes and work towards realizing APEC goals. The following areas of focus informed the survey design, research questions and interviews/ discussions for data collection and analysis.

The independent assessment involved three main elements:

1. A desktop review and evaluation of available policy and project documents detailing EGILAT activities: meetings, workshops/ conferences, work plans, terms of reference, project proposals and reports. The assessor also reviewed previous APEC fora independent assessments for SCE. There were no non-official assessments available to consider. Documents were sourced by the consultant through the AIMP, EGILAT email circulation list, and in liaison with the APEC Secretariat.
2. To gain insights into the group's operation, the assessor attended and presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT meeting as an expert observer. The EGILAT was briefed on the independent assessment process and the consultant's role. To inform the independent assessment, extensive consultations and interviews were conducted in the margins of the meeting with 16 individual member economy delegations, the EGILAT Chair, Secretariat, and non-member observers and guests.
3. An internet-based questionnaire was designed by the consultant to survey EGILAT member economies. The survey comprised 35 questions (provided at Appendix A) and was designed to further inform the assessment and augment the desktop document review, observations at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT meeting and individual interviews held in Jakarta in late January 2013. The survey was sent out by email (via SurveyMonkey) to EGILAT representatives on 11 February 2013. One response only was requested per member economy. Following an extension of the deadline for responses till 1 March 2013, 16 member economies provided responses – an excellent response rate.

The survey covered questions to provide information/ data relating to:

- whether EGILAT is operating effectively and efficiently;
- whether the group's Terms of Reference or operation could be modified to better respond to APEC ECOTECH priorities and contribute to the achievement of APEC goals;
- identify ways to strengthen EGILAT's strategic priorities and direction for future work;
- provide recommendations on how the forum can better focus and more efficiently and effectively manage its tasks and assure that its capacity building activities are providing benefits according to Leaders' and Ministers' priorities;
- identify ways to develop synergies among the work of the EGILAT and other relevant APEC groups;
- identify opportunities and provide recommendations for greater collaboration with non-APEC parties, including the private sector, civil society and other international organizations;
- identify ways for EGILAT to tap resources for programs; and
- explore how EGILAT can better take into account the APEC commitment to give gender greater consideration in accordance with directions outlined by the Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy.

The openness and willingness of the membership to engage with the independent assessment process both through face-to-face meetings in Jakarta and the online survey reflects a very high level of engagement and member interest within EGILAT. The consultant extends his sincere appreciation for the time taken by members to provide thoughtful responses and input. This independent assessment is much richer thanks to these efforts.

## 2. Alignment with APEC Priorities

The group's early stage of development is an impediment to analysis of the alignment of EGILAT project outcomes with APEC policy priorities. There are currently no EGILAT project outcomes against which to assess policy alignment. Rather, an assessment has been made against formal meetings, the group's policy documents, interview/ survey results and the proposed self-funded private sector workshop. The survey revealed a very strong level of satisfaction within the membership regarding EGILAT's broader APEC policy alignment.

### A. Alignment of Forum Outputs with APEC priorities

The work of EGILAT has good overall alignment with APEC's goals. APEC was founded in 1989 with three objectives: to develop and strengthen the multilateral trading system; to increase the interdependence and prosperity of member economies; and to promote sustainable economic growth. Of the three founding goals, EGILAT has clearest alignment with the goal of promoting sustainable economic growth.

#### Leaders and Ministerial Statements

There is clear alignment between the directions of Leaders and Ministers on illegal logging and EGILAT priorities. The group directly supports the overarching goals envisaged by APEC Leaders and Ministers. Specifically, in Yokohama, Japan in 2010, APEC Leaders pledged to seek growth that is compatible with global efforts for protection of the environment and to transition to a green economy.

In 2011, APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade directed officials to establish an experts group in order to promote trade in legally harvested forest products, combat illegal logging and associated trade, and build capacity.

In Honolulu, Hawaii in 2011, APEC Leaders committed to work to implement appropriate measures to prohibit trade in illegally harvested forest products and undertake additional activities in APEC to combat illegal logging and associated trade. APEC Leaders reaffirmed this commitment in Vladivostok, Russia in 2012.<sup>1</sup>

The survey results demonstrate the membership considers there is good alignment between APEC Leaders' and Ministerial priorities and: the EGILAT Strategic Plan and Work Plan (100% of respondent economies); and also the EGILAT ToR (93.3% of respondent economies).

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<sup>1</sup> APEC EGILAT website, [www.apec.org/Groups/SOM-Steering-Committee-on-Economic-and-Technical-Cooperation/Working-Groups/Illegal-Logging-and-Associated-Trade.aspx](http://www.apec.org/Groups/SOM-Steering-Committee-on-Economic-and-Technical-Cooperation/Working-Groups/Illegal-Logging-and-Associated-Trade.aspx); accessed 15/03/13

## ECOTECH

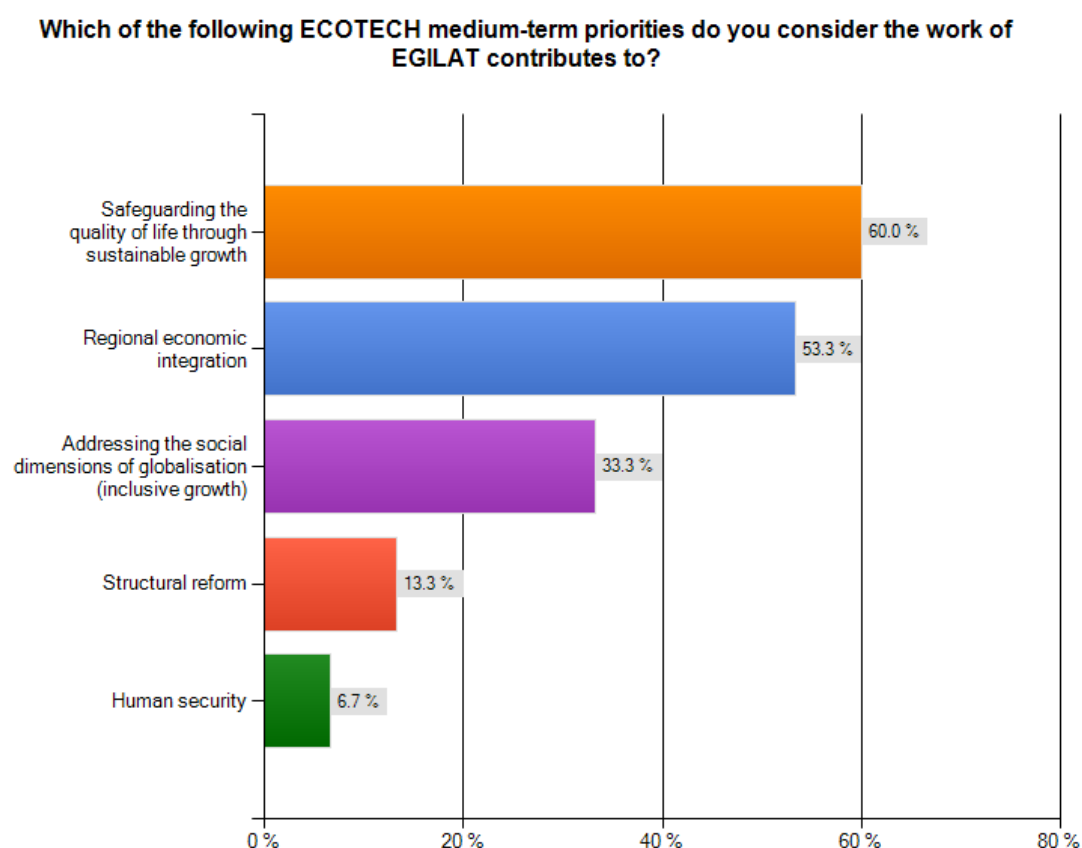
The current medium-term priorities from the 2010 SOM Report on ECOTECH are:

- Regional economic integration
- Addressing the social dimensions of globalization (inclusive growth)
- Safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth
- Structural reform; and
- Human security

The survey results in Table 1 below indicate that the membership considers the work of EGILAT contributes most strongly to the medium-term ECOTECH priorities of:

1. Safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth;
2. Regional economic integration; and
3. Addressing the social dimensions of globalisation (inclusive growth).

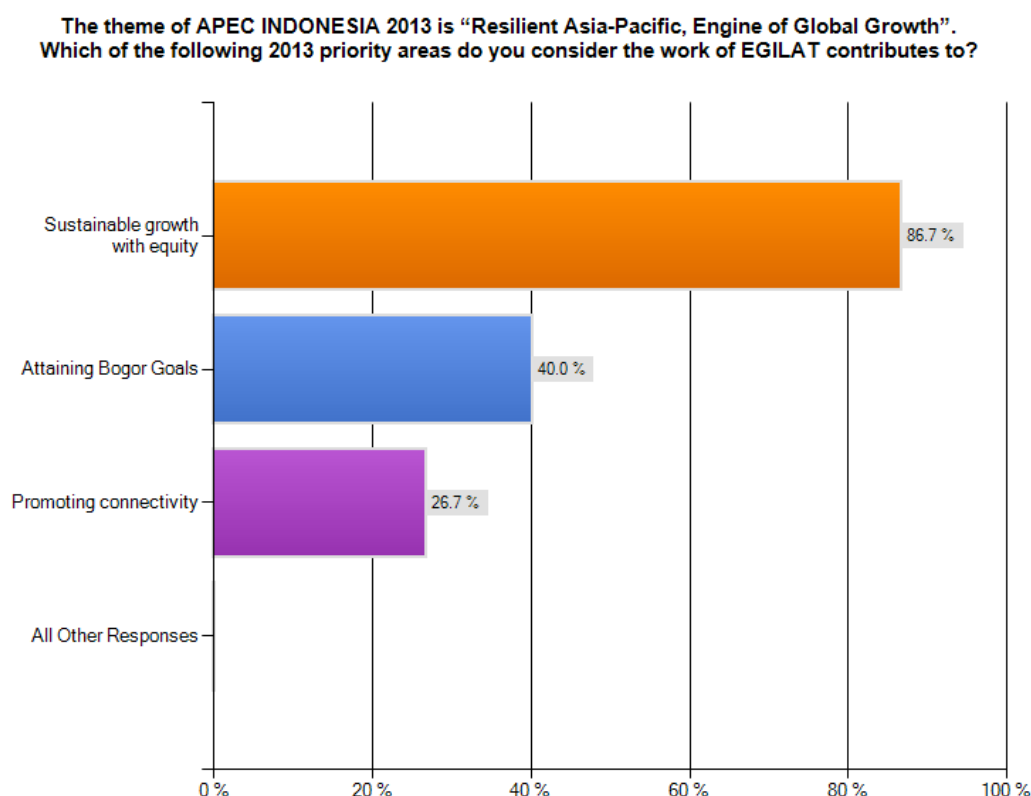
**Table 1: EGILAT contribution to ECOTECH medium priorities**



## APEC INDONESIA 2013

The theme of APEC INDONESIA 2013 is “Resilient Asia-Pacific, Engine of Global Growth”. As shown in the Table 2, when surveyed on which of the three 2013 priority areas the work of EGILAT contributes to, the membership considered the best alignment was with the priority of ‘sustainable growth with equity’ (87%), followed by ‘attaining Bogor Goals’ (40%) and then ‘promoting connectivity’ (27%).

**Table 2: EGILAT contribution to APEC INDONESIA 2013 priority areas**



## APEC Forestry Initiatives

EGILAT is the latest of a number of APEC forestry initiatives established by Leaders and Ministers since the 2007 Sydney APEC Leaders’ Declaration.

In 2007, Leaders decided on two key forestry initiatives under the APEC Action Agenda designed to support economic growth and development and to further contribute to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. Leaders decided to work to achieve an APEC-wide aspirational goal of increasing forest cover in the region by at least 20 million hectares of all types of forests by 2020; and to establish an Asia-Pacific Network for

Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) to enhance capacity building and strengthen information sharing in the forestry sector.<sup>2</sup>

The 1<sup>st</sup> APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry was held in Beijing in September 2011. Currently, there are relatively weak linkages between the Ministers Responsible for Forestry meeting and the work of EGILAT. To some extent this is to be expected given both are new APEC initiatives.

There is significant scope to improve EGILAT's connection and synergies with broader APEC forestry initiatives. For example, in the survey, APFNet was identified as a priority organization for the EGILAT to explore further cooperation with (see Table 9). Similarly, a strategic objective as outlined in the EGILAT Strategic Plan is to collaborate with, and complement, regional initiatives promoting sustainable forest management and forest rehabilitation<sup>3</sup>.

Enhancing the linkages between APEC forestry initiatives could also provide improved access to existing frameworks for forestry industry engagement. Stronger linkages and dialogue with stakeholders in the timber supply-chain would enhance EGILAT's objective to collaborate with industry and civil society to raise awareness and contribute to national and regional efforts to combat illegal logging and associated trade and promote trade in legally harvested forest products.

A factor critical to EGILAT's success will be the willingness and commitment of APEC economies to take action to address problems<sup>4</sup>. Adoption of concrete steps to combat illegal logging and associated trade will require political commitment in individual member economies. Enhanced linkages and formal engagement of APEC Forestry Ministers as key political stakeholders will therefore be important in achieving EGILAT's mission.

Trade is a clear priority focus of the group. The independent assessment process has identified that the membership also considers other 'non-trade' elements are also important to EGILAT's work. This broader view of cross-cutting issues relevant to combating illegal logging and associated trade also considers key forestry policy challenges as well as environmental and social policy elements - some of key interest to developing member economies.

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<sup>2</sup> 2007 APEC, Sydney Leaders' Declaration on Climate Change, Energy Security and Clean Development

<sup>3</sup> EGILAT Multi-year Strategic Plan

<sup>4</sup> EGILAT Multi-year Strategic Plan

This assessment recognizes there are a range of views within the membership on the need for, and value of, greater linkages between EGILAT and APEC forestry initiatives, including with APEC Forestry Ministers. There is recognition within the membership of the need to further enhance and develop the relationships between relevant forestry initiatives in APEC. There are also concerns that the group's targeted focus and momentum to date could potentially be impacted should a new group and structure be considered at this stage of EGILAT's development.

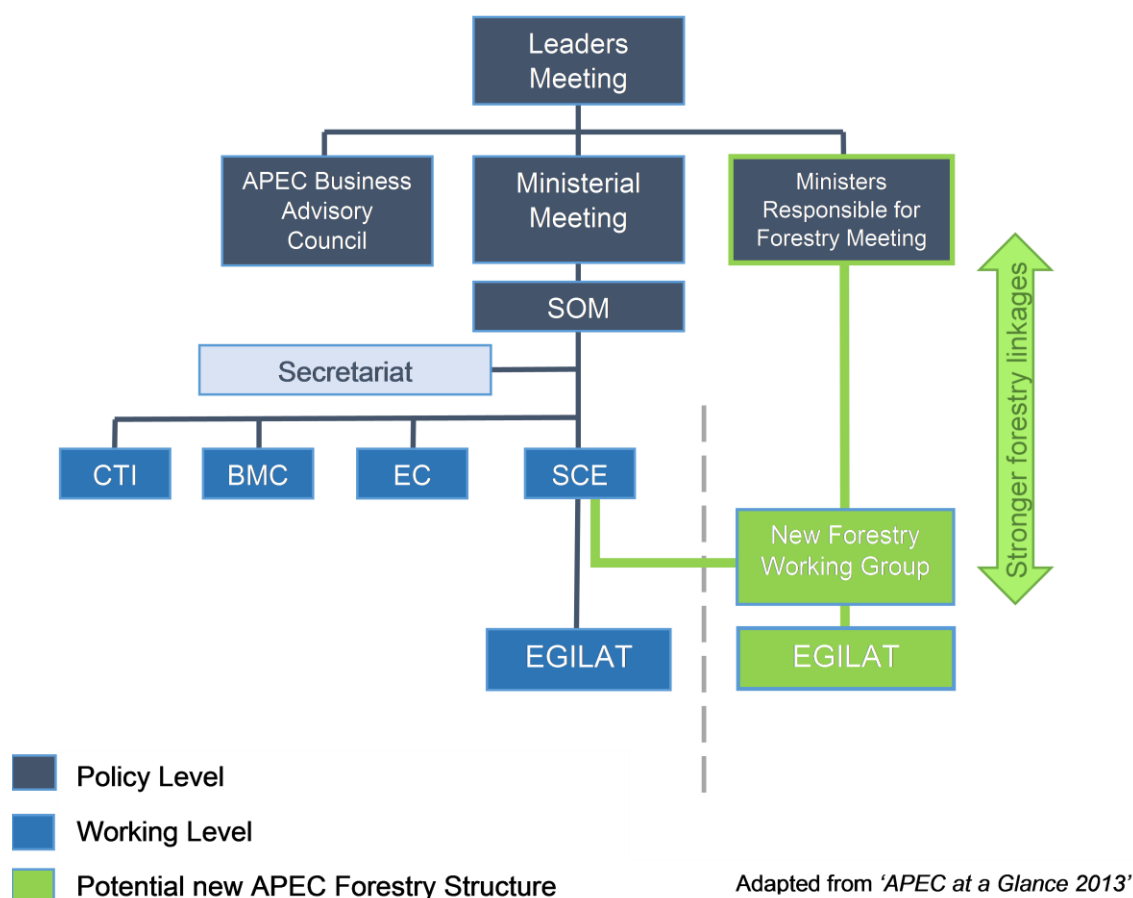
The work of EGILAT could be more strongly supported by linking up with broader APEC forestry initiatives in order to maximise synergies and political support for action on illegal logging and associated trade. On balance, it is recommended that consideration be given to establishing a new Forestry Working Group, either now or in the medium-term, to enhance the effectiveness and contribution of EGILAT.

Such an enhanced structure for progressing forestry initiatives in APEC would provide EGILAT with greater levels of policy guidance and authority from APEC Ministers Responsible for Forestry. It would also formally provide for a stronger 'voice' and linkages in APEC for better-coordinated outcomes on both: illegal logging and associated trade; and other working-level forestry initiatives more broadly.

A proposed new structure for APEC forestry initiatives is detailed at Table 3 and reflects general practice for sectoral initiatives in APEC. Under such a structure the EGILAT would report through the Forestry Working Group to Senior Officials and be responsive to the priorities and goals of both Ministers Responsible for Trade and Ministers Responsible for Forestry.

EGILAT's activities should also complement other regional initiatives to promote sustainable forest management and rehabilitation. It will be important that any consideration of a new group to better coordinate APEC forestry activities at the working level be carefully considered and not duplicate the efforts of other international and regional forestry organizations. Similarly, should a new forestry group be established in the near-term, it is suggested that EGILAT's ToR and planning documents not be amended to ensure that momentum is maintained and to avoid uncertainty.

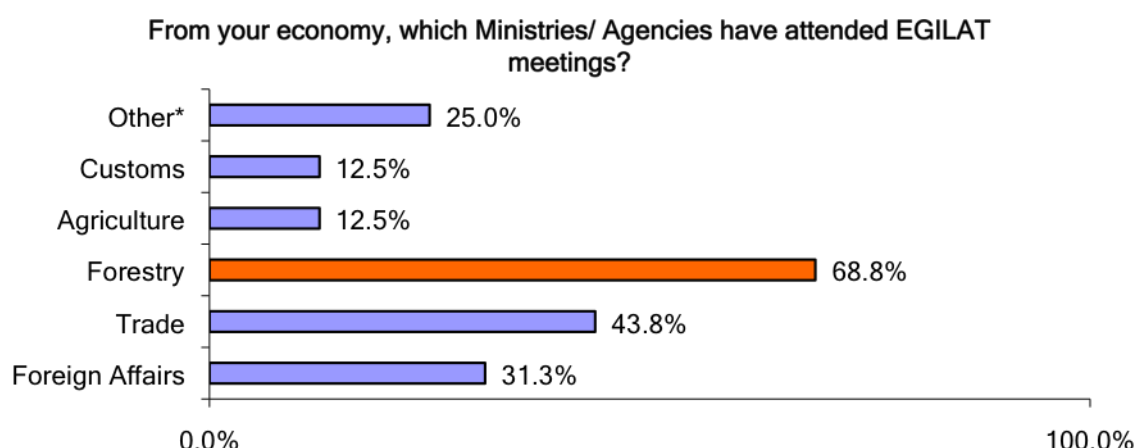
**Table 3: Proposed Structure for APEC Forestry Initiatives**



The survey results in Table 4 below indicate that while there are a diverse range of Ministries engaging in EGILAT, meetings are predominantly attended by officials from Forestry Ministries/ Agencies. Given the core of forestry officials attending EGILAT meetings, if recommendation SCE1 was accepted, there would be the opportunity to have a newly established Forestry Working Group meet back-to-back with EGILAT meetings at relatively low cost to the membership. Similarly, the core membership of forestry officials also potentially allows for quick action to establish the working group in order to be able to better support and implement outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministers Responsible for Forestry Meeting scheduled to be held in Peru in August 2013.

The trend of APEC working group reform in recent times has been for consolidation and rationalization of groups with diminishing levels of interest and support. In contrast, both the EGILAT and the Ministers Responsible for Forestry Meeting are new APEC initiatives well supported by the membership.

**Table 4: Ministries attending EGILAT meetings**



\* Other (includes: Ministry of Internal Affairs; Department of Justice; Environment; and Attorneys General)

*Recommendation SCE1: Consider the establishment of a new APEC Forestry Working Group.*

## Gender

Since the endorsement of the 1999 Framework for the Integration of Women into APEC, Leaders and Ministers have outlined a commitment to increasing women's participation in APEC activities. Women are critical to the achievement of economic integration in APEC.

In 2011, Leaders endorsed the San Francisco Declaration, which called for APEC members to take concrete actions to realize the full potential of women, integrate them more fully into APEC economies, and maximize their contributions towards economic growth.

There is generally a low-level of awareness and engagement within EGILAT on APECs gender priorities. It is recommended the group continue to raise its awareness of gender issues and encourage involvement of women in all of its activities. EGILAT could also give consideration to the role of women in the forest sector in developing economies; exploring the potential benefits that legal trade in timber can provide local communities.

*Recommendation EGILAT1: The group should continue to raise its awareness of gender issues; and encourage involvement of women in all EGILAT activities.*

## B. Alignment of Forum Projects with APEC Priorities

### Quantitative/ Qualitative Analysis of Projects

No analysis of projects is possible as part of the assessment, as no EGILAT projects have been undertaken to date.

### Project Funding Challenges

The global economic challenges experienced in recent years have impacted on the resources available to progress international cooperation initiatives. International multilateral

organizations and member economies have not been immune from the realities of global economic trends. In recent years, all organizations (public and private) have had to look ahead and seriously consider what budget sustainability means for their organization in such an environment.

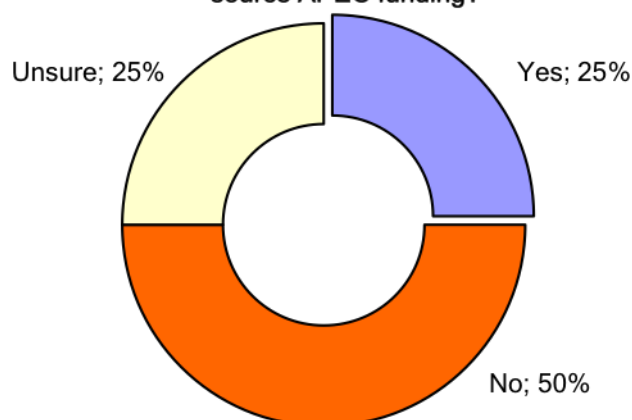
There are broad global drivers impacting on funding availability within APEC. Ongoing global economic challenges are likely to continue to be reflected in budget tightening, efficiency drives and resource challenges across APEC member economies. Such driving forces are likely to dampen opportunities for any significant new dedicated EGILAT resources (in-kind, self-funded or formal APEC funding). The expectations of the progress of the group should therefore reflect this general constraint in the medium-term.

Project work is the core activity and output of APEC fora. EGILAT is seeking to demonstrate progress through its first capacity building projects. It will be important for the initial EGILAT projects to be well supported and executed in order to demonstrate successful establishment and bedding-down of the group.

Under the ECOTECH agenda, EGILAT is looking to bring forward projects aimed at enhancing the capacity of participating economies (particularly developing economies) to adopt more efficient and effective responses to combating illegal logging and promoting trade in legally harvested forest products.

**Table 5: Opportunities for EGILAT projects to source APEC funding**

Do you consider there are adequate opportunities for EGILAT projects to source APEC funding?



As indicated in Table 5 above, only 25% of the EGILAT membership survey respondents consider there are adequate opportunities for projects to source APEC funding. Half of the respondents considered there are not adequate opportunities.

A key concern among the membership is how to access funding through the current APEC project criteria. The current criteria assigns illegal logging focused projects as Rank 2 (lower priority) for funding consideration by BMC - resulting in limited opportunities to secure project funding. Well-supported project concept notes from the group for capacity building activities have not been approved for funding by BMC.

It is recognized that the EGILAT is not the only forum whose projects are categorized as lower priorities for consideration of APEC funding. However; given this new initiative flows directly from Leaders' priorities and at Ministers direction, there is justification for the Secretariat and Senior Officials to facilitate better access to APEC funds and provide support to EGILATs development at this critical formative stage.

The reality of the current APEC funding framework for projects on illegal logging presents a challenge to the sustainability and effectiveness of the EGILAT. There are a number of positive project proposals currently in the system, including self-funded projects arising from the 3rd EGILAT meeting. However; the current APEC project funding criteria invariably hampers the group's effort to source APEC funds. Should new and sustainable sources of funds not become available in the medium-term, the consultant considers the effective establishment and sustainability of APEC's newest forum could be in question.

It is recommended that Senior Officials give consideration to reviewing the ranking of illegal logging projects under APEC funding criteria to ensure that well considered and strongly supported illegal logging projects have better prospects of securing APEC funds.

*Recommendation SCE2: Consider reviewing APEC funding criteria to enable illegal logging projects better access to the resources required to support the continued establishment of the group.*

The issue of illegal logging is a serious and significant priority for APEC Leaders and Ministers. It is incumbent on the group to look within and draw upon its own resources in progressing the EGILAT work program. Member-driven and resourced efforts have the potential to meet the immediate demand for some project progress. This will require good organization of effort and sufficient support being provided by individual economies within the membership. The assessment indicates there is scope for self-funded and in-kind (see below) collective efforts to progress the EGILAT work program in the short-term.

In order to maximize the potential to secure APEC funding, the EGILAT membership will need to collectively focus on submitting well-considered and drafted project proposals that best align with BMC funding criteria, including through emphasizing project contributions to cross-cutting issues that are considered to be of a higher priority (Rank 1).

Increased attention should be given to jointly developing project concept notes that have broad and strong support within the membership. Similarly, member economies with self-funded projects should also be encouraged to engage the membership early to ensure that the focus of such projects has broad support within EGILAT prior to consideration for endorsement. To assist this process on a practical level, it is recommended that all self-funded project proposals be submitted by proponent economies on the self-funded project proposal coversheet. It is also good practice to ensure that completion reports are submitted in order to capture the outcomes and benefits of the project activity once concluded.

As the newest APEC forum, it is also recommended that EGILAT representatives enhance efforts to raise awareness of the importance of EGILAT projects with relevant Senior Officials in their own individual economies. EGILAT members should also consider directly

engaging with their BMC representatives to raise awareness of EGILAT priorities and contribution of well-considered EGILAT projects to sustainable growth in APEC.

### **In-kind funding**

The survey results indicated a strong level of willingness among the membership to consider in-kind project contributions. In the survey, 40% of respondent economies indicated they would consider contributing in-kind funding to projects (e.g. staff/ personnel time) and a further 30% of economies would possibly consider doing so. With such a willingness to consider contributing in-kind funding within EGILAT, there would seem to be good potential for some membership-driven progress in the short-term.

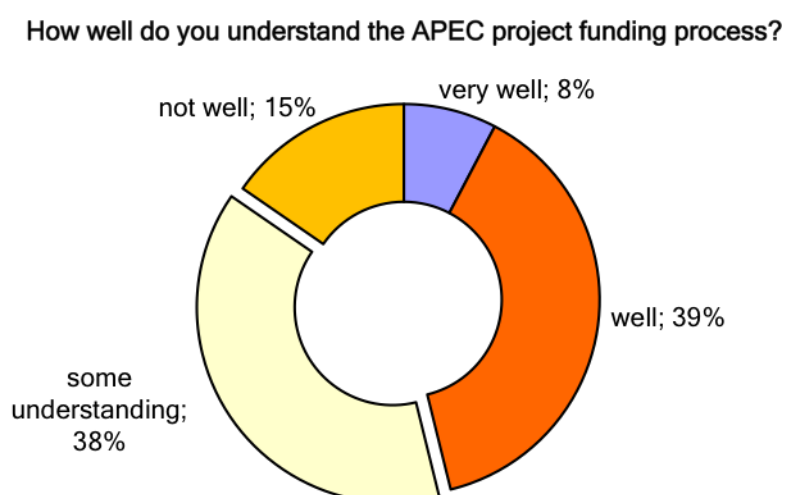
### **Capacity building needs**

All cooperative activities promoted by EGILAT should be designed to enhance the capacity of members to develop and adopt more efficient and effective responses to combating illegal logging and facilitate trade in legally harvested timber.

Noting that identifying capacity building needs is a key performance indicator in the EGILAT Strategic Plan, it is recommended the EGILAT consider and identify the capacity building needs of the developing economy members as a priority.

*Recommendation EGILAT2: Consider and identify the capacity building needs of developing economy members as a priority.*

**Table 6: Level of understanding of APEC project funding**



As detailed in the Table 6 above, 38% of responding member economies in the survey had 'some understanding' of APEC project funding process and 15% did not have a good understanding. This result indicates that more training and awareness of APEC project processes is required in order to enhance the effectiveness of the group. The assessment acknowledges the efforts made by the Secretariat in this area to date, including recent opportunities (e.g. some EGILAT representatives attended the training sessions offered by the Secretariat during SOM1). Such opportunities should continue to be made available to

EGILAT representatives to enhance knowledge of APEC funding processes and ultimately improve the quality of EGILAT project concept notes and prospects to secure APEC funding.

Consideration of focused and practical briefing from the BMC and Secretariat should also be considered by way of 'induction' for all newly established APEC forums. This could be delivered either in the form of a presentation by the Secretariat delivered at the first meeting of a new group or a separate training module/ workshop held separately in conjunction with the first meeting.

A new grouping such as the EGILAT brings together many officials with no prior APEC experience. Given the significant cost to economies of sending officials to attend a three day international meeting such as the EGILAT, the establishment of new APEC forums should be accompanied with formalized training and capacity building opportunities for new entrants supported by the APEC Secretariat. Such formalized 'induction' training would enable officials to most effectively commence their engagement within new APEC groups.

Similarly, it would be useful to consider formalizing an 'induction' program for newly appointed Lead Shepherd/ Chairs/ and Deputies. Such a program could consider including mentoring/ coaching opportunities with experienced APEC Leads to enhance meeting-craft and skills to facilitate productive dialogue and genuine consensus-building in APEC.

*Recommendation SCE3: The Secretariat should enhance induction training and support for newly instituted APEC fora participants.*

### **New EGILAT initiatives**

In order to improve the impact and effectiveness of EGILAT, the assessment recommends the following new initiatives:

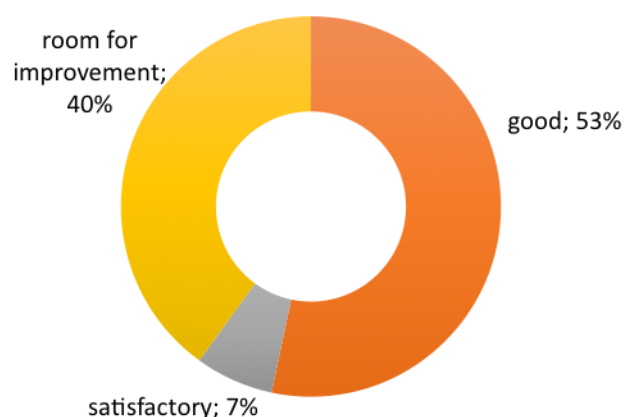
#### Policy dialogue

To seek to increase active discussion in EGILAT meetings, it is recommended that a procedure be adopted whereby EGILAT would adopt a new standing 'policy dialogue' agenda item under which the group would have a detailed policy discussion on a pre-agreed contemporary topic. It is suggested this discussion be coordinated and facilitated by a lead member from within EGILAT on a voluntary or rotational basis in consultation with the Chair and host economy for the next meeting.

As shown in Table 7 below, members identified the 'level of active discussion' as the area for greatest improvement when asked to rate aspects of the administration and conduct of EGILAT meetings.

**Table 7: Survey results: level of active discussion in EGILAT meetings**

### Level of active discussion?



*Recommendation EGILAT3: Adopt a procedure whereby a contemporary policy topic is agreed in advance of forthcoming EGILAT meetings to facilitate a focussed and active 'policy dialogue'.*

#### EGILAT policy and regulatory knowledge-sharing platform

Interest in regulatory developments is strong within EGILAT. The implementation of policies and regulations seeking to address the issue of illegal logging by a number of member economies is a significant development and also of keen interest to stakeholders in the timber supply-chain.

It is recommended that consideration be given to establishing an online policy and regulatory knowledge-sharing platform for information on measures affecting the trade in timber products. A one-page template could be developed by the group (possibly in conjunction with industry at the proposed forthcoming Private Sector Partnership workshop) that includes the regulatory information that industry and policy makers would consider relevant and useful. Members who have new developments could then complete the template and self-submit to the online database. Such an online portal could either be public or password protected and made available to registered industry members from APEC economies.

*Recommendation EGILAT4: Establish an online policy and regulatory knowledge-sharing platform.*

## C. Forum Operations

### Structure of the forum

The EGILAT is a voluntary grouping comprised of interested members of the 21 APEC economies. Some 17 economies regularly attend EGILAT meetings. The group's Chair is Dato' Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman and its work is well supported by the APEC Secretariat Program Director, Ms Natalie Nii.

### Relevance of the Terms of Reference

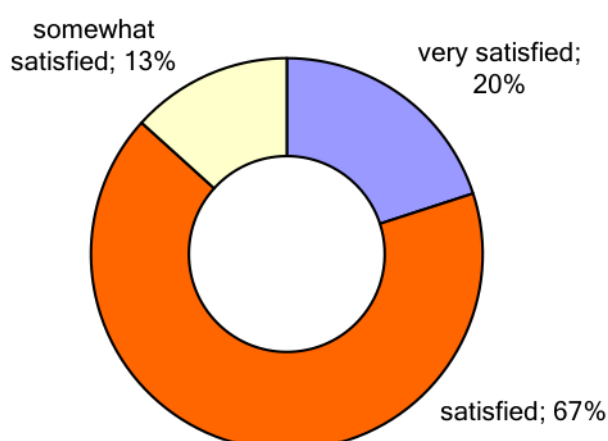
The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the EGILAT are considered relevant by the membership. Survey results indicate that 87% of responding member economies considered the ToR either relevant or highly relevant for their economies. Only 13% of economies considered that the ToR were only somewhat relevant to their economies.

### Strategic Direction

The survey indicated very high levels of satisfaction with the strategic direction of the EGILAT. As shown in Table 8 below, 87% of respondent economies indicated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the strategic direction of EGILAT. No economies indicated dissatisfaction and only 13% were somewhat satisfied with the strategic direction.

**Table 8: Level of satisfaction with EGILATs strategic direction**

How satisfied are you with the strategic direction of the EGILAT?



Recognizing the emphasis that Leaders' have placed in recent times for ECOTECH activities to be progressed by a strategic approach<sup>5</sup>, it is further observed that the nature of EGILAT lends itself well to consideration of strategic cross-cutting scenarios in APEC. The focus of the group is uniquely targeted on illegal logging and associated trade. Effective consideration of such issues however, cannot be narrow in its scope. Illegal logging is a complex problem, impacted by, and impacting on, cross-cutting issues such as: climate; carbon; biodiversity; poverty; and sustainable resource management.

APEC Ministers Responsible for the Environment recognized the importance of an inter-disciplinary approach to addressing the complex nature of conservation and sustainable use of forest resource use in the region in their 2012 statement. They also identified conservation and sustainable forest resource use as among the most important challenges of the modern world.<sup>6</sup>

Addressing the policy challenges of combating illegal logging and associated trade in the region will require more than a focus on trade and law enforcement. The EGILAT will also require consideration of broader issues relating to forestry in the region. It is recommended the group continue to enhance and build capacity for strategic discussions of cross-cutting issues relevant to illegal logging and associated trade.

*Recommendation EGILAT5: Enhance and build capacity for strategic discussions of cross-cutting issues relevant to EGILAT.*

#### **Priority topics/ issues for EGILAT**

To assist with determining the priority areas for EGILATs work focus, the assessment sought to identify which topics and issues the membership considered most important. 15 individual topic/ issues relevant to EGILAT's mandate were identified from the policy document review, meeting observations, and interviews. The survey asked respondents to rank the relative importance of these 15 individual topic/ issues, or propose and rank additional focus topics. As a result, one additional topic 'public relations/ education' was included, giving a total of 16 ranked topics.

The survey yielded useful information on those issues the membership consider most important, as detailed in the chart below. Using the survey results, Table 9 below has been developed to further group the results into three categories.

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<sup>5</sup> 2010 Leaders' Declaration: 'The Yokohama Vision – Bogor and Beyond'

<sup>6</sup> 2012 APEC Ministers Responsible for the Environment Statement

**Table 9: EGILAT priority topics/ issues**

| Rank   | Priority topics/ issues                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tier 1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Policy/ regulatory dialogue exchange</li> <li>2) Establishing strong links between APEC officials dealing with illegal logging and associated trade</li> <li>3) Capacity building</li> <li>4) Combating illegal logging/ law enforcement</li> <li>5) Promote trade in legally harvested timber products</li> </ol>                    |
| Tier 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6) Quantifying the extent of illegal logging in the APEC region</li> <li>7) Data exchange and monitoring</li> <li>8) Definition of Illegal Logging</li> <li>9) Promoting trade in legally harvested forest products</li> <li>10) Sustainable development</li> </ol>                                                                      |
| Tier 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11) Environmental protection/ conservation</li> <li>12) Anti-Corruption and transparency activities/ exchange<sup>7</sup></li> <li>13) Establishing regional aspirational goals/ targets</li> <li>14) Harmonization of import requirements for timber</li> <li>15) Poverty reduction</li> <li>16) Public relations/ education</li> </ol> |

It is recommended that EGILAT focus its limited resources initially on Tier 1 and then Tier 2 topics and issues.

There is significant interest within the membership in EGILAT considering some challenging policy issues in Tier 2. It is recommended that priority topics such as: the definition of illegal logging; quantifying the scale of illegal logging; and associated data exchange and monitoring continued to be explored within EGILAT. Whilst difficult subject matters, these areas remain of significant priority for many in the group – particularly developing

<sup>7</sup> Note that while the survey results indicate 'anti-corruption and transparency activities/ exchange' are ranked as a relative lower priority focus area for EGILAT, it is also the top ranked priority for exploring cooperation with other APEC fora – through the ACT (see Section D).

economies. Such issues could be taken forward in a targeted and cost-effective way under the guidance of Deputy Chair(s) or an Advisory Group as recommended in this assessment report (EGILAT8).

One potential way to enhance the group's performance in this area could be to draw upon in-kind resources of lead economies and develop short EGILAT policy/ position papers on such subjects. These position papers could be internal working documents intended to collect and articulate the range of views and perspectives within membership on specific priority issues. The process of canvassing and engaging the membership's views and perspectives on at times sensitive, but priority issues, could also assist in fostering trust and mutual respect and facilitate deeper dialogue and exchange as EGILAT matures over time.

Another option is engaging with the APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) to explore the potential for assistance with data and policy analysis. For example, seeking agreement for the PSU to prepare an APEC policy paper on the definition of illegal logging.

There is no agreed international definition of illegal logging. What is meant by the term 'illegal logging' is of relevance to the EGILAT ToR. It is understood this issue has been raised previously within the group. Indeed, various international fora dealing with forestry issues have considered this difficult and important question of what constitutes illegal logging. APEC policy analysis on such a topic for example, would be a strong contribution to regional forestry dialogue.

*Recommendation EGILAT6: Explore the potential for the APEC Policy Support Unit to assist with data and policy analysis on EGILAT priority issues/ topics.*

### **Professional Networks**

There is a genuine willingness in the general membership to progress APEC Leaders' and Ministers' illegal logging objectives. The way in which a new forum conducts its activities during its establishment phase shapes the 'tone' and dynamic of the group going forward. It also has a crucial role in building the foundations for trust to develop among EGILAT delegates. Observations and feedback indicate there is significant goodwill and good intentions among EGILAT delegates.

A critical, and often unarticulated, measure of success for APEC fora is the quality and depth of professional relationships and networks that arise from engagement in its activities. APEC is at its most effective when initiatives are being collaboratively driven and supported at the working-level by established networks of officials. The benefits of strong professional networks of relevant focused officials across APEC economies can be seen in mature and successful groups such as the Energy Working Group, by way of example.

The survey responses clearly identified the establishment of strong professional networks amongst EGILAT officials as a top priority (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Table 9 above). The benefits of such networks are also not limited to progress only within the APEC framework, but also bolster and enhance relationships and communication between economies outside of the formal APEC structures.

It is recommended the group recognize the value of continuing to foster good links and trust between APEC officials dealing with illegal logging and associated trade. The diversity of the various ministries represented on EGILAT further underscores the importance of this aspect (see Table 4). Strong professional networks will also be an important element in the success of the member-driven leadership approach recommended in this assessment (EGILAT8).

*Recommendation EGILAT7: Recognize the value of continuing to foster good links and trust among EGILAT officials.*

### **Compliance with APEC policies**

The assessment found no instances of non-compliance with the APEC Guidelines for Lead Shepherd/Chair and Deputy Lead Shepherd/Chair of APEC Working Groups and SOM Task Forces.

### **EGILAT Leadership**

Significant progress in the current environment will largely be determined by the drive and level of engagement of individual economies within EGILAT. A membership-driven model for progressing work based upon in-kind contributions where possible is recommended.

Strong leadership has been displayed from within the membership to progress key EGILAT priorities. The successful drafting, coordination and delivery of the strategic plan and work plan at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT meeting was due to strong leadership demonstrated by Canada which led the drafting group.

To further enmesh a culture of membership-driven leadership, the EGILAT could consider the establishment of either one or two Deputy Chairs in association with consideration of the next two-year term for the EGILAT Chair. It is understood that consideration for the next term for the Chair will be considered by the EGILAT membership at the next meeting in June 2013.

While not prescriptive, APEC guidance on Lead Shepherds provides that<sup>8</sup>:

*“One or more Deputy Lead Shepherds/Chairs will be selected by the working groups and other APEC fora to assist the Lead Shepherd/Chair.*

*The Deputy Lead Shepherd(s)/Chair(s) will be selected from a different APEC economy than the Lead Shepherd/Chair, and their tenure will be staggered by one year with that of the Lead Shepherd/Chair, where possible.*

*The resulting one-year “overlap” period is designed to ensure continuity of leadership and to allow new incoming Lead Shepherds/Chairs to benefit from the advice of an experienced Deputy.”*

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8 Guidelines for Lead Shepherd/Chair and Deputy Lead Shepherd/Chair of APEC Working Groups and SOM Task Forces

At this key stage of EGILAT's development, appointment of one or two Deputy Chair roles would ensure the momentum of the group can be maintained at a time when prospects for securing APEC project funding are low. In line with APEC guidance, Deputy Chair(s) would assist the Chair to ensure the groups' priorities and objectives are advanced. Such roles could also lead discrete work tasks or identify and coordinate lead contributors from the membership to progress the EGILAT work plan.

Consideration would need to be given to timing for implementing such new Deputy roles in the EGILAT to ensure continuity of leadership and overlap of the Chair and Deputy role where possible. Deputy Chair(s) could be appointed in line with APEC guidelines on a voluntary or rotational basis.

The consultant would suggest that consideration be given to the different perspectives and issues faced within the membership by timber producer, processing and consumer economies in selecting potential candidates for formal leadership roles. This would be in addition to any APEC protocols relating to selection of office-holders. Such consideration would usefully balance the perspectives and viewpoints of economies across the timber supply-chain and also assist in identifying the capacity building needs of member economies in combating illegal logging.

Another option to enhance membership-driven leadership would be to establish an Advisory Committee to assist, support and provide continuity in the tasks and responsibilities allocated to the EGILAT Chair/ Deputy Chair. Such a committee could be made up of volunteer economies and be tasked by the Chair/ membership to assist in progressing elements of the EGILAT work plan drawing upon in-kind contributions of its members (e.g. staff time/ resources).

*Recommendation EGILAT8: Give consideration to formalizing a member-driven leadership model for EGILAT. This could be through consideration of the establishment of new Deputy Chair role(s) or an Advisory Committee comprised of volunteers from the membership.*

### **Meeting and inter-sessional arrangements**

The EGILAT meets twice a year in association with SOM1 and SOM3. The EGILAT meeting runs for three days in total; with two days held in plenary and an associated one-day field trip/ technical tour.

The current scheduling arrangements for formal meetings are considered adequate. No concerns were raised by the membership regarding the frequency or duration of the meetings. As the group matures and considers more substantive work programs, the conduct of meetings and agenda would benefit from allowing more opportunities for interactive dialogue and engagement within the group. The current meeting scheduling arrangements provide flexibility to create such opportunities.

Some members indicated improved inter-sessional communication and information exchange as an area for improvement. Particular feedback was received regarding economies receiving presentations with sufficient time to be able to consider and form a perspective/ position which could then inform more active dialogue in formal meetings. That

said, member economies rated ‘meeting preparation’ highly in the survey – with 80% of respondents rating this aspect as good or excellent.

#### **Candidate for streamlining/ merger**

The assessment does not find the EGILAT is a candidate for streamlining / merger with other APEC fora. Greater linkages with other priority APEC groups would be an advantage in progressing the EGILAT work plan. Indeed, as previously indicated, an enhanced structure for progressing forestry issues more broadly at a working-level in APEC would give the EGILAT increased levels of support and policy guidance (see Recommendation SCE5).

### **D. Cooperation**

#### **With other APEC fora**

There is strong interest and potential value in enhancing EGILATs cooperation with other relevant APEC fora. The survey indicates that 93% of responding economies think that EGILAT should enhance collaboration with other APEC fora.

The survey results in Survey Table 8 below indicate the top ranked priorities for EGILAT exploring opportunities for collaboration with other APEC groups are:

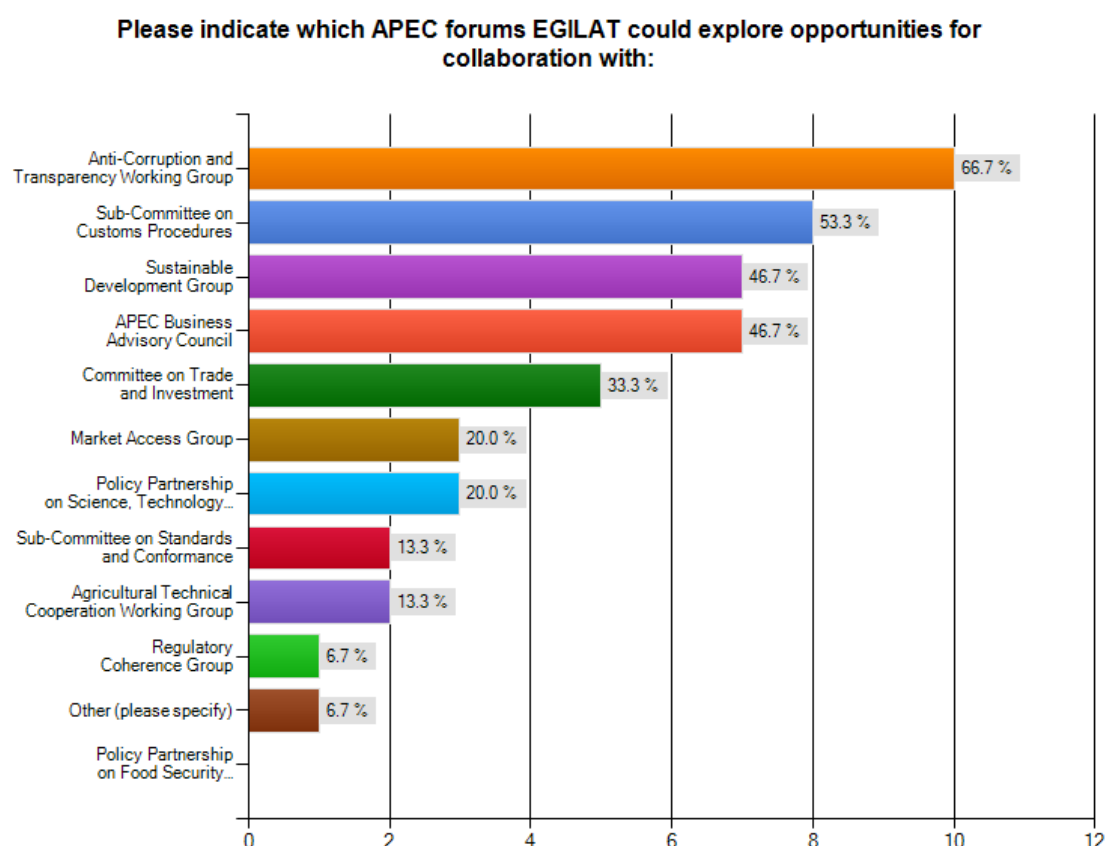
1. Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group (67%);
2. Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (53%);
3. Sustainable Development Group<sup>9</sup> (47%); and
4. APEC Business Advisory Council (47%).

Notably, there are current proposals for cooperation with the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group and Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures – either in the form of project proposals or articulated in the EGILAT Strategic Plan. From discussions with ABAC representatives in the margins of the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT meeting, there may be opportunities to explore collaboration on supply-chain connectivity issues and GPS tracking technologies for goods trade.

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<sup>9</sup> Note: Sustainable Development is a cross-cutting theme in APEC, not a standalone group. Inclusion in the survey was due to an error in design. The result however, does indicate that sustainable development is a priority issue for the EGILAT membership.

**Table 10: APEC forums for potential collaboration with EGILAT**



The EGILAT should adopt an approach to efficiently further explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with identified priority APEC fora. An implementation suggestion is that where possible, EGILAT representatives be tasked with attending other relevant priority APEC fora on behalf of the Chair to present on EGILAT's objectives and priorities. A reciprocal invitation could then be extended to the other forum to attend EGILAT meetings. The EGILAT representative could subsequently report back to the next meeting on relevant issues. Another option could be to further conduct a desktop review of other groups ToR and Strategic Plans to identify synergies and issues of mutual relevance. Initially, such approaches may require some in-kind contribution in terms of individual member economies time and potentially travel expenses.

*Recommendation EGILAT9: Initial priority consideration be given to enhanced engagement and potential collaboration with APEC: Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group; Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures; and the APEC Business Advisory Council as initial priorities.*

*Recommendation EGILAT10: Adopt an approach to efficiently explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with priority APEC fora.*

### **With the private sector**

The assessment considers there is good scope for enhanced cooperation with the private sector. The self-funded proposal from the United States for a Private Sector Dialogue to be held in association with SOM3 was endorsed by EGILAT out-of-session following the 3<sup>rd</sup> EGILAT Meeting. This member-driven initiative will be the first project progressed under EGILAT and is to be commended.

The workshop provides an excellent opportunity to engage with industry early in the EGILAT's development. It will enable input and views to be sought from the private sector on issues related to illegal logging and associated trade. It may also afford the opportunity for EGILAT to collaboratively identify with the private sector those areas of greatest need and shared priority. Given the trade-related emphasis of the group, effective engagement with stakeholders who actually undertake the timber trade in the region will be an important indicator of the future success of EGILAT efforts.

*Recommendation EGILAT11: Utilize the proposed Private Sector Dialogue to seek to identify with the private sector those areas of greatest need and shared priority with EGILAT.*

### **With other international organizations**

There is strong interest and potential value in enhancing EGILATs cooperation with other relevant non-APEC fora. The survey indicates that 93% of responding economies think that EGILAT should enhance collaboration with other non-APEC fora.

The survey asked members to indicate which non-APEC groups EGILAT could explore opportunities for collaboration with. The survey results have been organised into the following table indicating the relative priority for exploring collaboration opportunities. Table 11 below categorizes non-APEC organizations into a three-level priority ranking (percentage of responding economies provided in brackets). Such a list should be used by EGILAT to explore opportunities for cooperation with priority non-APEC organizations. It is recommended that EGILAT adopt an approach to efficiently explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with priority non- APEC fora. A similar approach to implementation as that suggested for APEC fora could be considered.

**Table 11: Non-APEC priority organizations for exploring joint cooperation**

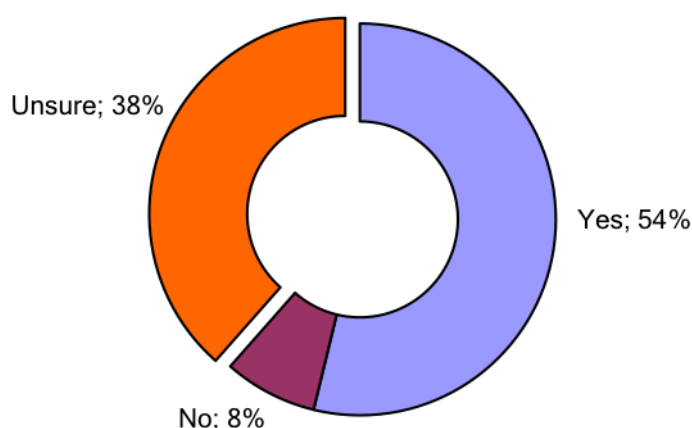
| Priority | Non-APEC Organization                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tier 1   | International Tropical Timber Organization (80%)<br>United Nations Forum of Forests (73%)<br>Private Sector (67%)<br>Industry/ Trade Bodies (67%)<br>Timber Certification Bodies (eg PEFC, FSC) (67%)                                                |
| Tier 2   | Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (60%)<br>United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (60%)<br>World Bank (53%)<br>Asian Development Bank (53%)<br>Environment/ Conservation Organizations (53%) |
| Tier 3   | World Trade Organization (40%)<br>Civil Society/ Non-Government Organizations (40%)<br>Wildlife Organizations (40%)<br>Indigenous Peoples Groups (40%)<br>Non-APEC Economies (33%)<br>Interpol (other) (7%)                                          |

Suggestions from the membership for tapping resources of non-APEC organizations emphasized organizations in Tier 2, specifically, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and APFNet. Given this, non-APEC engagement by EGILAT that has significant co-funding objectives may benefit from also focusing initially on some Tier 2 organizations.

*Recommendation EGILAT12: Adopt an approach to efficiently explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with priority non- APEC fora.*

**Table 12: Should EGILAT seek non-APEC sources of funding?**

Should EGILAT seek Non-APEC sources of funding?



The survey results also indicated that while 93% of economies considered EGILAT should explore cooperation with non-APEC organizations, a significant proportion (38%) of respondent economies were unsure about whether the group should also seek funding from non-APEC sources. This may potentially be due to a perception that seeking funds from outside organizations was contrary to APEC guidelines. Noting the increasing emphasis in APEC on public private partnerships, it is recommended the Secretariat consider developing and promoting best practice models and guidance for APEC fora seeking financial support from non-APEC organizations.

*Recommendation SCE4: Consider developing and promoting models of best practice in sourcing appropriate non-APEC funding contributions – consistent with APEC protocols.*

### 3. Summary of Recommendations

*SCE1: Consider the establishment of a new APEC Forestry Working Group. (p10)*

*SCE2: Consider reviewing APEC funding criteria to enable illegal logging projects better access to the resources required to support the continued establishment of the group. (p12)*

*SCE3: The Secretariat should enhance/ improve induction training and support for newly instituted APEC fora participants. (p14)*

*SCE4: Consider developing and promoting models of best practice in sourcing appropriate non-APEC funding contributions – consistent with APEC protocols. (p26)*

*EGILAT1: The group should continue to raise its awareness of gender issues; and encourage involvement of women in all EGILAT activities. (p10)*

*EGILAT2: Consider and identify the capacity building needs of the developing economy members as a priority. (p13)*

*EGILAT3: Adopt a procedure whereby a contemporary policy topic is agreed in advance of forthcoming EGILAT meetings to facilitate a focussed and active ‘policy dialogue’. (p15)*

*EGILAT4: Establish an online policy and regulatory knowledge-sharing platform. (p15)*

*EGILAT5: Enhance and build capacity for strategic discussions of cross-cutting issues relevant to EGILAT. (p17)*

*EGILAT6: Explore the potential for the APEC Policy Support Unit to assist with data and policy analysis on EGILAT priority issues/ topics. (p19)*

*EGILAT7: Recognize the value of continuing to foster good links and trust among EGILAT officials. (p20)*

*EGILAT8: Give consideration to formalizing a member-driven leadership model for EGILAT. This could be through consideration of the establishment of new Deputy Chair role(s) or an Advisory Committee comprised of volunteers from the membership. (p21)*

*EGILAT9: Initial priority consideration be given to enhanced engagement and potential collaboration with APEC: Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group; Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures; and APEC Business Advisory Council. (p23)*

*EGILAT10: Adopt an approach to efficiently explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with priority APEC fora. (p23)*

*EGILAT11: Utilize the proposed Private Sector Dialogue to seek to identify with the private sector those areas of greatest need and shared priority with EGILAT. (p24)*

*EGILAT12: Adopt an approach to efficiently explore the relevance and potential areas of cooperation with priority non-APEC organizations. (p24)*

## APPENDIX

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### Welcome

Dear EGILAT representative

Following is an online survey designed to inform the independent assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) for the APEC Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE).

The survey has 35 questions and should take approximately 10-20 mins to complete. Your assistance in taking the time to provide considered responses and input to the survey is greatly appreciated, and will contribute to the important objective of enhancing EGILAT's effectiveness and efficiency.

The assessment is being undertaken by Mr Vincent Hudson (Independent Assessor).

NOTE:

Please limit survey responses to ONE PER MEMBER ECONOMY (please liaise and coordinate with colleagues within your economy as required).

Please also note that individual economies responses will NOT be attributed or identified in reporting the results of this survey

Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

Respondent Details

\*1. Survey Respondent Details:

(NOTE: One survey response only per economy)

Economy

Member Economy

Email address

\*2. Name:

\*3. Job Title:

\*4. Organization:

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### EGILAT Operations

**\*5. How would you identify your economy in terms of forest products trade: (please select one only)**

- ☐ producer
- ☐ producer and consumer
- ☐ producer, processor and consumer
- ☐ consumer
- ☐ Other (please specify)

**\*6. How many EGILAT meetings has your economy attended to date?**

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### \*7. From your economy, which Ministries/ Agencies have attended EGILAT meetings?

- ☐ Foreign Affairs
- ☐ Trade
- ☐ Forestry
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Customs
- ☐ No attendance to date
- ☐ Other (please specify)

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### Effectiveness & Satisfaction

#### \*8. How would you rate the administration and conduct of EGILAT meetings?

|                                                                                | excellent             | good                  | satisfactory          | room for improvement  | poor                  | N/A                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Meeting preparation? (eg document availability, draft agendas, presenters etc) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Management of the agenda?                                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Conduct of the meeting?                                                        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Level of active discussion?                                                    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Summary Records of Meetings?                                                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Inter-sessional information exchange? (ie between formal meetings)             | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Support from the Program Director?                                             | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

#### 9. Do you have any suggestions on how the administration and conduct of the EGILAT could be improved?

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### \*10. How would you rate the overall effectiveness of EGILAT to date?

- ☐ highly effective      ☐ effective      ☐ generally effective      ☐ somewhat effective      ☐ not at all effective

Additional comment:

### \*11. What do you consider works well in EGILAT?

### \*12. What does EGILAT need to do to improve its overall effectiveness?

### \*13. In general, how satisfied are you with the progress of EGILAT to date?

- ☐ very satisfied      ☐ satisfied      ☐ somewhat satisfied      ☐ not at all satisfied

Additional comment:

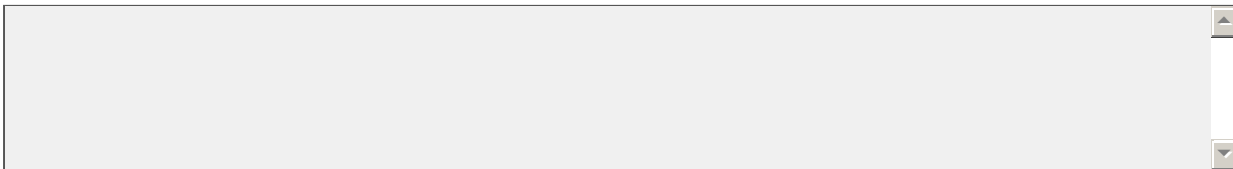
## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

**\*14. What do you consider are the most important topics/ issues for EGILAT to focus on?**  
**(please rank at least the top three and mark those considered not relevant as N/A)**

|                      |                                                                                                    |                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | Policy/ regulatory dialogue exchange                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Capacity building                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Quantifying the extent of illegal logging in the APEC region                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Data exchange and monitoring                                                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Establishing strong links between APEC officials dealing with illegal logging and associated trade | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Definition of illegal logging                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Promoting trade in legally harvested forest products                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Promoting trade in legally harvested timber products                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Combating illegal logging/ law enforcement                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Harmonisation of import requirements for timber                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Anti-Corruption and transparency activities/ exchange                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Establishing regional aspirational goals/ targets                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Poverty reduction                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Sustainable development                                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="text"/> | Environmental protection/ conservation                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

**15. Do you consider there are other important topics/ issues (not listed above) that EGILAT should focus on?**



# Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

## APEC Alignment

### \*16. How relevant are the EGILAT Terms of Reference for your economy?

- ☐ highly relevant      ☐ relevant      ☐ somewhat relevant      ☐ not relevant

### \*17. How satisfied are you with the strategic direction of the EGILAT?

- ☐ very satisfied  
☐ satisfied  
☐ somewhat satisfied  
☐ not satisfied

Additional comment:

### 18. Do you have any suggestions for ways to strengthen EGILAT's strategic priorities and direction for future work?

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

**\*19. Do you consider the EGILAT Terms of Reference align with APEC Leaders and Ministers priorities and objectives?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Additional comment:

**\*20. Do you consider the EGILAT's Strategic Plan and Work Plan align with APEC Leaders and Ministerial priorities and objectives?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

If No, please indicate why

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### \*21. Which of the following ECOTECH medium-term priorities do you consider the work of EGILAT contributes to?

- ☐ Regional economic integration
- ☐ Addressing the social dimensions of globalisation (inclusive growth)
- ☐ Safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth
- ☐ Structural reform
- ☐ Human security

### \*22. The theme of APEC INDONESIA 2013 is “Resilient Asia-Pacific, Engine of Global Growth”.

#### Which of the following 2013 priority areas do you consider the work of EGILAT contributes to?

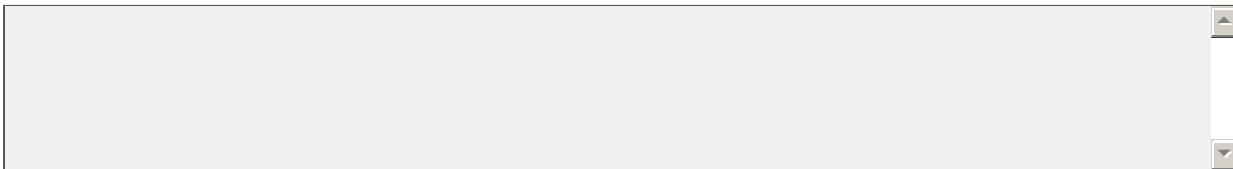
- ☐ Attaining Bogor Goals
- ☐ Sustainable growth with equity
- ☐ Promoting connectivity
- ☐ None of the above

Additional comment:

### 23. How can EGILAT better take into account the APEC commitment to give gender greater consideration?

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

**\*24. What are your expectations of the progress and impact EGILAT will have made in four years time?**



## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### EGILAT Cooperation

**\*25. Do you think the EGILAT should enhance collaboration with OTHER APEC FORA?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Comment:



## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### \*26. Please indicate which APEC forums EGILAT could explore opportunities for collaboration with:

- ☐ Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group
- ☐ Market Access Group
- ☐ Committee on Trade and Investment
- ☐ Regulatory Coherence Group
- ☐ Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance
- ☐ Policy Partnership on Food Security Management Council
- ☐ Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures
- ☐ Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group
- ☐ Sustainable Development Group
- ☐ Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation
- ☐ APEC Business Advisory Council
- ☐ Other (please specify)

# Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

## EGILAT Cooperation

### \*27. Do you think EGILAT should enhance collaboration with other NON-APEC ORGANIZATIONS?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

### \*28. Please indicate which NON-APEC ORGANIZATIONS EGILAT could explore opportunities for collaboration with:

- ☐ Private sector
- ☐ Industry/ trade bodies
- ☐ Non-APEC Economies
- ☐ International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)
- ☐ United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
- ☐ Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)
- ☐ UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- ☐ Timber Certification Bodies (eg PEFC, FSC)
- ☐ World Bank
- ☐ Asian Development Bank
- ☐ World Trade Organization (WTO)
- ☐ Civil Society/ Non-Government Organizations
- ☐ Environment/ Conservation Organizations
- ☐ Wildlife Organizations
- ☐ Indigenous Peoples Groups
- ☐ Other (please specify)

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### Funding

**\*29. How well do you understand the APEC project funding process?**

- ☐ very well      ☐ well      ☐ some understanding      ☐ limited understanding      ☐ not well

**30. Do you consider there are adequate opportunities for EGILAT projects to source APEC funding?**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Unsure

Additional comment:

**31. Do you have any comments on the APEC funding priorities for work on illegal logging?**

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### \*32. Would your economy consider contributing self-funding EGILAT projects?

(please tick all responses considered appropriate)

|          | fully self-funded        | part funding             | in-kind funding (eg staff/ personnel time) |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Yes      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                   |
| Possibly | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                   |
| No       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                   |

Additional Comment

### \*33. Should EGILAT seek Non-APEC sources of funding?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

If Yes, please indicate views on which organizations/ non-member economies could be considered

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

**34. Please suggest any ways in which additional resources could be obtained for EGILAT project activities.**

**(eg specific opportunities for joint funding with other APEC fora; or multi/ shared funding partnerships; suggestions for partnering opportunities with private sector or Non-APEC organizations/ economies)**

**35. Do you have any additional comments to inform the independent assessment of the EGILAT?**

## Survey: Independent Assessment of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

### THANK YOU

Thank you for your time and responses to the survey.

Your input is valuable and will be used to inform the analysis for the independent assessment process and contribute to further enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the EGILAT.

Following analysis of member economies survey responses a draft report on initial findings will be submitted to EGILAT members by 22 March 2013 for one round of comments.

The final report and recommendations will be delivered to the SCE by 3 May 2013.

Thank you again.

Vincent A Hudson  
Independent Assessor