

CPTPP Environment Committee

Committee Report
<p>1. The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) Environment Committee (ENV) meeting was held via videoconference on 19 July 2022 (Singapore Time). Delegates from the following CPTPP Members participated: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, and Singapore. Mr. Hazri Hassan, Divisional Director of International Policy, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore, chaired the Committee.</p>
<p>2. The Committee agenda is attached at ANNEX A.</p>
<p>3. A summary of the Committee's discussion and any outcomes confirmed under the respective agenda items is set out below.</p>
<p>4. AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee confirmed to adopt the agenda.
<p>5. AGENDA ITEM 2: COOPERATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noting the CPTPP Article 20.12 on Cooperation, the Committee shared on Members' lists of interests and experiences on cooperation activities that have been undertaken under other bilateral or regional agreements while referring to the updated list of areas of interest for cooperation. • As a follow-up on the webinar sessions organised in 2021, Japan updated that a summary of the webinar on invasive alien species has been provided to the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Secretariat as inputs to CBD COP-15. Given that the major points raised at the webinar is now incorporated in the draft decision of COP-15, Japan sought Members' support in adopting the decision at the COP scheduled to take place in December 2022.
<p>6. AGENDA ITEM 3: OTHER ISSUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand underlined the importance of submitting notifications on fisheries subsidies under Article 20.16.9, and noted Members' consolidated responses on this. New Zealand proposed to include this issue as a standing item for future CPTPP Environment Committee meetings. It also highlighted the importance of consistency in information among Members' notifications and expressed willingness to support such work intersessionally. • Japan updated that relevant CPTPP official documents have been uploaded on the new online document management system which it developed. Japan invited Members to provide their views/comments, if any, on the use of the system through the virtual secretariat.

- Singapore introduced its plans for a CPTPP Webinar on “Green Economy Cooperation in the CPTPP” that it was organising on 17 August 2022. The workshop would take forward discussions among Members on new and emerging issues pertaining to the green economy. Members confirmed on regarding the webinar as this year’s public sessions set forth in CPTPP Article 20.19.8.
- Canada and Mexico shared that they were working on a concept paper for a follow-up edition to the *CPTPP Workshop on Combating Illegal Trade of Wildlife Species* held in 2021. They plan to host this year’s workshop in the coming months, with more information to be provided in due time.

7. AGENDA ITEM 4: NEXT MEETING

- While the meeting requirement is biennial, no objection was expressed to the suggestion for the next CPTPP Environment Committee meeting to be held in 2023, hosted by New Zealand.

8. PUBLIC SESSION:

- As confirmed by the CPTPP Members under AGENDA ITEM 3, the webinar organised by Singapore, which can be summarised as follows, is regarded as this year’s public session of the Committee.

Green Economy Cooperation in the CPTPP (17 August 2022):

- During this session, the participants (representatives from CPTPP Member governments and invited speakers) examined key issues surrounding the green economy, and reflected on the critical role that partnership through the CPTPP can play in enhancing regional economic integration towards trade and environmental sustainability. The participants shared their experiences in fostering innovative and efficient ways to enhance environmental commitments, as well as explored areas of cooperation on low-emissions technologies and energy sources. The participants further discussed the importance of trade liberalisation in environmental goods and services, and examined examples of existing bilateral and plurilateral cooperation projects on environmental goods and services to address global trade-related environmental challenges.

ANNEX A

CPTPP Environment Committee

19 Jul 2022, Virtual, 9am (SGT)

AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM

1: Adoption of the Agenda

2: Cooperation (Article 20.12)

3: Other Issues

3.1: Notifications under 20.16.9 (Marine capture fisheries)

4: Next meeting

5: Drafting of Committee Report