Status Report: Emergency Response Travel Facilitation Study

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: APEC TATF

5th Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting
Medan, Indonesia
2-3 July 2013
Status Report: Emergency Response Travel Facilitation Study

Dr. Erin Hughey
APEC Technical Assistance & Training Facility (TATF)
2–3 July 2013
Medan, Indonesia

A status report prepared for the APEC Emergency Preparedness Workgroup (EPWG)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAVEL FACILITATION FOR PERSONNEL, GOODS AND EQUIPMENT IN TIMES OF CRISIS
**Background**

- APEC EPWG acknowledges significant increase in intensity and frequency of disasters in the Asia-Pacific region
- In 2011, Ministers directed officials to advance efforts to facilitate the movement of goods and services during disasters
- Indonesia made emergency response travel facilitation a priority for the 2013 APEC meeting
- A team of researchers was tasked to conduct a study to evaluate emergency response travel facilitation; the study includes a survey and three case studies

---

**Conceptual Framework**

- Comprehensive Domestic Legislation & International Agreements
- Effective Entry Facilitation for international personnel, goods & equipment requires the following components:
  - Best Practices in Disaster Management
  - Solid Preparedness and Readiness
Study Purpose

- Take stock of current policies and procedures affecting the cross-border movement of emergency personnel and disaster goods and equipment within APEC economies
- Identify best practices by APEC members that can be used to formulate policy recommendations to effectively deal with international movements of emergency responders and disaster goods and equipment
- Study addresses three scenarios:
  - APEC economies providing disaster relief
  - APEC economies receiving disaster relief
  - APEC economies facilitating transit for disaster relief

Study Methodologies

- Archival Research
- Survey
- Case Studies
- Interviews
## Expected Deliverables

- **APEC Survey Report:**
  - Assessing current regulations based on IFRC 2013 Model Act for the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance
  - Identifying problems and challenges from the perspective of economies providing assistance, receiving assisting, and facilitating transit
  - Highlighting best practices

- **Three Case Studies focused on:**
  - Legislative frameworks
  - Cross-border collaboration
  - Lessons from large events

## Survey

- **Design:**
  - 23 questions addressing three components
    - **SECTION 1:** Current Regulations for Travel Facilitation for Disaster Personnel, Goods and Equipment
    - **SECTION 2:** Practical Issues Related to Entry Facilitation
    - **SECTION 3:** Entry Facilitation Best Practices
  - Target Audience: EPWG, BMG, SCCP

- **Responses:**
  - Current response: 20+, with multiple for some member economies
  - Australia, Canada, Chile, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, The Russian Federation, United States of America, Viet Nam
    - Multiple responses from several member economies allows for triangulation
Case Study: Legislative Framework

• Purpose
  o Examine how three disaster-prone economies are setting up legislation to help with facilitation of entry of emergency personnel, goods and equipment.

• Selected Case Study Economies
  o Thailand (work in progress)
  o Vietnam (work done but not tested)
  o Indonesia (work done and tested)

• Preliminary Lessons Learned
  o Applicability of legislation

Case Study: Cross-border Collaboration

• Purpose
  o Examine how cross-border collaboration helps deploy coordinated, cooperative, timely decision-making to mitigate impacts on citizens and economies

• Selected Case Study Economies
  o United States and Canada
    • Lessons learned from (i) bilateral domestic framework for the movement of goods and people across the border during and following an emergency, and (ii) from the bi-state operational plan for moving emergency medical services, staff and resources across the U.S. State of Washington and Canadian Province of British Columbia
  o United States and Mexico:
    • Joint contingency plan – Preparedness for and response to emergencies and contingencies associated with chemical hazard substances in the inland border

• Preliminary Lessons Learned
  o Legislative and regional provisions to improve cross-border preparedness (i.e., region specific standard operating procedures; regular cross border training and exercises)
Case Study: Lessons from Large Events

• Purpose
  o Examine the many lessons learned from recent large scale natural and industrial disasters related to facilitating emergency travel

• Selected Case Study Economies
  o 2009 Typhoon Ketsana (Philippines)
  o 2010 Copiapó Mining Accident (Chile)
  o 2011 Flooding (Thailand)

• Preliminary Lessons Learned
  o Success of exercising executive leadership and innovative partnerships with the private sector to meet emergency needs

Next Steps

• Follow-up on outstanding survey responses
  o Outreach to clarify responses where necessary

• Semi-structured Interviews

• Continuation of archival research

• Finalize case studies
### Timeline

- Presentation SOM III: July 3, 2013
- Circulation to EPWG: August 5, 2013
- Comment back EPWG: August 9, 2013
- Circulation to SDMOF: August 14, 2013
- Present finding SDMOF: August 21-22, 2013
- Comments back SDMOF: August 30, 2013
- Final Paper: September 2013
- Circulate at CSOM: October 2013
- Circulate SOM I 2014: Early 2014

### Request for Comments

1. Given your areas of responsibilities, what is the biggest challenge APEC faces in effectively dealing with entry facilitation?

2. Given your areas of responsibilities, what issues has APEC least successfully dealt with related to entry facilitation?

3. What should APEC do in the near future to further promote entry facilitation?