

## AGENDA ITEM 3

### IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND ISSUES

#### OBJECTIVE

- To discuss an Implementation Strategy for APEC's Energy Program.

#### BACKGROUND

1. APEC Economic Leaders have stressed the importance of producing concrete results.
2. In Auckland in 1999, Leaders direction called for a specific implementation strategy in areas such as natural gas and called upon the private sector to contribute to these efforts.
3. At the last Energy Ministers Meeting in Okinawa in October 1998, Ministers resolved to work cooperatively to secure tangible economic, social and environmental benefits for member economies by focusing on initiatives that will have an early and enduring impact.
4. In November 1999 the Energy Working Group initiated a "test case" implementation strategy by sending a team of Energy Working Group and Energy Working Group Business Network representatives to Thailand, at Thailand's invitation, to provide assistance on how to facilitate implementation of the principles and best practices recommended in the Natural Gas Initiative.
5. The voluntary team visit strategy tested in Thailand was deemed a success and follow up visits are being considered to Thailand.
6. At its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting in Brunei in April 2000, the Energy Working Group agreed to the text of a draft document "Implementation Strategy for APEC's Energy Program" that is based upon the test case model and is expanded to cover all energy initiatives. The strategy emphasizes that team visits are planned on an ad hoc basis to ensure that visits meet the needs of volunteer host economies.
7. The "Implementation Strategy for APEC's Energy Program" introduces a new element: a system of voluntary annual self reports on implementation progress by member economies that will be forwarded to Economic Leaders through the Energy Working Group and the APEC system.
8. The "Implementation Strategy for APEC's Energy Program" also contains an agreement for the Energy Working Group to develop a consistent reporting framework that each economy may use.

## **ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

9. Ministers may want to discuss issues and challenges in implementing agreed initiatives, including how a facilitation team visit can be as concrete and practical as possible.
10. Ministers may want to comment on the process of annual self reports on progress in implementation of initiatives.
11. Ministers are invited to consider the draft document “Implementation Strategy for APEC’s Energy Program” agreed to by the Energy Working Group for Ministers’ deliberation.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Ministers to discuss the Implementation Strategy for APEC’s Energy Programs.