

For information on  
17 November 2006

## **COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

### **APEC High Level Meeting on Sustainable Development Santiago, Chile (20 – 21 July 2006)**

#### **Purpose**

This information note reports on the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) High Level Meeting on Sustainable Development held in Chile in July 2006, in which the Secretary to the Council for Sustainable Development participated in the name of “Hong Kong, China”.

#### **The Meeting**

2. A total of 17 APEC economies attended the meeting, including the People’s Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, USA, Australia, Japan and Vietnam. Representatives from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs as well as the United Nations Environment Programme also attended the meeting.

3. The meeting reviewed APEC activities on sustainable development, and discussed how the APEC could strengthen its relevant work in the region, in particular on issues on the agenda for the current cycle of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), such as energy for sustainable development and industrial development. Member economies also had a fruitful exchange on the efforts taken in respective economies in the pursuit of long-term sustainability. Among others, the Secretary to the Hong Kong Council for Sustainable Development gave a short briefing to the meeting on the work carried out to achieve greater sustainability in Hong Kong. This included the sustainability assessment system to assess new public programmes from an SD perspective, as well as the stakeholder engagement process and educational/publicity efforts spearheaded by the Council for Sustainable Development. Copies of the latest Invitation

and Response document were also distributed to participants at the meeting.

A 4. At the meeting, the CSD representative tabled a Matrix (*Annex A*) for participants' reference. This Matrix is a useful information tool containing relevant overseas experience in areas of work such as energy, industrial development, tackling air pollution and climate change. We have copied the CSD Matrix to other relevant bureaux and departments after the meeting.

B 5. The meeting's conclusions and recommendations for the APEC Secretariat and economies to take forward are at *Annex B*. In September 2006, the APEC Senior Officials' Meeting Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation noted the conclusions and recommendations of the high-level meeting.

### **Way Forward**

6. We support the recommendations drawn up at the high level meeting. Among other things, through the SD Fund project to develop a sustainability reporting tool (one of the approved projects under the third round of applications), we will be able to comply with Recommendation 3 on measuring progress made towards the goal of SD and capacity building to this end. Regarding Recommendations 5 and 6, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department is working on them through its membership of and participation in the APEC Energy Working Group.

7. We will keep in view the work of APEC and other international organizations relevant to the pursuit of SD, and will seek to support and collaborate with these efforts as appropriate.

Council Secretariat  
November 2006