OVERVIEW

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the ASEAN Secretariat in co-operation with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) are pleased to organise the 5th meeting of the OECD-ASEAN Regional SME Policy Network on 1 June, 2016, in Singapore.

STRUCTURE

Meeting of the Regional SME Policy Network

The meeting will have two main sessions:

Main Session 1 : The growing importance of enhancing macro-level productivity in ASEAN, gives a strategic overview of why productivity has risen to the forefront of the regional and global policy agenda and the implications for MSME policy making.

Main Session 2 : MSME – firm-level productivity and the digital economy, focuses on the specific issues MSME face, good practice policies to address them, and joint regional action on productivity and digital economy in ASEAN.

Closing session : Next steps and closing discusses potential further OECD activities on MSME productivity in ASEAN, including a series of sectorial MSME productivity roundtables.

Special sessions

After lunch, participants will reconvene for two separate special sessions:

Special Session 1 : ASEAN Institutional Framework on Access to Finance for MSMEs provides a deep-dive into how Governments can go about developing a general framework for government action on access to finance.

Special Session 2 : Towards an ASEAN action plan for making it easier to start a business, explores the ASEAN way to ensure efficiency and simplification in business start-up procedures.

CONTEXT

Held in connection with the 1st meeting of the ASEAN Co-ordinating Committee on MSMEs (ACCMSME), this meeting is part of the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Programme, launched in 2014 to support regional economic integration. The Regional SME Policy Network is a mutual learning platform for Southeast Asia and the OECD.

PARTICIPANTS

The Meeting includes delegates of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on MSME as well as experts in SME policy, trade and investment policy from the OECD and ERIA.
5TH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL SME POLICY NETWORK

Wednesday, 1 June 2016
Ballroom 1 and 2, Sheraton Towers, Singapore

DRAFT AGENDA

09:00 – 09:20 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening remarks:

- Mr. NGUYEN Hoa Cuong, Deputy Director General, Agency for Enterprise Development, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam; Co-chair of the Regional SME Policy Network
- Ms. Lois A. STEVENSON, Co-chair of the Regional SME Policy Network

Agenda overview:

- Mr. Alexander BÖHMER, Head of Jakarta office, Global Relations, OECD

09:20 – 10:40 Session 1: The Growing Importance of Enhancing Macro-Level Productivity in ASEAN

The first session gives room for a strategic overview of the importance of productivity both at the macro- and the firm-level. It reviews key concepts such as labour and total factor-productivity, explores the links to structural change, firm typology, and sector dynamics, and reviews how one or more ASEAN countries are making concerted efforts to address the issue and overcome the “middle-income trap”.

Moderator:

- Dr. Wimonkan KOSUMAS, Deputy Director-General of the Office of SMEs Promotion, Thailand

Presentations:

- The Future of Productivity and Key Concepts
  Ms. Chiara CRISCUOLO, Senior Economist, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD
  Mr. Anders JONSSON, Policy Analyst, Global Relations, OECD

- Globalization and Productivity: Does Size Really Matter?
  Dr. Dionisius A. NARJOKO, Economist, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

- Policies to Enhance Productivity in ASEAN: Overcoming the Middle-Income-Trap
  Mr. Jerry T. CLAVESILLAS, Assistant Director Bureau of MSME Development, The Philippines

Discussion

10:40 – 11:00 Coffee break
This session takes a deeper look at the specific challenges that MSMEs face and the policies that could support them in increasing productivity at the firm-level. A case in point are policies that helped Singapore SMEs identify market demand and partner with technology providers globally. ILO’s SCORE Programme offers options for firm-level productivity upgrading, focusing in particular on processes and working conditions. ASEAN MSMES, with the right national and regional support policies, could benefit substantially from broadening and deepening their use of information and communication technologies (ICT) and take advantage of the opportunities offered by the digital economy. This includes, in particular, using e-commerce to link up with suppliers and customers, and using enterprise resource planning systems.

Moderator:
- Mr. Jerry T. CLAVESILLAS, Assistant Director Bureau of MSME Development, The Philippines

Presentations:
- Enhance productivity through technology and innovation
  Mr. Michael GOH, Singapore
- Enhancing Productivity by Improving Production Processes, Production Management Skills, and Working Conditions – The SCORE Programme
  Mr. Charlie BODWELL, Enterprise Development Specialist, ILO
- Key issues in Using the Digital Economy to Boost Productivity
  Ms. Chiara CRISCUOLO, Senior Economist, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD

Commentator:
- Mr. Antonio FANELLI, Senior Advisor, Global Relations, OECD

Discussion

Closing Session: Next Steps and Closing

This session serves to summarise the discussion and present ideas for how OECD could frame its work on SME productivity in line with the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development.

Presentation:
- Ideas for OECD Work on SME Productivity in Southeast Asia
  Ms. Chiara CRISCUOLO, Senior Economist, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD
Summary:

- **Ms. Lai Peng Yap**, Head of Enterprise and Stakeholder Engagement Division, ASEAN Secretariat
- **Ms. Lois A. STEVENSON**, Co-chair of the Regional SME Policy Network

Closing:

- **Mr. NGUYEN Hoa Cuong**, Deputy Director General, Agency for Enterprise Development, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam; Co-chair of the Regional SME Policy Network

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch
Special Session 1: Principles/Frameworks on Access to Finance for MSMEs: Towards an ASEAN Framework

The ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development 2016-2025 has identified enhancing MSME access to finance as one of its five strategic goals. The Plan recognises the need to develop an ASEAN Framework for access to finance for MSMEs focusing on institutional aspects. The OECD has developed important tools on SME access to finance, including the G20/OECD High-Level Principles on SME Financing and the OECD SME Finance Scoreboard. These and other available tools can be used to inform and enrich the development of the ASEAN Institutional Framework on Access to Finance for MSME which has been selected by the Laotian chairmanship of ASEAN as a deliverable for 2016. The purpose of the session is to present the content of these tools and provide ACCMSME members an opportunity to comment.

Moderator:
- Dr. Alexander Böhmer, Head of Jakarta office, Global Relations, OECD

Presentations:
- The Draft ASEAN Institutional Framework on Access to Finance for MSME
  Ms. Lai Peng Yap, Head of Enterprise and Stakeholder Engagement Division, ASEAN Secretariat

- The G20/OECD High-Level Principles on SME Financing and the OECD Scoreboard on Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs
  Dr. Kris BOSCHMANS, Policy Analyst, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Local Development, OECD

Questions and Answers

Coffee break

Special Session 2: Towards an ASEAN Action Plan for Making It Easier to Start a Business

The second special session explores ideas for ASEAN co-operation to facilitate business establishment procedures across the region. The session starts with analysis of business start-up procedures in ASEAN Member States and proposes ideas for regional co-operation for discussion among ACCMSME members.

Moderator:
- Ms. Lois A. STEVENSON, Co-chair of the SME RPN

Presentations:
- ASEAN action plan for making it easier to start a business
Mr. Antonio FANELLI, Senior Advisor, Global Relations, OECD
Mr. Kazumasa OBA, Junior Policy Analyst, Global Relations, OECD

Commentator:

- Mr Sengphachanh SIMANGKHALA, Director, Department of SME Promotion (DOSMEP), Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR

Questions and answers
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