

CPTPP Committee on Regulatory Coherence

Committee Report

1. The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) Committee on Regulatory Coherence was held virtually on 11 May 2021. Delegates from the following CPTPP members participated: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Viet Nam. Ms. ONISHI Tomoko of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, chaired the Committee.
2. The Committee agenda is attached at **ANNEX A**.
3. A summary of the Committee's discussion and any outcomes agreed under the respective agenda items is set out below.
4. AGENDA ITEM 1: The Committee agreed to adopt the agenda.
5. AGENDA ITEM 2: The Committee agreed to adopt the Commission's Rules of Procedure.
6. AGENDA ITEM 3: New Zealand and Singapore updated on their preparation and agreed to determine their scope of covered regulatory measures at their early convenience.
7. AGENDA ITEM 4: The Committee exchanged information. Singapore updated on its preparation and agreed to provide their notification at their early convenience.
8. AGENDA ITEM 5: The Committee recognized that it has not used any common database where members post the notifications required by this chapter and maintain them for easy and future reference among members. Japan has offered to make use of its website for document management. The Committee acknowledged that the database management is an important issue which is needed to be discussed in cross cutting manner. The Committee agreed to continue the discussion on data management by consulting senior officials.

9. AGENDA ITEM 6: In connection with each member's opinion of the last committee's follow-up, members exchanged their views about this article. The Committee discussed its obligation to "establish appropriate mechanisms to provide continuing opportunities for interested persons of the Parties to provide input on matters relevant to enhancing regulatory coherence", pursuant to this article.

Members agreed that government to government deliberations would remain closed to external participation. Canada suggested to keep the Committee among the government representatives while separate occasions such as workshop including the non-governmental experts and stakeholders can be organized. Japan suggested that each member will receive submissions from the interested persons of its public and share them with other members in the Committee, like Labour Council's decision pursuant to Article 19.14.1. Some members echoed Canada's suggestion, while some members were open to having non-governmental parties participate for specific items during the Committee meeting, where appropriate. The Committee recognized that the definition of the "interested persons" referred in Article 25.8 must be clarified in order to make further consideration on this article.

To follow up, the Committee agreed that Japan will intersessionally conduct a survey, which requests all members to share each view on i) definition of the "interested persons" referred in Article 25.8, ii) appropriate mechanisms for involvement of interested persons in the Committee.

10. AGENDA ITEM 7: NZ suggested that the Committee should spend more time on cooperation matters and learning session of good regulatory practices, and Canada also suggested to have more interactive learning session with non-governmental experts. Singapore, which will chair the Commission next year, may coordinate with NZ and Canada in planning the next Committee.

11. AGENDA ITEM 8: Singapore, as chair for the 2022 CPTPP Commission, will internally discuss and update Members regarding the next meeting of the CPTPP Committee on Regulatory Coherence.

12. AGENDA ITEM 9: Japan prepared and sent for comments a draft report of the session. Comments and suggestions were consolidated in order to have the report ready before the fourth CPTPP Commission Meeting.

ANNEX A

CPTPP Committee on Regulatory Coherence	
AGENDA	
Date and Time:	11 th -12 th May 2021, 10:00am (Tokyo Time)
Venue:	Video-Conference
Day 1	
ITEM 1:	Adoption of the Agenda
ITEM 2:	Rules of Procedures (RoP)
ITEM 3:	Scope of Covered Regulatory Measures (Article 25.3)
ITEM 4:	Notification of Implementation to the Committee within two year of the date of entry into force (Article 25.9)
Day 2	
ITEM 5:	Maintenance of the notification made by the Parties
ITEM 6:	Engagement with Interested Persons (Article 25.8)
ITEM 7:	Other Issues
ITEM 8:	Next Meeting
ITEM 9:	Committee Report