

Minister Jenni Yang's intervention at 2025 APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM)

Session II: Connect

- *What policy priorities are APEC members pursuing to strengthen supply chain resilience and adaptability, and how can we leverage emerging technologies such as AI to support this while promoting trade facilitation in the APEC region?*
 - *Amidst the ongoing transformation of the global trading order, what role should the WTO play? How can APEC leverage its role as an incubator of ideas to address shared challenges?*
1. Thank you, Chair. Dear colleagues, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the government of Korea for hosting this meeting and for the warm hospitality we have all received.
 2. In the face of growing geopolitical complexity and uncertainty, we, as APEC economies, are striving to achieve economic security, supply chain resilience, and sustainable prosperity. To achieve these goals, we see the development and application of advanced technologies, such as AI, as key tools to drive economic transformation, foster innovation, and enhance efficiency.
 3. I would also like to take this opportunity to commend APEC and ABAC's continued focus on emerging issues, such as AI, supply chain resilience, and digital trade. Through concrete work programs and roadmaps, these efforts have not only deepened APEC economies' understanding of new topics but also enhanced the depth and quality of regional cooperation.
 4. We have a comprehensive supply chain and strong technological capabilities in AI chip and hardware manufacturing, allowing us to play a crucial role in the global AI ecosystem. We are ready to work closely with APEC economies to promote both the production and widespread adoption of AI equipment. For example, through ABAC, we have been supporting the use of AI in smart healthcare and cybersecurity for small- and medium-sized enterprises. We welcome the opportunity to share our experiences and explore more ways for collaboration with all economies in these important fields

5. On trade facilitation, we have been actively promoting Smart Customs initiatives, including using AI for image recognition to detect smuggling and applying AI-based data analysis to prevent under-invoicing. We look forward to exchanging best practices and learning from other APEC economies in this area.
6. As we all know, AI is still in its early stages. It is critical that AI is developed and applied responsibly, with careful consideration of privacy, ethics, intellectual property, cybersecurity, and standards. We believe that APEC can leverage its role as a policy and idea incubator to bring forward innovative thinking and practical experience that can inspire multilateral trade rules.
7. The WTO remains the cornerstone of the rules-based multilateral trading system. It has supported global growth for decades. Now, as new technologies like AI become powerful engines for trade, we encourage APEC to continue leading the dialogue on AI-related topics. We also call on the WTO to strengthen cooperation with other international organizations, including APEC.
8. As WTO members actively discuss reform issues, the upcoming 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) early next year will be a crucial moment. We hope that APEC ministers provide clear political direction on key WTO topics, particularly those emerging topics related to high-tech development and trade issues, to ensure that the WTO remains relevant and responsive to all stakeholders.
9. Finally, we stand ready to work with all APEC economies. Together, we can bring more dynamism, trust, and stability to our region. Thank you!

APEC Ministerial Dialogue with Indigenous Peoples

Pathways to Enhanced Indigenous Economic Empowerment and Trade

- *Can you share some examples of practical initiatives and measures from your economy (public or private) that have helped support Indigenous businesses and entrepreneurs to scale up and access international markets?*
- *How can bilateral and regional trade agreements support Indigenous economic empowerment and trade?*
- *How can APEC and other multilateral fora help advance Indigenous economic empowerment and create opportunities for Indigenous businesses?*

Statement:

Thank you, Chair. Dear colleagues, we are committed to empowering Indigenous Peoples and promoting sustainable development. We support cultural preservation and aim to achieve inclusive growth and sustainable prosperity.

1. Chinese Taipei supports Indigenous businesses and entrepreneurs through various domestic measures, including utilize

- (1) AI for digital transformation in emerging sectors, such as digital industry, e-commerce, technology, and cultural and creative industries. These efforts increase the added value of trade.
- (2) We are also helping Indigenous Peoples develop a green economy, eco-agriculture, and cultural tourism.

2. Next, multilateral and bilateral and trade agreements can support Indigenous economic empowerment and trade.

(1) Regarding Multilateral cooperation:

Since May 2024, Chinese Taipei has taken the lead on “Pathway 3: Connecting Indigenous Businesses and Entrepreneurs” under the IPETCA (Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Cooperation Arrangement). We plan to organize trade missions centered on Indigenous enterprises through public-private collaboration. These trade missions will promote business matching and industrial cooperation. The first trade mission will visit New Zealand in March of 2026. We hope for the support of all IPETCA members.

(2) Regarding Bilateral cooperation:

Under the “*Cooperation on Indigenous Issues Chapter*” of the (ANZTEC) (“*Agreement between New Zealand and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu on Economic Cooperation*”), Chinese Taipei and New Zealand will carry out a three-year work plan (2026–2028). This plan includes:

- Indigenous trade missions in 2026;
- an internship program for indigenous youth and women entrepreneurs in 2027, and;
- the establishment of a bilateral Indigenous business cooperation network in 2028.

(3) These programs will enhance bilateral industrial and talent cooperation.

3. Finally, APEC and other multilateral fora can create opportunities for Indigenous Peoples.

We hope to work with more economies to promote Indigenous cooperation projects. We also encourage more APEC economies to join IPETCA. Through capacity building and resource sharing, we can help Indigenous Peoples achieve economic empowerment and inclusive growth. Thank you!