

Chemical Dialogue
Report for the
CTI ANNUAL REPORT TO MINISTERS

For AMM’s information**(a) Key outcomes and achievements in 2024**

- The CD implemented or completed five APEC projects:
 - CD 01 2024S “Capacity Building for Chemical Emergency Preparedness”
 - CD 202 2023T “Increasing Access to Risk Assessment Tools in the Asia-Pacific”
 - CD 201 2023T “Implementing OECD Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) System”
 - CD 01 2022A “Capacity Building on Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Implementation Convergence Practices”
 - CD 03 2022A “Develop Preparation Checklist and Guidance on How to Upgrade to Higher GHS Version”
- The CD developed the 2024 Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) survey and report.
- The CD developed a survey to explore extended producer responsibility (EPR) priorities in the Asia-Pacific.
- The CD renewed and endorsed the Industry’s Co-Chairmanship from 2024-2026.¹
- The CD endorsed three APEC-funded concept notes to be implemented in 2025:
 - “Workshop on the latest plastic recycling technologies and their policy applications”
 - “Capacity Building on Effective Management of Confidential Business Information (CBI) During Inwards Customs Clearance”
 - “Building Supply Chain Resilience in the APEC Chemical Sector”
- The CD collaborated with the Ocean and Fisheries Working Group through the Virtual Working Group on Marine Debris to coordinate activities across APEC related to marine debris and circular economy issues.

(b) Work undertaken by fora in pursuit of the [Putrajaya Vision 2040](#), including through the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\)](#)

*Kindly refer to the “Collective Actions” (in the APA) for the relevant fora
Please also outline any individual actions that your fora has showcased during the year.*

¹ The current CD Terms of Reference expires at the end of 2025.

- The CD’s work supports collective actions under the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\) to implement the](#) APEC Roadmap on Marine Debris and advance APEC’s circular economy work.
- The CD’s work also supports efforts under the [Aotearoa Plan of Action \(APA\) to](#) reduce unnecessary barriers to trade and foster regulatory reform through its Virtual Working Group on GHS and Regulatory Cooperation and Convergence.

(c) Work Undertaken by the fora in response to Ministerial, SOM and CTI direction

- The CD continues to discuss and take action on:
 - Preventing barriers to trade in chemicals through promoting regulatory cooperation and implementation of good regulatory practices;
 - Aligning government and industry implementation of the UN Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS);
 - Building capacity on risk assessment for chemical substances;
 - Supporting knowledge sharing of extended producer responsibility and waste management to contribute to a circular economy; and
 - Promoting sound science and risk-based principles for chemicals management to support resilient supply chains.

(d) Key Issues Under Discussion by the Fora (if any); &

The current Terms of Reference (TOR) for the CD expires at the end of 2025. The United States Government has formally requested the CD terminate when its TOR expires. Since the creation of the APEC CD in 2000, other international policy frameworks to promote the sound management of chemicals have been adopted, such as the United Nations Environment Programmes’ Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in 2006, and its newly adopted successor, the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC). Other economies disagree with the decision to terminate. The CD continues to discuss the issue.

- The CD is continuing its work to:
 - Prevent barriers to trade in chemicals through regulatory cooperation;
 - Align implementation of the UN Globally Harmonized System of Chemical Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) and take action to set up a sub-group to discuss international work to revise GHS and draft consolidated comments;
 - Address emerging issues such as marine debris and waste management of plastic;

- Build capacity on risk assessment for chemical substances and advanced chemical recycling for a circular economy; and
- Explore how to support resilient supply chains.

(e) Private sector / Stakeholder engagement and cross-fora collaboration in 2024 (if any)

- The CD serves as only one of two dialogues in APEC that has an Industry Co-Chair. All CD Virtual Working Groups also have private sector leadership and implement an Industry Pre-Meeting before each CD Plenary. The private sector continues to look for ways to serve as a partner and resource for APEC economies to create sustainable economic growth through supporting resilient supply chains, trade facilitation, and circular economy initiatives.

(f) Items to submit to Senior Officials or Ministers (if applicable)

- CD Industry Letter to strongly support the continuation APEC Chemical Dialogue and encourages the renewal of Terms of Reference in 2025 to be included in the CTI Report to Ministers.