ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement Forty-eighth (48th) session

22-23 December 2015 UNCC, Bangkok

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

The Secretariat delivers an opening statement.

2. Election of officers

The Standing Committee is invited to elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson for the 48th session.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The Standing Committee is invited to adopt the agenda.

4. Implementation of the Fourth Round

As India indicated that they need more time to complete due internal procedure concerning the implementation of the 4th Round of APTA concessions, the Standing Committee is invited to decide whether (a) the APTA Participating States wait until India completes its internal procedure; or (b) implement the 4th Round on the basis of already finalized and circulated National Schedule of Concessions among the agreeable Participating States and agree with India to implement when she is ready to do so.

5. The Protocol to amend the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: Second Amendment

The Standing Committee is invited to discuss and finalize the Second Amendment to APTA, which will be in the form of a Protocol to amend the Agreement including the proposal made by the Republic of Korea in amending Box 8 of the Certificate of Origin.

6. Follow-up action emanating from the APTA Framework Agreement on Services

The Standing Committee is invited to discuss how to proceed with the negotiations on Services Trade under the APTA Framework Agreements, which have been signed and duly ratified by all Participating States of APTA.

7. Follow-up action emanating from the APTA Framework Agreement on Investment

The Standing Committee is invited to discuss how to proceed with the negotiations on Investment under the APTA Framework Agreements, which have been signed and duly ratified by all Participating States of APTA.

8. Follow-up action emanating from the APTA Framework Agreement on Trade Facilitation

The Standing Committee is invited to discuss how to proceed with the negotiations on Trade Facilitation under the APTA Framework Agreements, which have been signed and duly ratified by all Participating States of APTA.

9. Date and venue for the 49th session of the Standing Committee and the 4th session of the APTA Ministerial Council

The 4th APTA Ministerial Council Meeting will be preceded by the 49th session of the Standing Committee; therefore, the Standing Committee is invited to confirm the exact date and the venue of the 49th session of the Standing Committee as well as the 4th Ministerial Council meeting, tentatively re-scheduled to be held in March 2016.

10. Other matters

The Standing Committee may discuss any other issues not covered under specific agenda items, including the terms of reference for the proposed APTA CCI network.

11. Adoption of the report

The Standing Committee is expected to adopt the report of its 48th session on 23 December 2015.

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