



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.:20-IN-53-GE-TRC-A-PN2000021-003(R)

Date of Issue	29 January 2021
Project Code	20-IN-53-GE-TRC-A
Title	Training of Trainers on Regulatory Reform Agendas for Productivity Growth and Competitiveness
Timing and Duration	5–7 April 2021 (three days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Malaysia
Modality	Digital Multicountry (DMC)
Implementing Organization(s)	Malaysia Productivity Corporation and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	19
Local Participants	12
Closing Date for Nominations	7 March 2021

Notes: This PN supersedes the PN issued on 19 May 2020 due to a change in implementation modality from face-to-face to digital sessions.

1. Objectives

- a. Learn the essentials and requirements of regulatory reform;
- b. Understand the methods of enhancing the quality of regulatory decisions; and
- c. Gain understanding of how to develop and adopt consistent, comprehensive regulatory management systems.

2. Background

Regulatory reform reduces barriers to competition, ensures market openness, and fosters market dynamics while ensuring essential social and environmental welfare. There are many reasons why governments undertake regulatory reforms, especially if regulations create unnecessary burdens, do not stimulate economic development, and hinder national productivity and competitiveness growth. Regulatory reform agendas are aimed at developing practical, viable policy alternatives to ensure that barriers are addressed to create a business-friendly environment while making regulations more effective efficient. A good example of the recent regulatory reform agenda undertaken by many governments is the ease of doing business. The regulatory reforms are not just crucial for economic and social development but are hallmarks of good governance.

However, the negative effects from COVID-19 in terms of health outcomes, deterioration of livelihoods, and the struggle of many businesses left without revenue could greatly alter any regulatory reform agenda of governments. Some examples of those agendas that might be affected include revamping license applications and renewal processes through virtual applications. Hence, the situation calls for a different set of principles that will guide policymakers toward a more robust, resilient regulatory reform agenda.

In order to enhance the capacity of the public sector in responding to the changing post-COVID-19 landscape, this course will provide know-how in undertaking regulatory reform during this time. This is aligned with the APO initiatives to improve the motivation and skill level of public officials, strengthen management systems, and enhance performance given the changing environment and current commitment to public-service renewal in member countries, especially in terms of regulatory reforms.

3. Modality of Implementation

- a. The sessions will be conducted virtually.
- b. The duration of each day’s sessions will be around three hours.
- c. The APO Secretariat will inform the resource persons and participants of the link to the virtual sessions.
- d. The link will be exclusive to resource persons and participants and should not be shared.

4. Scope and Methodology

The sessions will consist of the following:

Day/Date	Activity
Monday, 5 April 2021	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory reform for productivity and competitiveness in the post-COVID-19 scenario • Revisiting regulatory reform and its principles: Regulatory policy, competition policy, and market openness • Understanding the importance and benefits of regulatory reform through Malaysia’s experience

Tuesday, 6 April 2021	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory reform through reduction of unnecessary regulatory burden (RURB) initiatives such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deregulation b. Nontariff measures c. Cutting red tape d. Dealing with construction permits e. Modernizing business licensing
Wednesday, 7 April 2021	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links among regulatory reform agendas, productivity, and competitiveness • Best practices of regulatory reform agendas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Effective rule-making procedures such as RIA b. RURB on businesses c. Case of PERMUDAH in Malaysia: A public-private partnership in business regulation reform • Reviewing and evaluating a regulatory reform agenda post-COVID-19

5. Qualifications of Candidates

Participants must be competent in connecting to virtual meetings, including independently undertaking troubleshooting in the event of poor or lost connections. They must also be proficient in English, both written and spoken. Specific requirements are as follows:

- a. Government officials from regulatory agencies and local government units, policymakers, and/or consultants on regulatory reform for the public sector from NPOs.
- b. Two years of experience or more in the position described above.

6. Requirement

- a. Have necessary devices comprising a computer, web camera, microphone, and speaker or headphones.
- b. Access to Internet connections suitable for videoconferencing. Stable, wired LAN connections are preferred.
- c. Follow the instructions of the moderators/presenters in asking questions, joining discussions, and answering questions.
- d. Participate in all sessions.

7. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs for international resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the assignment costs of local resource persons and for a virtual site visit(s), either broadcast live or recorded as applicable.

8. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Each participating country will nominate three or more candidates in order of preference.
- b. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- c. All nominations must be endorsed by an APO Director or Alternate Director and submitted by a Liaison Officer or designated officer.
- d. Each nomination must be accompanied by the APO biodata form and uploaded to the APO Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive by the NPO. The biodata form is available on the APO website.
- e. Late nominations will not be accepted. When a nomination requires the approval of higher authorities and requires a longer time, the member country concerned should send the name(s) of the nominee(s) before or by the deadline, indicating that approval will follow.
- f. If a selected participant becomes unable to participate, the NPO concerned should inform the APO Secretariat and the host country promptly.

9. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Selection of candidates will be at the discretion of the Participant Selection Committee of the APO Secretariat.
- b. Selection of candidates will be completed and announced two weeks prior to the start of the sessions.
- c. Slots that become available due to withdrawal of a selected candidate(s) or lack of nominations by a member country may be filled by alternates to be selected on a merit basis.
- d. The APO Secretariat will inform NPOs of the final program and link of the virtual sessions one week prior to commencement.

10. Dress Code

Participants are required to wear appropriate attire during the sessions.



Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General