



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

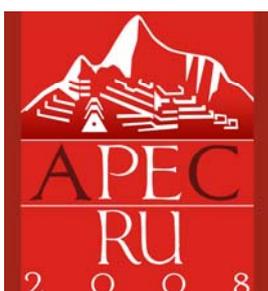
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**2008/SOM1/SCSC/TFTF/009**

Agenda Item: 9

## **Consideration of RoHS in Australia**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: Australia



**Sub-Committee on Standards and  
Conformance Trade Facilitation Task Force  
Meeting  
Lima, Peru  
23 February 2008**



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Heritage



## Consideration of RoHS in Australia

**Brian Phillips**

on behalf of the  
**Department of the Environment and Heritage**

**APEC SCSC TFTF - February 2008**



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Heritage



## Australian Environment Ministers have agreed

*... to investigate mechanisms for adopting  
equivalent measures and timing to those set out  
in the European Union's Directive for the  
Restriction of Hazardous Substances in electrical  
and electronic equipment.*



## Defining an Australian RoHS Policy

### Step 1. Building the knowledge base

### Step 2. Initial stakeholder engagement

- » first national roundtable Sept 2005
- » agreed to commission a preliminary assessment



## Defining an Australian RoHS Policy

### Step 3. Preliminary analysis of costs / benefits of possible policy options

- » published August 2007
- » Electrical and Electronic Products contribution relatively small



## Defining an Australian RoHS Policy

### Step 4. Further stakeholder engagement

- » Second national roundtable
- » industry agreement to pursue a voluntary Code of Practice
- » governments to undertake further analysis and, if justified, consider possible regulatory support



## Second national stakeholder roundtable

### Key issues:

- Support for action on RoHS but
  - clear market failure is yet to be fully identified
  - case for regulatory intervention not yet been made
  - need for net social benefit
- Need to avoid differing coverage and compliance requirements



## Second national stakeholder roundtable

### Key issues (cont.):

- **Industry stakeholders agreed to examine possibility of a Voluntary Code of Practice**
  - Possible features may include agreement on restriction policies
  - Educational/Communication initiatives (including web based and printed communication tools) for all industry sectors (including SMEs, maintenance workers and consumers)
  - Aim to have functioning Code by early 2009



## RoHS in Australia

Thank you for your attention