EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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Honoring the US as the 2011 Host Economy

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MESSAGE REGARDING POSITION PAPERS FOR THE 2011 NMUN-APEC CONFERENCE

At the 2011 NMUN-APEC Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to. Delegates should be aware that their role in each committee impacts the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as representatives of Member States, at some NMUN conferences they may also serve as observers, NGOs or judicial experts. Review the matrix for specifics about your NMUN simulation. To understand these fine differences (if applicable), please refer to the Delegate Preparation Guide.

Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. The NMUN Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation's position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the sample paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are required for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the Background Guides
- Length must not exceed two single spaced pages (one double sided paper, if printed)
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Margins must be set at 1 inch for whole paper
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page; the use of national
- symbols is highly discouraged
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections
- 1. A separate e-mail each position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee to dirgen.apec@nmun.org.no later than February 15, 2011. The NMUN Director-General will distribute the individual papers to committee directors.

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE WORKING GROUP, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: FOOD_USA_Central_University)

2. An additional e-mail with all position papers (.doc or .pdf) attached to dirgen.apec@nmun.org.no later than February 15, 2011. This second set will serve as a backup copy in case of problems with individual e-mail documents.

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: SC_Central_University)

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff use the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

Sincerely yours,

Michael Aguilar Secretary-General

Official Welcome

On behalf of the 2011 National Model United Nations-APEC Conference, we warmly welcome you to this exciting simulation of the Working Group on Emergency Preparedness. This meeting of delegates with diverse backgrounds, interests, and nationalities presents limitless opportunities for the development of new friendships, new ideas, and new ways of seeing the world. As your committee staff, we – Jennifer Spalding and Jenna Gleaton – are excited to begin this rigorous diplomatic exercise and hope that you will leave this weekend with a greater understanding of what it means to be a global citizen.

As you begin your preparation, we hope you find this guide to be a useful starting point on a much deeper journey into the working group's three topics and your economy's highly individualized perspective on these issues. In addition to your research and written preparations, we hope that you come to NMUN-APEC eager to build consensus through negotiation, deliberation and compromise, as t the cornerstones of diplomacy.

Collective thought and action on emergency preparedness is necessary for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Member Economies, as over seventy percent of the world's natural disasters occur within the region. The effects are not only devastating to people, but have far-reaching effects on business, economy, infrastructure, and numerous other facets of life.

Once again, we welcome you to the 2011 NMUN-APEC Conference. We look forward to working with you at this enriching, educational conference.

History of the Working Group on Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness Working Group, which was previously known as Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP), was established by senior officials in 2005 in response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami, which struck in December 2004, in an effort to coordinate and facilitate emergency and disaster preparedness and response within APEC Member Economies. Addressing emergency preparedness is a critical component of the human security agenda. The aftermath of emergencies can result in economic devastation for Member Economies and neighboring countries. Moreover, urbanization, climate change, and global warming must be considered when addressing the causes, responses, and prevention of emergencies.

Until February 2010, the TFEP mandate was to improve coordination and enhance intra-APEC cooperation and emergency practices, natural disaster preparedness, and response efforts. Additionally, the TFEP was charged with building the capacity in the region to mitigate, prepare for and respond to emergencies and natural disasters. On February 23, in Hiroshima, Japan, on the occasion of the First Senior Officials' Meeting in 2010, the Task Force was upgraded to a permanent APEC working group, the first forum to be upgraded to a permanent working group in the last three years.

This promotion from task force to working group not only enabled the group to adopt a longer-term focus, consistent with the *APEC Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia Pacific Region 2009-2015* and proposed multi-year capacity-building initiatives, but also could reflect the ongoing interest of Member Economies within the organization. Given the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters, this upgrade compels APEC Member Economies to more completely address issues of emergency preparedness.

The new Working Group on Emergency Preparedness is now mandated to not only build capacity of Member Economies and APEC, but to also to create an infrastructure that fosters business growth, trade, and economic prosperity.

I. Mobility of Business People After Natural Emergencies

- What are the consequences of the lack of mobility among business people after natural emergencies? How does the lack of mobility affect economic prosperity?
- How can APEC's Member Economies mitigate the effects of an immobilized workforce after a natural emergency? What are key strategies and improvements both short-term and long-term that Member Economies must enact to promote greater mobility of business people after natural emergencies? In what ways are the needs of business people distinct from the needs of others in a disaster? How can these needs be addressed within the larger humanitarian framework?

With the May 2008 earthquake in China's Sichuan province that left nearly 90,000 dead or missing, in addition to other catastrophes in the region, the importance of the work by the then-named Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP) led to Leaders and Ministers committing to a greater focus on disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and building domestic disaster management capabilities, including the capability of business people to move freely after natural disasters. Natural emergencies disrupt infrastructure and decrease mobility, particularly among business people. To promote free and open trade among Member Economies, the mobility of business people is paramount. When the mobility of business people is hindered, this can lead to severe production losses. In cooperation with other APEC Working Groups, such as the *Business Mobility Group*, which focuses on enhancing the flow of business by exchanging information on regulatory practices and streamlining immigration processes for business travelers, it is the task of the APEC Working Group on Emergency Preparedness to address mobility post-emergency and ensure that economic functions can be restored quickly and efficiently.

Given the working group's present mandate, and given *the United Nations Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015)*, the Emergency Preparedness working group aims to increase business and community resilience, including an increased ability to weather the impact of a disaster, improve capacity to recover during and after a disaster, and better opportunities for adaptation following a disaster. All of these mandates speak directly to the mobility of business people – communities cannot bounce back without the key economic figures in place. Increased business and community resiliency depends on the ability of people to move in and out of emergency areas to work. According to the *Proposed Work Plan for 2010 (2010/SOM1/TFEP/004)*, the APEC Working Group on Emergency Preparedness intends to address the issue of mobility through the following initiatives: Public-Private Partnership for Disaster Preparedness Workshop and, if approved/funded, the: Social-Economic Recovery and Development After Large-Scale Disaster initiative; the Workshop on School Earthquake Safety; and the promotion of business continuity plans (BCPs).

II. The Role of Science and Technology in Emergency Preparedness

- How can APEC's Member Economies employ science and technology to adequately prepare for emergencies, such as the after-effects of a natural catastrophe? How can the APEC Working Group on Emergency Preparedness use science and technology to improve efforts an unexpected disaster?
- How can Member Economies further develop their technology to aid in preparing for emergencies, and how will Member Economies benefit from sharing their developing technology? What long-term effects will advances in science and technology have on a country's ability to prepare for emergencies?

The Member Economies of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) encompass roughly fifty percent of the world's population and surface area. Due to the vastness of the APEC region, it also is subject to approximately seventy percent of the natural disaster. During APEC's plenary session in Yokohama, Japan on November 11, 2010, APEC Ministers discussed the essential role of emergency preparedness and disaster management in maintaining human security. The Ministers established that "APEC will further develop disaster risk management and research mechanisms to better prepare Member Economies for natural disasters." The Task Force on Emergency

Preparedness Meeting, held in Lima, Peru on August 15, 2008, outlined the purpose of TFEP, which is to "develop more effective emergency preparedness and risk reduction initiatives as well as bolster efficiency in providing responses to disasters." Advances in science and technology would allow Member Economies to uphold the goal set forth by TFEP and create efficient tools that aid in preparing for emergencies.

During the Concluding Senior Officials' Meeting in Lima, Peru, on November 16-17, 2008, a set of principles was generated called the APEC Principles on Disaster Response and Cooperation. One of the twenty-six principles states, "for the sake of better disaster mitigation and preparedness, it is important to identify, assess and monitor disaster risk and improve the early-warning system." A more advanced early-warning system would benefit all Member Economies in anticipating disasters. After the Indian Ocean Tsunami that took several hundred thousand lives, the United Nations General Assembly discussed a plan to create an early-warning system in Kobe, Japan at the *World Conference on Disaster Reduction*, which was established under A/RES/58/214. As a result, the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System came into existence. The system contains twenty-six tsunami centers that can receive and send out tsunami warnings at all times to countries near the Indian Ocean. There have been further advances in the system including twenty-five stations reacting in real time, and three Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis (DART) sensors. The Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System is just one example of the innovative technology being used to warn economies of potential dangers.

Increasing global partnerships and sharing information on developing technology contribute to the preparations for emergencies. Another one of the principles notes, "it is important to raise public awareness of disaster preparedness through knowledge sharing and technological innovations." By sharing information, countries can find better methods for utilizing their resources and advancing their technology, which are both high priorities for Member Economies. In 2005, the APEC Strategy on Response to and Preparedness for Natural Disasters and Emergencies was adopted by APEC Senior Officials. This Strategy was an attempt to bolster collaborations between APEC economies. Several APEC countries have emergency preparedness agreements that allow them to share information and assist each other when facing disasters. The United States and Canada signed an agreement in 2008, Agreement between the United States of America and the Government of Canada on Emergency Management Cooperation, to ensure transparency between the countries when working together on emergency preparedness. The United States and Japan are currently working on assisting in building private-public partnerships and expanding emergency control operations in order to encourage Member Economies to work together and share information on scientific advances.

As the population and number of natural disasters in the APEC regions continue to escalate, so too will the necessary role of science and technology in emergency preparedness. Member Economies must keep up with the progress of technology as well as share their knowledge and growth with other economies in order to effectively prepare for emergencies and prevent as much damage as possible to a country's economy and people.

III. Sharing Information on Risk Reduction Among APEC Economies, Businesses and International Partners

- What are the benefits of information sharing? What lessons have been learned from past regional emergencies? What are the best practices for risk reduction for APEC Member Economies? How can the APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group best share information on this risk reduction methods?
- How can APEC ally stakeholders, fora, business, and organizational partnerships for effective sharing of information? What are the best methods for long-term risk reduction and recovery?

Certain features, such as growing populations, urbanization, globalization, poor land-use planning and competition for resources can increase the risk to a population's livelihood property, and prosperity of a Member Economy. These preexisting risk factors are compounded by shortcomings in the region's disaster preparedness and management system. Since every disaster can affect not only the Member Economy, but also the neighboring countries, people, and economies, no one nation is untouched by the effects of a natural disaster when any one

country is unprepared for an emergency. Failing to strengthen disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery in the region will have enormous human and economic costs.

According to the Proposed Workplan for 2010, Senior Officials stated that APEC's efforts should "complement, not duplicate, other international efforts and should be sustainable – cognizant of the areas in which APEC can add value, the complex field of organizations involved in disaster preparedness, management, coordination and relief work, and APEC's resource limitations." Endorsed by the Key Outcomes of the Emergency Management CEOs' Seminar (2007/TFEP/002) that was held in Australia in August 2007, APEC efforts should complement multilateral, bilateral and national efforts to strengthen disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response in the Asia-Pacific. Under the 2008 Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in APEC Region 2009-2015 (2008/SOM3/TFEP/012), the Task Force is charged with undertaking joint initiatives with other APEC Fora, such as the APEC Climate Centre (climate prediction systems), as well as the APEC Business Advisory Council (private-public partnerships), to help address global risks and produce strong responses to emergencies.

According to the Key Outcomes of the Emergency Management CEOs' Seminar (2007/TFEP/002), even among the Member Economies themselves, given the economical diversity, strengths, and weaknesses, document and information sharing among APEC members would assist communities and sectors to recover and prepare for crisis situations and establish long-term recovery actions allowing for market support and regulations for better market functioning. If anything, the TFEP has long recognized that greater collaboration with other international bodies helps to identify gaps and avoid the duplication of effort. Now as a Working Group, it is imperative that key players continue to be identified and deeply involved in risk reduction. These partnerships, including business sector representatives, the APEC Business Advisory Council, UN agencies, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations will continue to be involved in a variety of APEC Fora to benefit all Member Economies.

In the Proposed Work Plan for 2010 (2010/SOM1/TFEP/004), Senior Officials tightened the TFEP's mandate, now encompassed by the Emergency Preparedness Working Group, to include a particular focus on strengthening business resilience and the participation of the business sector to protect business, trade and economic growth from disruption. As stated by Margareta Wahlstrom, Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in her keynote address at the APEC Task Force on Emergency Preparedness in 2007, "The UN and our international-relief partners will keep gearing up to do our part, but most important in this effort is the adaptation of local, national, and regional emergency management capacity and practice. And we must draw on all capacity and competence available to achieve a significant leap in response capacity. This means also working with the private and corporate sector, the large and well resourced NGO – networks around the world."

Annotated Bibliography

History of the Working Group on Emergency Preparedness

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2005, May 2). APEC Virtual Task Force on Emergency Preparedness (VTFEP): Draft Work Plan. Accessed December 10, 2010 from <u>www.</u> apecenergy.tier.org.tw/database/.../04-Tsunami Impacts-AttC-Work Plan.pdf

This document outlines nine specific steps the TFEP planned to take in 2005 to best prioritize work.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2010). *Emergency Preparedness*. Retrieved December 6, 2010, from <u>http://www.apec.org/en/Groups/SOM-Steering-Committee-on-Economic-and-Technical-Cooperation/Working-Groups/Emergency-Preparedness.aspx</u>.

This is part of APEC's official website. This part of the website discusses the role of the Emergency Preparedness Working Group. The website gives a brief explanation of the purpose, history, achievements, current activities, events, and news of the Working Group. This is a good place for delegates to start their research to gain basic information on APEC and Emergency Preparedness. Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2008, August 15). Report on Dialogue Among APEC Economies, Business Community, International and Regional Partners on Emergency Preparedness (2008/SOM3/TFEP/005). Accessed December 10, 2010 from http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec groups/som committee on economic/working groups/emergency prep aredness.html

This document details the outcomes from the emergency preparedness meeting helo in Ha Noi, Vietnam in April 2008, including discussion of disasters in the Asia-Pacific region and ideas on collaboration.

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2009, February 18). *TFEP 2009 Work Plan (2009/SOM1/SCE-COW/012)*. Accessed December 10, 2010 from

http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec_groups/som_committee_on_economic/working_groups/emergency_prep_aredness.html

This document provides background on the TFEP mandate, as well as provides specific goals and targets for TFEP in 2009.

IDRL Newsletter. (2008, December). APEC to promote legal preparedness under new strategy for disaster risk reduction and response. Accessed December 10, 2010 from www.ifrc.org/Docs/pubs/idrl/idrl-enews-16-APEC.pdf

Describes the outcomes from the Lima Conference, specifically looks at the Declaration and anticipated outcomes of the meeting. It provides a summary of the proceedings from an international disaster perspective.

I. Mobility of Business People After Natural Emergencies

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2010, February 25). *Proposed Work Plan for 2010 (2010/SOM1/TFEP/004)*. Accessed December 10, 2010 from http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec_groups/som_committee_on_economic/working_groups/emergency_prep

http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec groups/som committee on economic/working groups/emergency prep aredness.html

This document was created at the APEC TFEP meeting in Hiroshima, Japan in February of 2010. It addresses the objectives, priorities, planned activities, and outcomes for the 2010 year. Within this document are important details on the mandate of TFEP prior to the task force being officially promoted to Working Group.

Business Mobility Group. (2010). Business Mobility Group: About Us. Accessed December 10, 2010 from http://www.businessmobility.org/about/index.html

This Working Group, part of the Committee on Trade and Investment, works to help business-people move throughout APEC Member Economies. Although the Emergency Preparedness Working Group is responsible for mobility of business people in post-emergency situations, the Business Mobility Groups established systems can serve as a key part of mobility infrastructure.

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. (2005, March 16). *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters (HFA).* Accessed December 10, 2010 from <u>http://www.unisdr.org/eng/hfa/hfa.htm</u>

This is a key document in disaster relief history, and provides directive plans for both reducing risk and building the resilience of nations in an effort to combat the effects of natural disasters. A product of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, this document is a very important blueprint for action in both the APEC region and beyond.

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. (2006, July 21). *Disaster statistics 1991-2005*). Accessed December 10, 2010 from <u>http://www.unisdr.org/disaster-statistics/introduction.htm</u>

This site, maintained by the ISDR, provides links to disaster-related statistics in three main categories: disaster occurrence, disaster impact and top 50 countries for economic damages.

II. The Role of Science and Technology in Emergency Preparedness

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. Concluding Senior Officials' Meeting: Lima, Peru. Agenda Item: VI (2008/CSOM/020). (2008, November 16-17). APEC Principles on Disaster Response and Cooperation. Retrieved December 13, 2010, from http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2008/SOM/CSOM/08_csom_020.pdf.

This document contains a set of principles that demonstrate to Member Economies how to more adequately prepare for emergencies. It is simply a suggestive tool and in no way biding. This document is an excellent source for delegates to research the potential role of science and technology in emergency preparedness.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. Task Force on Emergency Preparedness Meeting: Lima, Peru. Agenda Item: IV (2008/SOM3/TFEP/012). (2008, August 15). *Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia Pacific Region: 2009 to 2015 (TFEP 04/2008A).* Retrieved December 6, 2010, from <u>http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2008/TFEP/TFEP1/08_tfep1_012.pdf</u>.

This document was a result of the TFEP Emergency Management CEO's Forum, and it outlines the three to five year plan that focused on the "importance of developing more effective emergency preparedness and risk reduction initiatives as well as bolster efficiency in providing responses to disasters." This document illustrates the current efforts of Member Economies to create new systems for preparing for emergencies.

Australian Government: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2010). *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* (*APEC*). Retrieved December 6, 2010, from <u>http://www.dfat.gov.au/apec/index.html</u>.

This website contains information regarding the functions of APEC. It covers some history, current actions, and upcoming meetings for APEC. In addition, the website has a map that displays all of the APEC Member Economies as well as information about each country.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Nurturing the democratic debate. (2006, June 28). *Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System up and running*. Retrieved December 13, 2010, from http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=33442&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

This UNESCO press release describes the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System that was set up after the devastating incident. The article illustrates the role new technology can serve in preparing for disasters. The new system will allow Indian Ocean countries to receive emergency news ahead of potential danger.

United Nations. World Conference on Disaster Reduction. (2005, January 18-22). *Brief history of the WCDR Process.* Retrieved December 13, 2010, from <u>http://www.unisdr.org/wcdr/</u>.

This website gives a description and brief history of the WCDR. Its purpose was to take note of progress in disaster risk reduction and make plans for future initiatives. This website also contains links to other vital information concerning disaster reduction and the meeting.

United States Department of Homeland Security. FEMA. (2010, August 6). FEMA's International Programs and Activities. Retrieved December 13, 2010, from http://www.fema.gov/about/offices/iad/iad_activities.shtm. This websites contains information on various programs FEMA has in place with other countries involving emergency preparedness. It illustrates how countries work together and share information in order to prepare for emergencies.

III. Sharing Information on Risk Reduction Among APEC Economies, Businesses and International Partners

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2010, February 25). *Proposed Work Plan for 2010 (2010/SOM1/TFEP/004)*. Accessed December 10, 2010 from

http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec groups/som committee on economic/working groups/emergency prep aredness.html

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Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2008, August 15). *Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia Pacific Region: 2009 to 2015 (2008/SOM3/TFEP/012).* Accessed December 10, 2010 from http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec_groups/som_committee_on_economic/working_groups/emergency_prep

http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec_groups/som_committee_on_economic/working_groups/emergency_prep_aredness.html

This document outlines a strategic plan for APEC's work on Emergency Preparedness with particular attention to coordination among APEC bodies, the United Nations system, bilateral, international, and regional organizations and businesses. Additionally, it outlines joint initiatives, such as Linking Disaster Risk Information Systems in the Asia-Pacific, to help APEC Member Economies better anticipate and respond to emergencies.

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. (2009, February 18). *Key Outcomes of the Emergency Management CEOs' Seminar* (2007/TFEP/002). Accessed December 10, 2010 from <u>http://203.127.220.112/apec/apec_groups/som_committee_on_economic/working_groups/emergency_prep</u> <u>aredness.html</u>

This document is the product of the Key Management CEO's Seminar and details the work accomplished by this meeting, and also records the successful proposal of Member Economies.

Margareta Wahlstrom. (2007, August 20). APEC Task Force on Emergency Preparedness – Keynote Address. Accessed December 10, 2010 from http://203.127.220.112/apec/leaders___declarations/2007.html

This speech, delivered to the leaders present at the 2007 APEC Economic Leaders Forum, addresses the successes of APEC in responding to disasters, and also outlines areas for improvement. The address also examines the partnership between APEC and the United Nations, specifically the Office for the Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs.