

## Workshop on Services Trade Competitiveness

Hosted by Australia during Services Summit, in the margins of GOS2/SOM3

18<sup>th</sup> August, Enjoy Hotel, Puerto Varas, Chile

**OBJECTIVE:** *The objective of this project is to provide a better understanding of the factors that impact services performance in APEC economies, to inform trade and regulatory policy makers of the likely effects of unilateral or collective reforms, and to help economies prioritise policy action. We will share Australia's experience in developing an industry-led services competitiveness action plan, aimed at identifying issues that are affecting the competitiveness of Australia's services sector and to develop a program of actions to address them. Since Australia's competitiveness agenda was informed by a comprehensive study by the OECD, this study will form a core part of the discussions. Participants are expected to discuss features and latest development of the OECD Services Trade Restrictiveness Index, which can be used to benchmark domestic reform and identify regulatory bottlenecks in other APEC economies.*

**Pre-Readings:** Australian Services Trade in the Global Economy Summary Document  
Improving Professional Licensure in APEC Overview

**Website:** <https://auapecstudycentre.wordpress.com/>

### PROGRAM

Sunday, 18 August 2019	
8.30am – 9.00am	<b>Registrations</b>
9.00am – 9:15am	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Christopher Ziguras, Workshop Facilitator</i>
9.15am – 9:30am	<b>Official Welcome</b> <i>John Donnelly, Director, Services International Engagement, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i>
9.30am – 10.00am	<b>Keynote – OECD Study: Australian Services Trade in the Global Economy</b> <i>Francesca Spinelli, Trade Policy Analyst, OECD</i>
10:30am – 11:15am	<b>Group Photo &amp; Coffee break</b>
11:00am – 11:45pm	<b>Australian Case Study: Government and Industry Perspectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why the services sector is important for Australia</li> <li>- Push and political support for change</li> <li>- Process followed to engage with industry</li> <li>- Development of the services competitiveness action plan</li> <li>- The voice of Industry in services sector reform</li> </ul> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <i>John Donnelly, Director, Services International Engagement, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i> <i>Christopher Ziguras, RMIT University</i></p>

11:45pm – 12:15pm	<p><b>Panel Q&amp;A</b></p> <p><i>Francesca Spinelli</i> <i>John Donnelly</i> <i>Christopher Ziguras</i></p>
12:15pm – 12:30pm	<p><b>Policy Insights Using Interactive Tools Within the OECD's Services Trade Restrictiveness Index</b></p> <p><i>Francesca Spinelli, Trade Policy Analyst, OECD</i></p>
12:30pm – 1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30pm - 2:15pm	<p><b>Group Activity: Identifying and Examining Barriers to Services Trade Competitiveness</b> Utilising change methodology, economy groups explore key barriers to competitiveness. This activity will be guided by Facilitator with an expert attached to each group.</p>
2:15pm – 3:00pm	<p><b>Group Activity: Identifying Pathways for Reform</b> Utilising change methodology, economy groups explore reform options. This activity will be guided by Facilitator with an expert attached to each group.</p>
3:00pm – 3:30pm	<p>Each group to report back on one barrier and pathway to reform that could be actioned in their economy. These recommendations will contribute to the workshop report and the identification of next steps.</p>
3:30pm – 3:45pm	<b>Coffee break</b>
3:45pm - 4:00pm	<p><b>Case Studies of Reform and Best Practice</b></p> <p><b>Digital Talents: An Opportunity for Chile</b> <i>Monica Retamal, Executive Director, KODEA</i></p> <p><b>Increasing the competitiveness of APEC economies through greater international engagement in education</b> <i>Christopher Ziguras, RMIT University</i></p> <p><b>The benefits of reforming services markets: lessons from recent OECD research</b> <i>Francesca Spinelli, Trade in Services Division, OECD</i></p>
4:00pm – 4:45pm	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
4:45pm – 5:00pm	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b> <i>John Donnelly, Director, Services International Engagement, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i></p>