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U.S. Department of State
Effective Elements of Export Controls for APEC Economies Conference
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Opening Remarks

On behalf of the U.S. Department of State and my colleagues from the Departments of Commerce, Homeland Security, and Energy, I would like to welcome you all to Hawaii and to the Effective Elements of Export Controls for APEC Economies Conference.

My office, the Office of Export Controls in the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, administers a worldwide, multi-million dollar assistance program – the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Program – aimed at assisting countries to develop, implement, and enforce export controls over strategic items. This conference is funded as part of that program.

We are pleased to have such an outstanding turn out. I would like to thank each of you for making time in your schedules for this event, which I expect to be very useful for all of us.

Before I go further, I want to thank my colleagues from Vietnam for co-sponsoring this conference.

I would like to introduce you to Katherine Crouch from my office. If you have questions concerning the U.S. EXBS program, please direct your inquiries to Katherine who coordinates the EXBS efforts globally.

I also would like to introduce you to Dan Forbes of Los Alamos Technical Associates (LATA). Dan and his staff have been working closely with my office on administrative and logistic matters. I would encourage you to approach Dan and his staff if you administrative and logistic questions concerning the conference or your travel.

The conference will begin with a plenary session today where speakers will address key nonproliferation and export control issues and a few new topical

issues to get us thinking, including notable topics, such as WMD Proliferation Trends and Challenges, Overview of USNCR 1540 Requirements, and a Briefing on an APEC Economy's Experience in Establishing an Export Control System. Starting tomorrow, participants will attend one of the two simultaneous break-out sessions. These breakout sessions are designed for you to have a chance to speak and share your ideas and experiences. Non-attribution rules, or Chatham House rules, apply, so please feel free to share your personal views and thoughts. We want to learn from each other.

The first session will provide opportunities to discuss policy and legal issues that guides international nonproliferation and export control norms and practices. John Albert of the U.S. Department of State and Mi Yong Kim of the U.S. Department of Commerce will be the facilitators for this session. Speakers will lead participants in discussing topics that will address the importance of export controls, proliferation networks, authorities for border and maritime patrol and inspection. The session also reviews results of Japan's Export Control Survey for all APEC economies, which helps identify specific areas requiring capacity building.

The second session will provide instruction on practical techniques to enhance enforcement capabilities. Michael Vanacore and Ian Saunders of the United States' Department of Homeland Security will be the facilitators for this session. Speakers will address building an enforcement strategy, risk management processes, community outreach programs, investigative techniques, international cooperation and techniques to combat corruption.

The conference will conclude with all the participants convening at the plenary session where facilitators will report to the conference chairman the outcome of the break-out discussion groups.

The dress code after today is business casual, including for the reception tonight, so I encourage all participants to get comfortable and get to know participants from other APEC economies.

Again, let me encourage everyone to take full advantage of our time here together – both during the discussion sessions and on the margins of this conference – to discuss what are the best practices for developing an export control system for your economy. Thank You.

With that, I would like to introduce our two keynote speakers for this conference. The first is Mr. Michael Michalak, the U.S. Senior Official for APEC, from the Department of State who will be addressing how proliferation threatens both our security and our economies and on the recent developments and how effective export controls are helping to address the most serious proliferation challenges faced by the international community.

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The second keynote speaker is Mr. Vu Ngoc Anh, from the General Department of Customs, in Vietnam whose remarks will remind us of the need to respect other commitments in trade facilitation and technology transfer for peaceful purposes while we work to combat WMD proliferation through implementing an effective export control system.