

Welcome Remarks

Dr. Rong-I WU

Director General

Chinese Taipei Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee

President

Taiwan Institute of Economic Research

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. In my capacity as Director General of the Chinese Taipei PECC Committee, CTPECC, I would like to convey my sincere welcome to our distinguished guests today. CTPECC is very honored to have the opportunity to co-host this PECC HRD Task Force Symposium. It is indeed a tremendous honor to have you all coming to attend this event, especially for some of you, who are taking part in this PECC event for the very first time.

PECC is a unique tripartite partnership of senior individuals from business, government, academia and other intellectual circles. Its main objective is to serve as a regional forum for cooperation and policy coordination to promote economic development in the Asia-Pacific region. Being the only non-government official observer of APEC, PECC has provided information and analytical support to APEC ministerial meetings. Some PECC Task Forces have also been very successful on building cooperative links with APEC Working Groups. After the 14th PECC General Meeting in Hong Kong last year, PECC was restructured into three fora: Trade Forum, Finance Forum, and Community Building Forum respectively. Under the umbrella of the Community Building Forum, we have successfully acquired endorsement to organize this important HRD Task Force with outstanding Task Force Coordinator, Dr. Tsong-Ming Lin. I wish to thank Dr. Lin and his colleagues for their devotion to organizing this Meeting, and believe that the HRD Task Force with his leadership and all of your support and contributions would serve our goal of promoting regional cooperation.

In the next two days we will be discussing the new challenges that we are facing in the global era. PECC, as an economic cooperation organization of the Asia-Pacific region, could take up the leading role in meeting these challenges. I am confident that PECC HRD Task Force has the expertise and determination to do so. The presence of so many high-caliber participants in this meeting guarantees thoughtful

reflection and thought-provoking discussions on these issues. Furthermore, an International Advisory Group Meeting to be conducted after the Symposium will give us a chance to discuss our strategic plans in advancing the HRD agenda.

Once again, thank you all for coming to share your knowledge, experience and expertise with us. I also hope all of you would enjoy the arrangement of the field trip to the No. 6 Naphtha Cracking Plant, Formosa Plastic Inc. I wish this meeting a great success.