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## **ABAC Proposes “APEC Food System” Roadmap to Develop Food Security and Deepen Regional Integration**

**Singapore: Nov. 11, 2009** – The APEC Business Advisory Council today released a “Strategic Framework for Food Security in APEC” designed to achieve food security in the region through effective implementation of the APEC Food System previously endorsed by APEC Leaders. The document is available at the ABAC website: [www.abaconline.org](http://www.abaconline.org).

The document recommends to APEC Leaders that they recommit “unequivocally” to a regional “food system” approach that addresses access to food, availability of food, supply reliability, trade liberalization, food safety, dietary health, environmental security, climate change and sustainability in a holistic way. Key to this would be a declaration by APEC Leaders formally renouncing all food export restrictions between APEC member economies, thereby allowing each APEC economy to confidently “borrow” the land, water, climate, labor, capital and technology comparative advantages of other APEC economies. This would end the need for costly self-sufficiency strategies, avoid the risks associated with localized crop failure, promote rural development and smooth out price spikes, while collaborating to sustainably meet projections of a doubling of food demand by 2050 with no increase in available land and water resources.

Specifically, ABAC asked for the establishment of an ongoing, institutionalized High-Level Food Dialogue among governments, the private sector and research/academic sector to work out solutions to creating the single “food system” that can bring food security to the region.

ABAC believes taking an integrated, strategic approach to food on the Pacific Rim will be a major contributor to regional economic integration and can be used by the APEC Caucus at the WTO to support the APEC Leaders’ strong commitment to the Doha Round and the G20’s call to reach agreement in 2010.

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