

# Office of the United States Trade Representative



[Trade Agreements](#) | [World Regions](#) | [Trade & Development](#) | [Trade Sectors](#) | [WTO](#) | [Who We Are](#)

[Home](#) / [Trade Agreements](#) / [Regional](#) / [APEC](#)



## Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

### Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) was established in 1989 in response to the growing interdependence among Asia-Pacific economies. Starting out as an informal dialogue group, APEC has now become the primary regional vehicle for promoting open trade and practical economic cooperation. Its goal is to advance Asia-Pacific economic dynamism and sense of community.

APEC has 21 members - referred to as "Member Economies" - which account for more than 2.5 billion people, a combined GDP of \$ 19 trillion US dollars and 47 percent of world trade.

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- [APEC Tariff Database](#)
- [State Department Information](#)

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- [Regional](#)
- [APEC](#)
- [ASEAN Initiative](#)
- [FTAA](#)
- [MEFTA](#)
- [NAFTA](#)

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- [11/16/2004 | Zoellick to Attend APEC Conference](#)
- [06/02/04 | Zoellick to Attend APEC Conference](#)
- [10/13/03 | APEC Meeting](#)

#### Ministerial Meetings

- [APEC Statement 10/27/02](#)
- [APEC Statement 10/23/02](#)
- [APEC Statement 6/2/03](#)
- [APEC Statement 5/29/02](#)
- [APEC Statement 10/17/01](#)
- [APEC Statement 10/21/01](#)

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- [APEC Speeches](#)