Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Negotiations

Report on Special Negotiation Round: New Delhi 8 – 11 February 2023

A Special Negotiating Round on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) took place from 8 to 11 February 2023 in New Delhi, India, covering the three pillars (Supply Chains, Clean Economy & Fair Economy) led by the US Department of Commerce. Discussions on the USTR-led Trade Pillar were not included in this round.

Approximately 300 officials from the United States, Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam participated.

The U.S. delegation chaired in-depth text-based discussions of the three pillars in New Delhi. The groups also discussed various non-papers submitted by IPEF members. New Zealand negotiators took part in each of the pillar processes.

Pillar II (Supply Chains): Negotiations made good progress working across the entirety of the text. Exchanges focused particularly on proposals addressing labour provisions in relation to IPEF supply chains, along with future institutional structures.

Pillar III (Clean Economy): Main focus was **e**xplanation and discussion on proposed amendments to the draft Pillar III text (tabled by the US prior to the Bali round). Partners reaffirmed interest in a programme of cooperation to drive investment flows and technology innovation and deployment to align regional economic activity in support of countries' climate change objectives.

Pillar IV (Fair Economy): Discussion on the Pillar IV text (tabled prior to the Brisbane round in December of 2022) was text-based and technical. Main goal was to shape a text that would make the business climate of Indo-Pacific region more secure for businesses and investors through cooperation on anti-corruption and strong tax governance.

Where can I find out more?

Further information about the IPEF is available <u>here</u>. To get in touch with us, give us your thoughts on the agreement through this link: <u>Have Your Say</u>.