

**APEC ARCHITECT**

**TRILATERAL ARRANGEMENT  
ON RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION  
OF  
REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS IN  
AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND  
TO  
FACILITATE MOBILITY OF ARCHITECTS  
IN THE PROVISION OF  
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES**



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**SCHEDULE 1: Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities**

**ANNEXURE: *APEC Architect Operations Manual 2014***

**The Parties**

**THIS ARRANGEMENT** comes into effect on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

**AMONG:**

**THE ARCHITECTS ACCREDITATION COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA**

Suite 1, Level 2, Ethos House, 28-35 Ainslie Ave, ACT 2608, Australia, in the first part

**AND:**

**THE AUSTRALIAN APEC ARCHITECT MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Suite 1, Level 2, Ethos House, 28-35 Ainslie Ave, ACT 2608, Australia, in the second part

**AND:**

**CANADIAN ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING AUTHORITIES**

c/- Architectural Institute of British Columbia, Suite 100 - 440 Cambie Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2N5, Canada, in the third part

**AND:**

**THE CANADIAN APEC ARCHITECT MONITORING COMMITTEE**

c/- Architectural Institute of British Columbia, Suite 100 - 440 Cambie Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2N5, Canada, in the fourth part

**AND:**

**THE NEW ZEALAND REGISTERED ARCHITECTS BOARD**

Level 5, 79 Boulcott St, Wellington, New Zealand, in the fifth part

**AND:**

**THE NEW ZEALAND APEC ARCHITECT MONITORING COMMITTEE**

c/- The New Zealand Registered Architects Board, Level 5, 79 Boulcott St, Wellington, New Zealand, in the sixth part.

## Introduction

- A The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA) is the national organisation responsible for coordinating and advocating national standards for Architects in Australia and for establishing and maintaining mutual recognition agreements with relevant overseas authorities. AACA is composed of representatives of the registration boards of each of the regional jurisdictions, being the states and territories of Australia, and is responsible for facilitating the development of strategies and procedures relating to accreditation and registration of Architects in Australia.
- B The Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee is an independent committee established in Australia in accordance with the *APEC Architect Operations Manual* with delegated authority of the Central Council to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register in Australia and to act as a nominating body for the Central Council.
- C The Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities (CALA) is a committee representing the eleven provincial and territorial registration/licensing jurisdictions in Canada: Alberta Association of Architects, Architects' Association of New Brunswick / Association des architectes du Nouveau-Brunswick, Architects Association of Prince Edward Island, Architects Licensing Board of Newfoundland and Labrador, Architectural Institute of British Columbia, Manitoba Association of Architects, Northwest Territories Association of Architects, Nova Scotia Association of Architects, Ontario Association of Architects, Ordre des architectes du Québec, Saskatchewan Association of Architects.
- D The Canada APEC Architect Monitoring Committee is an independent committee established in Canada in accordance with the *APEC Architect Operations Manual* with delegated authority of the Central Council to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register in Canada and to act as a nominating body for the Central Council.
- E The New Zealand Registered Architects Board (NZRAB) is the national organisation responsible for registering, monitoring and, if need be, disciplining architects in New Zealand.
- F The New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee is an independent committee established in New Zealand in accordance with the *APEC Architect Operations Manual* with delegated authority of the Central Council to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register in New Zealand and to act as a nominating body for the Central Council.
- G The Parties agree that the primary purpose of this Arrangement is to facilitate APEC Architects to become registered to practise independently in host economies as defined by reference to the *APEC Architects Operations Manual 2014* (the Manual) annexed to this Arrangement and as amended by the Central Council from time to time.
- H The Parties agree that the Canada APEC Architect Monitoring Committee, the Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee and the New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee have been authorised by the APEC Architect Central Council to operate a section of the APEC Architect Register in their respective economies.

- I The Parties acknowledge that each economy shares the recognition that APEC Architects who are on the APEC Architect Register in its economy meet all the requirements for registration/licensure as an Architect in their respective economies in accordance with their mutual commitment to the provisions of the APEC Architect Reciprocal Recognition Framework, subject to the conditions and exceptions set out in this Arrangement.

**AFFIRMING** their common interest in the implementation and ongoing administration of the APEC Architect Framework in their respective economies, **THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED** as follows:

## **1. Definitions**

1.1 The Definitions detailed in the Manual apply in this Arrangement.

1.2 In this Arrangement, unless the contrary intention appears:

*APEC Architect* refers to an Architect whose name appears on the APEC Architect Register in his or her Home Economy;

*Australian Parties* means AACA and the Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee;

*Canada Parties* means CALA and the Canada APEC Architect Monitoring Committee;

*New Zealand Parties* means NZRAB and the New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee;

*Home Economy* means the economy of permanent residence and primary registration/licensure as an Architect;

*Host Economy* means the economy where it is intended to apply for secondary registration/licensure in compliance with this Arrangement;

*The Parties* refers to the Canadian Parties, the Australian Parties and the New Zealand Parties;

*Australian Architect* means a person who is registered by a State or Territory Architects Registration Board under Architects legislation enacted by that State or Territory to use the title "Architect" and to offer services to the public as an Architect;

*Canada Architect* means a person who is registered/licensed as an architect by one or more of the Canadian provincial and territorial regulators responsible for the licensing of architects throughout Canada;

*New Zealand Architect* means a person who is a New Zealand Registered Architect;

*Registration/licensure* means legal registration/licensure as an Architect;

*Regulatory Authority* means the authority responsible for the registration/ licensure of Architects.

## 2. Application of the APEC Architect Framework

- 2.1 The Parties agree that the Manual forms part of this Arrangement.
- 2.2 The Parties agree that the Manual forms the basis upon which:
  - 2.2.1 The reciprocal recognition of Canadian Architects in Australia and New Zealand is to be carried out; and
  - 2.2.2 The reciprocal recognition of Australian and New Zealand Architects in Canada is to be carried out; and
  - 2.2.3 The mobility of Canadian Architects in the provision of architectural services as Australian Architects in Australia and New Zealand Architects in New Zealand is to be facilitated; and
  - 2.2.4 The mobility of Australian and New Zealand Architects in the provision of architectural services as Canadian Architects in Canada is to be facilitated.
- 2.3 The Parties note that this Arrangement does not regulate or limit the registration of Australian Architects in New Zealand and New Zealand Architects in Australia, as this entitlement already exists without assessment in accordance with the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997.
- 2.4 The Parties note that this Arrangement does not regulate or limit the registration/licensing of Canadian architects in any of the eleven jurisdictions in accordance with the *Reciprocity Agreement* of Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities (CALA).
- 2.5 The Parties agree that this Arrangement applies to Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Architects whose names appear on the APEC Architect Register of their respective home economies.
- 2.6 The Parties agree that nothing in this Arrangement or the Manual is intended to discriminate against an APEC Architect on the basis of the Architect's place of origin or place of education.
- 2.7 The Parties agree that this Arrangement will not apply to Canadian, Australian or New Zealand Architects:
  - 2.7.1 Whose home economies are other than the Parties' home economies; and
  - 2.7.2 Who have obtained registration/licensure by means of a mutual recognition agreement outside the framework of this Arrangement.

### **3. Purpose of this Arrangement**

- 3.1 The Parties agree that the purpose of this Arrangement is:
- 3.1.1 To facilitate the registration of a Canadian APEC Architect as an Australian Architect or a New Zealand Architect, and the registration/licensing of an Australian APEC Architect or a New Zealand APEC Architect as a Canadian Architect, consistent with the APEC Architect Reciprocal Recognition Framework; and
  - 3.1.2 To set out standards, criteria, procedures and measures which:
    - a) Are assessed against objective and transparent measures, such as professional competence and ability to provide a service; and
    - b) Are not more burdensome than necessary to ensure that the standards of architectural practice are maintained in the Host Economy; and
    - c) Do not constitute an unreasonable restriction on the cross-border provision of any architectural services between Canada and Australia or New Zealand.
- 3.2 The Parties agree that, despite differences relating to the processes for registration or licensing within the three economies, there are significant and substantial equivalencies between the competencies that must be demonstrated for registration and are required to practise in the respective jurisdictions.
- 3.3 The Parties agree to allow those qualified through the APEC Architect Framework to offer professional services in host economies under such circumstances that the health, safety and welfare of the public are protected, the architectural culture and heritage are respected, and the relevant laws or regulations of the jurisdiction are observed in relation to the services performed.

### **4. Reciprocal Recognition Provisions**

- 4.1 Current Registration/Licensure Procedures:
- 4.1.1 In Australia, registration as an Architect is the responsibility of the individual State and Territory Architects Registration Boards with mutual recognition laws in Australia enabling a person registered in an Australian State or Territory to seek and be granted reciprocal registration in any other State or Territory.
  - 4.1.2 In Canada, registration/licensing of Architects is the responsibility of the individual Canadian territorial and provincial regulators responsible for the registration/licensing of architects throughout Canada.

- 4.1.3 In New Zealand, registration as an Architect is the responsibility of NZRAB under the Registered Architects Act 2005.
- 4.2 In Australia, only a person who is registered as an Architect may legally provide architectural services using the title “Architect” or describe himself or herself as an Architect in the State(s) or Territory(ies) in which he or she is registered.
- 4.3 In Canada, only a person who is a Registered/Licensed Architect may legally provide architectural services within the scopes of practice that are restricted to the profession under provincial/territorial law and/or using the title “Architect” or describe himself or herself as a “Registered/Licensed Architect” in the Province(s) or Territory in which he or she is registered/licensed.
- 4.3.1 In some Canadian jurisdictions, registration or authorization for a practice is also required.
- 4.4 In New Zealand, only a person who is registered as an Architect may legally provide architectural services using the title “Architect” or describe himself or herself as a “Registered Architect”.
- 4.5 The Parties agree that the prerequisite for registration/licensure in the host economy pursuant to this Arrangement is to be registered as an APEC Architect in the home economy.
- 4.6 The Parties agree that applicants are entitled to obtain registration/licensure in the host economy by satisfying the following conditions:
- 4.6.1 Registration in Australia:
- a) Be a Canadian APEC Architect, registered/licensed in a province or territory of Canada that is a signatory to Schedule 1 of this agreement.
  - b) Complete an application form, pay the required fee and pass the domain specific assessment required of APEC Architects to be eligible for registration in any state or territory of Australia.
  - c) Agree to:
    - i) Abide by the laws, rules and regulations of the relevant Australian jurisdiction; and
    - ii) Satisfy the requirements to assure continuing competency imposed by the legislation in the relevant Australian jurisdiction; and
    - iii) Observe any ethical code of professional conduct and requirements for ethical standards of behaviour required by the legislation of the relevant Australian jurisdiction; and
    - iv) Provide any information in accordance with 6.2 of this Arrangement.

- d) Complete an application form for registration as required by the relevant Australian jurisdiction and pay the required fee.

#### 4.6.2 Registration/Licensure in Canada:

- a) Be an Australian or New Zealand APEC Architect.
- b) Complete an application form, pay the required fee and pass the domain specific assessment required of APEC Architects for registration/licensure in Canada.
- c) Agree to:
  - i) Abide by the laws, rules and regulations of the relevant Canadian jurisdiction; and
  - ii) Satisfy the requirements to assure continuing competency as imposed by the legislation in the relevant Canadian jurisdiction; and
  - iii) Observe and conform to the ethical standards stipulated in legislation and/or regulations governing architects in the relevant Canadian jurisdiction
  - iv) Provide any information in accordance with 6.2 of this Arrangement.
- d) Complete an application form for registration/licensure and pay the required fee.

#### 4.6.3 Registration in New Zealand:

- a) Be a Canadian APEC Architect, registered/licensed in a province or territory of Canada that is a signatory to Schedule 1 of this agreement.
- b) Complete an application form, pay the required fee and pass the domain specific assessment required of APEC Architects for registration in New Zealand.
- c) Agree to:
  - i) Abide by the laws, rules and regulations of New Zealand;
  - ii) Satisfy the requirements to assure continuing competency; and
  - iii) Conform to the ethical standards required of New Zealand Registered Architects; and
  - iv) Provide any information in accordance with 6.2 of this Arrangement.
- d) Pay the required fee for an annual Certificate of Registration.

4.7 The Parties agree that fees for the above process should be reasonable and only cover the costs of assessing the applicant.

- 4.8 The Parties agree that each economy will make its own arrangements for domain specific assessment and make public information as to what will be required from applicants.
- 4.9 Nothing in this Arrangement will preclude an applicant from pursuing registration/licensure in a host economy through the exercise of alternative procedures.

## **5. Implementation**

- 5.1 The Parties agree that cooperation under this Arrangement will commence when:
- 5.1.1 AACA and the Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee have signed this Arrangement; and
  - 5.1.2 CALA and the Canadian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee have signed this Arrangement; and
  - 5.1.3 NZRAB and the New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee have signed this Arrangement.
- 5.2 The Monitoring Committees of the participating economies will exchange information on the number of applicants who have applied pursuant to the terms of this Arrangement annually.
- 5.3 The participating economies resolve to provide each other with regular reports dealing with matters relating to the implementation of this Arrangement, in addition to the information to be provided in accordance with 5.2 of this Arrangement.

## **6. Discipline and Enforcement, Disclosure by an Applicant for Registration/ Licensure**

- 6.1 The Parties recognise that:
- 6.1.1 The Australia state and territory registration authorities are responsible for any appropriate disciplinary action of Architects registered by those state and territory registration authorities including those Architects who have been registered in those states and territories through the APEC Architect framework; and
  - 6.1.2 The Canadian provincial and territorial regulators responsible for the registration/licensure of architects throughout Canada are responsible for appropriate disciplinary action of Architects registered/licensed in Canada including those Architects who have been registered/licensed in Canada through the APEC Architect framework; and

6.1.2 NZRAB is responsible for any appropriate disciplinary action of Architects registered in New Zealand including those Architects who have been registered in New Zealand through the APEC Architect framework.

6.2 The Parties agree that any application for registration/licensure under this Arrangement is required to include information by applicants concerning any previous applications for registration/licensure in the host economy and any sanctions imposed against them related to the practice of being an architect in any other country and any APEC economy. The Parties acknowledge that the information may be considered by the regulatory authority in the host economy as part of the registration/licensure process.

6.3 The Parties agree that any application for registration/licensure in the host economy under this Arrangement is required to include the applicant's written permission to distribute and exchange information regarding sanctions between both economies. The Parties acknowledge that any failure to fully disclose or provide any of the required information may be the basis for denial by a regulatory authority of the application for registration/licensure, or for the imposition of sanctions by a regulatory authority, including revocation of registration/licensure.

## **7. Immigration and Visa Issues**

7.1 The Parties agree that registration/licensure in a host economy does not avoid the need to comply with applicable immigration and visa requirements of the host economy.

## **8. Exchange of Information**

8.1 The Parties agree to notify each other and provide copies of any major changes in policy, criteria, procedures or programs that might affect this Arrangement.

## **9. Consultations**

9.1 The Parties will at all times endeavour to be consistent with each other on the interpretation and implementation of this Arrangement, and will make every effort to resolve any matter that might affect its operation.

9.2 A Party to this Arrangement may request in writing consultations with the other Parties regarding any matter that might affect the operation of this Arrangement. A Party who has received a consultation request should endeavour to reply promptly.

## **10. Terms of Cooperation under this Arrangement**

10.1 The Parties agree that they will, at least every five (5) years, review and update the status of implementation and report on the effectiveness of the Arrangement, and recommend changes where appropriate.

10.2 The Parties agree that cooperation under this Arrangement may be terminated by

any of the Parties by giving to the other Parties at least six (6) months prior written notice. A Party's departure from the Arrangement will not affect the status of any architect who has achieved registration/licensure in a host economy under this Arrangement.

10.3 The Parties agree that cooperation under this Arrangement will be automatically terminated if the Monitoring Committee in any of the participating economies to this Arrangement ceases to be authorised by the APEC Architect Central Council to operate an APEC Architect Register.

10.4 The Parties agree:

10.4.1 That if the AACA and/or the Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee seeks to terminate this Arrangement, the Arrangement between the remaining Parties remains valid; and

10.4.2 That if the NZRAB and/or the New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee seeks to terminate this Arrangement, the Arrangement between the remaining Parties remains valid; and

10.4.3 That if CALA and/or the Canadian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee seeks to terminate this Arrangement with one of the other parties, the arrangement with the remaining Party remains valid; and

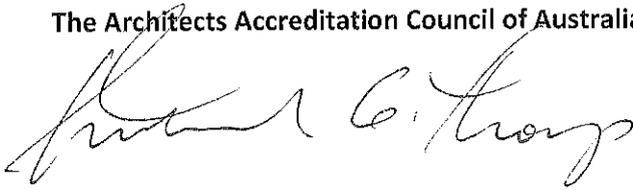
10.4.4 That if any provision of this Arrangement is determined to be illegal, invalid, void or voidable, the legality of validity of the remainder of this Arrangement shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

**11. Signatures of Parties**

**Australia**

SIGNED on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015

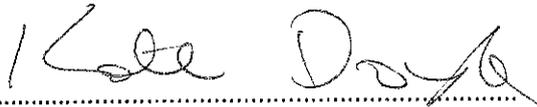
**The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia**



.....  
(Name)

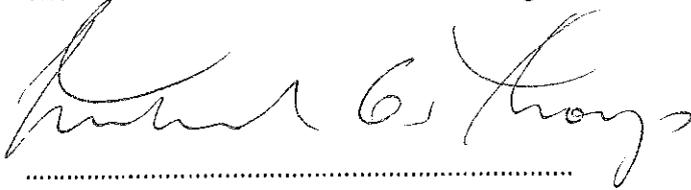
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**Witnessed**



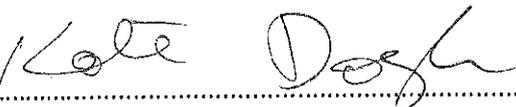
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(Name)

**The Australian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee**



.....  
(Name)

**Witnessed**



.....  
(Name)

**Canada**

SIGNED on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015

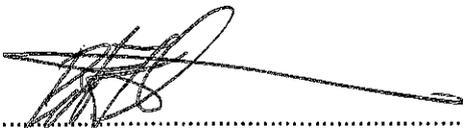
**The Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities (CALA), Canada**

  
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(Name)

**Witnessed**

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(Name)

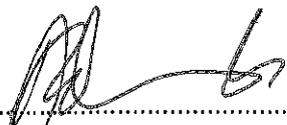
**The International Relations Committee of the CALA, Canada**

  
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(Name)

**Witnessed**

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(Name)

**The Canadian APEC Architect Monitoring Committee**

  
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(Name)

**Witnessed**

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(Name)

New Zealand

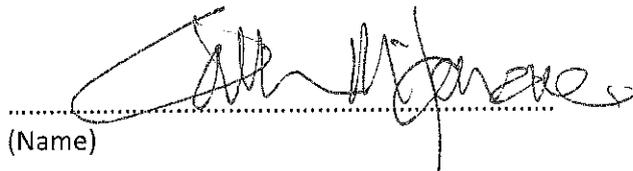
SIGNED on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015

The New Zealand Registered Architects Board

  
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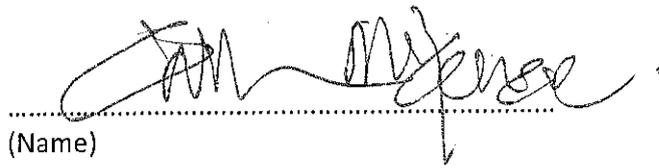
(Name)

Witnessed

  
.....

(Name)

New Zealand APEC Architect Monitoring Committee

  
.....

(Name)

Witnessed

  
.....

(Name)

**Schedule 1: Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities**

The following Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities agree to their being parties to the Trilateral Arrangement of Reciprocal Recognition of Registered/Licensed Architects to Facilitate Mobility of Architects in the Provision of Architectural Services with Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

**Alberta Association of Architects**

Don DAVIDSON  
Name

PRESIDENT  
Title



Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Architects' Association of New Brunswick / Association des architectes du Nouveau-Brunswick**

MALCOLM BOYD  
Name

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
Title



Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Architects Association of Prince Edward Island**

WILLIAM CHARNOCK  
Name

REGISTERED  
Title

[Signature]  
Signature

Signed 25 day of October, 2014

**Architects Licensing Board of Newfoundland and Labrador**

DOUG DEWANEY  
Name

REGISTERED  
Title

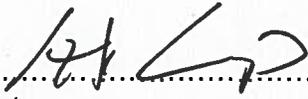
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Signature

Signed 25 day of Oct, 2014

**Architectural Institute of British Columbia**

SCOTT KEMP  
.....  
Name

PRESIDENT  
.....  
Title

  
.....  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014

**Manitoba Association of Architects**

LEE McCORMICK  
.....  
Name

PRESIDENT  
.....  
Title

  
.....  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014

**Northwest Territories Association of Architects**

ROD KIRKWOOD  
Name

PRESIDENT  
Title

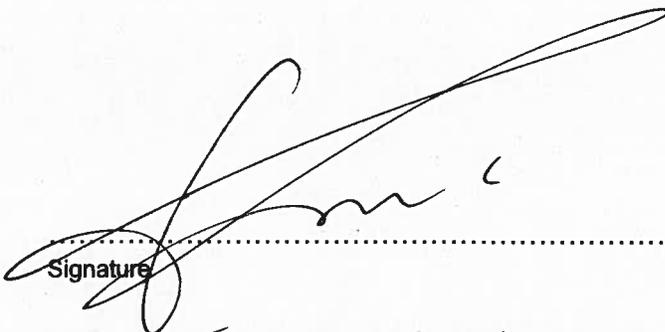
  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Nova Scotia Association of Architects**

RONALD BELIEVE  
Name

PRESIDENT  
Title

  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Ontario Association of Architects**

J. WILLIAM BRIDGELL  
Name

PRESIDENT  
Title

J. William Bridgell  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Ordre des architectes du Québec**

NATHANIE DION  
Name

PRÉSIDENTE  
Title

Nathalie Dion  
Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**Saskatchewan Association of Architects**

..... ROBERT BURMEAT .....

Name

..... PRESIDENT .....

Title

.....  .....

Signature

Signed 25 day of OCTOBER, 2014.

**ANNEXURE 1**



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

# **APEC Architect Operations Manual**

**2014**

# APEC Architect Operations Manual

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Glossary of Terms

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>Accreditation:</b>	Also validation - the granting of approval/recognition to a course or program of study, which has been tested to produce results of an acceptable standard against set criteria.
<b>Authorisation:</b>	Approval granted by the Central Council to a Monitoring Committee to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register.
<b>Benchmark Criteria:</b>	Agreed standards by which other standards can be measured.
<b>Central Council:</b>	The joint governing body of the APEC Architect Project composed of nominees of Monitoring Committees of participating economies, with ultimate responsibility for a range of matters, including the approval of Monitoring Committees, strategic directions and administrative arrangements.
<b>Consensus:</b>	Agreement without dissent
<b>Domain Specific</b>	Competencies or knowledge related to conditions of professional practice specific to a host economy.
<b>Home Economy</b>	Economy of permanent residence and primary registration/licensure as an architect
<b>Host Economy:</b>	Economy of secondary registration/licensure as an architect
<b>Monitoring Committee:</b>	Independent committee formed by a participating economy, with delegated authority of the Central Council to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register in its economy and to act as nominating body for the Central Council.
<b>Participating Economy:</b>	An APEC economy with an authorised Monitoring Committee
<b>Recognition:</b>	Also professional recognition - acceptance by a regulatory authority of compliance with requirements.
<b>Registered Architect:</b>	An architect holding a current registration such that he or she is permitted and licensed under domestic law to the unrestricted practice of architecture at the present time.
<b>Registration:</b>	Also licensure – see Registered Architect
<b>Regulatory Authority:</b>	Authority responsible for the registration/licensure or recognition of persons permitted to offer professional services as an architect.

**Note:** In economies with multiple domestic jurisdictions, the ‘regulatory authority’ referred to in this Manual is taken to be the national organisation composed of representatives of regional jurisdictions to formulate national standards and procedures for the professional recognition of architects. It is understood that the ultimate legal decision for the application of these standards rests with the individual jurisdictions.

## FOREWORD

The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an international forum composed of twenty-one member economies that have undertaken to act collectively to promote economic and technical cooperation within the Asia-Pacific region. Its purpose is 'to sustain the growth and development of the region for the common good of its peoples'. APEC builds on WTO General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) principles for the progressive liberalisation of trade in services through the reduction of regulatory restrictions, leading to reciprocal agreements between member economies where appropriate.

The APEC Architect Project is an initiative of the APEC Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG), one of a number of sectoral groups established to implement APEC programs. The project was endorsed by the HRDWG at its year 2000 meeting in Brunei as a direct response to the Group's strategic priority of facilitating mobility of qualified persons by developing a means for the mutual recognition of skills and qualifications.

A Steering Committee was formed by the APEC economies participating in the project to develop a mechanism by which current restrictions on the professional recognition of architects from other economies would be reduced or removed. Through the positive commitment of those involved, and fruitful negotiation in the intervening period, a set of principles and an operational framework for the creation of an APEC Architect Register has been agreed by all participants. Registration as an APEC Architect provides evidence of the achievement of professional standards that may satisfy some, or all, of the requirements for the recognition of architects by host APEC economies

This Manual sets out the organisational structure of the APEC Architect framework and the rules and criteria that underpin its operation. The contents of the Manual are subject to continued scrutiny by the APEC Architect Central Council, which jointly manages the project, to ensure its currency and continued response to changes that develop in the practice of architecture. It is a document that will continue to evolve as it is tested, reviewed and amended as necessary.

The GATS identifies four modes of service provision, of which the third, 'establishment of a commercial presence', and the fourth, 'the presence of natural persons', are those that are essentially addressed by the APEC Architect framework. However the project will have relevance for all means by which architectural services are exported.

APEC is a cooperative association between regional economies; it is not bound by treaty. Although participating economies are guided by APEC objectives and the GATS principles that inform them, decisions taken by the Central Council are reached by consensus, they do not place a mandatory obligation on any economy.

### **Member Economies of the APEC Architect Central Council 2014**

**Australia, Canada, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong China, Japan, Republic of Korea,  
Malaysia, Republic of Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Chinese Taipei,  
Thailand, United States of America**

# 1. THE APEC ARCHITECT FRAMEWORK - AN OVERVIEW

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*APEC Architect participating economies acknowledge the public benefit of the mobility of architects in the provision of architectural services, the positive value of cultural diversity and the mutual benefits of cooperation in developing a framework to facilitate these goals.*

## **Purpose**

The aim of the APEC Architect framework is to establish a mechanism to facilitate the mobility of architects for the provision of architectural services throughout the APEC region by reducing current barriers to the export of professional services. Its central function is to maintain a Register of APEC Architects who have fulfilled common elements of the education and training requirements for professional recognition in participating economies and are currently registered/licensed as architects, and who have a proven record of professional experience as registered practitioners.

Through the identification of these common aspects of professional recognition, reinforced by a period of professional experience, registration as an APEC Architect defines a level of competence that will satisfy designated registration criteria in other participating economies without further assessment. A host economy may additionally adopt special requirements for the recognition of APEC Architects to address aspects of professional practice specific to that economy; such requirements however must be fully transparent.

## **Structure**

Overall responsibility for the operation of the APEC Architect Register rests with a Central Council composed of nominees of independent Monitoring Committees established for this purpose in each participating economy, and authorised by the Central Council to carry out its functions. Policies governing the operation of the APEC Architect Register and strategies adopted for its implementation are determined jointly by the representatives of participating economies appointed to the Central Council.

The APEC Architect Register is divided into sections, each administered by the Monitoring Committee of a participating economy, for the enrolment of architects registered/licensed in that economy who meet APEC Architect criteria. Monitoring Committees are responsible for the management of their respective sections of the Register on behalf of the Central Council.

## **APEC Architects**

An APEC Architect is a person who is registered, licensed or otherwise professionally recognised as an architect in a participating economy, and whose name is enrolled on a section of the APEC Architect Register maintained by that economy. APEC Architects are bound by host economy codes of professional conduct to protect public health, safety and welfare.

The criteria adopted by the Central Council for admission to the APEC Architect Register, and use of the description 'APEC Architect', are based on identification of a common sequence and elements in the education, training and assessment of architects as qualified to provide professional architectural services in the home economy. These consist of:

- An accreditation or recognition procedure for education programs in architecture,
- A minimum period of post-graduation practical experience, with specified requisites,
- Fulfillment of registration, licensing or other requirements for full professional recognition, and
- A minimum period of professional practice as a registered or licensed architect, with specified requisites.

Architects deemed by the Central Council to fulfil these requirements are eligible for registration as an APEC Architect. To retain their registration, APEC Architects must comply with obligations imposed by their home economies for maintaining professional competence and observing codes of professional conduct. Host economies may choose to impose special requirements for the recognition of APEC Architects for practice in their economies, but any such requirements must be fully transparent. *(See p. 9 for further details)*

## **Monitoring Committees**

Each participating economy is required to establish a Monitoring Committee to take responsibility for administration of the APEC Architect framework in that economy, after receiving authorisation by the Central Council to do so. Monitoring Committees act with delegated authority from the Central Council to implement its policies and carry out its duties.

The primary duty of a Monitoring Committee is to operate a section of the APEC Architect Register for the enrolment of APEC Architects registered/licensed in that economy. It must confirm that candidates for APEC Architect registration have complied with criteria adopted by the Central Council and assess the professional practice experience they have obtained as registered/licensed architects. Each Monitoring Committee is also responsible for ensuring the continued maintenance of required standards.

Monitoring Committees are the constituent bodies of the Central Council. They must nominate one or more representatives to the Council, with each Monitoring Committee entitled to one vote. They are called upon to contribute from time to time to the administrative and review functions of the Central Council and generally to act as centres of information on all APEC Architect matters, and to promote its purposes.

The decisions taken by the Central Council are reached by consensus and are not binding on the regulatory authority of any participating economy. *(See p. 14 for further details)*

## **Authorisation of Monitoring Committees**

Newly formed Monitoring Committees wishing to establish a section of the APEC Architect Register must first be authorised by the Central Council to do so. Applications for authorisation must be accompanied by information on the professional recognition/accreditation systems in place in the economy and details of its proposals for assessment of APEC Architect criteria, and any other information the Council deems necessary. Advice on the structure of the Monitoring Committee and its arrangements for administration of the section of

the APEC Architect Register within its economy will also be required. Monitoring Committees that have been granted authorisation may establish a section of the APEC Architect Register. *(See p. 16 for further details)*

## **Central Council**

The Central Council has ultimate responsibility for all matters relating to the APEC Architect framework. The Council comprises at least one representative appointed by the Monitoring Committee of each economy authorised to operate a section of the Register. Non-authorised economies may also be invited to attend Council meetings as non-voting observers. The Central Council's primary duty is to decide the standards and criteria required for registration as an APEC Architect and to establish operational procedures for management of the APEC Architect Register. These are reviewed periodically by the Council to ensure their continued relevance to the practice of architecture within the APEC region and the effectiveness of the systems employed to assess them. The Council is responsible for the authorisation of Monitoring Committees to maintain a section of the Register and for subsequent review of their continued conformance with APEC Architect registration criteria.

Effective communication with relevant authorities in participating economies, architects and consumers alike, is essential for successful operation of the APEC Architect Register. The provision of information on its objectives and achievements, and promotion of the role it plays in facilitating the mobility of architects within the region are also important functions of the Central Council. *(See p.20 for further details)*

## **Administrative Provisions**

Responsibility for providing administrative services for the APEC Architect Central Council and acting as the project Secretariat is undertaken in rotation by participating economies. The economy performing this role at any time may share its duties with other economies or it may be exempted from them on request. During its term of office, the Secretariat is required to administer all Council business, manage its meetings and coordinate the activities of the independent Monitoring Committees. It acts as a centre of information for the project and maintains the APEC Architect website.

## **Desired Outcomes – Facilitating the Mobility of Architects**

The introduction of the APEC Architect Register has created an effective mechanism for achieving the strategic priority of the APEC HRDWG 'to facilitate the mobility of qualified persons by developing a means for the mutual recognition of their skills and qualifications'. By providing evidence that agreed standards of competence required for professional recognition have been satisfied, APEC Architects may be exempt from many current restrictions on access to independent practice, such as pre-registration examination and host economy experience, that are normally imposed on architects from other countries. Even though they may still be tested on practice issues specific to the host economy, the savings in time and costs for all involved, architects and regulatory authorities alike, are substantial.

The APEC Architect Reciprocal Recognition Framework, which records the registration/certification requirements of participating economies for the professional recognition of APEC Architects from other economies, may be viewed on the Central Council website at [www.apecarchitect.org](http://www.apecarchitect.org).

Through its identification of common standards of professional competence and the quality assurance systems applied to ensure that they are maintained, the APEC Architect framework provides a reliable and transparent basis for the further negotiation of reciprocal arrangements between APEC economies for the mutual recognition of architects. The APEC goals of progressive liberalisation of access to markets for the provision of professional services will become a reality as the benefits of the APEC Architect framework are recognised and endorsed throughout the Asia Pacific region.

## **Termination**

The APEC Architect Central Council will operate for so long as it is acceptable and desirable to participating economies.

## 2. REGISTRATION AS AN APEC ARCHITECT

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A candidate for registration as an APEC Architect must be currently registered/licensed or otherwise professionally recognised as an architect in the economy that maintains the section of the APEC Architect Register to which application for admission is made. Architects must demonstrate to the appropriate Monitoring Committee that they have completed an accredited/recognised program of architectural education, fulfilled pre-registration experience requirements, have practised for at least seven years as registered/licensed architects and satisfied any additional requirements, all in accordance with criteria determined by the Central Council. Architects may only be enrolled on the section of the APEC Architect Register in their home economy, unless otherwise provided by this Manual.

(**Note:** APEC Architect Registration applies only to individual persons, not to architectural practices or firms)

The statement on the '**Competence of an APEC Architect**' at 2.3 describes the scope of practice and the skills and knowledge required of an APEC Architect.

### A. APEC ARCHITECT REGISTRATION CRITERIA

The following set of principles satisfies Central Council criteria for admission to the APEC Architect Register and the right to use the description 'APEC Architect'.

#### 1. Architectural Education

##### ***Educational Benchmark Statement***

Education as an architect shall comprise at least four years of full time study. The education must be of university level, with architecture the principal component. It must maintain a balance between theoretical and practical aspects of architectural training and lead to the acquisition of the skills and knowledge necessary to underpin the required competence of an APEC Architect. Structured experiential learning, determined by the regulatory authority economy to be the equivalent of full-time architectural study as described above, would also satisfy the APEC Architect education requirements.

##### ***Common Elements of Architectural Education Programs***

The core subject areas in an accredited/recognised program of architectural education are:

- Design, as the predominant subject category,
- Technology and Environmental Science,
- Social, Cultural and Environmental Studies, and
- Professional Studies.

Other subject areas within architectural educational programs may include:

- Related Studies, and
- General Education.

### ***Accreditation/Recognition Procedure for Educational Programs in Architecture***

Processes incorporating the following principles of good governance will satisfy the accreditation/recognition criteria for educational programs for an APEC Architect. The accrediting/recognising body should:

- Have authority and, where appropriate, legal status and be transparent, independent and publicly accountable, and
- Have a structured process for the approval of qualifications and compliance with agreed standards.

The Central Council agrees to respect the accreditation/recognition procedures of each participating economy.

## **2. Fulfillment of Period of Pre-registration or Pre-licensing Experience for Recognition as an Architect in a Home Economy**

Applicants for registration as an APEC Architect must have completed a prescribed period of practical pre-licensure or pre-registration diversified experience, as defined by the home economy, for a minimum period equivalent to a total of two years.

## **3. Fulfillment of Registration/Licensing Requirements for Recognition as an Architect in a Home Economy**

The purpose of this criterion is, in the first instance, to establish eligibility for registration as an APEC Architect, not for registration in another economy.

Fulfillment of registration/licensing requirements for recognition as an architect in a home economy is accepted as meeting this criterion for an APEC Architect.

## **4. Professional Practice as a Registered/Licensed Architect**

Applicants for registration as an APEC Architect must satisfy the home economy Monitoring Committee that they have completed a minimum period of professional practice of seven years; after initial registration/licensure as an architect in any participating economy. This experience must be gained in all of the following categories of architectural practice:

- Preliminary studies and preparation of brief,
- Design,
- Contract Documentation, and
- Administration.

At least three years of that period must have been undertaken as an architect:

- With sole professional responsibility for the design, documentation and contract administration of buildings of moderate complexity,
- OR in collaboration with other architects, as an architect in charge of and professionally responsible for a significant aspect of the design, documentation and/or contract administration of complex buildings.

### ***Practice Jurisdiction***

Professional practice that satisfies the above requirements undertaken in any economy may be accepted by the relevant Monitoring Committee.

### ***Currency of Practice***

To ensure competence, APEC Architect candidates who have not practised in a position of professional responsibility within the preceding two years are subject to a requirement to undertake a program of professional development or fulfill other prescribed conditions to be admitted to the APEC Architect Register.

## **B. ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION**

### **1. Admission to the APEC Architect Register**

Candidates for registration as an APEC Architect must apply to the Monitoring Committee of their home economy to determine their eligibility for enrolment on that economy's section of the Register. In addition to details on education, training and professional recognition in any APEC jurisdiction, candidates will be required to submit a report on their post registration/licensure professional experience, outlining the categories of practice in which it was undertaken and the level of their involvement.

APEC Architects must also agree to be bound by the code of professional conduct of their home economy and of any jurisdiction in which they practice.

Particulars of APEC Architects to be recorded on the Register include:

- Name and business address;
- Home economy or jurisdiction in which the architect is registered/licensed; and
- Any other economy in which the architect is registered/licensed.

The registration numbers assigned to APEC Architects by Monitoring Committees are preceded by the following abbreviations of the name of the home economy:

Australia	AU	Republic of Mexico	MX
Canada	CA	New Zealand	NZ
People's Republic of China	CN	Republic of the Philippines	PH
Hong Kong, China	HK	Singapore	SG
Japan	JP	Chinese Taipei	CT
Republic of Korea	KR	Thailand	TH
Malaysia	MY	United States of America	US

Applications for admission to the APEC Architect Register are dealt with in a timely manner and will not normally exceed three months for completion. On admission to the Register, APEC Architects are issued with a Central Council Certificate of Registration by the home economy Monitoring Committee and an APEC Architect Identification Card bearing the architect's name, name of home economy and date and currency of APEC Architect registration. On request, Monitoring Committees also provide relevant information to the regulatory authorities of other participating economies for registration purposes.

## **2. Maintaining APEC Architect Registration**

APEC Architect registration is to be renewed on payment of an administration fee to a Monitoring Committee at intervals no greater than three years. Registration details are to be reviewed and renewed on application to practise in a host economy.

Renewal of registration is subject to compliance with the home economy regulatory authority or Monitoring Committee requirements to undertake programs of continuing professional development, or fulfil other tests of current competence. The Monitoring Committee may impose conditions on architects who have not practised in a position of professional responsibility during the preceding three years.

The registration of an APEC Architect will be cancelled if the architect ceases to be registered/licensed in the designated home economy. The registration of APEC Architects found, subject to due process, to be in breach of the code of professional conduct of either their home economy, or a host economy, may be suspended by their home economy Monitoring Committee.

## **3. Acquired Rights**

Should the authorisation of a Monitoring Committee be discontinued for any reason, APEC Architects enrolled in that economy may enroll on a database maintained by the Secretariat for this purpose, for a maximum period of two years. Alternatively they may apply for registration in a host economy and subsequent admission to the section of the APEC Architect Register in that economy.

## **C. THE COMPETENCE OF AN APEC ARCHITECT**

The skills and knowledge required for admission to the APEC Architect Register

**An APEC Architect must be competent to create architectural designs that:**

- Satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements,
- Are informed by the history and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences,
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale,
- Respond to environmental concerns and address sustainability issues,
- Show skill in land-use planning and the planning process, and
- Take account of cultural and social factors and demonstrate an understanding of the responsibility of an architect to society.

**An APEC Architect must be competent to translate a design concept into built form and be able to:**

- Investigate and interpret design objectives and relevant issues and prepare the brief for a design project,
- Advise on project evaluations, feasibility studies and programs,
- Evaluate and determine structural, constructional and engineering elements of a building design and integrate the advice and design of specialist disciplines into a building project,
- Assess the physical influences on buildings and the technologies associated with providing internal conditions of comfort and protection against the climate, and coordinate and integrate services systems to control them,
- Meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations,
- Provide advice on issues of construction, procurement and contract administration,
- Generate the documentation and information needed to translate a design concept into a building, and
- Manage the procurement of buildings, administer contractual arrangements and monitor their construction.

**An APEC Architect must be competent in the practice of architecture and:**

- Observe legal and regulatory obligations related to the planning and construction of buildings,
- Have adequate knowledge of the industries, organisations and procedures involved in the management and realisation of a design project as a building,
- Observe the standards of conduct expected of a professional by the community, and
- Maintain competence in relevant aspects of the practice of architecture.

### **3. THE APEC ARCHITECT REGISTER**

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#### **APEC Architect Register**

The APEC Architect Register is the means by which the names of architects who have achieved common standards of professional competence are made publicly available.

To ensure that the information it contains is accurate and current, the APEC Architect Register is divided into independent sections established in each participating economy for the enrolment of architects who are registered/licensed in that economy. It consists of a series of decentralised, linked electronic databases, constructed and operated by the Monitoring Committee of each economy. The Monitoring Committee is responsible for maintaining and regularly updating the section of the Register it administers.

The participating economy acting as Secretariat maintains the central APEC Architect domain with hyperlinks to the individual APEC Architect database websites. Each website contains an introductory statement on the APEC Architect framework, information on APEC Architect registration requirements, access to the list of APEC Architects registered in its economy, and relevant publications and forms for downloading. Monitoring Committees publish on their websites any special requirements that the home economy places on APEC Architects from other economies.

A standard website format has been adopted by all economies to preserve the uniformity of the APEC Architect Register and provide ready access to the registered particulars of APEC Architects, whilst ensuring the security of the independent Register sections. All information contained on the website is updated at six month intervals. An opportunity is also provided for APEC Architects to indicate their willingness to consider offers of professional alliance with APEC Architects from other economies.

In addition to the links with each economy's APEC Architect database, the Central Council website contains information on the APEC Architect framework, contact details of participating economies, and other relevant matters. Application forms for assessment and registration are also available.

English has been adopted as the common language for exchanging information among APEC economies, although each economy is also free to use the language of the home economy and any other language of choice.

Advice on the registration of APEC Architects may be obtained electronically or from printed records of each section of the Register published annually by Monitoring Committees.

#### **The Reciprocal Recognition Framework**

The Central Council has established a Reciprocal Recognition Framework which identifies participating economies that have adopted the same registration/certification requirements for APEC Architects from foreign economies, thereby establishing a reciprocal basis for the professional recognition of APEC Architects

from those economies. In assessing APEC Architects from economies with more restrictive categories of requirements, host economies may impose similar requirements to those of the applicant's economy.

Some APEC Architect participating economies do not yet provide for the independent practice of APEC Architects from other economies but it is understood that they are working towards this objective.

The Reciprocal Recognition Framework may be viewed on the Central Council website at [www.apecarchitect.org](http://www.apecarchitect.org).

**THE APEC ARCHITECT PROJECT RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION FRAMEWORK - SUPPORT MATRIX**  
 (ALL ECONOMIES LOCAL COLLABORATION (LC) UNLESS NOTED)

	AUSTRALIA	CANADA	CHINA	HONG KONG	JAPAN	KOREA	MALAYSIA	MEXICO	NEW ZEALAND	PHILIPPINES	SINGAPORE	CHINESE TAIPEI	THAILAND	USA
AUSTRALIA		DSA		DSA	DSA				CM		DSA	DSA		
CANADA	DSA							DSA	DSA					CM
CHINA				DSA										
HONG KONG	DSA		DSA						DSA					
JAPAN	DSA								DSA					
KOREA														
MALAYSIA														
MEXICO		DSA												DSA
NEW ZEALAND	CM	DSA		DSA	DSA						DSA	DSA		
PHILIPPINES														
SINGAPORE	DSA								DSA					
CHINESE TAIPEI	DSA								DSA					
THAILAND														
USA		CM						DSA						

CM – Complete Mobility, DSA - Domain Specific Assessment, CRE – Comprehensive Registration Examination,  
 E – Examination, HER – Host Economy Residence, LC – Local Collaboration, NR – No Recognition

## 4. MONITORING COMMITTEES

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The policies of the Central Council are put into effect by independent Monitoring Committees established in each participating economy for this purpose and authorised by the Central Council to act on its behalf. Their primary responsibility is to manage the section of the APEC Architect Register in that economy, in accordance with Central Council policy and rules of procedure.

### A. COMPOSITION

Whilst the composition of Monitoring Committees is a matter for each economy to decide, the size and balance of its membership will be dictated by the functions it must perform, particularly with regard to evaluation of the qualifications and professional experience of candidates applying for admission to the section of the APEC Architect Register it maintains.

Monitoring Committees should be recognised as competent by the authorities responsible for the professional recognition of architects within the economy. Their members are also required to speak authoritatively on the issues of concern to the Central Council and would normally represent appropriate bodies such as the regulatory authority, professional associations and educational institutions in the sponsoring economy.

### B. FUNCTIONS

Monitoring Committees, when authorised, carry out the following functions and manage the section of the APEC Architect Register, with delegated authority of the Central Council, for which they are responsible, in accordance with Central Council policy, guidelines and rules of procedure.

#### ***Constituent Bodies of the Central Council***

Monitoring Committees that have been authorised to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register are the constituent bodies of the Central Council. Each Monitoring Committee must nominate at least one representative to the APEC Architect Central Council, although there is no restriction on the number of members they appoint. However, it is expected that representatives will be able to speak on behalf of the regulatory authority in their economy.

Each authorised Monitoring Committee is entitled to one vote on the Central Council.

#### ***APEC Architect Register***

The central duty of an authorised Monitoring Committee is to establish and maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register for the enrolment of APEC Architects registered/licensed in that economy. It is responsible for the enrolment and periodic renewal of the names of architects on the Register who satisfy APEC Architect criteria, and the removal of the names of those who no longer comply. Each Monitoring Committee must establish, monitor and regularly update the database of the section of the Register for that economy and publish a list of APEC Architects enrolled on that section.

Monitoring Committees issue Certificates of APEC Architect Registration and APEC Architect Identification Cards, and provide advice on registered particulars of APEC Architects, on request.

### ***Assessment of Candidates for Registration***

Monitoring Committees must authenticate the architectural education and practical experience of each candidate and certify it as satisfying APEC Architect criteria. They are also required to evaluate the subsequent seven-year period of professional experience as a registered/licensed practitioner for compliance with APEC Architect requirements in accordance with Central Council guidelines on the information required, to ensure uniformity between economies. Assessments are conducted at least annually and applications dealt with in a timely manner.

Opportunities are provided for individuals to request a review of an adverse judgment.

### ***Maintaining Standards***

Monitoring Committees must equally ensure that the required standards continue to be maintained by the architects enrolled on their sections of the APEC Architect Register. To provide assurance that the professional competence of APEC Architects remains at an acceptable level, the Central Council requires confirmation that renewal of registration in the home economy is subject to compliance with professional development requirements or similar tests of continued competence.

Similarly, Monitoring Committees have a duty to monitor the continued compliance of the systems employed for accreditation/recognition of architectural education and the professional recognition of architects in their economies with the standards originally authorised by the Central Council. The procedures adopted by Monitoring Committees for this purpose are subject to periodic review by the Central Council. Monitoring Committees must immediately notify the Council of any changes to professional recognition requirements that might conflict with APEC Architect criteria and policy.

### ***Information and Communication***

To ensure transparency of process in facilitating the mobility of architects throughout the APEC region, each Monitoring Committee publishes on its website any requirements that its economy places on APEC Architects from other economies.

At 12 month intervals Monitoring Committees are required to complete a Council Report on their APEC Architect registration activities and any other significant developments during the period, for circulation to all participating economies. The Secretariat also posts updates of its activities and other relevant information on the Central Council website every three months. Another important function of Monitoring Committees is to promote the benefits of registration as an APEC Architect to members of the profession, both nationally and internationally, and to regulatory authorities and other relevant organisations.

The APEC Architect Secretariat maintains regular dialogue with the APEC Secretariat.

### ***Central Council Obligations***

As the constituent bodies of the Central Council, Monitoring Committees act as the point of contact and centre of information for the APEC Architect project in each economy. They have responsibility for promotion of the project, and for the publication and distribution of relevant documents and the provision of advice on all APEC Architect matters to architects, government authorities and other external agencies. Monitoring Committees,

or their representatives, also contribute to the administrative and review functions of the Central Council as required.

From time to time participating economies are called upon to act as Secretariat, on a rotating basis, and to provide administrative services for the Central Council for a limited period.

## **C. AUTHORISATION OF MONITORING COMMITTEES**

An APEC economy seeking to operate a section of the APEC Architect Register must first constitute a Monitoring Committee to submit an application to the APEC Architect Central Council, through the Secretariat, for authorisation to do so. (**Note:** In economies with multiple domestic jurisdictions, where applicable, the professional standards and criteria established by national organisations acting as councils of individual regulatory authorities are those to be evaluated for the authorisation of Monitoring Committees.)

### ***Application for Authorisation***

To promote consistency and transparency of process, the Central Council has prepared guidelines on the information to be provided by Monitoring Committees in support of their applications for authorisation to show conformance with APEC Architect criteria. It will require advice on:

- Education and practical experience/training requirements for registration/licensure as an architect in that economy,
- The accreditation/ recognition procedures employed to assess them, and
- Procedures adopted to assess compliance with the required professional practice experience as a registered/licensed architect.

Additional information required by the Central Council will include the composition of Monitoring Committees, the procedures they will employ for management of the section of the APEC Architect Register for which they will be responsible, and the resources available for undertaking these responsibilities. In reaching its decision, the Council will assess the professional recognition criteria and assessment systems in place in the economy applying for authorisation to determine their compliance with APEC Architect criteria. It will also take into account quality assurance provisions adopted by the economy to monitor continued conformance with required standards of competence and of professional conduct.

Economies, authorised to do so, may establish a section of the APEC Architect Register. Economies not authorised to operate a section of the Register will receive guidance on rectifying deficiencies and have the right to reapply.

### ***Continued Authorisation***

Authorised Monitoring Committees, and the procedures they adopt, are subject to periodic review by the Central Council to ensure that they continue to comply with agreed standards. They must immediately notify the Central Council of any material changes in education provision, accreditation/recognition systems and registration/licensure requirements to those which were approved for initial authorisation, or of any other significant developments concerning the professional recognition of architects in their economies that might conflict with Council policy.

A Monitoring Committee whose authorisation has been suspended by the Central Council because it no longer conforms with the APEC Architect criteria may, with reason, request an independent review of the decision.

***Termination of Authorisation***

A Monitoring Committee may surrender its authorisation to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register after giving due notice to the Central Council.

## 5. THE APEC ARCHITECT CENTRAL COUNCIL

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Overall authority for the control and management of the APEC Architect framework rests with the Central Council. It is the responsibility of the Central Council to determine policy and procedures for all matters relating to the APEC Architect Register and to promote its objectives. The Central Council may delegate authority to authorised Monitoring Committees in each participating economy to carry out its functions.

Architects wishing to export their professional services to other economies, and regulatory authorities requiring evidence that they are competent to do so, may turn to the APEC Architect Register to facilitate achievement of these objectives. It is important that the policy adopted by the APEC Architect Central Council and the procedures employed to implement them are readily accessible and equitable to all parties.

### Constitution of the Central Council

The Central Council acts as the joint governing body for the APEC Architect framework and is composed of at least one representative from the Monitoring Committee of each economy authorised to operate a section of the Register. There is no limit to the number of members appointed to the Council by Monitoring Committees but each authorised economy is entitled to only one vote.

To promote the project and extend its benefits, economies that have not yet received authorisation to maintain a section of the APEC Architect Register are also invited by the Council to appoint representatives to attend its meetings as non-voting observers. Although observers are not entitled to take part in the decision making process, this provides an opportunity for them to familiarise themselves with the APEC Architect framework with a view to establishing a Monitoring Committee in their own economy.

### Duties of the Central Council

The Central Council has ultimate responsibility for the operation of each aspect of the APEC Architect framework. Its duties include the following:

#### ***Maintenance of the APEC Architect Register:***

- Determine standards and assessment procedures for admission, renewal and termination of the registration of an APEC Architect,
- Oversee and coordinate all sections of the Register operated by independent Monitoring Committees, maintain the APEC Architect website, and
- Establish and apply governance systems and quality assurance strategies to review and maintain uniformity and compliance with agreed criteria.

#### ***Establishment of Monitoring Committees:***

- Determine policy concerning the composition, authorisation and responsibilities of Monitoring Committees,
- Assess applications for authorisation of Monitoring Committees to operate a section of the APEC Architect Register, and to hear appeals, and

- Conduct reviews of registration systems and standards in authorised participating economies to ensure continued compliance.

#### ***Oversight of the Reciprocal Recognition Framework***

- Regularly review the commitment of participating economies to the nominated categories of registration/certification requirements that they are prepared to offer APEC Architects from other economies, and
- Ensure that the reciprocal commitments recorded on all websites are accurate and current.

#### ***Administration of the APEC Architect Project***

- Make provision for a Secretariat to administer the business of Council, maintain records and coordinate with Monitoring Committees, and
- Act as a communications centre to provide information, documentation and advice on all aspects of the project.

## **Standards and Criteria for Registration as an APEC Architect**

The purpose of the APEC Architect Register is to establish authoritative and reliable evidence of the achievement of common standards of professional competence by the architects enrolled on it. Registration is reserved for experienced practitioners to provide an additional level of assurance to consumers.

The criteria adopted for registration as an APEC Architect are based on a dynamic set of principles that identify common elements of professional recognition in APEC economies and reflect current practice norms. These standards and criteria are incorporated in Council guidelines periodically reviewed by the Central Council to ensure that they remain relevant to international best practice within the profession.

Equally the Council must assure itself that APEC Architect standards are rigorously upheld and uniformly applied by the Monitoring Committees authorised to assess them. Strategies employed by the Council to ensure continued compliance by participating economies with required standards rely on a system of regular reporting and notification of changes to agreed process by Monitoring Committees, supplemented by informal visits and discussions when necessary.

## **Information and Communication**

An important role for the Central Council is to promote the APEC Architect Register throughout the region and to provide advice and support to governments and regulatory authorities to help streamline recognition procedures for APEC Architects. Understanding current restrictions to the mobility of architects and developing strategies to address them play a significant part in the effective operation of the APEC Architect framework. The Council maintains regular communication between participating economies, and advises architects on the significant benefits that registration as an APEC Architect provides in the export of professional services

While much of the publication and dissemination of Council documents is handled by Monitoring Committees, information provision and promotion of the project remains the responsibility of the Central Council.

## **Council Proceedings**

### ***Council Meetings***

The Central Council meets at least every two years, at a date and venue determined by the members, to review its procedures and criteria, consider applications for authorisation of Monitoring Committees, receive reports from participating economies, and deal with matters arising. Participating economies host the meetings on an alternating basis.

### ***Membership***

The selection of members to be appointed to the Council and their terms of office is a matter for decision by Monitoring Committees, within the guidelines established by the Central Council.

### ***Meeting Chair***

The Meeting Chair is normally appointed by the Monitoring Committee acting as host for the Central Council general meeting, although this may be varied as required.

### ***Meeting Agenda***

To provide an opportunity for all Monitoring Committees to have an input into the topics to be discussed at Council meetings, draft meeting agendas prepared by the Secretariat are circulated for comment to Central Council members, revised and recirculated in the meeting Brief for final adoption by consensus at the start of the Central Council meeting.

### ***Meeting Quorum***

The Central Council meeting quorum is two thirds of the Central Council Monitoring Committee membership.

### ***Attendance***

Monitoring Committees whose representatives fail to attend three consecutive meetings will be deemed to have withdrawn from the APEC Architect framework and may need to reapply for activation of their authorisation should they wish to continue as participants.

### ***Decision Making***

All Central Council decisions in connection with changes to APEC Architect criteria and registration policy, and the authorisation or conditional suspension of Monitoring Committees, require the two-third support of all Central Council member Monitoring Committees for adoption. Council decisions on other matters are arrived at by the consensus of members present. A Monitoring Committee must be represented in order to vote. All decisions requiring voting must be notified in advance of the meeting for pre-circulation with the agenda.

## **6. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS – THE SECRETARIAT**

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To provide an equitable system for sharing the provision of administrative services among economies, Central Council business is conducted by participating economies, which take on the role of Secretariat on a rotational basis. The minimum period for economies to act in this capacity is two years and they may reapply to continue for a subsequent term of office.

The economy acting as Secretariat may delegate any of its functions to another economy by mutual agreement, or participating economies may be exempted from the Secretariat obligation at their request. Alternatively two or more participating economies may undertake the Secretariat role jointly and Monitoring Committees may share Council meeting expenses at the request of the host economy. Budgetary and resource information recorded by Secretariats during their terms in office administering the APEC Architect framework, guide the Council in developing financial strategies.

The Central Council Secretariat is responsible for the conduct of Council meetings and the management of Council records, maintenance of the APEC Architect website and administration of its finances during its term of office. It is also required to arrange for the appointment of Council members, the authorisation of Monitoring Committees and the application of quality assurance provisions from time to time, and to act as a centre of information for all APEC Architect matters.

### **Mechanism, Procedures and Documents for Secretariat Service by Member Economies**

#### ***Schedule of Rotation to Act at Secretariat***

A system for the rotation of the Secretariat services among member economies is generally accepted by the Council as a notional timeframe. Commitments made by economies to serve for a period of not less than two years are received by the Council although it is acknowledged that the commitments are not binding on any economy. The Schedule of rotation is updated every Council Meeting and before the scheduled time of service, Council confirms whether or not the economy accepts the role and responsibilities.

#### ***Hosting of the Council Meeting***

It is also generally accepted that for convenience and logistical advantage, the member economy acting as Secretariat will also act as host for the Central Council Meeting scheduled every two years. Thus, the Central Council Meeting is expected to occur towards the end of the second year of service of the member economy serving as Secretariat.

#### ***Funding Formula for the Secretariat***

Secretariat service by any member economy is given assistance by other member economies in accordance with a funding formula formulated and approved by all member economies.

## Hand Over Guidelines

In order to have continuity on the administrative duties and responsibilities, the following are procedures that may be followed whenever there is a change of economy to act as Secretariat for the Central Council.

### ***Mechanism and Procedure***

- Establish a meeting date and venue between outgoing and incoming Secretariats, to take place where documents and information are handed over.
- Prepare a written document to be signed by both Secretariats stating information handed over and received, with official date of hand-over.
- Send official communication to organizations APEC Architect has contact with (UIA, ARCASIA, other professional international organizations, etc.):
  - By outgoing Secretariat announcing the handover of Secretariat and presenting the economy taking over to act as new Secretariat, as well as its officials.
  - By incoming Secretariat, with contact information
- Send official communication to APEC Secretariat and Lead Shepherd of HRDWG by both Secretariats as above

### ***Documents – in Digital Format***

- Information package for incoming Secretariat
  - Secretariat Responsibilities Timetable
  - Central Council Website information and control
  - Guidebook on APEC Publications, Websites and Meeting Documents
  - APEC Protocols (2001 Dest Document)
  - APEC Logo Guidelines (2007)
  - APEC Publication Guidelines (2007)
  - Contact information of participating economies
  - Contact information of principal international organizations APEC Architect must be in communication with.
  - Last Meeting Summary
  - Operations Manual in effect
  - Basic Financial information
- Documents passed on by past Secretariats
  - Meeting Summaries.
  - Operations Manuals
  - Meeting Agendas and Briefing Notes of all past meetings
  - Surveys
  - Basic APEC information
- Others if requested
  - Communications sent
  - Communications received
  - Any other matter