



January 11, 2023

Dear Colleague,

It was a pleasure meeting so many of you in Honolulu during the December Informal Senior Officials' Meeting. We appreciate your feedback on the APEC 2023 theme and priorities and will continue to work with APEC economies to advance the Putrajaya Vision 2040.

With this letter, we are conveying an invitation to the First Senior Officials' Meeting and Related Meetings (SOM1) taking place in Palm Springs, California from February 14-28, 2023. Most of the meetings will only be held in-person, with select meetings available for hybrid participation. A preliminary administrative circular and SOM1 calendar are included in this e-mail. Additional information, including the SOM1 Plenary Agenda, is forthcoming. While daily COVID-19 testing will not be required during APEC 2023 SOM1 meeting days, self-testing is strongly recommended for Senior Officials, delegates, participants, staff, and vendors. If symptomatic, please self-isolate.

As noted previously, the United States will diligently work towards participation of all delegations in APEC events in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations and on the basis of the spirit and principles of APEC. In order for visas to be processed in time to allow for travel to the United States, it is important for delegates to submit their applications early. Our visa processes, including the availability of waivers, remain open to delegates of all APEC economies, in accordance with our laws and regulations.

I look forward to seeing many of you soon.

Sincerely,

Mike Pyle
APEC 2023 SOM Chair