

**APEC VOICES OF THE FUTURE YOUTH WEBINAR 2020**  
**APEC RE-IMAGINED: PRIORITIES IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19**

Despite challenges, APEC, with the active collaboration of government, the private sector, and civil society, has coped with difficulties presented by COVID-19 and delivered on its commitments for 2020.

How are the youth coping with the situation? What are their priorities? Join in the discussions to listen in, and contribute.

**Commencement, Welcome Address**

Amidst the current challenging circumstances, today we still have 400 youths joining VOF, a platform for youths to be heard.

Young people today are leaders tomorrow. It is important that they first find share interest among each other and build trust through communications on a personal level. These are ways to achieve sustainable connections

**Address by H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria Executive Director, APEC Secretariat**

APEC secretariat- for more cooperation not less even in this pandemic. For the next 20 years (till 2040) to be more open, peaceful, sustainable. Vision with action can change the world. In the past 20 years the main thing includes empowering the youth, making their voice heard. Helping research resources and small business.

Chair of council of Malaysia exchange views with each other, congregate ideas for APEC, GDP, new vision from last year(2040), environmental, encourage the youth to work with government

**Panel Discussion**

**•Introduction**

Another discussion about COVID-19.Last summit host was Malaysia. Our vision is diverse 、resilient generation. We have to hold something : Sustainability

Speak out and common 、provide insight. As a youth, provide more social observation. The role of medial plays.

New vision: our vision is an open dynamic resilient, peaceful by 2040

Challenge of APEC for next year. NZ: INNOVATION, sustainability. The way we respond this year will be felt for generations to come. Listening actively. Speaking up and be heard, providing insights.

### **H.E. Mr. Alvin Tan**

What are we doing at least in Singapore?

1. solely open our economy safely
2. openly connecting

3. Silver lining despite challenges still jobs available. Youths are concerned about jobs. They have an aspiration for sustainability, and they care for their mental health. Therefore, youths should make their voices heard and most importantly, act. We are here to help them act.

Take this opportunity to define this generation

### **Dr. Noeleen Heyzer**

We have to realize that this health crisis is also an economic, social, human crisis that reveals vulnerabilities hidden. One billion ppl working do not have social protection. We focused on quantity not quality.

Many of our countries did well on health, therefore responded well during the pandemic. These are strengths we need to build on. Better than status quo is not enough. So it's important to include youth. We have to be able to bring together, break boundaries.

1. Health security is the most important. (e.g. vaccine)

2. Address inequality (migrant workers have no accommodation (vulnerable ppl))

3. Positive! Digital economy : How can we move forward? In terms of the way we connect. digital device literacy, cyber security, control hate speech

4. Types of issues that need to be put on the agenda. Look at our ecosystem address in terms of planet security. pandemic revealed importance of environmental interactions

5. Quality of governance. Not all of us have the government to secure them. Rethink of state-citizens relationship. Private sector be stressed. They should be ensured.

### **Mr Ho Meng Kit**

SMEs last 11 months has been facing extreme challenges<< lockdown, travel, resume aviation.

Singapore gives necessary resources to survive. Unemployment has not been so bad, international travels still not yet resumed. Correlation by countries are coming together. RCEP. Getting leaders to cooperate will be good news. The vision is relevant. Stakeholders: youths. Youths are suffering more under this pandemic. (Job offers, e school, transition.) Youths are facing more challenges than ever. APEC is structured so youths should structure their wants as to what kind of vision and submit it back to the leaders.

Question: covid has brought up bads and goods. How do we bring up the goods?

A1: building platforms with them, realized that since digital, build ideas on top of these platforms, a different type of multilateralism is happening, given by the youth. "A different type of multi".

Young ppl are not waiting for us! Already exchanges across countries. SMEs run by youths. Platform conforms to what they are doing. Government help by facilitating the process, eliminate frauds.

A3: it's an organization that finds like-minded countries. Why is it not possible for APEC to look at regional travel? Focus on small building blocks instead of thinking of something big. Adults who lose imagination have to look away, ask youths for new ideas. Sitting down to have serious conversations.

Q:

A3: look back to 75 years ago (1945). We benefited from the wisdom of the older generation. APEC was able to grow because there is a rule-based world. There is a framework. There were 21 member states. Work in youth employment for youths out of poverty. 74 million ppl are looking for jobs. People multi from the ground up. And top down because government has to be responsible with policy making and private sectors for resource finance for development is huge

Bottom up, top down, inside out

"Bottom up and top down, inside out"

We need to go back to the basics. We are working in a diff landscape. Ensures collaboration and cooperation.

Leverages on tech. Opportunity on the ripening of tech. Whether we have the will.

It is the only world we could actually survive (multilateralism)