DEPA
ACUERDO DE ASOCIACIÓN DE ECONOMÍA DIGITAL

Minutes of Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) Joint Committee Meeting Held on 15/16 December 2025

On 15/16 December 2025 the DEPA Parties – Chile, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, and Singapore – met virtually for their second Joint Committee meeting, pursuant to Article 12.2(a) (Functions of the Joint Committee) and Article 12.4 (Rules of Procedure of the Joint Committee). The meeting was chaired by New Zealand. The representatives were, from Chile, Undersecretary for International Economic Relations, Claudia Sanhueza; from New Zealand, Deputy Secretary Trade and Economic Group, Vangelis Vitalis; from Republic of Korea, Deputy Minister for Trade, Jung Sung Park; from Singapore, Deputy Secretary for Trade, Jane Lim.

The representatives took decisions on institutional matters; and reviewed work carried out since the agreement entered into force, the state of play of the accession working groups (AWG) and other accession requests, and discussed implementation matters relating to the DEPA.

I. Decision on Updated Institutional Framework

DEPA Parties agreed by consensus to strengthen governance of the DEPA, including through an updated institutional framework, and the introduction of a rotating chair role which would reflect the order of ratification.

II. Decision on Updated Accession Process

DEPA Parties agreed by consensus to an updated DEPA accession process, to provide greater transparency for current and potential DEPA aspirants on current practice.

III. Reflections on Cooperation Achieved under the DEPA in 2025

DEPA Parties underlined the importance of DEPA cooperation projects in realising the Agreement's potential, and welcomed activities completed during 2025. DEPA Parties reflected on the positive alignment between the DEPA and the priorities pursued by the Republic of Korea during its APEC hosting year.

IV. State of Play on Active Accession Working Groups

DEPA Parties discussed the progress made across all AWGs (Canada, China, Peru, and UAE). Parties approved the report on Peru which set out that Peru had met the benchmarks required to accede. A decision was taken to invite Peru to accede to the DEPA.

V. State of Play on Other Aspirant Economies

DEPA Parties discussed the progress made by other aspirant economies (El Salvador, Thailand, Ukraine, and Uruguay).