



Session 1: Background

1.1. Outcome of the 1st Meeting of the TFTI



**2nd Meeting of the GMS Task Force on Trade and Investment
Manila, 25 April 2023**



1. Objectives of the 1st TFTI Meeting – 28 October 2022

- 1. Introduction of the TFTI members nominated by GMS countries**
- 2. Overview the Terms of Reference of the TFTI which were endorsed by the GMS Senior Officials in June 2022**
- 3. Overview of the draft 2-year Work Plan for the TFTI**



2. Overview the (endorsed) Terms of Reference

1. (i) Objectives (ii) Pillars of Work (iii) Activities (iv) Composition, Chairmanship and Participation (v) Coordination with GMS Institutions, and (vi) Duration and Meetings Timeline
2. Reminder of 3 TOR pillars. Pillar 1: Digitalization; Pillar 2: Improving the business climate; Pillar 3: Capacity building to maximize Free Trade Agreements.
3. No major comments from GMS countries. Just a reminder of importance of assuring: (i) active participation of private sector (ii) coordination with other regional initiatives and organizations (ASEAN, UNESCAP)



3. Overview the draft 2-year work plan

1. Considering short 2-year mandate, TFTI should initially focus on a specific theme/topic in order to achieve tangible results and demonstrate its added value to the GMS Program
2. Work plan proposed is to focus on “digital supply chains” (one area based on the recommendations of the scoping study conducted in Q1 2022)



3. Overview the draft 2-year work plan (continued)

3. GMS countries supported this approach and selection of theme/topic
4. GMS countries underlined the importance for the work plan to: (i) remain relevant to all 3 pillars of the TOR (ii) focus on capacity building to both private and public sector (for digital supply chains) (iii) assure coordination with GMS sector working groups
5. Revised work plan was circulated for review on 22 November and further minor revisions were submitted by GMS TFTI members until January 2023



THANK YOU!

