Another year into the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian Economic Integration Report describes an Asia and Pacific region that has more experience in tackling pandemic hardships, better data showing positive integration trends, and greater confidence in cooperation to address shared concerns. The report also features a theme chapter “Advancing Digital Services Trade in Asia and the Pacific”, which discusses various ways for Asian economies to cooperate. This seminar will present the main results of the report and bring together leading experts to discuss how digitalization and the pandemic are driving digital services trade and ways on how regional cooperation and structural reforms can help Asian economies unlock this potential.

AGENDA

10:00 a.m.  

Speakers connect via Zoom

10:30 a.m.  

Introduction (1 minute)  
Emcee: Pramila Crivelli, Economist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

10:31–10:38 a.m.  

Opening Remarks (7 minutes)  
Taeho Bark, President, Lee & Ko Global Commerce Institute and former Minister of Trade, Republic of Korea

10:38–10:47 a.m.  

Presentation

• Short video presentation on the AEIR 2022 theme chapter (2 minutes)  
• Digital Trade Regulation and Cooperation: Henry Gao, Professor of Law, Singapore Management University (7 minutes)

10:47 – 11:19 a.m.  

Panel Discussion (32 minutes)  
Moderator: Rolando Avendano, Economist, ADB

• Jane Drake Brockman, Professor, University of Adelaide  
• Irene Olivan García, Trade Policy Analyst, OECD  
• Jose Ramon Albert, Senior Research Fellow, Philippine Institute of Development Studies

11:19–11:29 a.m.  

Q&A (10 minutes)

11:29 a.m.  

Closing remarks by the emcee