



## India elected as Vice-Chair of the Supply Chain Council

### India to play a crucial role in developing a resilient Supply Chain in the Indo-Pacific region

In a significant milestone, India and 13 other Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) partners have established three supply chain bodies under the landmark Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Agreement relating to Supply Chain Resilience. The three supply chain bodies include–

1. **Supply Chain Council (SCC):** Supply Chain Council to pursue targeted, action-oriented work to strengthen the supply chains for those sectors and goods most critical to national security, public health, and economic well-being;
2. **Crisis Response Network (CRN):** Crisis Response Network to provide a forum for a collective emergency response to exigent or imminent disruptions; and
3. **Labor Rights Advisory Board (LRAB):** Labor Rights Advisory Board that brings together workers, employers, and governments at the same table to strengthen labor rights and workforce development across regional supply chains.

The inaugural virtual meetings of the Supply Chain Council (SCC), Crisis Response Network (CRN), and Labor Rights Advisory Board (LRAB) marked a major step forward for cooperation among partner countries for strengthening supply chain resilience in the region.

During the meetings, each of the three supply chain bodies elected a Chair and Vice Chair, who will serve for a term of two years. The elected chairs and vice chairs are:

- Supply Chain Council: USA (Chair) and India (Vice Chair)
- Crisis Response Network: Republic of Korea (Chair) and Japan (Vice Chair)
- Labor Rights Advisory Board: USA (Chair) and Fiji (Vice Chair)

Through these inaugural meetings, 14 IPEF partners reaffirmed their commitments and collective resolve to facilitate closer cooperation to strengthen the resilience and competitiveness of critical supply chains and better prepare for and respond to supply chain disruptions that pose a risk to economic prosperity while strengthening labor rights.

India shared its views on the importance of a resilient supply chain network and the ongoing

consultations with stakeholders on sectors that are critical to it from the perspective of national security, public health and economic well-being.

India also emphasised on the need for collaboration in the skill development sector. It was stressed that identifying gaps and ensuring the right skills across our economies will be a priority, including technical assistance for workforce development and digitalization for a resilient supply chain ecosystem.

The Supply Chain Council adopted Terms of Reference and discussed initial work priorities, to be further explored at its first in-person meeting to be held in Washington, D.C. in September 2024 on the margins of the Supply Chain Summit.

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