

GFSEC Ministerial meeting

26 October 2019

Chair's statement

Since its establishment in 2016, the GFSEC has made significant achievements to resolve the issue of steel excess capacity, based on the common understanding among members of the importance of the steel industry. Through members' efforts, understanding of each other's industry and policy measures has deepened, and as compared to three years ago, the gap between steelmaking capacity and demand has shrunk. At the same time, given the persistence of excess capacity, the global steel industry has noted continuing concerns, and stressed the need for further efforts to address the problem.

Against this background, the G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration noted the progress of the GFSEC and called on Ministers to explore and reach a consensus on ways to further the work of the GFSEC.

Through discussions in this Ministerial meeting, a large majority of members expressed willingness to join the consensus around the draft Ministerial report including the next steps of the GFSEC, which, however, did not attract a full consensus in light of China's view that the GFSEC has achieved its goals and should expire at the end of 2019 according to its Terms of Reference.

Further, the Chair notes a large majority of members have agreed to continue work on the issue of steel excess capacity on the current basis. The Chair notes the widely shared importance of ensuring that such a future effort is pursued as an open platform where all G20 members and interested OECD members are welcome to join in a spirit of constructive exchange and cooperation.

The Chair also notes a call by a member to utilize other channels, in

particular cooperation among industry representatives, for future international exchange and cooperation.

The Chair believes all G20 and interested OECD members will continue to respect the goals expressed since the G20 Leaders' Communiqué from the 2016 Hangzhou Summit and make appropriate individual and collective efforts in this regard.