

While the Working Group continues to exist, it may be mandated to further develop other cooperative options in international fora, including a G-7+(plus) concept.

4. Both countries agreed to work closely together to formulate a more tangible G-4 consultative mechanism where like-minded countries in the Asia-Pacific region could consult in order to adapt to the changing international economic environment. Welcoming the initiatives taken by ministers of both governments in this matter, the Working Group recommends that ministers continue to pursue their mutual consultations to further activate the G-4 mechanism. With its new mandate and extended duration of activities, the Working Group will contribute to the further development of this consultative mechanism.

Noting that the special partnership to be built between the two countries is an important ingredient for formulating the G-4 mechanism, both governments will cooperate with each other in forging an equivalent relationship with each of the other members of the G-4.