

## Press Release



### **ERIA Organizes CLMV Seminar on Post ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Prospects at Nay-Pyi-Taw in Myanmar**

**September 23, 2011** – ERIA organized the CLMV Seminar on September 23, 2011 at Myanmar International Convention Center, Nay-Pyi-Taw, Myanmar. The seminar was co-organized by Foreign Economic Relations Department (FERD), Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar and Yangon Institute of Economics, and supported by Bangkok Research Center (BRC), JETRO. The seminar was attended by around 170 participants from all leading ministries, local government and private sector in Myanmar.



The CLMV (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam) seminar aims to raise the awareness of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) among the ASEAN countries and to share the ideas to deepen and broaden economic integration and narrow the gaps in the ASEAN countries to meet the goal AEC by 2015.

The seminar was opened by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister of Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development. In his opening remarks, he expected that the seminar would increase the awareness of the participants to contribute towards strengthening of AEC, and would provide policy recommendations to attain the AEC goals.

Seven speakers attended the seminar: Dr. Jayant Menon, Principle Economist of ADB; Dr. Ponciano S. Intal Jr., Senior Researcher of ERIA; Prof. Koji Kubo, Research Fellow and Associate Professor, IDE Advanced School, Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO; Daw Cho Cho Thein, Research Officer of Central Bank of Myanmar, Ministry of Finance and Revenue; Daw Aye Aye Win, Deputy Director of Ministry of Industry 2; Dr. U San Thein, Agro Industrial Specialist, Former General Manager of Myanmar industrial Crops Development Enterprise (MICDE), MOAI); and Dr. Mitsuhiro Kagami, Professor, Faculty of Economics, Teikyo University.

The topics of the presentations were as below:

1. Issues for Economic Integration and its Prospect : Trade Facilitation, Investment and Service
2. Approach to AEC Scorecard: Accessing the Status and the Progress of Integration Process in ASEAN Member Countries
3. Development of Financial Sector in ASIAN Countries
4. Issue and its Prospect of Financial Sector in Myanmar
5. Issue and its Prospect of SME Development in Myanmar
6. Potential Industry in Myanmar: A Case of Agro-based Industry
7. Japanese Development since WWII and Measures for SMEs

The participants discussed the issues and prospects in post-AEC such as initiatives and measures for trade facilitation, market access and improvement in financial sector and SMEs. They also discussed AEC's issues and prospect in ASEAN countries.

The seminar concluded with closing remarks from Mr. Yasuhiro Yamada, President of BRC, JETRO. He noted that although Myanmar faced various developmental issues such as trade facilitation, investment, some sector in SMEs and potential industry. He expected that the country could share useful information related to attaining the goals of AEC by 2015 and could also contribute to a better future for CLMV countries through the seminar.

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**Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA):**

ERIA is an international organization that supports the ASEAN Secretariat by making policy recommendations at regional governmental meetings such as the East Asian Summit (EAS), aimed at furthering East Asia's economic integration.

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