

Seminars and Symposia

ERIA organised 12 seminars and symposia in FY2016, including one forum in conjunction with the Third Asia Cosmopolitan Awards ceremony. All these were held in collaboration with key institutes and government agencies from the East Asia region, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the Institute of Developing Economies–Japan External Trade Organization (IDE–JETRO). These seminars and symposia aim to (i) contribute to the Chair of ASEAN, (ii) advocate findings of research where ERIA was involved, (iii) seek inputs from academia as requested by senior government officials in the region, and (iv) promote ERIA as an international organisation with a crucial role in East Asian regional integration (see Annex H).

In FY2016, ERIA's focus on disaster management and building national resilience in ASEAN continued as it organised the World Tsunami Awareness Day 2016 Symposium: 'First Anniversary of World Tsunami Awareness Day' in December. In the wake of uncertainties related to economic integration, ERIA organised a joint symposium with IDE-JETRO entitled 'New Normal, Integration, and Inequality'. As part of its media relations,

the Institute also organised the Fifth Editors' Roundtable themed 'The ASEAN Community 2025 Vision'. Editors and journalists from East Asia Summit member states participated in the event, which was held in the Lao PDR and co-organised with the *Vientiane Times*.

Asia Cosmopolitan Awards

ERIA and the Nara Prefecture organised the Third Asia Cosmopolitan Awards. This biennial event recognises individual(s) and/or organisation(s) that have substantially and significantly contributed to (i) developing a peaceful and stable East Asian Community, (ii) narrowing developmental gaps in the region, and (iii) establishing sustainable social growth towards cultural and economic integration in East Asia.

The winners of the Third Asia Cosmopolitan Awards are as follows:

Grand Prize: HE U Thein Sein, former President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Economic and Social Science Prize: Prof Masahisa Fujita, Professor, Konan University

Cultural Prize: HE Prof Herman Van Rompuy, Haiku Ambassador for Japan-EU Friendship

The award ceremony and the commemorative 'Nara Forum' was held in Nara Prefecture on 15 January 2017.