More than a year has passed since the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), yet businesses still know very little about the opportunities it presents. To address this issue, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA) partnered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to organise a conference on 19 July 2017 in Hanoi to increase the awareness among Vietnamese businesses about the opportunities of AEC.

With over 200 representatives from the Vietnamese private and public sectors as well as scholars and trade experts, the conference provided the opportunity for knowledge sharing and discussions between the audience members and the presenters.
The Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs for Viet Nam, Nguyen Quoc Dũng, opened the conference with introductory remarks, stating that only about ten percent of Vietnamese business knew about the opportunities presented by AEC. ‘The ASEAN economic community, established in 2015, reflects the commitment to turn ASEAN into a common market that is open for goods and services among member states especially for the business community.’ He also thanked ERIA for its strong collaboration in making the event possible.

ERIA President, Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, supported the Vice Minister’s statement when he delivered his opening remarks, stating that ASEAN provided market opportunities to Vietnamese businesses in various sectors. He described several things to consider in order to expand the presence of Viet Nam businesses in ASEAN, including ways to make better use of ASEAN and to influence the ASEAN frameworks to improve business environment. ‘ERIA is very happy to work with the Vietnamese Government and businesses to support this process,’ said Prof Nishimura.

H.E. Ambassador Lê Luong Minh, the Secretary General for ASEAN, also provided opening remarks, highlighting Viet Nam’s important contributions to ASEAN’s integration. He noted that the business community must be supported by governments to ensure ASEAN can maintain its current status as a global powerhouse. He emphasized the importance of Vietnamese businesses as part of the ASEAN community and the role Viet Nam plays as ‘a center of manufacturing and production with a network throughout Asia Pacific economies.’

Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, ERIA’s Senior Policy Fellow, spoke on behalf of trade negotiators and policy makers. ‘Market access is what we promised and it is what we delivered. But market access is not just about tariffs.’ Non-tariff measures must also be carefully evaluated - an effort that is supported by the Non-tariff Database developed by ERIA with the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Dr Ponciano S. Intal, Jr., Senior Economist of ERIA, congratulated Viet Nam for their contribution to ASEAN. ‘By liberalising services, you are making ASEAN and Viet Nam a truly competitive actor in the world.’ According to ERIA research, Viet Nam does well compared to other ASEAN countries in terms of good regulatory practice and regulatory management. ‘You are actually a trendsetter, a precedent for success.’

Speaking on behalf of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Deputy Director General Nguyen Quynh Nga outlined the government’s efforts to assist the business community to become more competitive regionally and globally. ‘We have implemented a number of measures to reduce trade barriers, and harmonise technical standards. In terms of infrastructure, Viet Nam has worked together with ASEAN countries to improve infrastructure connectivity that is important to trade. Viet Nam has one of the highest levels of infrastructure in Southeast Asia. We are aware of the need to reform higher education system, we are able to educate the students in terms of vocational training and English language training at the vocational training centers.’

The discussions that followed the presentations touched upon a wide array of subjects and included input for the audience as well as from the speakers. Vice Minister Nguyen Quoc Dzung concluded the conference by thanking the participants for their high level of engagement. He called upon Vietnamese businesses to continue opening up to the opportunities and pledged that the MOFA ‘will continue to work with other agencies to help efforts in the future.’ He also thanked ERIA and IDE-JETRO for their work, calling on ERIA to ‘continue to contribute to economic integration in ASEAN.’

Prior to the conference, on 18 July, Prof Nishimura paid a courtesy visit to the Viet Nam Prime Minister H.E. Nguyễn Xuân Phúc. Then, the delegation attended a round table discussion with Deputy Prime Minister Vũ Ngọc Ánh in Hanoi. Representatives of the Viet Nam business community also attended the round table discussion.
The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which observes the golden jubilee of its foundation on 8 August, has come a long way in making a significant contribution to peace, security and prosperity. Now, when its future prospects and centrality approach look uncertain, it has four narrative stories to tell and two contrasting models to choose.

On 8 August 1967, this regional grouping came into being with a membership of five countries, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Between 1984 and 1999, five other nations, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Cambodia, joined it to make it an association of 10 states.

It is unique in its essential character for it is different from the European Union (EU). Unlike the EU, ASEAN is not a supra-national organisation. It may be recalled that ASEAN previously set for itself the goal of graduating to an ASEAN Community by 2015, a programme that was launched with three specific pillar – political-security, economic, and social-cultural – promised as a comprehensive umbrella of functions. The group’s member governments all agreed on the roadmap that promises to take them to their common destination.

In the past, Southeast Asia has always been a region with a divided, sprawling culture. But for most of the past 50 years, it was held together by a unifying story. It was the story of accelerated economic growth, social progress and cultural development to provide regional peace and stability.

ASEAN’s success was the story of leaving mutual suspicion, venturing into a wilderness and creating a new promising future for its citizens. That story rested upon amazing levels of consultation, compromise and consensus – ‘the ASEAN way’. And there are four narratives of the ASEAN way.

The first one is a story of multi-cultural ASEAN. It sees ASEAN citizens as members of groups, whose status is largely determined by their nationalities and their socio-cultural backgrounds. This multi-cultural narrative dominates ASEAN’s community building process and educational systems. It makes the product of these social capital creations – the students, the future citizens of ASEAN – more able to think in terms larger than their own identity group, which means they can find common ground or effective arguments that can reach people of different background, in the future.

The second narrative concerns a globalised ASEAN. This narrative is dominant in urban centres and industrial parks. This story comes with an exhilarating ideology of

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**Four Narratives of ASEAN that Makes It Unique at 50**

Venkatachalam Anbumozhi

Senior Energy Economist at ERIA

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economic integration, supported by regional production networks, that flattened economic hierarchies, strengthened local supply chains, discarded old elites and empowered low- to middle-income families and individual workers. But in real life, when you disrupt old structures, you end up concentrating power in fewer hands. This narrative work well for people and industries who well prepared for competition, but not so well for most others.

The third one is the liberation but people-centred narrative that dominates ASEAN as a land of free nations and individuals responsible for their own fate, both economically and socially. This story celebrates the dynamism of the economic integration that fulfills the social aspirations and hopes of the people. Its prime value is economic freedom and environment sustainability, which in default brings human centred progress, by regarding ASEAN as a community of entrepreneurs, taxpayers, consumers and workers indeed everything except citizens.

The fourth is the narrative of ASEAN centrality, in which the regional grouping was at the centre of an array of regional institutions involving partners in East Asia and beyond, such as the ASEAN+3 forum (a cooperation venture between China, Japan and South Korea), the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Asia–Europe Meeting, and the East Asia Summit.

ASEAN centrality is the conviction that has brought a new identity because of unity and strength – the unity in elite decision-making, which has no allegiance to a central authority, but evolves through consensus and self-confidence.

Maritime and territorial disputes have threatened ASEAN unity and centrality. But this story is always forward looking, pragmatic and optimistic. The narrative may have some contempt for democratic norms and liberal values, but stabilizes the very idea of an objective ASEAN.

To take an objective view, ASEAN in the past 50 years has made significant contribution to peace, security and prosperity in the region. The grouping has many socio-economic and political achievements to its credit, but challenges are plentiful too. With a population of 628 million and a combined GDP of US$2.4 trillion, it is the world’s seventh-largest market and third-largest labour force, and is projected to become the fourth-largest economic bloc by 2030.

Mari Pangestu, a former Indonesian minister, told a forum held by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia that the grouping is now threatened by a slow recovery in the global economy: increased anti-globalisation, anti-immigration and anti-elite sentiments; disruptive technologies that threaten job growth; and expanding demographic shifts.

She recommends that it ‘speed up and widen the scope of regional economic integration’. But does ASEAN have the requisite will to execute this? All of the four narratives provide a viable basis for successfully tackling this challenge. But the future of ASEAN will be a competition between two other stories, which are sort of descended from the existing four.

The first is the mercantilist model, which sees ASEAN not as the culmination of history and socio-culture but as one more economic power in competition with neighbouring economies like China, India, and so on. In this, being ASEAN implies being a member of an economic clan, and the ideal ASEAN member states and its partners are purely protectors of this clan.

ASEAN governments and corporations work together with their citizens and partners by closely controlling trade, investment and immigration. ASEAN’s wealthy states would have an incentive to share their resources with workers, because they need them to fight off competitive economies.

The second is the empowered community of ASEAN. This story sees the regional grouping as a melting pot of all socio-economic and political cultures and human history’s greatest laboratory for the cultivation of new talents, skills and abilities.

This model welcomes diversity in education, pluralistic views on innovation, open trade, meritocracy, and immigration for all the dynamism these things unleash with ASEAN centrality. This model heavily invests in social capital, especially the young and those who suffer from the downsides of creative destruction and the ASEAN community-building process. In this model, every young boy and girl of ASEAN is enmeshed in the state’s care to arouse his or her inherent energy and propel social mobility.

The mercantilist model sees ASEAN as a mighty economic fortress in a treacherous world. The empowered community model sees the grouping as a creative crossroads leading an open and fundamentally harmonious world. The empowered model will be an exodus story for ASEAN member states as well as other countries that are struggling to nurture and strengthen the roots of deepened regional cooperation.
ERIA Experts Discuss ASEAN Integration with Viet Nam Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister

Prime Minister Phúc stated that connectivity among ASEAN member states is crucial and emphasised that ERIA’s research has contributed to ASEAN development and integration efforts.

A delegation of experts from the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) led by ERIA President, Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, paid a courtesy visit to the Prime Minister of Viet Nam H.E. Nguyen Xuân Phúc and attended a roundtable discussion with Deputy Prime Minister H. E. Vuong Đình Hue in Hanoi on 18 July 2017.

Prof Nishimura delivered the introductory remarks in which he briefly explained the background of ERIA, including the fact that the first Chairman of ERIA, Dr Dinh Van An, was the president of the Viet Nam’s Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM).

In addition, Prof Nishimura praised the hard work of ASEAN Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Lê Luong Minh, who also attended the meeting, in developing the ASEAN Community 2015 and the blueprint for ASEAN Community 2025. Prof Nishimura expressed ERIA’s readiness to support Viet Nam as the Chair of ASEAN in 2020, when the ASEAN Community would have been effective for five years and the member states are gearing up towards further consolidation and stronger cohesiveness in ASEAN Community 2025.

Prime Minister Phúc stated that connectivity among ASEAN member states is crucial and emphasised that ERIA’s research has contributed to ASEAN development and integration efforts.

During the roundtable discussion, ERIA Senior Economist Dr Ponciano S. Intal, Jr. and Senior Policy Fellow Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria briefed Deputy PM Hue on various issues related to ASEAN integration and what Viet Nam can do in order to take advantage of the deeper integration of the region. Representatives of the Viet Nam business community also attended the discussion.

In closing, Deputy PM Hue expressed his appreciation for ERIA’s expert advice, stating that amidst Viet Nam’s international integration efforts and in the context of current global economic and political conditions, Viet Nam benefits greatly from the assistance from international organisations like ERIA. Prof Nishimura responded by reiterating ERIA’s support for the government of Viet Nam.
ERIA Holds Workshop to Discuss a Better Implementation of the Non-Tariff Measures

ASEAN needs to create a structured mechanism to manage the trade barriers created from the implementation of non-tariff measures (NTMs) in the region, said Izuru Kobayashi, Chief Operating Officer of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) during the workshop Deepening Economic Integration through Better Understanding and Better Implementation of the Non-Tariff Measures, which was held in Jakarta on 27 July 2017.

Although the number of tariffs has significantly decreased in recent years, the number of NTMs have been continuously rising, causing additional barriers to trade in the region and the slowdown of ASEAN economic integration.

In order to assist ASEAN Member States (AMS) in dealing with this problem, the ASEAN national team 1.5 track, ERIA, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), have completed the ASEAN NTM database, which is now available on http://asean.i-tip.org. The database is a platform where stakeholders in AMS can identify the list of NTMs in exporting or importing certain products to other ASEAN countries.

According to ERIA Senior Policy Fellow Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, AMS can use the database to identify ways to enhance transparency in trade, and to make it easier for traders and companies to do business in ASEAN.

‘If ASEAN can streamline NTMs, it would be the first region to do so. It is very ambitious, but it is worth trying. ERIA will give its utmost support for this,’ said Dr Rebecca.

Demand for environmentally friendly products that guarantee customers’ safety is driving the increasing numbers of NTMs, explained Dr Ralf Peters, the Chief of Trade Information Section from UNCTAD. But this becomes a problem when businesses, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs), decide not to trade due to their inability to fulfil the requirements under certain NTMs. In other words, good intentions (environmental protection and consumer safety) result in an unintended consequence: blocking trade.

ERIA Senior Economist Dr Lili Yan Ing showed how three issues underlie this problem: (1) the lack of transparency and information about NTMs, (2) the lack of knowledge regarding policy incentives and ways to design market-based regulations, and (3) the lack of coordination between agencies/ministries within and between ASEAN countries.

Dr Ing quoted the former Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Pascal Lamy’s introduction of the WTO’s report on NTMs in which he stated that the NTMs ‘are moving from protection [of domestic producers] to precaution.’ She stated that ‘unlike tariffs, NTMs could play a role of check and balance for the quality of goods.’ She then reminded the participants that their tasks are not to eliminate NTMs, but to design good NTMs that can be well implemented in the future.

Dr Peters elaborated that although evidence suggests that NTMs are a significant trade barrier, eliminating NTMs is not an option since a majority
RCEP should be established now because it could be an important vehicle for Asian economies to take the lead for its development agenda in the medium-term amidst the current global political and economic condition.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) should be established now because it could be an important vehicle for Asian economies to take the lead for its development agenda in the medium-term amidst the current global political and economic condition, said the Research Institutes Network (RIN) of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in its 6th Statement. The statement was issued based on the discussion held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 7 March 2017.

The RIN consists of leading research institutes from 16 East Asia Summit countries which supports ERIA’s research activity by providing ERIA with country information and research findings from individual countries, as well as giving advice to ERIA’s research themes and policy recommendations. Dr Hank Lim Giok-Hay from the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) served as the Chair of RIN.

The workshop also includes a session where the participants discussed the challenges faced by every country when dealing with NTMs, as well as the possible solutions at the national and regional levels. All participants agreed that political willingness and support are important factors to ensure better implementation of NTMs.

In her closing remarks, Dr Rebecca stated that the result of the workshop will be conveyed to the ASEAN Secretariat as well as to the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HTLF-EI) Meeting which will be held in the coming months.
ERIA Holds Ninth AAC Meeting in Jakarta

Studies conducted by ERIA to support ASEAN integration will become even more important in the coming years, as ASEAN plays an increasingly critical role in a changing world.

This is one of the key messages coming from the Ninth ERIA Academic Advisory Council (AAC) meeting held in Jakarta on 10 July 2017.

Dr Hank Lim Gok-Hay, Chairperson of the AAC and the Senior Research Fellow of Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), welcomed AAC members and ERIA researchers to the meeting with short opening remarks.

Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, President of ERIA, delivered opening remarks which highlighted how ERIA has contributed to ASEAN integration though its activities during fiscal year 2016. He described the expansion of ERIA’s research into health and agriculture, as well as the extension of ERIA’s regional coverage into Europe with the Asia–Europe Connectivity Vision 2025: Challenges and Opportunities and into Africa with the Vision Document for the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor. Prof Nishimura also highlighted the growth of ERIA’s media coverage with ‘major newspapers of each ASEAN Member State publishing an article or opinion editorial of an ERIA researcher at least once a week.’

Prof Nishimura also provided an overview of current projects including ASEAN @ 50 anniversary activities which include a five volume commemorative publication that shares the perspectives of key people who have been involved in the making of ASEAN, a region-wide survey of ASEAN peoples, and the analytical insights, perspectives and reflections of eminent persons on the evolution and future of ASEAN.

ERIA Chief Operating Officer Izuru Kobayashi delivered a presentation on the direction of ERIA work plan for the 2017 fiscal year and beyond. He stated that ERIA has established the Policy Design Department headed by Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria (the former Secretary General of Malaysia’s Ministry of International Trade and Industry) and the Department has been getting many requests from ERIA member countries. He echoed Prof Nishimura’s statement that ERIA has been expanding its policy coverage in the hopes that the move would be beneficial for the region.

Afterwards, Chief Economist Prof Fukunari Kimura and Senior Energy Economist Dr Venkatachalam Anbumozhi presented the research projects that would be conducted in the coming year under ERIA’s three pillars of research and energy-related research.

The AAC recognized the value and quality of ERIA research and highlighted the importance of its findings to be addressed to policy makers as the global landscape surrounding free trade and global integration is facing new challenges. The Council further discussed the recent updates on TPP 11, RCEP, the Belt and Road Initiatives, as well as ERIA’s contributions to these processes. Council members also discussed the prospect of conducting research on emerging issues such as soft connectivity, e-commerce, renewable energy, and aging society.
In his closing remarks, Prof Nishimura thanked the AAC members for their insightful instructions and recommendations and emphasized that ERIA will continue to strengthen the bridge between academic research and policy making, as well as between researchers and policy makers of each East Asia Summit member. ’ERIA is a common asset for the region which will support the realization of a “global ASEAN”, an ASEAN which plays a signification role in implementing regional economic integration and in setting a standard to other regions’, he stated.

Dr Hank Lim closed the meeting by congratulating Professor Nishimura, the AAC Members, ERIA advisors, researchers, and staff for their great works and achievements. He emphasized that the AAC will continue to support ERIA in strengthening and expanding its network in order to ensure that the organisation can continue to provide concrete contributions to the region.

The AAC is composed of internationally-renowned scholars and experts from members of the ERIA member states. The council, which meets annually, provides advice on ERIA’s various research activities.

Government Officials Participate in Study on Distributional Effects of Disaster and Food Security

In a region prone to natural disasters and where the potential impact of climate change on agriculture is high, governments are starting to pay serious attention to the issue of future food security.

Responding to these challenges, ERIA has initiated a study, ’Distributional Effects of Disasters and Climate Change on Food Security in ASEAN’. The objective is to understand the effects disasters and climate change will have on food security for nations in the region, and identify actions needed to be taken by policy makers to mitigate the risks by adjusting key planning instruments and developing other adaptive measures. ERIA’s study is being led by ERIA Senior Economist, Dr Venkatachalam Anbumozhi.

At the technical workshop for this study held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 17 July, 11 papers were presented on various topics held around three themes:

- Estimation of the overall damage and losses on food production and distribution due to disasters and climate change
- Identification and assessment of strategies for resilience and food security
- Necessary conditions for developing adaptable road maps

The technical papers for the study are being written by academics and senior officials from international organisations in the region. As it is critical to ensure government officials are fully aware and engaged in discussions on these issue, through ERIA’s Capacity Building Programme, officials from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar and Viet Nam also participated. In addition to acting as discussants for each paper presented, their contributions to the discussions...
allowed for a rich mix of academic, practical and policy oriented approaches to the study.

Also participating in the event were representatives from the UN Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA) and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI). The ERIA workshop is being held back to back with one organised by MARDI and CAPSA on agricultural resilience to support peer learning.

ERIA Special Advisor Discusses Resilience and Cultural Sensitivity in OECD Forum

Prof Akiko Yamanaka, Special Advisor to the President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) attended the OECD Forum 2017 held in Paris on 6 to 7 June 2017, where she speaks in a panel discussion Bridging Divides: Unconscious Gender Bias.

The scene for the panel session, which discussed unconscious gender biases that are present everywhere from government ministries to children’s toys, was set by HRH Crown Princess Mary of Denmark. Annette Young, the host of The 51% on France 24 Television, a show about women issues from around the world, moderated the session.

Prof Yamanaka talked about the forms of resilience that has been growing from the culture and history of women’s lives in Japan. She highlighted the fact that women always struggle with natural disasters or man-made disasters, and women’s power always contributes to the reconstruction phase in the aftermath of disasters with a tenacious spirit, called ‘resilience’.

She also pointed out about cultural sensitivity, saying that ‘Equality does not mean you do the same things. We must recognise that region, history, culture, and geographical condition in each country affect and change the meaning of equality. That is why balance is very important - not just at the national level, the global level, but also personal level.’

‘I believe it is important to recognise that the 21st century is the age of balance. The struggle for balance is being waged on an international level. We have to cooperate and work together for assistance in providing education, life lines, and even infrastructure support that is required simply from the human security point of view, regardless of any difference in race, religion, color of skin, or nationality,’ she concluded.

During her stay in Europe, she also gave a lecture at Cambridge University entitled ‘Japan and North-East Asia: Toward More Stable and Peaceful Region’ and had several meetings with important dignitaries.
Publications

Summary of ERIA Research Projects 2016 - 2017

Edited by Lydia Ruddy and Tyagita Silka Hapsari

The Summary of ERIA Research Projects 2016-2017 provides an overview of both new and ongoing projects that ERIA researchers will undertake in the coming year.

ASEAN @ 50 Volume 2:
Voice of ASEAN: What Does ASEAN mean to ASEAN People?

Edited by Ponciano Intal Jr and Lydia Ruddy

ASEAN has provided a platform for continuous discussion between leaders, which has helped the region address challenges and adapt to constantly changing circumstances. But what do the people of ASEAN think about ASEAN? What are their hopes and expectations for ASEAN as a region? Are they aware of how ASEAN institutions work on their behalf? And are ASEAN programmes and initiatives addressing their key concerns? To address these questions, this book presents and discusses the results of an ASEAN-wide public opinion conducted in 2016 by ERIA and research partners based in each of the 10 ASEAN Member States. A total of 2,322 respondents from selected sectors participated in the survey. The findings indicate optimism about the region’s future and the potential for ASEAN as an institution, providing key insights that will be of interest to policymakers, academics, and the media - indeed anyone interested in Southeast Asia today.

ASEAN @ 50 Volume 4:
Building ASEAN Community: Political–Security and Socio-cultural Reflections

Edited by Aileen Baviera and Larry Maramis

ASEAN has gradually built, on the basis of both shared interests and common principles and norms, various practices and mechanisms that helped prevent conflict among its members and allowed it to play an autonomous role in shaping the regional security architecture. Overcoming the member states’ preoccupation with their own national concerns to give way to advocacy of collective interests has remained difficult, but progress is being made. Part A of this volume looks at the processes and dynamics, challenges, and opportunities of ASEAN political-security cooperation as part of the ASEAN community-building project.

The ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Vision 2025 is a powerful statement, reinforced by an ASCC Blueprint 2025 designed to engage and benefit its peoples, with purposeful actions and outcomes that are inclusive, sustainable, resilient, and dynamic. Part B examines the ASCC’s progress and explores the ASCC’s newest role in empowering its people, stakeholders, and institutions as it leverages issues such as social technology, faces sustainable and resilient development pathways, and designs interactive processes and services that secure regional social integration based on shared cultural values.
Upcoming Events

**Book Dissemination: Production Networks in Southeast Asia**
Date: 21 August 2017
Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

**Public Symposium on ‘Building ASEAN: Socio-Cultural Community and National Building’**
Date: 24 August 2017
Venue: Davao, Philippines

**ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium on Financing the Implementation of the SDGs in ASEAN**
Date: 21-22 August 2017
Venue: Chiang Rai, Thailand

**Public Symposium on ‘ASEAN Economic Community and East Asia Integration and Nation Building’**
Date: 21 September 2017
Venue: Manila, Philippines

**The 1st Working Group Meeting for Myanmar Energy Statistic**
Date: 21-25 August 2017
Venue: Myanmar

**The High Level Forum on ASEAN @ 50**
Date: 19 October 2017
Venue: Manila, Philippines