

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



6th ERIA Governing Board Meeting

May 4th, 2013
Indonesia

The 6th ERIA Governing Board Meeting was held at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta. The meeting endorsed the ongoing and pipeline activities of ERIA which focused on economic integration and connectivity in ASEAN and East Asia. The meeting was chaired by Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam. During the meeting, the ERIA Governing Board also agreed to reappoint Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura for another five-year term as ERIA Executive Director.



10th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting

August 19th, 2013
Brunei Darussalam

In his presentation titled "Towards Informed Regulatory Conversations and Improved Regulatory Coherence in ASEAN: Logistics Sector and Trade Facilitation" which is based on ERIA's study under the AEC Scorecard Project Phase 3, Prof. Nishimura urged ASEAN leaders to look into the regulatory burdens and regulatory improvement in a concerted manner and to make use of the improved regulatory environment as a competitiveness tool for the region. .



EAS Economic Ministers Meeting

August 21st, 2013
Brunei Darussalam

Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura made a presentation to the Ministers on ERIA's activities and some ideas on a new development model for East Asia. He emphasised upon the need of having a proper economic policy regime in the region which includes enhancing the human capital and making industrial agglomerations efficient. Prof. Nishimura also encouraged the Ministers to discuss how the new development model can be realised in the region through active cooperation and coordination.



2nd ERIA Editors Roundtable on "Challenges Ahead: AEC 2015 and Beyond"

September 11th, 2013
Brunei Darussalam

ERIA organised its 2nd Editors Roundtable after the first one held in November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The 2nd roundtable was special in terms of the number of media representatives, editors, policymakers and experts participating. The roundtable aimed to increase awareness and understanding among journalists from EAS member countries on key issues affecting the ASEAN Community. It also discussed matters related to the progress report of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and the prospect of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).



Symposium on "SME Development and Innovation towards a 'People-Centred' ASEAN Community"

September 14th, 2013
Brunei Darussalam

Universiti Brunei Darussalam, with ERIA and Harvard University, organised the symposium on "SME Development and Innovation towards a 'People-Centred' ASEAN Community". The symposium discussed and articulated key elements in developing competitive ASEAN SMEs such as accelerating the ASEAN economic community building, ensuring an equitable, people-centred, stable and robust growth of ASEAN, and

enhancing innovation and technology capability. The symposium also came up with possible recommendations in supporting the role of SMEs towards the realisation of the AEC.



7th East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting

*September 26th, 2013
Indonesia*

The 7th East Asia Summit (EAS) Energy Ministers Meeting (EMM) was held in Bali and chaired by Energy and Mineral Resources Minister of Indonesia, H.E Jero Wacik, and co-chaired by Japan State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, H.E Kazuyoshi Akaba. During the meeting, Prof. Nishimura presented the key findings and policy implications of the research studies tasked out by the 6th EAS EMM to ERIA and also introduced the new research on energy being done by ERIA.



Launch of Southeast Asia Energy Outlook

*October 2nd, 2013
Thailand*

ERIA's joint study and publication with the International Energy Agency (IEA) titled "Southeast Asia Energy Outlook" was formally launched in Bangkok, with H.E. Dr. Wichianchot Sukhotrat, Vice Minister of Energy of Thailand, presiding over the ceremony in the presence of H.E Maria van der Hoeven, Executive Director of IEA, and ERIA Executive Director, Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura. In his remarks, Prof. Nishimura expressed ERIA's commitment to support energy activities and to continue its collaboration with the IEA and ASEAN countries on the study of energy issues.



23rd ASEAN Summit and 8th East Asia Summit

*October 9th – 10th, 2013
Brunei Darussalam*

The Outcomes and Recommendations of the Universiti of Brunei – ERIA – Harvard Symposium that was held earlier on September 14 were distributed in this 8th East Asia Summit (EAS). In addition, ERIA's annual review of CADP (Comprehensive Asia Development Plan) was also distributed. The leaders attending the 8th EAS called on ERIA to continue its extensive research activities to promote economic integration in ASEAN and East Asia.



ERIA Executive Capacity Building Program: Executive Leaders' Summit in 2013

*October 21st – 25th, 2013
Thailand*

Together with the Ministry of Commerce of Thailand, ERIA organised the Executive Capacity Building Program: Executive Leaders' Summit 2013 which was designed for government officials from the CLMV countries and Thailand at the level of Deputy Director General who would subsequently become major players in their respective countries as senior officials in the areas of trade and commerce, transportation and development planning. The capacity building activity

started with a seminar on "Building Robust, Efficient and Value Creating Connectivity for Regional Development" in Bangkok (10/21) and continued with a field trip and Executive Workshop in Chiang Mai (10/22 – 10/23) and finally, with a field trip to Chiang Rai (10/24 – 10/25).



ASEAN RISING Workshops

*16, 19, 23 & 26 November 2013,
Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar & the Philippines*

The ASEAN Rising: Moving ASEAN and AEC Forward Beyond 2015 was presented in a series of workshops in four major cities in ASEAN: Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Yangon and Manila. Dr. Ponciano Intal, Jr., ERIA Senior Researcher and lead researcher of the study, said that while the title of the study bespeaks of optimism and ambition, the study nonetheless recognizes the substantial challenges ahead which require concerted efforts to address them. In the end, a concerted effort among all the member states and stakeholders is needed to sustain the momentum of moving towards and beyond AEC 2015.



ERIA Capacity Building Seminars

*November 2013
CLMV Countries*

ERIA, in cooperation with concerned ministries and research institutions in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Myanmar, conducted capacity building seminars on topics relating to the RCEP, SME, Competition Law, Consumer Protection and IPR in Phnom Penh, Vientiane, Hanoi and Nay Pyi Taw in the month of November 2013. The capacity building seminars aimed to strengthen the understanding of the participants on concepts and issues related to the regional economic integration process as their countries prepare for the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015 and beyond.



9th WTO Ministerial Conference and Bali Trade and Development Symposium

*December 3rd – 5th, 2013
Indonesia*

ERIA hosted one session entitled East Asian Economic Integration and the WTO in the Bali Trade and Development Symposium organised by the International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). The discussions revolved around the book titled *The Road to Bali: ERIA Perspectives on the WTO Ministerial and Asian Integration* published by ERIA. ERIA Chief Economist Prof. Fukunari Kimura

moderated the session with speakers from ERIA and other institutions. The session aimed to provide a new perspective on regional and multilateral trading system based on the evolving production networks in the East Asia region.



Japanese Vice Minister Visits ERIA

*22 January 2014
Indonesia*

H.E. Mr. Takamori Yoshikawa, Senior Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, visited the ERIA office on 22 January 2014. The Vice-Minister has previously served as Secretary-General of the Parliamentary League for ERIA and has been one of the strong supporters of ERIA since its establishment. In his visit, H.E Yoshikawa noted the development and growth of the organisation since it opened in 2008.



Meeting with Secretary-General of OECD

*January 31st, 2014
France*

Meeting with the Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France, Prof. Nishimura extended his thanks and appreciation to OECD for its support to ERIA, especially on the development of the ASEAN SME Policy Index. During the meeting, ERIA and OECD agreed to work closely as partners and reinforce each other's efforts in the Southeast Asian region, especially in view of OECD's setting up of its Southeast Asia Regional Programme.



ERIA Europe Roadshow

*January 24th – February 2nd, 2014
Europe*

With the objective of broadening ERIA's reach across the Asian continent and introducing ERIA's work and activities, Prof. Nishimura visited several development organisations and academics/think tanks in Europe to discuss about ERIA's various initiatives as well as global economic and trade issues. Amongst the organisations visited were the International Energy Agency in Paris (with the Executive Director, Ms. Maria van der Hoeven), World Trade Institute in Switzerland (with Dr. Thomas Cottier), Chatham House in London (with the Director, Dr. Robin Niblett), and the Centre for Trade and Economic Integration (CTEI) in Geneva (with the Director, Prof. Richard Baldwin).



BNERI International Annual Conference

March 25th, 2014
Brunei Darussalam

Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura, with the ERIA Energy Economists, attended the *Future Secure and Sustainable Energy Landscape for Brunei*. Prof. Nishimura delivered the keynote address wherein he presented an overview of the energy landscape in the EAS region and the studies being implemented by ERIA such as the Energy Outlook, Energy Saving Potential, Strategic Use of Coal, Energy Market Integration in ASEAN and East Asia, among others.



Expert Seminar on the Introduction of the ASEAN SME Policy Index in Bali

March 25th, 2014
Indonesia

During the Expert Seminar session of the OECD Southeast Asia Regional forum held in Bali, the ASEAN SME Policy Index was introduced. The joint ERIA-OECD publication on the Index compares SME policy performance across the 10 ASEAN member countries and recommends reform priorities to support governments' efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community. The ASEAN SME Policy Index is an output of the project coordinated by ERIA

Economist Dr. Sothea Oum in close coordination with the ASEAN SME Agencies Working Group, the ASEAN Secretariat and governments of the AMSs. Senior Economist Antonio Fanelli and Policy Analyst Anita Richter from OECD served as external advisors of the project.



OECD Southeast Asia Regional Forum

March 26th, 2014
Indonesia

Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura moderated the high-level panel of the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Forum on Regional Competitiveness for Sustained Growth in Bali. The forum brought together high officials and experts from Southeast Asia and OECD countries. The forum was opened by Indonesian Finance Minister Muhammad Chatib Basri and H.E. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD.