



Universiti Brunei Darussalam-ERIA-Harvard Symposium “SME Development and Innovation towards a ‘People-Centred’ ASEAN Community”

Venue: Senate Room, Chancellor Hall, Universiti Brunei Darussalam
Date: 14th September 2013

Background Note and Program

At the 22nd ASEAN Summit, the leaders recognised that foster small and medium enterprises (SMEs) is critical to create job opportunities and promote social safety nets, in line with the goal to narrowing development gaps in the region. They encouraged ASEAN Member States (AMSs) and business organisations to look into ways to provide a strategic regional platform for long-term SME development cooperation, to empower SMEs, through training, advisory and financial support, to take advantage of ASEAN integration efforts.

This proposal for a one-day Symposium meant to discuss and articulate to the public a number of key issues on “SME Development and Innovation towards a People-Centred ASEAN Community”, moving the ASEAN Community forward into 2015 and beyond, addressing the following key elements:

- (1) accelerating ASEAN economic community building
- (2) ensuring an equitable, people-centred, stable and robust growth of ASEAN
- (3) enhancing innovation and technology capability toward a competitive ASEAN SMEs

The ideas, insights, and recommendations from the presentations and discussions in the Symposium will be consolidated into a document entitled, “SME Development and Innovation towards a People-Centred ASEAN Community” to form part of the policy platform in response to the ASEAN aspiration for “Our People, Our Future Together”, with an emphasis on the role of people in ASEAN’s community building efforts and the future of ASEAN beyond 2015.

It is hoped that the deliberation of the Symposium could be presented formally to the ASEAN Heads of State by the ASEAN Secretary General and the Executive Director of ERIA during the ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2013.

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:10 **Opening Remarks:** Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura, Executive Director, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)
- 09:10 – 09:20 **Welcoming Speech:** Dato Vice Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (TBC)
- 09:20 – 09:50 **Keynote Speech: “Building ASEAN Communities: Challenges and Opportunities”**
H.E. Le Luong Minh, the Secretary-General of ASEAN
- 09:50 – 10:30 Photo Session followed by Coffee Break

Session 1: Accelerating the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015

Moderator: Dr Joyce Teo Siew Yean, Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics (FBEPS), Director, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (TBC)

- 10:30 – 11:00 Presentation:
- “ASEAN Economic Community by 2015: Expectations and Perspectives”
, ASEAN SEOM Chair 2013
- 11:00 - 11:30 “ASEAN Beyond 2015: Towards Sustained High and Equitable Growth”
Dr. Ponciano S. Intal, Senior Researcher, ERIA
- 11:30 – 12:00 Open Forum
- 12:00 – 13:00 LUNCH
- 13:00 – 14:00 Panel Discussion on “How to make ASEAN a People-centred Community?”
- Moderator:* Dr. Ponciano S. Intal, Senior Researcher, ERIA
- Main issues for Panelists:
- *How to Make Regional Integration a New Development Model?* Prof. Shandre M Thangavelu, Department of Economics, the National University of Singapore
 - *ASEAN Economic Integration: Miracle and Middle Income Trap*, Dr. Donghyun Park, Principal Economist, Asian Development Bank
 - *Accelerating Industrialization in Lower Income ASEAN Economies and Regions*, Dr. Vo Tri Thanh, Vice President, Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), Viet Nam
- 14:00 – 14:30 Open Forum
- 14:30 – 14:45 Coffee Break

Session 2: SME Development and Innovation towards a People-Centred ASEAN Community

Moderator: Prof. Shujiro Urata, Waseda University, and Senior Research Advisor to the Executive Director of ERIA

14:45 – 15:15 Presentation: **“How ASEAN Can be Competitive and Innovative Community in Asian Century”**, Prof. Dennis Encarnation, Senior Fellow, Harvard Asia Center, Harvard University

15:15 – 16:15 Panel Discussion on **“SME Development and Innovation”**

Main issues for Panelists:

- *Strengthening ASEAN SMEs to Benefit from AEC*, H.E. I Wayan Dipta, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of SME and Cooperatives of the Republic of Indonesia
- *Best Practices for SMEs Innovation – Japanese Experiences*, Prof. Ryozo Hayashi Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo, and Director, Meiji Institute for Global Affairs, Meiji University
- *ASEAN SME Policy Index: Findings and Recommendation for Brunei Darussalam*, Mr. Shazali Sulaiman, Resident Partner of KPMG, Chairman, the Brunei Darussalam International Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Adjunct Associate Professor, Universiti Brunei Darussalam

16:15 – 16:45 Open Forum

16:45 – 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 – 17:15 Presentation of the Summary of Symposium Conclusions and Recommendations, Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura, Executive Director, ERIA

17:15 – 17: 25 Concluding Remark: H.E. Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, the Minister of Education (TBC)

17:25 – 17: 35 Closing Remark: Dr. Jon Mills, Harvard University Asia Center, Harvard University

18:30 – 20: 00 Dinner Reception for Invited Speakers and Panelists