



**Economic Research Institute  
for ASEAN and East Asia**

## **Viet Nam upgrades AEC capacity**



**Hanoi—12 August 2014:** Over 100 Vietnamese representatives from concerned ministries, private sectors and think-tanks attend the one-day symposium to promote their overall capacity to fulfill the economic integration under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).

In his welcoming remark, H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade, said that Viet Nam gives a top priority to the AEC. "Viet Nam needs to work more to improve performance related to AEC and beyond 2015," he said.

During the first session on the preparation of the AEC 2015 and beyond, Dr. Ponciano S. Intal, ERIA Senior Researcher, said that ASEAN has done well in economic integration and poverty eradication. He said new challenges awaits all ASEAN members in their effort to integrate with the regional economy. He highlighted Viet Nam saying that would benefit more for further liberalization and better framework for skilled labor.

Dr. Vo Tri Thanh, Vice President of Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), echoed Dr. Ponciano's assessment but pointed out that Vietnam has adopted a forward looking policy regarding free trade. He added that Vietnam has been forthcoming in engaging trade negotiations with developing countries including Trans Pacific Partnership.

ERIA conducts research on behalf of ASEAN and East Asia on various aspects of economic cooperation and integration within the region. ERIA has been holding a series of symposium also in Lao PDR, Myanmar and Cambodia to improve their capacity to meet the objectives set forth by the AEC.

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