



ASEAN
CAMBODIA 2022
ASEAN A.C.T.:
Addressing Challenges Together



High-Level Forum on RCEP

RCEP 10-Year Anniversary: Reminiscing the Journey of RCEP and Launching of ERIA Book: *Dynamism of East Asia and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): The Framework for Regional Integration*

Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

2-3 November 2022

I. Background

Entered into force in 2022, the RCEP aims to strengthen economic linkages and to enhance trade and investment related activities as well as contribute to minimising development gap among the parties. The RCEP Agreement provides a modern, comprehensive, high-quality, and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement among the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN's FTA partners. RCEP is critical for the pandemic and post-pandemic recovery of East Asia.

The year 2022 highlights the importance of RCEP as the largest global regional and global trading block. RCEP as a 'rule-based' multilateral regional free trade agreement will be important for regional and global pandemic recovery. With the RCEP entering into force in early 2022, it has been 10 years since its inception, making it even more important to commemorate this momentous occasion. The forum combines two key events:

- a. The 10th Anniversary of RCEP initiation: To mark this momentous occasion, it is timely and necessary to indulge in retrospection of RCEP's 10-year journey. The deliberation on the achievements and lessons learned from negotiating and signing of RCEP will culminate the successful implementation of RCEP ahead.
- b. The launching of ERIA's second book on RCEP titled 'Dynamism of East Asia and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): The Framework for Regional Integration'. The book examines and explores the key elements of the agreement as well as discusses the key potential implications of RCEP to the regional integration process.

II. Objectives

This event aims to:

- (i) Reminisce the decade-long journey of RCEP and highlight RCEP achievements and the lessons learned since its negotiation stage as well as explore priority areas to promote the utilization of RCEP;
- (ii) Develop deeper understanding of the key elements of the agreement and highlight the implications of the RCEP to domestic structural transformation and regional integration with the book launch;
- (iii) Enhance the understanding of relevant stakeholders on the significance and opportunities of RCEP Agreement to facilitate greater trade and investment in the region.

III. Event Details

This event will be held on 2-3 November 2022. In the first session, the speakers and panellists will exchange views on the genesis of RCEP as well as the implementation of the RCEP Agreements since its entry into force. This session will consist of a high-level panel and a stakeholders' panel. The second session will include the discussions of key chapters of the RCEP agreement and its implication for domestic economy and regional integration.

The participants in this event may include:

RCEP Leaders and Ministers, RCEP Joint Committee (RJC) and its Subsidiary Bodies, Leading Researchers, Business Councils and Associations, ERIA Researchers, ASEAN Secretariat, and other stakeholders as appropriate. To reach wider audiences, the event may also be live-streamed on Facebook.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

High-Level Forum on RCEP

RCEP 10-Year Anniversary: Reminiscing the Journey of RCEP
and

Launching of ERIA Book:

*Dynamism of East Asia and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP):
The Framework for Regional Integration*

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2-3 November 2022

| 02 NOVEMBER 2022 (DAY 1) | | |
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| Indicative Time (UTC+7) | Duration | Agenda |
| 08:00 – 08:30 | 30" | Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mr. PAN Sorasak Chair of the 54th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Meeting; Minister of Commerce of the Kingdom of Cambodia Keynote Address <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia |
| 08:30 – 08:40 | 10" | Handover Ceremony of ERIA Second RCEP Book and other ERIA Studies <i>"Dynamism of East Asia and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): The Framework for Regional Integration"</i> |
| 08:40 – 09:10 | 30" | Coffee Break |
| 09:10 – 09:20 | 10" | Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Hidetoshi NISHIMURA President of Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia- (ERIA) |

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| <p>09:20 – 10:30</p> | <p>80" (incl. 10" of Q&A)</p> | <p>High-level Panel Discussion on the Genesis of RCEP</p> <p>This session will look back on the stories and journey behind RCEP from the perspective of key officials and stakeholders who were involved in developing and/or negotiations of RCEP. Highlights of discussion could include issues such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the origin of RCEP, (ii) challenges during the course of RCEP negotiations, (iii) opportunities for businesses (including SMEs) and key stakeholders, and (iv) way forward for RCEP in strengthening regional trade architecture (AEC) and multilateral trading system. <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Anna ROBENIOL Advisor to the Secretary-General of ASEAN; Advisor to the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dato LIM Jock Hoi Secretary-General of ASEAN • H.E. Professor Mari Elka PANGESTU (Virtually) Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank; Former Minister of Trade (2004-2011), Republic of Indonesia; Former Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy (2011-2014), Republic of Indonesia • Mr. Iman PAMBAGYO Former Chair of RCEP Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC); Former Director General of International Trade Negotiation, Ministry of Trade, Republic of Indonesia • H.E. Mr. Han-Koo YEO Former Lead of ROK RCEP Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC); Former Minister for Trade (2021-2022), Republic of Korea |
| <p>10:30 – 11:30</p> | <p>60" (incl. 10" of Q&A)</p> | <p>Future of RCEP: Lessons learned from the 10 years of RCEP Journey</p> <p>Reflecting on the lessons learned from RCEP’s decade-long journey, this part will feature a session with stakeholders to unpack findings from recent studies/analyses on RCEP and its potential ahead.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Julia Puspawati TIJAJA Head of Markets and Competitiveness, Prospera <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Shujiro URATA Senior Research Advisor to the President of ERIA |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sanchita BASU-DAS Economist, Asian Development Bank • Mr. Neak Oknha KITH Meng President of the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the East Asia Business Summit • H.E. Mr. Satvinder SINGH Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community |
| 11:30 – 11:40 | 10" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo Session (<i>High-level Panelist + Minister H.E. Mr. PAN Sorasak</i>) |
| 11:40 – 12:00 | 20" | <p>Launch of the ASEAN Tariff Finder A platform to help businesses, particularly MSMEs to access information regarding tariffs in various FTAs.</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Satvinder SINGH Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community |
| 12:00– 13:10 | 70" | Lunch |
| <p>Discussion on ERIA RCEP Book Dynamism of East Asia and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): The Framework for Regional Integration</p> | | |
| 13:10 – 14:40 | 90" (incl. 10" of Q&A) | <p>Panel Session 1: Services Liberalization</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dionisius NARJOKO, ERIA <p>Update on RCEP Services Liberalization: Key Features and Implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ramonette SERAFICA, Philippine Institute for Development Studies • Dr. Intan RAMLI, ERIA <p>Electronic Commerce in RCEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Jane KELSEY, University of Auckland <p>Modern Services in RCEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Christopher FINDLAY, Australian National University • Dr. Xianjia YE, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen • Professor Hein ROELFSEMA, Utrecht University |
| 14:40 – 15:10 | 30" | Coffee Break |

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| <p>15:10 – 16:40</p> | <p>90" (incl. 10" of Q&A)</p> | <p>Panel Session 2: Investment and Trade Facilitation</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. SIM Sokheng, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Kingdom of Cambodia <p>Trade Facilitation in RCEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Wenxiao WANG, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law • Professor Shandre Mugan THANGAVELU, Jeffrey Cheah Institute for Southeast Asia, Sunway University; Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide <p>Issues in Investment Chapter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Henry GAO, Singapore Management University |
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| 03 NOVEMBER 2022 (DAY 2) | | |
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| <p>09:00 – 10:30</p> | <p>90" (incl. 10" of Q&A)</p> | <p>Panel Session 3: RCEP and Production Structure</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dionisius NARJOKO, ERIA <p>RCEP and International Production Networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Fukunari KIMURA, ERIA; Keio University • Professor Mitsuyo ANDO, Keio University • Dr. Kenta YAMANOUCHI, Kagawa University <p>Rules of Origins and International Production Networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Archanun KOHPAIBOON, Thammasat University <p>How Preferential are RCEP Tariffs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kazunobu HAYAKAWA, Institute of Developing Economies |
| <p>10:30 – 11:00</p> | <p>30"</p> | <p>Coffee Break</p> |
| <p>11:00 – 12:00</p> | <p>60" (incl. 10" of Q&A)</p> | <p>Panel Session 4: Behind Border Issues</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. CHAN Sopheap, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Kingdom of Cambodia <p>RCEP: Capacity Building and Impact on SME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Cassey LEE, ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute <p>Trade Remedies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Joseph Wira KOESNAIDI, JWK Law Office • Ms. Yu Yessi LESMANA, JKW Law Office |

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| <p>12:00 – 12:30</p> | <p>30”</p> | <p>Closing Panel Discussion</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Shandre Mugan THANGAVELU, Jeffrey Cheah Institute for Southeast Asia, Sunway University; Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. SIM Sokheng, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Kingdom of Cambodia • H.E. Mr. CHAN Sopheap, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Kingdom of Cambodia • Dr. Dionisius NARJOKO, ERIA |
| <p>12:30 – 14:00</p> | <p>90”</p> | <p>Lunch</p> |