

### **Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura Appointed as President of ERIA**



**Jakarta, May 25, 2018** - The ERIA Governing Board today unanimously reappointed Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura for the third five-year term as President of the Jakarta-based international research organisation.

‘It is a great honour to be named President of this eminent organisation for another five years. As the regions of ASEAN and East Asia grow in global importance, the role of ERIA as a regional research institute has become key in providing high quality research and policy recommendations to the leaders,’ said Nishimura in his acceptance speech.

In their letter of support, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan noted: ‘Since the establishment of ERIA in June 2008, Prof Nishimura had been committed to developing ERIA into an esteemed research institute in this region. With his leadership, ERIA has made a valuable contribution to support ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) for the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015.’ They also praised several other

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accomplishments achieved during his tenure including the Comprehensive Asia Development Plan 2.0, acceleration of RCEP negotiations, the establishment of ASEAN PPP Guidelines and the ASEAN SME Policy Index, as well as ERIA being ranked the 24th best international economic think tank in the world according to the Global Go To Think Tank Ranking.

After graduating from University of Tokyo with a law degree, Nishimura joined the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and assumed numerous positions both inside and outside Japan related to economic cooperation. After joining ERIA in 2008, he became a Visiting Professor at Waseda University, Darma Persada University and a Fellow at Musashino University's Institute of Global Affairs.

Also at the Governing Board meeting, the Governors named a new Chairman of the Board, Atty Adrian S. Cristobal Jr., President of SteelAsia Manufacturing Corporation, Inc., a Filipino owned corporation that manufactures steel products. Previously Atty Cristobal served as Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippines (December 2015- July 2016). He replaces Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN, who served as ERIA Governing Board Chair from June 2012 to December 2017.

### **The current members of ERIA's Governing Board include:**

<b>ASEAN</b>	Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi	Secretary-General of ASEAN
<b>Australia</b>	Mr James Baxter (Acting Governor)	First Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b>	Mr Asrul Adrain Ahmad	Director of Planning, Department of Economic Planning and Development, Prime Minister's Office
<b>Cambodia</b>	H.E. Ros Seilava	Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance; Member of Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC)
<b>China</b>	Prof Zhang Yunling	Professor of International Economics; Academy Member & Director of Academy Division for International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)

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<b>India</b>	Dr Ajit Ranade	Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group
<b>Indonesia</b>	Prof Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana	Professor of Economics, Universitas Padjajaran, Member Indonesian Academy of Sciences and Senior Advisor to the Minister of National Development Planning/Head of BAPPENAS
<b>Japan</b>	Mr Fujio Mitarai	Chairman and CEO, Canon Inc.; Honorary Chairman of Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)
<b>Korea</b>	Mr Tae-Shin Kwon	President, Korea Economic Research Institute (KERI); Former Minister of the Prime Minister's Office; Former Ambassador of Korea to the OECD
<b>Lao PDR</b>	Dr Leeber Leebouapao	Vice President of the National Institute of Economic Research of Lao PDR
<b>Malaysia</b>	Datuk Seri J. Jayasiri	Secretary General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)
<b>Myanmar</b>	H.E. U Set Aung	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Planning and Finance
<b>New Zealand</b>	Mr John Ballingall (Acting Governor)	Deputy Chief Executive, New Zealand Institute of Economic Research
<b>Philippines</b>	H.E Mr Adrian S. Cristobal Jr.	President of SteelAsia Manufacturing Corporation, Inc; Former Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry
<b>Singapore</b>	H.E Ambassador Barry Desker	Distinguished Fellow & Bakrie Professor of Southeast Asia Policy, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University
<b>Thailand</b>	H. E Mr Sakon Varanyuwatana	Vice Minister for Commerce, Ministry of Commerce
<b>Viet Nam</b>	Dr Nguyen Dinh Cung	President, Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM)

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## About ERIA

The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) is an international organisation providing support to the chair of the ASEAN Summit and the East Asia Summit through policy research focusing on three pillars: deepening economic integration, narrowing development gaps, and achieving sustainable development in the region.

Its establishment was formally agreed among 16 heads of government at the Third East Asia Summit in Singapore on 21 November 2007. It works closely with the ASEAN Secretariat, researchers, and research institutes from East Asia to provide intellectual and analytical research and policy recommendations.

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