ASEAN IN 50 YEARS: FORGED, AHEAD, AND TOGETHER?
A REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON ASEAN’S FUTURE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

Wednesday, 3 February 2016

0830 – 0900 Registration
Venue: Foyer, Clarke 2, Level 6

0900 – 0910 Welcoming remarks
Venue: Clarke 2, Level 6

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia

0910 – 1030 Session 1: Mega Trends, Mega Challenges
As ASEAN grapples with shaping its own future against a backdrop of seemingly less predictable developments, it will become increasingly important to identify the sets of drivers that will influence its strategic outlook in the coming decades. What will the region look like in 50 years and what kinds of characteristics will distinguish it? What global mega trends and challenges will impact the region? How will changing demographics impact ASEAN? How are ASEAN Member States (AMS) likely to collaborate and cooperate in a range of different imagined environments?

Thought-starters:

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia

Dato' Dr Muthiah Alagappa
Visiting Professor
Asia-Europe Institute
University Malaya
Malaysia

Amb Jojie Samuel
Director General
ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat
Malaysia
1030 – 1045 Group photograph  
*Venue: Foyer, Clarke 2, Level 6*

1045 – 1100 Refreshments  
*Venue: Foyer, Clarke 2, Level 6*

1100 – 1230 **Session 2: ASEAN and World Order: The Next 50 Years**  
Despite speculation about the emerging world order (G2, G0, etc.), what seems certain is that the United States, China, Russia, India, and others will remain active power players. The rapid and increasingly influential rise of non-state actors, however, puts to question long-held assumptions about state dominance, sovereignty, and self-determination. How will major power contestations around the world and in the region affect ASEAN? Will national interests continue to be prioritized, resulting in a politically-fragmented ASEAN? Will a people-centered and integrated ASEAN effectively reduce the significance of the state? Will ASEAN remain united, central, and relevant in managing evolving state and non-state dynamics?

*Thought-starters:*

Dr Vannarith Chheang  
Co-Founder and Chairman  
Cambodian Institute for Strategic Studies

HE Mr Kim Young-sun  
Secretary General  
ASEAN-Korea Centre  
Republic of Korea

Dr Satu Limaye  
Director  
East-West Center Washington  
USA

1230 – 1400 Luncheon Address by  
Deputy Secretary-General  
ASEAN

Introduced by  
Amb Yong Chantalangsy  
Director-General  
Institute of Foreign Affairs  
Laos

*Venue: Pool Bar and Grill, Level 8  
*Le Meridien Kuala Lumpur*
Session 3: ASEAN Economic Integration in 50 Years

ASEAN’s road to economic integration began with modest cooperative programmes to build confidence among AMS. The ASEAN Free Trade Area in 1992 paved the way for the region to become the second most progressive regional grouping after the European Union. What could ASEAN’s next economic phase look like in 50 years? With trade and investment liberalization, global outsourcing, and disruptive technologies, can economic regionalism persist? What growth opportunities will there be for the region’s SMEs and MNCs?

Thought-starters:

Dato’ Steven Wong
Deputy Chief Executive
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia

Mr Gita Wirjawan
Chairman, Ancora Group
Former Minister of Trade
Indonesia

Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura
President
Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)
Indonesia

Refreshments

Venue: Foyer, Clarke 2, Level 6

Session 4: ASEAN’s Social Trajectories: Unity, Disunity, or Indifference Amidst Diversity?

ASEAN’s success story so far has been remarkable given its diversity and heterogeneity. In the longer term future, balancing the need for mutual respect towards national and cultural identities with the need for greater sociocultural cooperation will be a major challenge. How will the region continue to strengthen integration and uphold a plurality of values? Will integration efforts impose fissures on the content and contours of a still uncertain ASEAN identity? How will ASEAN realize its rhetoric of being people-centred and people-oriented?

Thought-starters:

Amb Delia Domingo-Albert
Former Foreign Minister
Philippines
Ms Yuyun Wahyuningrum  
Senior Advisor on ASEAN and Human Rights  
Human Rights Working Group  
Indonesia

Ms Moe Thuzar  
Fellow and Lead Researcher (Socio-Cultural), ASEAN Studies Centre  
ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute  
Singapore

1900  
Dinner  

Venue:  
Rebung Restaurant  
Taman Botani Perdana  
Kuala Lumpur

Thursday, 4 February

0900 – 1030  
Synthesis: Cross-cutting issues for ASEAN in the next 50 years  
This session will build on the earlier four sessions of the preceding day by considering issues that impact all three ASEAN sub-communities. This will be a deep-dive discussion that will examine how, if current trends continue, ASEAN will increasingly grapple with people flows, natural resources scarcity, climate change, transboundary pollution, rapid urbanization, and technological breakthroughs. These multiple challenges will require polycentric institutional arrangements at various levels of governance. How will these issues impact the political and security, economic, and socio-cultural constitution of ASEAN in 50 years? Will ASEAN be prepared to reform institutionally, if necessary, to deal with these emerging challenges? Will the ASEAN way of consensus and non-interference still hold?

Thought-starters:

Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony  
Associate Professor and Head  
Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies  
S Rajaratnam School of International Studies  
Nanyang Technological University  
Singapore

Prof Lorraine Elliott  
ANU Public Policy Fellow  
College of Asia and the Pacific  
Australian National University
1030 – 1100
Refreshments
Venue: Foyer, Clarke 2, Level 6

1100 – 1230

**Projection: A Centennial ASEAN**
While the ASEAN Vision 2025 outlines the course for ASEAN over the next 10 years, what will an ASEAN Community look like in another 50 years? This session will emphasize a studied forecast of a centennial ASEAN by analyzing the trajectory of issues, prospects, and challenges outlined in previous sessions. A continuation of the preceding session, the aim of this session will be to (i) streamline synthesized thoughts and recommendations; and (ii) extrapolate them for an assessment of ASEAN in the next 50 years. The output expected will be a publication released in time for the commemoration of ASEAN’s 50 years of existence in 2017.

*Thought-starters:*

Dr Pranee Thiparat  
Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations  
Chulalongkorn University  
Thailand

Dr Aries Arugay  
Executive Director  
Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS)  
Philippines

1230 – 1300
Wrap up and concluding remarks

1300
Lunch
Venue: Latest Recipe, Level 5