I Indochina Seminar on Promoting Women’s Participation in Economic Development

This seminar, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 22–24 January 1996, was jointly sponsored by UN/ESCAP and the Vietnam Women’s Union (V.W.U.), Hanoi. The theme of the seminar was to examine opportunities and challenges of Indochinese women in this period of economic reform (and political reform in Cambodia). In addition, it aimed at creating an action plan for women’s economic development issues, which would guide international donors in project priorities. The programme of the seminar was as follows:

22 January 1996

Opening ceremony
— Opening speech by Her Excellency Mme Truong My Hoa—President of V.W.U.
— Speech by His Excellency Mr Do Muoi, General Secretary of Viet Nam Communist Party
— Speech by Her Excellency Madam Nguyen Thi Binh, Vice President of State
— Speech by His Excellency Mr Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to Viet Nam
— Speech by Ms Thelma Kay, Chief, Women in Development Section, ESCAP
— Speech by the representative of UNDP Hanoi
— Speech by Ms Rima Salah, Representative of UNICEF

Chairperson
His Excellency Mr Tran Xuan Nhi, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Education

Key note speech
Promoting women’s economic participation in transitional economy
Dr Valentine Moghadam, Senior Researcher WIDER, United Nations University, Finland

Speech by a representative of Lao’s Government
Speech by a representative of Cambodia Government
Speech by Vice Minister of Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam

Chairperson
Ms Thelma Kay, ESCAP
Introduction of the WID initiative of the Japanese Government
Ms Yoko Suzuki, WID Expert, JICA

Panel Forum:
• Women’s worker (Dr Moghadam)
• Skill training (Dr Carolyn Gates, Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore)
• Access to credit and financial sources (Mr Aris Alip-CASHPOR, Philippines)
• Entrepreneurship (Ms Claudine Van Remoortere, Project Coordinator, UNIDO, Viet Nam)
Introduction of a draft Plan of Action
Ms Hiroko Hashimoto, Social Affairs Officer, WID Section, ESCAP

23 January 1996
Group discussion (divided into four groups)
Chairpersons of group discussion: one each from Cambodia and Lao PDR and two from Viet Nam

Group discussion
Presentation of the group discussion
Chairperson
Cambodian Representative

Secretariat and resource persons: Reformulation of a draft plan of action.

24 January 1996
Adoption of the plan of action
Chairperson
Mme Khampet, Lao PDR

Closing ceremony
Her Excellency Mme Truong My Hoa-President of V.W.U
Ms Thelma Kay, ESCAP

II Seminar on Singapore and Emerging Asian Markets: Economic Outlook and Investment Opportunities

This seminar, organized by the National University of Singapore Econometric Studies Unit, Department of Economics and Statistics, was held on 9 February 1996 in Singapore. The objective of this seminar was to provide concrete indicators of economic outlook and investment opportunities in the region for the next year. Fruitful discussions emerged from this day-long seminar, which was attended by representatives of business, academia and media. The programme of the seminar was as follows:

Welcome Address
Assoc. Prof. Basant K. Kapur
Head, Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore

The Singapore Economy: Quarterly and Annual Outlook
Outlook and Annual Forecast
Drs, Tan Lin Yeok, Ng Hock Guan, and David Owyong

Quarterly GDP Forecasts
Dr Tilak Abeyesinghe

China
Economic Outlook
Mr Joe Zhang, Associate Director & Economist, W. I. Carr (Far East), Hong Kong

Investment Opportunities
Mr Allen Ng, Head, China Equities Research, SBC Warburg (Shanghai)

India
Economic Outlook
Assoc. Prof. Bhanoji Rao,
Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore

Investment Opportunities
Mr K. Sadashiv, Resident Representative, Exim Bank of India (Singapore)

Vietnam
Economic Outlook
Dr Carolyn Gates, Fellow,
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Investment Opportunities
Dr Nick Freeman, Research Fellow,
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, (formerly Baring Securities, Vietnam)
Closing Remarks
Dr Hui Weng Tat, Co-ordinator, Econometric Studies Unit, Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore


The congress, jointly sponsored by International Herald Tribune and Singapore Trade Development Board, was held in Singapore from 24–25 April 1996. About 700 government officials, including ministers, businessmen, academics and media people actively participated in the meeting. The main focus was on the future of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the future direction of international trade. The programme of the above congress was as follows:

Wednesday, 24 April 1996

Moderators
Richard McClean, Chief Executive and Publisher, International Herald Tribune, France
Barry Desker, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Trade Development Board

Keynote Address: Global Trade in the 21st Century: Prospects and Issues
Goh Chok Tong, Prime Minister, Singapore

Implications for Trade in a Borderless World
Renato Ruggiero, Director-General, WTO

Panel Discussion
Debating the Merits of Free Trade
Discussion Chair
Sylvia Ostry, Chairman, Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto
Panelists
Peter S. Watson, Chairman, The United States International Trade Commission
Victor K. Fung, Chairman, Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Ross Garnaut, Professor of Economics and Convenor of Division of Economics, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University
Lee Tsao Yuan, Deputy Director, Institute of Policy Studies and Nominated Member of Parliament, Singapore

Beyond the Uruguay Round
C. Fred Bergsten, Director, Institute for International Economics, U.S.A.

Panel Discussion
The Present and Future Agenda of the WTO: A View of the Business Community
Discussion Chair
Arthur Dunkel, Chairman, Commission on International Trade and Investment Policy, International Chamber of Commerce
Private Sector Leaders
Edgardo Boeninger, Chair, Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, Chile
Avijit Mazumdar, Chairman, TIL Limited, India
David Hawes, General Manager Government Affairs, Qantas Airways Limited, Australia
David E. Wakeford M.B.E., International Trade Manager, Imperial Chemical Industries p.l.c., U.K.

The Role of the Rapidly Developing World in International Trade
Ruben Ricupero, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Panel Discussion
Regional Trading Arrangements and the Future of the Multilateral Trading System
Discussion Chair
Chan Heng Chee, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Executive Director, Singapore International Foundation
Panelists
Luiz Felipe Lampreia, Minister of External Relations, Brazil
Jae Yoon Park, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea
Roy MacLaren, Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Canada on International Trade
Mats Hellström, Former Cabinet Member, Minister for Foreign Trade, E.U. Affairs and Nordic Cooperation, M.P., Ambassador Designate of Sweden to Germany

The Challenges Faced by the WTO
Sir Leon Brittan, Vice President, The Commission of the European Communities

Thursday, 25 April 1996

Moderators
Rolf D. Kranepuhl, Managing Director-Asia/Pacific, International Herald Tribune, Hong Kong
Kishore Mahbubani, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

The Emerging South-East Asian Marketplace
Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Deputy Prime Minister, Thailand

Panel Discussion

Trade and Investment Liberalization: The Road Ahead
Discussion Chair
Donald J. Johnston, Secretary-General Designate, OECD
Panelists
Jeffrey M. Lang, Deputy Trade Representative, U.S.A.
Tejendra Khanna, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, India
Alastair Bisley, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand
Jean-Pierre Landau, Under Secretary for External Economic Relations, Ministry of Economy and Finance, France
Tadakatsu Sano, Director-General, International Economic Affairs Department, International Trade Policy Bureau, MITI, Japan
John Anthony Miller, J.P. Director-General of Trade and Chief Trade Negotiator, Trade Department, Hong Kong Government

Panel Discussion

Practical Implications of the Post-GATT Order
Discussion Chair
Peter S. Watson, Chairman, The United States International Trade Commission
Private Sector Leaders: Steven J. Green, Chairman and C.E.O., Samsonite Corporation, U.S.A.
Rahmi M. Koç, Chairman, Koç Holding A.S., Turkey
Qin Xiao, Executive Director and President, CITIC, China
Mathew Samuel, Director Corporate Affairs, Singapore Airlines
Graham Davey, Regional Managing Director, South East Asia, DHL International (S) Pte. Ltd., Singapore
Shekhar Datta, President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Panel Discussion

ASEAN: Entering the 21st Century
Discussion Chair
S. Dhanabalan, Senior Advisor, Nuri Holdings (S) Pte. Ltd. and Chairman, Singapore Airlines
Panelists
Pehin Dato’ Abdul Rahman Taib, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam
Tunky Ariwibowo, Minister of Industry and Trade, Republic of Indonesia
Dato’ Seri Rafidah Aziz, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia
Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore
Le Van Triet, Minister of Trade, Vietnam
Rizalino S. Navarro, Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines

Balancing Domestic and International Trade Concerns
Dr Hartono Sastrosoenarto, Coordinating Minister for Production and Distribution, Republic of Indonesia
Closing Address: Looking Ahead to the Inaugural WTO Ministerial Conference
Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore

IV Workshop on Ethnic Chinese as Southeast Asians

After the introduction of the open-door policy in China, many Chinese entrepreneurs overseas have begun to invest in mainland China. Attention has again been paid to the Chinese all over the world, including the Chinese in Southeast Asia. Under this situation, the perception of the Southeast Asian Chinese themselves in terms of their position in their respective Southeast Asian countries, their relationship with China, their identity, as well as the perception of “indigenous” Southeast Asians towards the ethnic Chinese, needs discussion.

Hence, it was the main focus of the workshop which was organized by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. It was held from 26–27 April in Singapore. The programme of the workshop was as follows:

26 April 1996 (Friday)
Opening Remarks
Professor Chan Heng Chee
Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Associate Professor Leo Suryadinata
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore

Session 1: The Ethnic Chinese in Southeast Asia: Overseas Chinese, Chinese Overseas or Southeast Asians?
Chairperson
Professor Chan Heng Chee
Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Paperwriter
Associate Professor Leo Suryadinata
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore

Discussant
Associate Professor Tan Chee Beng
Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya

Session 2: The Identity of the Malaysian Chinese
Chairperson
Professor Wang Gungwu
Distinguished Senior Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Chairman, The Institute of East Asian Political Economy, Singapore

Paperwriter
Professor Lee Kam Hing
Department of History, University of Malaya

Discussant
Professor Ahmat Adam
Dean, Centre for General Studies, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Session 3: The Ethnic Chinese in Indonesia: Issues of Identity
Chairperson
Associate Professor Leo Suryadinata
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore

Paperwriter
Dr Mely G. Tan
Center for Social and Cultural Studies, Indonesian Institute of Sciences [PMB-LIPI], Jakarta

Discussant
Dr A. Dahana
Executive Director, The Fulbright Commission of Indonesia (American-Indonesian Exchange Foundation — AMINEF), Jakarta
Session 4: Ethnic Chinese in the Philippines and their Identity  
Chairperson  
Dr Theresa C. Carino  
Executive Director, Philippine-China Development Resource Center, Metro Manila  

Paperwriter  
Ms Teresita Ang-See  
Executive Director, Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc, Manila  

Discussant  
Associate Professor Renato S. Velasco  
Department of Political Science, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines, Quezon City  

27 April 1996  

Session 5: Ethnic Chinese in Thailand and their Identity  
Chairperson  
Dr Mely G. Tan  
Senior Researcher, Center for Social and Cultural Studies, Indonesian Institute of Sciences [PMB-LIPI], Jakarta  

Paperwriter  
Associate Professor Supang Chantavanich  
Head, The Asian Research Center for Migration, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University  

Discussant  
Associate Professor Anusorn Limmanee  
Department of Government, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University  

Session 6: Ethnic Chinese in Singapore and their Identity  
Chairperson  
Dr Diana Wong  
Deputy Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies  

Paperwriter  
Dr Chiew Seen Kong  
Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore  
Discussant  
Dr A. Mani  
Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore  

Session 7: Ethnic Chinese in Vietnam and their Identity  
Chairperson  
Ms Terisita Ang-See  
Executive Director, Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc, Manila  

Paperwriter  
Dr Tran Khanh  
Co-ordinator, Programme of Contemporary Issues in Southeast Asia, National Center for Social Sciences and Humanities of Vietnam, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Hanoi  

Discussant  
Associate Professor Ta Huu Phuong  
Department of Decision Sciences, National University of Singapore  

Session 8: Ethnic Chinese in Myanmar and their Identity  
Chairperson  
Professor Lee Kam Hing  
Department of History, University of Malaya  

Paperwriter  
Dr Mya Than  
Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies  

Discussant  
Dr Khin Maung Kyi  
Department of Business Policy, National University of Singapore  

Closing Remarks  
Associate Professor Leo Suryadinata  
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore  

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## ASEAN CHRONOLOGY 1996

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<td>Bangkok</td>
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<td>Bangkok</td>
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<td>31 Jan – 3 Feb</td>
<td>Second Meeting of the ASEAN Coal Network and Site Visits on Low Grade Coal Utilization Technologies</td>
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**FEBRUARY 1996**

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<td>1st National Organizing Committee Meeting for the 2nd ASEAN Skills Competition</td>
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<td>11th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>9th AFTA Council</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>AEM Retreat</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Informal Meeting of the ASEAN Finance Ministers</td>
<td>Manila</td>
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*Growth Triangles of South East Asia.* Canberra: East Asia Analytical Unit, 1995.


Warr, Peter G. *Explaining the Thai Miracle: Dragons, Planners and Other Myths*. Canberra: National Centre for Development Studies, Economics Division, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, 1995.

