

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SEMINARS

I Domestic Economic Order in ASEAN: A Critical Appraisal

The ninth annual conference of the Federation of ASEAN Economic Associations was held from 12–14 November 1984 in Kuala Lumpur. Some sixty economists from the ASEAN countries (excluding Brunei) and a number of observers from other countries attended. The conference was opened by YAB Datuk Musa Hitam, Deputy Prime Minister, Malaysia, who stressed the need for intra-ASEAN investment to counteract reduced investment flows in the current period of slower growth of the global economy.

The conference discussed papers on the internal structures of the ASEAN economies (Tan Tat Wai, Malaysia); the short-term performance and prospects of the ASEAN economies (Jesus Estanislao and Vaughn Montes, Philippines); ASEAN industrialization (Fong Chan Onn, Malaysia); the internal structural

adjustments in ASEAN in the manufacturing sector (Amado Castro, Philippines); inter-regional input-output analysis of ASEAN-U.S. and ASEAN-Japan interrelations (Iwan Aziz, Indonesia); fiscal and monetary policies in ASEAN (Mukul G. Asher and Amina Tyabji, Singapore); human resource management in ASEAN (Nipon Paopongsakorn; Thailand); and the role of the service sector in ASEAN (Koh Ai Tee, Singapore). On the last day of the conference the long-term perspectives of ASEAN were discussed on the basis of a paper by Agustin Kintanar, Philippines/Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

The tenth conference of the Federation of ASEAN Economic Associations will be held in Singapore in November 1985 and is expected to focus on social security systems in ASEAN.

II ASEAN Symposium on Trade Facilitation

A three-day ASEAN symposium on trade facilitation was held in Kuala Lumpur from 11 to 13 December 1984. The symposium was jointly organized by the Malaysian Government (on behalf of the governments of the ASEAN countries) and the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (on behalf of the

ASEAN private sector) and sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme.

According to a statement of the ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry Working Group on Trade, international authorities have calculated that documentation accounts for 7 per cent of export cost. Any reduction in

presented by Eric Rasmussen, Chemical Bank, Tokyo).

The papers are to be revised in the light of the discussions at the workshop and will subsequently be published by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

It is envisaged that the project will be continued. Emphasis in the next year is to be placed on ASEAN-U.S. economic relations in a changing world environment.

Urban Transport in ASEAN

V. SETTY PENDAKUR

This study is a critical review of the urban transport systems in ASEAN cities from the policy viewpoint in the context of modernization and vast new investments. This brings together a comparative data base on system components such as vehicle ownership, modal split, public transport, slow-moving vehicles, cost, energy efficiency, and socio-economic linkages. Ownership patterns, nature of the fleet, vitality of vehicles, operating environment, and private enterprise elements are discussed in the context of private-public role and system efficiencies. A policy framework to protect the interests of the poor and modernize the systems in ASEAN is proposed.

ISBN 9971-902-67-2 65 pages S\$9/US\$4.50
Research Notes and Discussions Papers Series No. 43

Published by the
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Pasir Panjang
SINGAPORE 0511

III Workshop on ASEAN Small and Medium Business Improvement: Financial Factors

The Workshop was held in Singapore on 22–23 March 1985. The twenty-nine participants included representatives from the participating country research teams (all ASEAN countries except Brunei) as well as public and private sector officials from the participating countries active in small and medium business financing. Professor K.S. Sandhu, Director of ISEAS, chaired the two-day proceedings.

The opening session featured a presentation by Dr Narongchai Akrasanee, who will be writing an integrative overview paper incorporating the individual country research findings as well as the findings of the Workshop. As with all sessions, his presentation was followed by a general discussion.

In the succeeding sessions, the respective country studies were presented for discussion

and comment. The final session was a panel discussion in which each country team leader was given the opportunity to reassess his original presentation in the light of the findings of the Workshop. More importantly, this gave the participants the opportunity to reach consensus on common findings and conclusions.

The Workshop was intended as a forum for feedback on the research findings of practising experts from the region. Judging from the enthusiastic participation of researchers and practitioners alike, it was felt that this aim had been amply satisfied.

The five country-papers and the overview paper are currently being revised in the light of the feedback from the Workshop. These will then be edited for publication.

IV ASEAN-U.S. Economic Relations

In the framework of its series of projects on ASEAN external relations, the ASEAN Economic Research Unit of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies organized a workshop on ASEAN-U.S. Economic Relations in Singapore, 22–24 April 1985. The workshop was attended by twenty-five scholars from ASEAN countries and the United States to discuss the following topics:

1. ASEAN-U.S. Trade Relations (Paper presented by Dean A. DeRosa, ADB);
2. The Pattern of Direct Foreign Investment in ASEAN: The U.S. vs. Japan (Paper presented by Mari Pangestu, Indonesia);
3. U.S. Contractual Arrangements in Some ASEAN Countries: Selected Case Studies in Thailand (Paper presented by Mingsarn Kaosa-ard, Thailand);
4. The Impact of U.S. Policy Mix on the ASEAN Economies (Paper presented by Woo Wing Thy, Brookings Institution, U.S.A.);
5. Transfer of Technology to the ASEAN Region by U.S. Transnational Corporations (Paper presented by Charles W. Lindsey, U.S.A.);
6. Complementation of U.S. Investments in ASEAN (Paper presented by Bienvenido Rola and Marjorie L. Suriyamongkol, ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on TNCs);
7. ASEAN Manufactured Exports to the United States. (Paper presented by Chia Siow Yue, Singapore);
8. U.S. Exports of Goods and Services to ASEAN and their Competitiveness *vis-à-vis* Japanese and EEC Goods (Paper

presented by Eric Rasmussen, Chemical Bank, Tokyo).

The papers are to be revised in the light of the discussions at the workshop and will subsequently be published by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

It is envisaged that the project will be continued. Emphasis in the next year is to be placed on ASEAN-U.S. economic relations in a changing world environment.

Urban Transport in ASEAN

V. SETTY PENDAKUR

This study is a critical review of the urban transport systems in ASEAN cities from the policy viewpoint in the context of modernization and vast new investments. This brings together a comparative data base on system components such as vehicle ownership, modal split, public transport, slow-moving vehicles, cost, energy efficiency, and socio-economic linkages. Ownership patterns, nature of the fleet, vitality of vehicles, operating environment, and private enterprise elements are discussed in the context of private-public role and system efficiencies. A policy framework to protect the interests of the poor and modernize the systems in ASEAN is proposed.

ISBN 9971-902-67-2 65 pages S\$9/US\$4.50
Research Notes and Discussions Papers Series No. 43

Published by the
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Pasir Panjang
SINGAPORE 0511