

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SEMINARS

I Workshop on ASEAN-EC Economic Relations: The Development of Manufacturing in ASEAN and the EC and the Potential for Further ASEAN-EC Co-operation

The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies organized this workshop from 12–13 April 1988 in Singapore. The workshop Chairman was Dr Narongchai Akrasanee, and the programme was structured as follows:

Welcome and Opening Remarks
K. S. Sandhu, Director, ISEAS
Narongchai Akrasanee, Project Co-ordinator

SESSION I *Institutions*

“Institutional Factors in the Development of the Manufacturing Sector in the EC.”
(Ulrich Hiemenz and Rolf Langhammer)
“Institutional Factors in the Development of the Manufacturing Sector in ASEAN”
(Tan Loong-Hoe and Chong Li Choy)
Discussion

SESSION II *Labour*

“Trends in the Cost of Labour in Major EC Countries and Their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in the EC.”
(Manfred Kaiser and Heinz Werner)
“Trends in the Cost of Labour in Major ASEAN Countries and Their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in ASEAN”
(Edita Tan)
Discussion

SESSION III *Capital*

“Trends in the Cost of Capital in Major EC Countries and Their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in the EC”
(Bruno Fritsch and Georg Erdmann)
“Trends in the Cost of Capital in Major ASEAN Countries and Their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in ASEAN”
(Tan Siew Ee and Lai Yew Wah)
Discussion

SESSION IV *Technology*

“Trends in the Development of Technology and their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in the EC”
(Helmut Schuette and Arnoud DeMeyer)
“Trends in the Development of Technology and Their Effects on the Manufacturing Sector in ASEAN”
(Paitoon Wiboonchutikula)
Discussion
Overview and Summing up
(Narongchai Akrasanee)
Conclusion of Workshop

II Seminar on Japanese Investments in Singapore

The seminar organized by the Department of Japanese Studies, National University of Singapore and co-sponsored by the Centre for Advanced Studies, School of Management and

Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore was held from 25–26 March 1988. The Chairman of the seminar was Mr M.Q. Wong, Director (Asia), Trade Development Board, Singapore and the programme was as follows:

25 March 1988

Welcome Address by Dr Chng Meng Kng, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

Keynote Speech by Mr Tan Chin Nam, General Manager and Director, Economic Development Board

“High-Yen, Economic Restructuring and Overseas Investments” by Mr Tadahiro Yamamoto, Vice-President, Singapore Nomura Merchant Banking Ltd.

“Direct Foreign Investment in Singapore, with Particular Reference to Japanese Investment” by Dr Soon Teck Wong, Department of Economics and Statistics, NUS

“Issues Facing Japanese Investors in Singapore: Case Study I” by Mr N. Hizaki, Managing Director, Nichicon (S) Pte Ltd.

“Issues Facing Japanese Investors in Singapore: Case Study II” (2 papers) by Mr K. Mihara, Managing Director, Sony Precision Engineering Centre (S) Pte Ltd., and Mr I. Shimizu, Director, Sony International (S) Pte Ltd.

“Business Organization & Management: A Comparison between Japanese and Chinese Enterprises” by Dr Tan Hock, Department of Economics and Statistics, NUS

“Japanese and American Management Practices in Singapore” by Assoc Prof Khin Maung Kyi, School of Management, NUS

26 March 1988

“Japanese Direct Investments in Singapore: The View from Mass Media” by Mr Tetsuya Jiromaru, Yomiuri Shimbun

Forum with Seminar Speakers as Panelists.

III Seminar on Changing Dimensions in the Electronics Industry in Malaysia

The Malaysian Economic Association and Malaysian Institute of Economic Research jointly organized this seminar from 14–15 March 1988 in Penang, Malaysia. The objective of the seminar was to discuss the trend and the future potential of the semiconductor industry in Malaysia. The programme was organized in six sessions.

SESSION 1

“Economic Restructuring and the Future of the Semiconductor Industry in Malaysia”

Speakers: Datuk Dr Kamal Salih
Executive Director
Ms Mei Ling Young
Research Associate
Malaysian Institute of Economic Research

SESSION 2

“An Assessment of the Future of the Semiconductor Industry in Malaysia”

Speaker: Mr D. J. Hill
Managing Director
National Semiconductor Sdn. Bhd.

SESSION 3

“Trends and Prospects in the Electronic Industry

Speaker: MIDA”

SESSION 4

“Labour Needs and Skill Development of the Electronics Industry in Malaysia”

Speaker: Mr A Sivananthiran
Assistant Director
Research and Planning Division
Ministry of Labour

SESSION 5

“Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology for a Competitive Malaysian Electronics Industry”

Speaker: Dr Mohd Arif Nun
Director
Industrial Projects
Malayan Institute of Micro System

SESSION 6

“The Assembly Line in Transition: Implications and New Directions for the Electronics Industry in Penang”

Speaker: Mr Rajah Rasiah
Lecturer
Universiti Sains Malaysia

Panel Discussion on “Further Promotion of Small Scale and Ancillary Supporting Industries Related to the Electronics Industry”

Panel Speakers:

Professor Dr Mahinder Santokh Singh
Dean
School of Humanities
Universiti Sains Malaysia

Mr Hui Shing Leong
Managing Director
Sanda Plastic Sdn. Bhd.

Mr Alfred Teh
Managing Director
Eng Hardware Engineering Sdn. Bhd.

Mr Yeoh Poh Seng
Managing Director
East Point Leasing Sdn. Bhd.

IV Symposium on ASEAN Trade Policy Options

The symposium held in Singapore during 7–9 March 1988 was hosted by the ASEAN Economic Research Unit, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS). Opening remarks were presented by K. S. Sandhu, Director, ISEAS and Catherine Gwin, Rockefeller Foundation. A thematic paper on “ASEAN Trade Policy Options” was presented by Narongchai Akrasanee. A paper entitled

“Multilateral Trade Negotiations: ASEAN Perspective” was presented by Mohamed Ariff. Country papers were presented by the following persons:

Djisman Simandjuntak (Indonesia)
Kamal Salih (Malaysia)
Florian Albuero (Philippines)
Chng Meng Kng (Singapore)
Juanjai Ajanant (Thailand)

V ASEAN Investment Forum

The Forum sponsored and organized by the Japan Member Committee of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC) on 2 March 1988 was held in Singapore. The aim of the forum was to encourage investments in the ASEAN region by providing opportunities for exchanging ideas and promoting mutual understanding between investing enterprises of the advanced nations in the Pacific region and investment/economic development agencies of the countries in the ASEAN region. Papers and panel discussions were focused on the following topics:

1. Asian Strategy in a New Global Stage.
2. Localization (including those of the human resources development and training).
3. Transfer of Technology/Quality Control.
4. Investment Network.

Business and/or government representatives from Japan, the United States, Europe, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore were among the speakers. Officers of PBEC including Sir Ronald R. Trotter, International President of PBEC, were also present in the forum.