

SESSION 1: Landscape of international trade and health in ASEAN

DATE/ TIME: Tuesday 19 November 2019 at 09.50-11.00 hrs (70 minutes)

LEAD SPEAKER: Mr Tan Tai Hiong, Assistant Director, Market Integration Directorate,
ASEAN Secretariat

PANELISTS:

1. Dr Piti Srisangnam, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
2. Professor Fukunari Kimura, Chief Economist, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN

MODERATOR: Mr Suppakij Vorasriherun, Department of International Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

CONCEPT NOTE

The landscape of international trade in ASEAN Region has been changed dramatically after the AFTA. ASEAN Member States (AMS) have expanded its trade liberalisation toward more open and comprehensive than they did under the World Trade Organization (WTO), in response to a change of the global trading architecture which includes non-traditional trade issues such as strong intellectual property protection, environment protection, e-commerce. The impact of strong intellectual property protection on health systems is widely evident and it is foreseen that a change in a regional trading system poses a more challenge than giving an opportunity to health and health system of ASEAN region. How ASEAN member states can maximise the trade opportunity and minimise the trade impact to improve health of ASEAN people is the issue that need to be addressed.

This session will provide a background of the evolution of ASEAN trading architecture, including:

- 1) Landscape of international trade in ASEAN region: Exploring traditional and emerging trade issues under the international trade agreements within ASEAN region (e.g. AFTA, AFAS, ATISA, ATIGA, ...)
- 2) Extended international trade landscape: emerging issues from trading with non-ASEAN partners (ASEAN +3, ASEAN +6 (RCEP), ASEAN – China, ASEAN - Japan, etc.)
- 3) Important cross-cutting issues including IP protection, e-commerce, and investment
- 4) The implications of ASEAN Community on good health and well-being (e.g. the roles of free trade agreements in facilitating the health-related issues).

This Session will also discuss on the health implications from a change of ASEAN trading architecture, both opportunities and challenges and how the health sector could gain from the new regional trading system.

Lead speaker:

Mr Tan Tai Hiong,

Assistant Director and Head of the Services and Investment Division
of the ASEAN Secretariat



Mr. Tan Tai Hiong is currently the Assistant Director and Head of the Services and Investment Division of the ASEAN Secretariat. He has joined the ASEAN Secretariat since 2001 and has been working on the development and implementation of ASEAN policies/initiatives in the area of trade in services and subsequently also in the area of investment, as well as on ASEAN's Free Trade Area (FTA) negotiations with its Dialogue Partners. In parallel to this, Mr. Tan has also worked on coordination and facilitation of overall trade and economic policies among ASEAN member countries as well as between ASEAN and its dialogue partners, which are coordinated through Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) and ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM).

Prior to joining the ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Tan Tai Hiong worked for an international management consulting firm and then for holding company of one major business group in Indonesia. Mr. Tan worked on organisational and financial restructuring projects for various corporations during those positions, including consumer products, banking, distribution, and media corporations.

Mr. Tan obtained his Master of Arts (MA) in International Economics from Fordham University, in New York, and his Bachelor Degree in Economics and Development Studies from University of Indonesia.

Panelists:

Dr Piti Srisangnam

Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand



Education Background

The University of Melbourne, Australia	2004-2008
Doctor of Philosophy (Economics) Dissertation: "The Effect of ASEAN Economic Integration with the Special Reference to the Thai Economy"	
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand	2000-2001
Master of Arts in International Economics and Finance	
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand	1996-2000
Bachelor in Economics with 2nd class honour	

Work Record

Chulalongkorn University	
Assistant Dean, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University	2012 – 2016
Full-time Lecturer in Economics, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University	2002 – 2014
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University	2012 - 2013
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs, Centre for European Studies, Chulalongkorn University	2010 - 2012
Lecturer – "Managerial Economics" Master in Business Administration (MBA), Vongchavalitkul University	2009 - 2010
Lecturer – "Managerial Economics and Financial Management" Doctoral Programme in Business Administration (DBA), Rattana Bundit University	2010 – 2011
Lecturer in Microeconomics, Rangsit University	2001 - 2002

Panelist

Professor FUKUNARI KIMURA

Chief Economist, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia



Fukunari Kimura is the Chief Economist for Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and Professor, Faculty of Economics, Keio University. He was born in Tokyo in 1958. He received his Bachelor of Laws from the Faculty of Law, University of Tokyo in 1982. He then received Master of Science and PhD titles from the Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1990 and 1991, respectively. He worked for the Department of Economics, State University of New York at Albany as Assistant Professor in 1991-1994, and in the Faculty of Economics of Keio University as Associate Professor in 1994-2000. In particular, he has recently been active in writing academic/semi-academic books and articles on international production networks and economic integration in East Asia.

Moderator:
Mr. Suppakij Vorasriherun

Department of International Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand



Mr. Suppakij Vorasriherun currently serves as a First Secretary at the Department of International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. With bachelor's degree from Faculty of Political Sciences, Thammasat University, he started his diplomatic career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2008 and achieved the Chevening Scholarship, which is funded by the British government's Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to further master's degree at Centre for International Study and Diplomacy, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in 2010. He commenced his mission abroad as a Consul for economic affairs at the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Shanghai, from 2013 to 2017, where he had exercised Thailand's economic diplomacy for the greater good of Thailand and People's Republic of China's economic relations. Recently, he was one of Thai diplomatic officers who worked hand in hand with ASEAN Business Advisory Council and Thai private sector to organise "ASEAN Business and Investment Summit 2019", the summit in parallel with the 35th ASEAN Summit in Thailand, to create networking and further cooperation among ASEAN business partners.