



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4/Issue 12 - December 2018

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## EU-ABC AT EVENTS

### EU-ABC Mission Trip to Indonesia



*Above: EU-ABC Delegation at Ministry of Trade meeting*

On the 4-6th of December, the EU-ABC organised a Mission Trip to Indonesia to meet with the following organisations to discuss issues and recommendations across different sectors in the membership:

- Ministry of Trade
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of National Planning & Development
- Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs
- Ministry of Finance
- Bank Indonesia
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Industry
- Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM)
- Indonesia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)

- Director-General of Customs & Excise

The delegation consisted of nearly 60 participants from more than 20 European Companies, including representatives from EuroCham Indonesia. Companies involved were AXA Insurance, B.Braun, NXP, Danone, BASF, Bayer, Pernod Ricard, Prudential, Diageo, HSBC, DHL, Michelin, Mercedes Benz, Bosch, Zuellig Pharma, Asia Group Advisors, Vriens & Partners, JTI, PMI, and KPMG.



*Clockwise from top left: EU-ABC Delegation with Bank Indonesia; at Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board; Ministry of National Planning & Development; Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs.*

## Investing in Myanmar and the New Wholesale & Retail Regulations







The EU-ASEAN Business Council hosted a Business Breakfast Briefing on “Investing in Myanmar and the New Wholesale & Retail Regulations” at the SBF Centre in collaboration with EuroCham Myanmar and Luther Law Firm.

The breakfast briefing consisted of three parts – the “Myanmar Business Outlook” by Marc de la Fouchardière, Deputy Director of EuroCham Myanmar; “Invest Myanmar Summit” presentation by Peter Moe Kyaw of UMFCCI; and lastly, a presentation on the New Wholesale and Retail Regulations in Myanmar by Alexander Bohusch, an Accredited Tax Practitioner and Attorney-at-Law at Luther Law Firm.

Speakers presented on the opportunities and challenges on investing in Myanmar. The talk ended with a Q&A session whereby representatives of prospective companies could raise their concerns on the upcoming economic and political challenges faced by companies newly set up in Myanmar.

This event was also supported by BritCham Singapore and BritCham Myanmar. Read more [here](#).

## EU-ASEAN Trade Experts' Dialogue on Standards



The EU-ABC attended the EU-ASEAN Trade Experts' Dialogue on Standards (STRACAP) - earlier this month on 10 Dec in Vientiane, Laos - held as an official side event of the 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) and its related meetings. Supported through the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), it brought together Senior Officials

from ACCSQ and key representatives of the EU Commission. The discussions focused on the development of harmonised standards and how these support policy and legislation in the EU, Quality Infrastructure as a fundamental element of success of the EU single market, and legislative frameworks. Original press release can be found [here](#).

## EU-ABC UPCOMING EVENTS



### Look ahead to 2019: ASEAN and Europe

Details: 10 January 2019, 5.00-7.30pm

Venue: KPMG Clubhouse, 36 Robinson Road Singapore 068877

Speakers: H.E. Francisco Fontan, EU Ambassador to ASEAN, and H.E. Mr. Manopchai Vongphakdi Ambassador of Thailand to Singapore

All EU-ABC Members are invited to this special event to mark the start of 2019 and Thailand's Chairmanship of ASEAN, with the Thai Ambassador to Singapore touching on plans and objectives for its Chairmanship of ASEAN next year.

The EU Ambassador to ASEAN will be speaking on the EU's engagement plans with ASEAN for 2019 and updates on the state of play on EU-ASEAN trade deals. The keynote addresses will be followed by a cocktail reception with wine and canapés.

#### Programme:

5.00pm - Registration

5.15pm - Opening remarks

5.30pm - Keynote addresses

6.10pm - Q&A moderated by KPMG

6.30pm - Cocktail reception

7.30pm - End

**Spaces are limited - EU-ABC Members please RSVP to [brenda.lee@eu-asean.eu](mailto:brenda.lee@eu-asean.eu).**

**Venue sponsored by:**





### Customs Group Discussion

Date: Second week of Jan 2019

1. Update of current customs paper
2. Preparation for CCC Meeting in April 2019 and Customs DGs meeting in June 2019
3. Low-value shipment proposal
4. Illicit trade issues

Customs Group members, please email [brenda.lee@eu-asean.eu](mailto:brenda.lee@eu-asean.eu) to confirm your availability.

## EU-ABC Forward Look Calendar - Quarter One

### QUARTER ONE (JAN TO MAR)

10 Jan	Executive Board Meeting	Executive Board
10 Jan	2019 Forward Look Event (with Thai Ambassador to Singapore & EU Ambassador to ASEAN)	Members Only
19 & 20 Jan	ASEAN Trade Facilitation – Joint Consultative Committee Meeting (Bangkok)	ED attending
21 Jan	Joint Business Council Meeting (Bangkok)	ED attending
21 Jan	ASEAN BAC Digital Infrastructure Seminar (Bangkok)	Public Event
21 Jan	ASEAN BAC Chairmanship Handover Event (Bangkok)	ED, Chairman, Members?
22 Jan	ASEAN BAC Empowering ASEAN 4.0 Seminar (Bangkok)	Public Event
23 Jan	ASEAN Economic Outlook Conference (Bangkok)	Chairman and ED participating
23 Jan	ASEAN BAC Handover Event (Bangkok) & ASEAN BAC JBC Meeting	Chairman and ED
11 Feb	Executive Board Meeting	Executive Board
Feb	ASEAN BAC/GIZ Seminar on Human Capital Development	Public Event
End Feb/Start March	ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM); ASEAN Central Bank Governors Meeting (ACGM) & Bilateral Meetings – Chiang Rai	Members Only
11 Mar	Executive Board Meeting	Executive Board
End Mar	Launch of 2019 Business Sentiment Survey	Press Release

### NEW EU-ABC MEMBERS

# Booking.com

Established in 1996 in Amsterdam, Booking.com has grown from a small Dutch start-up to one of the largest travel e-commerce companies in the world. With a mission to empower people to experience the



world, Booking.com invests in digital technology that helps take the friction out of travel. At Booking.com, we connect travellers with the world's largest selection of incredible places to stay, including everything from apartments, vacation homes, and family-run B&Bs to 5-star luxury resorts, tree houses and even igloos. Part of Booking Holdings Inc. (NASDAQ: BKNG), Booking.com now employs more than 17,000 employees in 198 offices in 70 countries worldwide. Find out more at [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com)

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Novartis provides healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and societies worldwide. Our portfolio includes innovative medicines, generic and biosimilar medicines and eye care devices. Our mission is to discover new ways to improve and extend people's lives. Our vision is to be a trusted leader in changing the practice of medicine. Our strategy is to use science-based innovation to deliver better outcomes for patients in growing areas of healthcare.

#### **Innovative Medicines Division:**

- Pharmaceuticals:

Novartis Pharmaceuticals commercializes innovative, patented primary care and specialty medicines. We demonstrate our commitment to patients by successfully marketing innovative products to prevent and cure diseases in order to help patients achieve better health.

- Oncology:

Novartis Oncology commercializes a portfolio of patented oncology, hematology and rare disease medicines that are at the cutting edge of innovative therapies and practical solutions that help people live longer and with a better quality of life.

**Sandoz Division:** Sandoz is a generic division and commercializes a portfolio of high-quality generic drugs at affordable prices, in the areas such as Systemic Anti-Infectives, Cardiovascular System, Central Nervous System, and Muscle and Skeletal System.

**Alcon Division:** Alcon offers a board portfolio of products to enhance sight. Our products touch the lives of patients living with conditions like cataracts, glaucoma, retinal diseases, and refractive errors.

**PARTNER NEWS**

## INDUSTRY PRACTITIONER MASTERCLASS

# USING FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS TO ACHIEVE IMPORT DUTY SAVINGS

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

For executives and professionals that are interested to make sense of the technical jargon of free trade agreements and actually use free trade agreements in their business contexts to achieve import customs duty savings

**DATE** : 16th -17th January 2019

**TIME** : 9AM - 5PM

**VENUE** : Suntec City Convention Centre

**FEE** : S\$1600 (Public)  
S\$1380 (Clients and Alliance Partners)

Knowledge Partner and Organizer:

*Angelra*  
AC TRADE ADVISORY

Supported by:

**Enterprise  
Singapore**

## *Know before you go*

### SOUTH-EAST ASIA IPR SME HELPDESK



The [SEA IPR SME Helpdesk](#) is an initiative of the European Commission aimed at supporting SMEs to protect their Intellectual Property Rights when expanding their horizons beyond EU borders. Any questions on IPR? Just ask!

The SEA IPR SME Helpdesk offers free legal counsel for all your IPR enquiries related to South-East Asian markets. And don't forget, our team is always ready to organise trainings for SMEs across the EU and SEA! Follow this [link](#) for access to information on trainings, webinars and more.

The **ASEAN Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group (CPTFWG)** is conducting a survey based on the provisions listed under the [World Trade Organization \(WTO\) Trade Facilitation Agreement \(TFA\)](#) to take stock of current trade facilitation measures from the perspective of the private sector, and thereafter to utilise the survey results to identify areas to further promote trade facilitation in the ASEAN region.



This survey will take about 20mins to complete and respondents may choose not to answer questions that are not applicable to their company's contexts.

[Participate in Survey](#)



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