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BALI FORUM ON SKILL MOBILITY IN ASEAN

Progressing Towards the ASEAN Economic Community and Charting a Post 2015 Vision at the National Level

September 28-29, 2015 | Bali INDONESIA

Objective: *The forum is to launch a joint initiative of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) to better understand the barriers to freer movement of professionals within ASEAN and develop strategies to gradually overcome these hurdles. It aims to explore what we know—and do not know—about the nature and extent of movement of professionals within ASEAN today, the progress and challenges countries face in recognizing professional qualifications and the potential areas for reform at the national and regional levels in the short, medium, and long term. It is the first of an ADB-MPI convening series designed to outline an ambitious research and program agenda for the ASEAN region that can drive progress toward greater regional integration and situate the region's competitive position in a broader, more global, context.*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

08:00 – 8:30

Registration and Opening Ceremony

Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

Key dignitaries will be “banging the traditional gong” to mark the commencement of the Bali Forum on Skill Mobility in ASEAN.

- **Bambang Susantono**, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank
- **Takuro Tasaka**, Counsellor for Economic Affairs, Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
- **Hiroshi Kato**, Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- **Imelda Nicolas**, Cabinet-level Secretary and Chairperson, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Philippines
- **Michael Fix**, President, Migration Policy Institute

08:30 – 9:00

Welcoming Remarks and Goals of the Bali Forum

Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

The Vice President of the Asian Development Bank, the Counsellor of Economic Affairs of the Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, Chairperson of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, and President of the Migration Policy Institute will provide welcoming remarks to introduce the themes and objectives of the Bali Forum.

- **Bambang Susantono**, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank

- **Takuro Tasaka**, Counsellor for Economic Affairs, Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
- **Imelda Nicolas**, Cabinet-level Secretary and Chairperson, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Philippines
- **Michael Fix**, President, Migration Policy Institute

09:00 – 9:30

Presentation of the ADB-MPI Issue Paper: Achieving Skill Mobility in ASEAN: Challenges, Progress and Opportunities
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

This forum will start with a presentation of the Issue Paper on “Achieving Skill Mobility in the ASEAN Economic Community: Challenges, Opportunities, and Policy Implications,” a joint ADB and MPI publication. The paper has benefitted greatly from a roundtable discussion the Asian Development Bank and Migration Policy Institute convened on international mobility, education, skills development, and recognition of qualifications. Demetrios G. Papademetriou will discuss the issue paper’s key points while Rana Hasan will share insights from ADB’s perspective.

Presenters: **Demetrios G. Papademetriou**, Distinguished Senior Fellow and President Emeritus, Migration Policy Institute and President, Migration Policy Institute Europe and **Rana Hasan**, Director, Development Economics and Indicators Division, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, Asian Development Bank

9:30 – 11:00

Plenary Session I: Conversation on Skill Mobility in ASEAN: Where We Are Today
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

The issue paper presentation will be followed by a café-style discussion to further explore the issues highlighted in the report. The distinguished panelists will discuss the progress that has been made toward genuine circulation of skilled workers within the ASEAN region. It will highlight the technical, institutional, and political challenges faced by greater mobility, and discuss how to overcome these challenges and where coordinated regional action is most needed.

Panelists: **Imelda Nicolas**, **Rana Hasan**, **Ong Keng Yong**, Former Secretary General of ASEAN, Executive Deputy Chairman, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, **Demetrios G. Papademetriou**

Host: **Simon Long**, “Banyan” Editor, *The Economist*

11:00 – 11:15

Group Picture
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

11:15 – 11:30

Break and Press Availability
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

11:30 –13:00

Plenary Session II: Panel on Trends in the Mobility of the Highly Skilled: Current and Future Demand and Supply on Eight Sectors under MRAs and MRA Frameworks

Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

This session will feature a panel discussion on the preliminary findings from two original studies: (i) MPI research systematically examining cross-border talent flows within ASEAN and (ii) ADB's forward-looking, quantitative analysis examining the future supply and demand of workers in the eight target occupations in ASEAN. The discussion will start on major labor mobility patterns in the region, and how they have evolved over time. What do we know—and do not know—about the movement of skilled workers within ASEAN? Who are they, how many are moving, where are they now, and where do they come from? What is the current supply and demand for jobs in the sectors for which MRAs have been signed? What kind of mobility are we expecting in the future?

Panelists: **Guntur Sugiyarto**, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank
Jeanne Batalova, Senior Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute

Chair: **L. Alan Winters**, Professor of Economics, University of Sussex, and former Chief Economist, Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom

13:00-14:30

Lunch Conversation: Quality Assurance on Training and Education: Prospects on Developing ASEAN-wide Regional Standards

Rama Ballroom

Ultimately, the essence of any region's competitiveness lies in robust education and training systems that respond intelligently to changing economic needs. ASEAN cannot be the exception. This lunch conversation will examine the mobility of students in the region and will take a longer-term view by exploring prospects in developing ASEAN-wide regional standards within national training and education systems. The panel will also highlight good practices in the field of Quality Assurance and explore how best to strengthen mutual recognition of degrees and deepen trust among universities in the region.

Panelists: **Nantana Gajaseeni**, Executive Director, ASEAN University Network
Siow Yue Chia, Senior Research Fellow, Singapore Institute of International Affairs

Host: **Fernando T. Aldaba**, Professor of Economics, Ateneo de Manila University

**Lunch starts at 13:00, Conversation starts at 13:30*

14:30 –16:15

Plenary Session III: Panel on Recognizing Foreign Qualifications and Experience within ASEAN: Progress and Challenges in Implementing the MRAs

Sitha-Laksmana Ballroom

This session will explore progress toward smoother skills transfers between countries in the ASEAN region—highlighting the challenges that remain toward the full recognition of qualifications and credentials in several of the ASEAN MRA target occupations. ASEAN-level coordinating committee chairs and sectoral leaders will share the key areas of progress and challenges in implementing the MRAs and MRA Frameworks, and Director for Market Integration Directorate at the ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Ho Quang Trung, will provide comments.

Overview Presentation: **Maria Vincenza Desiderio**, Policy Analyst,
Migration Policy Institute Europe

Panelists: **Yolanda D. Reyes**, Chair, ASEAN Architect Council (AAC)
Leandro A. Conti, Chair, ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineering Coordinating Committee (ACPECC)
Nirwan Noh, Undersecretary of the Industry Development Division, Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia
Estelita C. Aguirre, Chair, ASEAN Federation of Accountants
Ho Quang Trung, Director for Market Integration Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat

Chair: **Lesleyanne Hawthorne**, Professor, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

16:15 – 16:40

Break

16:40 – 17:30

Plenary Session IV: Conversation on the AQRF and NQFs: Progress and Prospects for Supporting MRA Implementation

Sitha-Laksmana Ballroom

This session will highlight the progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF) and of the mutual referencing process with National Qualification Frameworks (NQFs). Focusing on the areas of tourism, architecture, engineering, medicine, nursing, and dentistry, panelists will explore how developments in AQRF and NQFs can support the implementation of the MRAs.

Panelists: **Zita Mohd Fahmi**, Special Quality Assurance (QA) Consultant, Malaysian Qualifications Agency; Secretary, ASEAN Quality Assurance Network Executive Board
Panya Chanthavong, Deputy Director, Educational Standards and Quality Assurance Centre, Ministry of Education and Sports

Host: **Megawati Santoso**, Vice-Chair, ASEAN Task Force on ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework

17:30 – 18:30 **Evening Break**

18:30 - 19:00 **Cocktails**
Ballroom Terrace

19:00 - 21:00 **Dinner and “Blue Sky” Conversation** on the ASEAN Economic Community: Post 2015 Vision with **Ambassador Ong Keng Yong** and **Tan Sri Dr. Munir Majid**, Chair, ASEAN Business Advisory Council
Rama Ballroom

After dinner, a conversation will follow with former Secretary General of the ASEAN Secretariat Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, and Chair of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council, Tan Sri Dr. Munir Majid. This conversation is designed to expand the horizons of the debate beyond the narrow lens of skill mobility within ASEAN. The distinguished panel will explore the future of ASEAN itself, the economic community it aims to create and ASEAN’s relationship and standing with the outside world.

Host: Simon Long

**Dinner starts at 19:00. Conversation starts at 20:00*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

09:00 –10:00 **Plenary Session V:** Skill Mobility and Regional Development: A Conversation with **Hiroshi Kato**, **Lurong Chen**, Economist, Economic Research Institute for Asia and East Asia and **Ronald Skeldon**, Professorial Fellow in Geography, Sussex Centre for Migration Research
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

The forum’s second day starts with a conversation exploring skill mobility’s impact on regional development and competitiveness. The panel will discuss what the ASEAN region stands to gain from adopting a more comprehensive approach to facilitating skill mobility. Hiroshi Kato will also draw insights from Japan International Cooperation Agency’s (JICA) experience in the Asia-Pacific region while Lurong Chen and Ron Skeldon will explore lessons for ASEAN from other sub-regions in Asia and beyond.

Host: Demetrios G. Papademetriou

10: 00 - 13:15 **Plenary Session VI:** Charting a Post 2015 Vision: A Conversation on Country Action Plans Beyond 2015
Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

This session will feature an in-depth conversation with the national delegates on the barriers ASEAN member governments face in implementing the MRAs and their plans for fully addressing them beyond 2015, including by highlighting what ADB can support.

Hosts: **Guntur Sugiyarto**, **Alfredo Perdiguero**, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, Asian Development Bank, and **Dovelyn Rannveig Mendoza**, Senior Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute

13:15 –15:00

Lunch Conversation on Moving Recognition Forward in ASEAN: Views from Non-state Actors

Rama Ballroom

How relevant are the MRAs for employers, and what is their impact on recruiting practices? How do employers recognize foreign qualifications, what role do current government standards on foreign qualifications play in the recruitment process, and what can policymakers do to make the status quo more employer-friendly? Additionally, how do professional associations play a role in this process and how might their approval be secured for qualifications recognition programs?

Panelists: **Tan Sri Dr. Munir Majid**, Chairman, CIMB ASEAN Research Institute and Chairman, Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd, **Supang Chantavanich**, Honored Professor of Sociology and Director, Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM), Chulalongkorn University

Host: **Ronald Skeldon**

**Lunch starts at 13:15, Conversation starts at 14:00*

15:15-16:30

Plenary Closing Session: Wrap Up and Discussion of the “Bali Commitment on Skill Mobility within ASEAN”

Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

The forum’s concluding session will outline a course of action for how to move forward in the key areas discussed over the last two days and discuss the “Bali Commitment on Skill Mobility in ASEAN,” a joint statement of organizations and institutions in the region identifying areas for reform and where coordinated regional action is needed and can be most effective.

Chairs: **Imelda Nicolas**, **Demetrios G. Papademetriou** and **Rana Hasan**

16:30-17:00

Closing Remarks

Sitha-Laksmmana Ballroom

- **Michael Fix**
- **Rana Hasan**