

THE HABIBIE CENTER

ASEAN ROUND-UP



Regional news round-up for the week ending : 23 March 2015

[Global Startup Youth Is Back, This Time With Asean Focus](#)

Digitalnewsasia.com - March 16, 2015

NON-profit StartupMalaysia.org has officially announced the Asean edition of its Global Startup Youth (GSY) event, aiming to bring 300 young leaders and aspiring entrepreneurs from the 10 Asean countries to come together for three days to work on some of the problems that are unique to the region.

[Manila: U.S. Had Key Role In Deadly Counterterrorism Raid In Philippines](#)

Washingtonpost.com - March 17, 2015

U.S. counterterrorism personnel played a hidden but key role in a bungled commando operation in the Philippines that resulted in dozens of deaths and a political scandal, according to a government investigation released Tuesday in Manila.

[Vietnam, Australia Strengthen Security Ties](#)

Voanews.com - March 18, 2015

Vietnam and Australia have moved to further strengthen bilateral security ties during the current two-day official visit to Australia by Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung. Analysts say the closer ties come against a backdrop of China's growing influence in the region and ongoing tensions over rival claims to the South China Sea.

[US Urges Asean To Patrol S. China Sea](#)

Bangkokpost.com - March 18, 2015

The commander of the US Navy Seventh Fleet called on Southeast Asian nations to form a combined maritime force to patrol areas of the South China Sea where territorial tensions flare with China. Countries could streamline cooperation on maritime security while respecting sovereignty and coastal space, as in the case of counter-piracy efforts in the Gulf of Aden, Vice Adm Robert Thomas said Tuesday at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition in Malaysia.

[Many Obstacles To ASEAN's 'Open Sky' Goal, Meet Told](#)

The Nation/Asia News Network - March 18, 2015

ASEAN's goal of achieving a single aviation market, or 'Open Sky', via liberalisation of regional air transportation by the end of this year, faces a number of major obstacles, according to an expert.

[Singapore Hosts 9th Annual Meeting Of Brunei-Singapore Cooperation On The Environment](#)

News.asiaone.com - March 18, 2015

The ninth meeting of Brunei-Singapore Cooperation on the Environment under the Annual Exchange of Visits, instituted by the 2005 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Bilateral Partnership in Environmental Affairs, was held in Singapore on Wed (Mar 18), said the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources as well as Brunei Darussalam's Ministry of

Development in a joint press statement. Brunei Darussalam and Singapore renewed their MOU on the environment, and exchanged views on a wide range of environmental issues.

[ASEAN Urged To Speed Up CoC deal](#)

Thejakartapost.com - March 19, 2015

With the agenda focusing on the advent of the ASEAN Economic Community later this year, members of the grouping of Southeast Asian nations are expected to step up negotiations for the completion of the Code of Conduct (CoC) on the South China Sea territorial disputes, despite conflicting claims still being reviewed by an international tribunal.

[RI To Resume Free-Trade Talks](#)

Thejakartapost.com - March 19, 2015

Indonesia will resume free trade and economic partnership negotiations with important trading partners as President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's administration steps up efforts to boost exports amid the country's economic slowdown. Bachrul Chairi, director general for international trade cooperation at the Trade Ministry, said the resumption of the negotiations was one of the government's key programs to improve the country's international trade, which often suffered a deficit due to weak exports.

[Lee Kuan Yew, who led Singapore into prosperity over 30-year rule, dies at 91](#)

Washingtonpost.com - March 22, 2015

Lee Kuan Yew, whose efficient but often heavy-handed leadership helped transform Singapore from a chaotic British colonial backwater into one of the world's most prosperous and orderly states, died March 23 in a Singapore hospital. He was 91. Mr. Lee had been hospitalized with pneumonia since February. The prime minister's office announced the death.

[Asean Waits For China To Present AIIB "Structure"](#)

Bangkokpost.com - March 22, 2015

Malaysian Second Finance Minister Ahmad Husni Handadzlah said Saturday the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) is still waiting for China to present the "structure and model" of its proposed Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

ASEAN Studies Program of The Habibie Center conduct monthly discussion and bi-monthly policy brief on ASEAN and its current development.

For more details, please contact :

The Habibie Center Building Jalan Kemang Selatan No. 98
Jakarta 12560

Tel. 62-21 7817211 Fax. 62-21 7817212

Email : thcasean@habibiecenter.or.id

Website : www.thcasean.org