

# THE HABIBIE CENTER

## ASEAN ROUND-UP



Regional news round-up for the week ending : 27 April 2015

### [U.S., Philippines Add Muscle to Military Drills](#)

*The Wall Street Journal - April 20, 2015*

The U.S. military and Philippines armed forces kicked off their biggest joint exercises in 15 years on Monday, at a time of distress in Manila over China's island-building program in the South China Sea.

### [ASEAN Common Time Zone In Line With ASEAN Community](#)

*Channelnewsasia.com - April 20, 2015*

An ASEAN common time zone would be in line with the formation of an integrated ASEAN Community by the end of this year, Foreign Minister Anifah Aman said on Monday.

### [Indonesia Can Keep Growth Going by Opening Up More: Kishore Mahbubani](#)

*Straitstimes.com - April 20, 2015*

Indonesia has an inner resilience that has seen it weather the Asian financial crisis of 1997-98, the 2008 global recession and other smaller economic mishaps, but what it needs to keep growing is more openness to the world, said Mr Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the ongoing World Economic Forum on East Asia.

### [Fulfilling The Promise of Asean](#)

*The Wall Street Journal - April 21, 2015*

The 10 dynamic markets that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) have a formidable job in front of them if they are to fulfill the promise of their new economic community to be launched later this year.

### [KL Declaration Drafted To Enhance Networking Of Capital Cities In ASEAN Countries](#)

*Astroawani.com - April 21, 2015*

The Officials of ASEAN countries yesterday agreed on a draft declaration to enhance their capital cities' networking during Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the 3rd Meeting of Governors/ Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGM) here.

### [Indonesia, Thailand to Cooperate on Ending Illegal Fishing](#)

*Bangkokpost.com - April 23, 2015*

Indonesia and Thailand agreed Thursday to set up a joint taskforce on illegal fishing, a lucrative cross-border trade that labour groups claim is responsible for enslaving thousands of workers from across Southeast Asia. Thai companies have been linked to shadowy fishing operations in Indonesia, a bountiful hunting ground for a blackmarket industry that costs Jakarta an estimated \$20 billion in losses every year.

### [The 26th ASEAN Summit: What Are Malaysia's Priorities?](#)

*The Diplomat.com - April 23, 2015*

Earlier this week, local media outlets reported that Malaysia, as the 2015 chair of the Association of Southeast Asian

Nations (ASEAN), had formulated strategies and priorities to realize the establishment of an ASEAN Community by the end of 2015 ahead of the 26th ASEAN Summit and related meetings to be held in Malaysia this weekend.

### [Expectations High Ahead of ASEAN Summit](#)

*Channelnewsasia.com - April 24, 2015*

Malaysia will host the 26th ASEAN Summit beginning this weekend till Monday, April 27. It is the fourth time that Malaysia is chairing the 10-country-Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), since the grouping was founded in 1967. Expectations are high, with all eyes focused on Malaysia, to ensure the setting up of the ASEAN Community by year-end.

### [KL 'to avoid criticising Beijing' at ASEAN Meet](#)

*Todayonline.com - April 24, 2015*

Malaysia is steering clear of criticising China's actions in the South China Sea at a meeting of South-east Asian leaders in a few days' time, a draft statement seen by Reuters shows. This is despite a push by the Philippines to denounce Beijing's reclamation work.

### [Singapore Red Cross Launches Appeal For Funds For Nepal Quake Victims](#)

*Channelnewsasia.com - April 26, 2015*

The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) will send S\$50,000 worth of relief items and emergency supplies to earthquake-hit Nepal, it announced in a news release on Sunday. It is also launching an urgent public appeal for funds for relief and recovery efforts.

### [Asean, EU to revisit FTA talks](#)

*Bangkokpost.com - April 26, 2015*

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the European Union will look into resuming their stalled free trade talks after a "stock-taking" meeting at the end of 2015, trade officials from both sides said Sunday. The matter was discussed during a meeting between Asean and EU trade ministers in the Malaysian capital where a series of Asean-related events are taking place.

### [Southeast Asia Divided on Response to Chinese Reclamation in South China Sea](#)

*The Wall Street Journal - April 26, 2015*

The Philippines pushed Southeast Asian neighbors to take a stand against China's expanding footprint in the South China Sea at a summit of the region's trade and security bloc.

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

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