ASEAN News Update August 2023

55th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings (21-22 August 2023)

26th ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting, and Related Meetings (8-10 August)

10th ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

1st ASEAN Finance and Health Ministers Meeting

<u>17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime, and Related Meetings (21-22 August 2023)</u>

41st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting

17th Ministerial Meeting on Environment/Haze

19th Coordinating Conference on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

Commentary

External/Regional Trade

<u>Myanmar</u>

Timor-Leste

Technology/Digitalisation

ASEAN Economic Community

55th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings (21-22 August 2023)

Statements/Instruments

- Joint Media Statement of the 55th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting
- <u>Chair's Statement of The Eleventh EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting</u>
- Joint Media Statement of the 2nd RCEP Ministers' Meeting
- Joint Media Statement of the Twenty-Sixth AEM Plus Three Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The Twenty-Second AEM MOFCOM Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of the Twenty-Eight AEM Closer Economic Relations (CER) Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of the Seventh AEM-Hong Kong, China Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The Twenty-Ninth AEM METI Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The Twentieth AEM-ROK Consultation
- Joint Media Statement on The Signing of The Second Protocol to Amend The Agreement
 <u>Establishing The ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area</u>
- Joint Media Statement of The Twentieth AEM-India Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of the Nineteenth AEM-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The Twelfth AEM-Russia Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The AEM-USTR Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of The Third AEM-UK Consultation
- Joint Media Statement of the Twelfth AEM Canada Consultation
- ASEAN-China Initiative on Enhancing Cooperation on E-Commerce

News

ASEAN pitches itself as open for business with any country The Jakarta Post, 24 August 2023

Asean, Australia and New Zealand's upgraded FTA deal to give boost to trade and investment The Straits Times, 22 August 2023

ASEAN Intellectual Property Register to officially launch ASEAN Secretariat News, 20 August 2023

ASEAN, WIPO sign a Memorandum of Understanding to Expand Cooperation in Specific Areas ASEAN Secretariat News, 20 August 2023

ASEAN charts course for a sustainable future with ambitious ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality

ASEAN Secretariat News, 19 August 2023

Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA): ASEAN to leap forward its digital economy and unlock US\$2 Tn by 2030

ASEAN Secretariat News, 19 August 2023

26th ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting, and Related Meetings (8-10 August)

- Joint Press Statement of the Twenty-Sixth ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration
 Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs
 Meeting (26th DGICM) and its Related Meetings
- Joint Press Statement of the Eighteenth ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration
 Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs
 Meeting Plus Australia Consultation (18th DGICM + Australia Consultation)
- Joint Press Statement of the Second ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration
 Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs
 Meeting Plus Three Consultation (2nd DGICM + 3 Consultation)

10th ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Joint Statement of the 10th ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM)

ASEAN Secretariat News, 25 August 2023

ASEAN braces for risks of 'deglobalization' The Jakarta Post, 28 August 2023

Asean remains 'bright spot' amid global economic uncertainty, says region's finance ministers The Straits Times, 26 August 2023

1st ASEAN Finance and Health Ministers Meeting

Joint Statement of the ASEAN Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting (AFHMM) ASEAN Secretariat News, 24 August 2023

17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime, and Related Meetings (21-22 August 2023)

Statements

- Joint Statement of the Seventeenth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime
- Joint Statement of the Thirteenth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime Consultation
- Joint Statement of the Tenth ASEAN Plus China Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime Consultation
- Joint Statement of the Eighth ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime Consultation
- Joint Statement of the Fourth ASEAN Plus Republic of Korea Ministerial Meeting on Consultation

News

ASEAN vows to improve transnational victim, witness protection The Jakarta Post, 23 August 2023

How ASEAN Can Win Its War Against Illegal and Unregulated Fishing The Diplomat, Asmiati Malik, 17 August 2023

41st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting

- Joint Declaration of The 41st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting on Sustainable Energy <u>Security Through Interconnectivity</u>
- Joint Ministerial Statement of The 41st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting

News

ASEAN delays road map for regional power grid The Jakarta Post, Divya Karyza, 30 August 2023

ASEAN can be a power in solar energy with teamwork Nikkei Asian Review, Fabby Tumiwa and Marlistya Citraningrum, 21 August 2023

Gas field projects in Asean highlight region's climate and energy challenge The Straits Times, 10 August 2023

17th Ministerial Meeting on Environment/Haze

Media Release of 17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and 18th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution ASEAN Secretariat News, 23 August 2023

Asean to boost disaster resilience Bangkok Post, Joy Jacqueline Pereira, 18 August 2023

ASEAN haze pollution laws not forthcoming The Jakarta Post, 2 August 2023

19th Coordinating Conference on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

<u>19th SOC-COM discusses ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Post-2025</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 10 August 2023

Commentary

ASEAN is quietly coming apart at the seams Nikkei Asian Review, Michael Vatikiotis, 28 August 2023

People-centered ASEAN: From mantra to reality The Jakarta Post, Dino Patti Djalal, 23 August 2023

ASEAN economy cannot afford business as usual The Jakarta Post, Julia Tijaja and Denis Hew, 18 August 2023

<u>Asean mapping out a vision for 2045</u> Bangkok Post, Kavi Chongkittavorn, 15 August 2023

<u>A message from South-east Asia to the US</u> The Straits Times, Daljit Singh, Tommy Koh, 14 August 2023

Asean - Bloc 'needs to boost readiness' Bangkok Post, 9 August 2023

ASEAN should duly reconsider its decision-making process The Jakarta Post, Mohamed Hanipa Maidin, 8 August 2023

U.S.-China rivalry challenges dynamic of Japan-Asean ties

New Straits Times, Zarina Zainuddin, 3 August 2023

LKYSPP Counterpoint Southeast Asia Issue 7

- Can the ASEAN Economic Community Succeed in a Two-Tier ASEAN?, Denis Hew
- Inter-country Diversity in ASEAN Is Not the Main Threat to Realising the AEC, Jayant Menon
- Development Gap since the COVID-19 Pandemic Has Worsened and Will Hinder Progress of the AEC, Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit
- ASEAN Free Movement of Skilled Labour and the Role of the Private Sector, Quynh Hong Nguyen

External/Regional Trade

<u>China Makes One Final Diplomatic Push Ahead of ASEAN Leaders' Summit</u> The Diplomat, 28 August 2023

<u>China and ASEAN embrace new era of digitalization</u> The Jakarta Post, Hou Yanqi, 28 August 2023

Japan and ASEAN seek to ease trade through digital shift Nikkei Asian Review, 18 August 2023

<u>China's economic and tourism recovery hold key to ASEAN</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 12 August 2023

Asean and Korea on road to sustainable and equal partnership The Nation, Kim Hae-yong, 8 August 2023

Business council chief bullish on Asean: US companies have 'heck of a lot at stake' there The Straits Times, 8 August 2023

Asean expects trade boost after improvements in FTAs with East Asian economies The Nation, 1 August 2023

Myanmar

<u>Asean's credibility at stake as unresolved Myanmar crisis set to dominate summit talks once more</u> Business Times Singapore, 30 August 2023

<u>Asean role stuck on Myanmar coup</u> Bangkok Post, Thitinan Pongsudhirak, 25 August 2023

Myanmar to Relinquish ASEAN Chairmanship in 2026, Report Claims The Diplomat, 16 August 2023

<u>RI Myanmar leadership key as ASEAN will flags: Analysts</u> The Jakarta Post, 4 August 2023

<u>Asean, Thailand, Myanmar turn page</u> Bangkok Post, Kavi Chongkittavorn, 1 August 2023

Timor-Leste

<u>Timor-Leste still on for ASEAN, insists President Ramos-Horta</u> The Jakarta Post, 8 August 2023

<u>Timor-Leste will rethink ASEAN bid if bloc fails on Myanmar</u> The Jakarta Post, 7 August 2023

Technology/Digitalisation

ASEAN digital senior officials call for unity, collaboration ASEAN Secretariat News, 25 August 2023

ASEAN's New Dilemma: Managing the Artificial Intelligence Space ISEAS Perspective, Kristina Fong Siew Leng, 7 August 2023

ASEAN Economic Community

<u>ASEAN must nurture growth at the epicenter</u> The Jakarta Post, Tarisha Yuliana and Ibrahim Kholilul Rohman, 28 August 2023

Declaration on Promoting Inclusive Business Models: Empowering Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises for Equitable Growth ASEAN Secretariat News, 23 August 2023

<u>Connecting nations, connecting payments in ASEAN</u> The Jakarta Post, Aditya Very Cleverina, 23 August 2023

Thailand urges Asean to lower or lift tax on agricultural goods The Nation, 22 August 2023

<u>Asean's patchwork of data regulations needs a revamp</u> Business Times Singapore, Liu Jingting, 17 August 2023

In pursuit of collective growth

Bangkok Post, Rachmat Budiman, 16 August 2023