



## **PRESS RELEASE: EU ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **DONALD KANAK APPOINTED CHAIRMAN**

### **CARSTEN HESS OF DHL JOINS AS BOARD MEMBER**

### **MINISTER OF FINANCE OF INDONESIA DELIVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO AGM LUNCHEON**

- **The EU-ASEAN Business Council today held its Annual General Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, and elected a new Chairman as well as new members to its Executive Board.**
- **Donald Kanak, Chairman of Eastspring Investments, the asset management arm of Prudential Corporation Asia, was named Chairman of the Business Council.**
- **Carsten Hess, Vice President, Head of Corporate Public Policy, APAC & EEMEA, at DHL was elected to the Executive Board and will become the Business Council's new Treasurer.**
- **Indonesian Finance Minister, H.E. Dr Prof. Bambang Brodjonegoro gives key note address to AGM Luncheon on Economic Development in Indonesia.**

Commenting on his appointment as Chairman of the EU-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL Board, Donald Kanak said: "I am honoured to have been elected to lead the EU-ASEAN Business Council for the next two years. The EU-ABC is widely recognised as the premier body for European Business in ASEAN. As Chairman it is my intention for the EU-ABC to take an active role to deepen and enhance our engagement with ASEAN, its Member States and the European Commission, both to support ASEAN in its regional integration project and further the interests of European businesses in the region."

Mr Kanak added: "The next few years will be very important for the success of the ASEAN Economic Community as ASEAN looks to enhance regional economic integration and increase trade and investment. Europe is the largest source of foreign direct investment to ASEAN and the second largest trading partner. The EU-ABC wants to assist ASEAN and its Member States, and support the European Commission in the deepening of trade and economic ties through further bilateral agreements and, we hope one day, a region-to-region FTA".

Commenting on his appointment to the Executive Board of the EU-ABC, Carsten Hess said: "I feel privileged to be elected as a member of the Executive Board of the EU-ASEAN Business Council which is the recognised industry voice for ASEAN policy makers and industry organisations. As a representative of the DP DHL Corporate Public Policy Group (?) I am committed to working with all members of the EU-ASEAN Business Council to further grow the role of the Council and increase the positive impact of its expertise and position within ASEAN. DP DHL Group firmly believes in the huge potential of ASEAN as a market place for the members of the EU-ASEAN Business Council."

The EU-ASEAN Business Council was honoured by the presence of the EU Ambassador to ASEAN (H.E. Francisco Fontan Pardo), the EU Ambassador to Indonesia and Brunei (H.E. Vincent Guerend), several European Ambassadors to Indonesia and members of the Diplomatic Corps at a lunch following the Annual General Meeting where the special Guest of Honour and speaker was H.E. Bambang Brodjonegoro, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia.

**END**

## Notes to editors:

### 1. About the EU-ASEAN Business Council

The EU-ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) is the primary voice for European business within the ASEAN region.

It is endorsed by the European Commission and recognised by the ASEAN Secretariat. Independent of both bodies, the Council has been established to help promote the interests of European businesses operating within ASEAN and to advocate for changes in policies and regulations which would help promote trade and investment between Europe and the ASEAN region. As such, the Council works on a sectorial and cross-industry basis to help improve the investment and trading conditions for European Businesses in the ASEAN region through influencing policy and decision makers throughout the region and in the EU, as well as acting as a platform for the exchange of information and ideas amongst its members and regional players within the ASEAN region.

The EU-ABC's membership consists of large European Multi-national Corporations and the eight European Chambers of Commerce from around South East Asia. As such, the EU-ABC represents a diverse range of European industries cutting across almost every commercial sphere from car manufacturing through to financial services and including Fast Moving Consumer Goods and high-end electronics and communications. Our members all have a vested interest in enhancing trade, commerce and investment between Europe and ASEAN.

The Executive Director of the EU-ASEAN Business Council is Mr Chris Humphrey, and its Chairman is Mr François Guibert. The Council is led by an elected Board consisting of corporate leaders representing a range of important industry sectors and representatives of the European Chambers of Commerce.

### 2. Profiles of the Executive Board



**Mr. Donald Kanak, Chairman, EU-ASEAN Business Council;  
Chairman, Eastspring Investments**

Don Kanak is the Chairman of Eastspring Investments, the Asia investment organisation of Prudential plc which is one of Asia's leading retail asset managers with US\$131 billion in assets under management (as at 31 December 2015). Don is also Chairman of Prudence Foundation Ltd., the community engagement arm of Prudential in Asia.

Don is based in Hong Kong and has lived and worked in Asia for over 28 years. From 2008 to January 2016, Don served as Chairman of Prudential Corporation Asia, and from 1992 to January 2006, Don served in a number of senior positions at American International Group (AIG), ultimately as Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer of AIG.

In 2011-12, Don chaired the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Insurance and Asset Management and is currently a member of its Council on Southeast Asia. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Don is a Senior Fellow of the Harvard Law School Program on International Financial Systems. He is a Trustee of WWF-Hong Kong, and serves on the National Council of WWF-U.S.

Don holds a J.D. with honours from Harvard Law School and an M.Litt in Management Studies from University of Oxford (U.K.), and a B.A. with highest honors in economics from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and currently chairs the UNC Global Leadership Council.



**Mr. Theodoor Bakker, Vice Chairman & Chamber Representative, EU-ASEAN Business Council; Partner, ABNR Law, Indonesia; Executive Board Member, European Chamber of Commerce, Indonesia**

Mr. Theodoor Bakker, Vice Chairman & Chamber Representative, EU-ASEAN Business Council; Senior Foreign Counsel, Ali Budiardjo, Nugroho, Reksodiputro, Counselors At Law, Jakarta, Indonesia; Executive Board Member, European Chamber of Commerce, Indonesia.

Theodoor graduated from Leiden University in the Netherlands, is admitted to the Amsterdam bar and is a registered Foreign Lawyer under the Indonesian Advocates Law. He has worked in Indonesia since 1984, over time building up extensive experience in foreign direct investment, project finance, including private power, aircraft finance, infrastructure development and general manufacturing investment. During the Asian financial crisis he became involved in many aspects of restructuring and insolvency and has advised on foreign law issues of bankruptcy reform in Indonesia. His practice now also encompasses structured finance and mergers and acquisitions. He is an international commercial arbitrator registered at the National Indonesian Arbitration Institute and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre. He is a Fellow at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

Theodoor is in the Supervisory Board of the Indonesia Netherlands Association and a member of the Executive Board of EuroCham Indonesia. He has published various articles on insolvency and cross-border investment issues and teaches at the Faculty of Law of University of Indonesia and at the Indonesian Ministry of Law and Human Rights.



**Mr. Martin Hayes, Vice Chairman & MNC Representative, EU-ASEAN Business Council, President, Robert Bosch SEA & Managing Director, Robert Bosch Singapore**

Martin Hayes has been the president of Bosch for Southeast Asia, as well as the managing director of Bosch for Singapore since 1 January 2011. Up until October 2014, he was also the managing director of Bosch in Malaysia. Based in Singapore, Mr. Hayes is responsible for driving the Bosch business in the region.

Mr. Hayes was formerly Executive Vice President at Bosch Automotive Thailand Co. Ltd, Rayong, Thailand, responsible for automotive Original Equipment (OE) sales to customers in Southeast Asia and Australia. He was also a director of the Board since January 2006. He was instrumental in setting up the sales organisation across the region and for developing sales growth with OE manufacturers.

Born in Hornsea, the United Kingdom, Mr. Hayes went on to study Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Portsmouth University, where he obtained a 1st class honours degree.

Mr. Hayes joined the Bosch Group in Germany in August 1987 after his stints at Marconi Underwater Water Systems Ltd as a design engineer, and Factron Schlumberger as a manager for test and development. Since then, he has amassed a wealth of international management

and leadership experience in several functions, including global responsibilities. Over the past 25 years, he has worked in Germany, the United Kingdom, and Thailand before arriving in Singapore.

Presently, Mr. Hayes is vice chairman of the EU-ASEAN Business Council, of which he is one of the founding members; a board member of the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) and chairman of the chamber's ASEAN committee; as well as a board member of the Singapore-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (SGC) and chairman of its Automotive Committee Roundtable. He is also an active contributor to the Centaur Group of Senior Management Leadership Program, which is affiliated to the Cranfield University, UK. Mr. Hayes is a certified member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, UK (IET).

Since assuming the role as president of Bosch for Southeast Asia, Mr. Hayes has been speaking at numerous conferences and high-profile events such as the [fourth Kuala Lumpur International Automotive Conference](#), the [FT-Nielsen ASEAN Cities Summit 2015](#), the [ASEAN and AEC 2015](#) conference in Berlin, and chairing the annual [ASEAN-EU Summit](#).



**Mr. Jan B. Djerf, Secretary & Chamber Representative, EU-ASEAN Business Council; Senior Vice President & General Manager, Handelsbanken; Head of South Asia Pacific, President, European Chamber of Commerce (Singapore)**

Mr. Jan B. Djerf represents the Swedish Business Association in Singapore on the EuroCham Board and has been an active Board member since 2005, including taking on the role of Vice President since 3 years. In March 2015, Mr. Djerf was unanimously voted to the Presidency of EuroCham for a two-year term, spanning 2015 - 2017. He is also a Council Member of Singapore Business Federation.

In his professional career, Mr. Djerf's major step towards senior level management came with his appointment as the Head of the Treasury Department at Ericsson in Stockholm, Sweden. This sparked his globetrotting career phase, leading him to be headhunted by Alfinad SA in Brussels, Belgium, a subsidiary of Alfa Laval. Mr. Djerf soon saw his career taking him to Lausanne, Switzerland as Director Group Treasury at Tetra Laval. 1994 saw Mr. Djerf's entry into one of Scandinavia's largest banks, Handelsbanken. In 1998, Mr. Djerf was appointed Head of Foreign Exchange Money Markets and Emerging Markets, Europe. This took him to London and then to Stockholm. In 2004, Mr. Djerf returned to Singapore. He is currently Senior Vice President and General Manager of Handelsbanken Singapore Branch and Head of South Asia and Pacific.



**Mr. Carsten Hess, Nominated Treasurer & MNC Representative, EU-ASEAN Business Council; Vice President & Head of Corporate Public Policy, Asia Pacific, Eastern Europe, Middle East & Africa, Deutsche Post DHL Group**

Mr. Carsten Hess is the Vice President and Head of Corporate Public Policy Asia Pacific & EEMEA of Deutsche Post DHL Group (DP DHL) who is based in Hong Kong. Mr. Hess has been working in Corporate Public Policy for DP DHL for over 13 years. Before he started to oversee the



Asia Pacific region in 2013, he was the Head of European Corporate Representation of DP DHL, Brussels, Belgium.

Before Mr. Hess joined DP DHL, he has worked in MCI (formerly WorldCom) as the Director European Affairs, and General Electric International as Counsel European Affairs.

Mr. Hess was the Chairman of the Executive Committee for Alliance for European Logistics, a cross-sector industry logistics Roundtable in Brussels, Belgium from 2009-2013. He was Member of Board for International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation, a Brussels based NGO from 2006-2012.

Mr. Hess studied Journalism and holds a Law degree major in European Law from University of Hamburg, Germany.

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