

It may be just the first month of the year but the Council has not been resting on its laurels.

Indonesia: A Natural Place for January

With Indonesia as the current Chair of ASEAN, the Council made a trip to Jakarta to start planning for 2023. Under the hospitality and great friendship of EuroCham Indonesia, we had a fruitful meeting to discuss about the 11th ASEAN-EU Business Summit which will be held in August. As usually, the aim of

the Summit will be to forge new and deepen existing partnerships between European and ASEAN businesses. What is different, however, will be a business matching session, amidst meetings, for investments. The team is excited to share more with you in due course.

We were also welcomed by the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) where they warmly shared with us their plans for the chairmanship of ASEAN BAC for 2023, with digital transformation and sustainable development as the key themes to look out for.

Other Activities in January

The EU-ABC worked together with EuroCham Myanmar to hold a closed door briefing on the current business environment in Myanmar, and the broader ASEAN region. Great feedback from our participants in this closed-door event. Thanks to EuroCham Myanmar for their partnership. A similar briefing will take place in March, jointly organised by EABC Thailand and EuroCham Myanmar, with EU-ABC as a supporting partner. This time, it will be a physical, in-person event. Those who are interested can find out more here.



The final week of January saw me travelling to Philippines under the invitation from the European Chamber of Commerce of Philippines (ECCP). Greatly honoured to be invited for their New Year's Reception; and to provide a briefing for EU embassies and ambassadors in Manila.

I concluded the month with yet another journey to Indonesia for our Joint Business Council Meeting where we discussed about [PLEASE INDICATE HERE]. As always, the Council stands ready to support ASEAN and our partners in their endeavours to strengthen

partnership with our members for the betterment of the region.

Events to look forward to in February 2023

We are in full gear for the preparatory work for the Mission Trip in Vietnam which will take place from 14th February – 17th February 2023. Alongside, we will be hosting our third Value of Diagnostics workshop on 13th February 2023. Those who are interested can register for the event <u>here</u>.

The Council will also be attending EuroCham Vietnam's Whitebook Launch in the morning of 16th February 2023. 18 Sector Committees from EuroCham Vietnam contributed their insights and suggestions, which will be presented to top Vietnamese officials. With an aim to improve the business climate in Vietnam through evidence-based, sector-specific legal, trade, and investment recommendations, this is an event not to be missed. We hope to see many of you there. Registration is now open and can be made through this <u>link</u>.

More exciting events lined up for you by the Council and our EuroCham comrades, from learning how to detect scams (organised by ECCP) to combatting counterfeit and illicit trade (organised by EuroCham Cambodia), the best is yet to come.

On a final note, gentle reminder to all those who have yet to prepare your Valentine's Day gift, perhaps a trip to Vietnam when you can also join us on our Mission Trip might be an idea. All jokes aside, wishing you stay well, keep safe, until the next Notes from the ED.