

Women's Forum Myanmar – ASEAN ***Women: A driving force in transitional societies***

5-6 December, 2014
Naypyidaw and Yangon

As of 3 Dec.

Myanmar is chairing ASEAN this year as the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) process heads towards a single market for more than 600 million people and a combined nominal GDP of more than US\$ 2.3 trillion. The promise of ASEAN is for substantially enhanced economic dynamism and opportunity. What is the perspective of women leaders on how ASEAN is advancing and the challenges still to be addressed? How can women – an under-utilized resource and talent pool throughout the region – reach their full economic, political, and social potential in the integrated economic space which is taking form?

The 2014 Women's Forum Myanmar - ASEAN addresses these issues from a Myanmar and regional perspective. Organized by the Women's Forum for the Economy & Society together with the French Embassy in Myanmar, in close cooperation with the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, our second edition starts from the premise that boosting women as a driving force for economic development is in everyone's benefit. The meeting brings together national, regional, and international business leaders with their counterparts in government, civil society, and the media. It is an important opportunity for different stakeholders to meet around women's empowerment in Myanmar and ASEAN more broadly.

On the program:

- Plenary sessions on achieving economic transition with/for women too; making political institutions more responsive to their constituents; creating healthy ecosystems for small and medium-sized enterprises; achieving investment in ASEAN which is both inclusive and responsible; and developing financial sectors to serve the most vulnerable people.
- Roundtables in parallel on the role of cultural and religious values in transitional processes; improving urban living conditions; healthcare in ASEAN; women's rights; community control over land and natural resources; freedom of expression and the need for transparency; realizing the potential of ASEAN's educated women; and women at the forefront of disaster prevention and management.

All plenaries and most roundtables at the Women's Forum Myanmar will be held in simultaneous translation (English and Myanmar language) to permit everyone to participate. As was the case for our 2013 inaugural edition, specific grants will facilitate the attendance of women leaders from all over Myanmar. *We look forward to welcoming you to a uniquely inclusive and relevant Women's Forum for Myanmar and Southeast Asia.*

Thursday, 4 December
Yangon

18:30-21:00

Cocktail reception at the French Ambassador's Residence, Yangon
By invitation only

Friday, 5 December
Myanmar International Convention Center 2, Naypyidaw

08:00-09:30

Registration for delegates and speakers joining the meeting directly in Naypyidaw.

09:30-09:50

Auditorium

Forum opening address

HE U Thein Sein, President, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

09:50-10:00

Auditorium

Forum welcome remarks

HE Mr Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of the Republic of France to the Union of the Republic of Myanmar
Ms Jacqueline Franjou, CEO, Women's Forum for the Economy & Society

10:00-11:00

Auditorium

How to empower women

Keynote addresses:

HE Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

HE Ms Annick Girardin, French Minister of State for Development and Francophony

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the National League for Democracy, Member of the Parliament, Chairperson of the Lower House Committee for Rule of Law, Peace and Tranquility, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and Nobel Peace Prize laureate

11:00-11:30

Networking break

11:30-12:30

Auditorium

Achieving economic transition with/for women too

Why women's full participation in the economy is critical for economic growth and sustainable development, and how ASEAN businesses, governments and civil society organizations can best promote women as actors in and agents for the economic transition to come.

Moderator:

Ms Yumiko Murakami, Head, OECD Tokyo Centre

Speakers:

HE Dr Khin San Yee, Minister of Education of the Republic of Union of Myanmar

Daw Thet Thet Khine, Vice-President, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association

Ms Renata Lok-Dessallien, United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar

12:30-14:00

Ballroom

Lunch keynote with Karin Finkelston : Empowerment and inclusion

Moderator:

Ms Gwen Robinson, Senior Asia Editor, Nikkei Asian Review, and Senior Fellow, Institute of Security & International Studies, Chulalongkorn University

Speaker:

Ms Karin Finkelston, Vice President, Global Partnerships, IFC

14:15-15:15

Auditorium

ASEAN connectivity: The path to regional growth

What is the vision – and what are practical achievements and next steps – in creating a well-connected ASEAN bringing peoples, goods, services and capital closer together? How to manage the different stages of countries like Myanmar or Vietnam and Singapore or Malaysia?

Moderator:

Ms Gwen Robinson, Senior Asia Editor, Nikkei Asian Review, and Senior Fellow, Institute of Security & International Studies, Chulalongkorn University

Speakers:

Daw Cindy Chaw Khin Khin, Executive Committee Member, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, National Advisor, eWomen project

Mr Thomas Friedberger, SVP and CEO, Airbus Group Singapore

Dr Véronique Salze-Lozac'h, Director of Economic Development and Chief Economist, the Asia Foundation

15:15-15:45

Networking break

15:45-16:45

Auditorium

Creating a healthy ecosystem for small and medium-sized enterprises

What is being done – and what more still needs to be done in Myanmar and elsewhere in ASEAN – to enable high-potential small- and medium-sized enterprises to thrive in ASEAN countries? How to ensure that women entrepreneurs can succeed too?

Moderator:

Ms Louise Lucas, Asia news editor, the FT

Speakers:

Daw Aye Aye Win, Deputy Director General, Department of Small and Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Industry

Daw Su Su Tin, Managing Director, Exotissimo, and Vice Chairperson, Myanmar Tourism Marketing

Ms Virginia Littlejohn, President and CEO, Quantum Leaps, Inc., Global Advisor, WEConnect International, and Lead International Consultant, Women and Trade Programme International Trade Centre

Ms Josephine Price, Co-founder and Director, Anthem Asia Limited

16:45-17:00

Auditorium

Day 1 conclusions and thanks

Speaker:

HE U Soe Thane, Union Minister, Office of the President, Republic of the Union of Myanmar

17:00-20:00

Transfer back to Yangon for those speakers and delegates continuing to Day 2.

20:00-22:00

Poolside Terrace, Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake

Networking cocktail reception

Hosted by Chevron

Host welcome:

Ms Gill Riggs, General Manager Human Resources - Asia Pacific, Chevron

Saturday, 6 December
Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake, Yangon

07:15-08:30

Registration for delegates and speakers in Yangon.

08:30-08:45

Grand Ballroom

Forum Day 2 welcome keynote addresses

Speakers:

HE U Soe Thane, Union Minister, Office of the President, Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ms Jacqueline Franjou, CEO, Women's Forum for the Economy & Society

08:45-09:45

Grand Ballroom

Creating inclusive and responsible investment in ASEAN

The ASEAN single market will create important new investment opportunities in the region. Why and how must the investment which follows be made more inclusive and responsible?

Moderator:

Ms Vicky Bowman, Director, Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business

Speakers:

Daw Khin Sanda Win, Managing Director, Sanda Hotels & Services and Sanda Tour

Ms Elaine Tan, Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation and Trustee, ASEAN CSR Network

Mr Jean-Christophe Philbé, Director South and Southeast Asia, EDF Group

09:45-10:00

Grand Ballroom

Investing to bring more ASEAN women into STEM

The gender gap in STEM – science, technology, engineering and math – and how this can be addressed.

Speaker:

Ms Melody Meyer, President, Chevron Asia Pacific Exploration and Production

10:00-10:30

Networking break

10:30-11:30

Grand Ballroom

Making political institutions more responsive to their constituents

Responsive governance is essential to enhance people-centered political processes in ASEAN countries. What are the next steps in Myanmar and other ASEAN member states to make political institutions more responsive to their constituents?

Moderator:

Ms Melanne Verveer, Executive Director, the Institute for Women, Peace and Security, Georgetown University, and Founding Partner, Seneca Point Global

Speakers:

Daw Tin Nwe Oo, Member of Parliament, National Democratic Force, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

U Aung Myo Min, Director, Equality Myanmar

Ms Mu Sochua, Member of Parliament, Kingdom of Cambodia

Ms Valérie Pécresse, Member of the Lower Chamber (National Assembly) of the French Parliament and former Minister for Budget and Minister of Higher Education and Research

11:40-12:45

Grand Ballroom

Developing the financial sector for the benefit of the most in need

Financial inclusion must take place in parallel with financial sector deepening if ASEAN member states are to realize inclusive growth and equitable development. What is the experience of those working today to develop inclusive financial sectors in Myanmar and other ASEAN countries?

Moderator:

Dr Annie Koh, Vice President and Professor of Finance, Singapore Management University, and Chair, Global Agenda Council on South-East Asia, World Economic Forum

Speakers:

Daw Kim Chawsu Gyi, Managing Director, International Banking Division, and Head of Transformations, KBZ Bank

Daw Lynn Lynn Tin Htut, Vice President, Myanmar Business Executive, and Co-Founder and Managing Director of Mango Marketing Services Co., Ltd.

Ms Maria Concepcion G. Hina, Chief Technical Director, ACCESS Advisory

Dr Suryani SF Motik, Executive Director for Indonesia, WEConnect International

12:45-13:00

Room change

13:00-14:00

Poolside Terrace

Networking lunch

14:00-14:15

Room change

14:15-15:30

Ballroom 1

How to reconcile tradition and modernity: The role and responsibility of cultural and religious values

Many aspects of ASEAN's rich religious and cultural traditions still thrive to this day despite rapid modernization and development. How to ease conflicts between communities' value systems and to better reconcile Southeast Asia's economic development with its immense cultural diversity?

Moderator:

Ms Sophie Gherardi, Founder and Director of the Publication, *fait religieux.com*

Speakers:

Daw Nanda Hmun, Director General, Department of Historical Research, Ministry of Culture, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Daw May Sabe Phyu, Director, Gender Equality Network

Ms Rose Ismail, Co-Founder and Director, Centre for Strategic Engagement, and Co-Founder, Sisters in Islam

14:15-15:30

Ballroom 3

The ASEAN Economic Community's coming impact on healthcare goods and services

Regional healthcare integration is already happening in ASEAN. What will the AEC mean for the legal and regulatory framework for the provision of healthcare goods and services, and which are the dialogues most needed to prepare for this?

Moderator:

Ms May Wong, Correspondent, Channel NewsAsia

Speakers:

HE Dr Thein Thein Htay, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ms Joyce Chang, Director Asia Pacific office, Joint Commission International

Dr Robert Sebbag, Vice-President, Access to medicines, Sanofi

14:15-15:30

Ballroom 2

Whither women's rights in ASEAN?

How could women's rights be furthered by the AEC? Could there be drawbacks for women's rights from this transition to a single market, and how to address these?

Moderator:

Ms Gwen Robinson, Senior Asia Editor, *Nikkei Asian Review*, and Senior Fellow, Institute of Security & International Studies, Chulalongkorn University

Speakers:

Prof Dr Khin Mar Tun, President, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation

Daw Susu Thatun, Senior Advisor on Peacebuilding, Recovery and Development to the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Myanmar

Ms Emma Bonino, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Leader of the Senate and Member of Parliament, the Italian Republic, and former European Union Commissioner

Ms Melanne Vermeer, Executive Director, the Institute for Women, Peace and Security, Georgetown University, and Founding Partner, Seneca Point Global

14:15-15:30

Mandalay room

Better city for a better life: Improving urban sanitation and transportation

Meeting a great challenge for Myanmar's and ASEAN's development: improving fundamental infrastructure and services for cities, drivers for growth and home to a rapidly increasing share of the region's population.

Moderator:

Ms Janet Jackson, Country Representative, United Nations Population Fund, Myanmar

Speakers:

Daw Aye Aye Myint, Director, Urban and Regional Planning Division, Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, Ministry of Construction, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ms Eri Honda, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Urban Development and Water Division, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

Dr Lai Choo Malone-Lee, Director, the Centre for Sustainable Asian Cities, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore

15:30-16:00

Networking break

16:00-17:15

Ballroom 1

Freedom of expression and the need for transparency

What are the challenges for freedom of expression in ASEAN today? Why are open and transparent news and information flows essential to ASEAN's goals? What to do to better protect journalists and to enlarge the space for vibrant, independent media?

Moderator:

Ms Kelly Macnamara, Myanmar News Editor, Agence France-Presse

Speakers:

Dr Ma Thida, Surgeon, author and chief editor, Pae Tin Than Journal

Ms Jacqueline de Guillenchmidt, Lawyer, Paris Bar, and former Member of the French Constitutional Council

Ms Nica Dumlao, Program Coordinator for Internet Rights, Foundation for Media Alternatives

16:00-17:15

Ballroom 3

Realizing the potential of ASEAN's educated women

What are the barriers in different ASEAN countries to women advancing in public and private sector careers? What can be done to overcome these barriers and to educate more young women for future leadership?

Moderator:

Ms May Wong, Correspondent, Channel NewsAsia

Speakers:

Dr Yin Yin Nwe, Chief Education Advisor to the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Dr Astrid S. Tuminez, Regional Director, Legal and Corporate Affairs (Southeast Asia), Microsoft and Adjunct Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Ms Barbara Hou, Founder, Asian Women's Leadership University Project

Ms Rui Matsukawa, Director, Gender Mainstreaming Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

17:15-17:30

Room change

16:00-17:15

Ballroom 2

The land issue: Working towards greater community control over land and natural resources

The need for member states of ASEAN to better protect the rights, access, and control of small holder farmers and peoples directly dependent on natural resources. And how some are working to address this need.

Moderator:

Ms Lyndal Barry, Program Manager, EU, Capacity Building Program, International Management Group

Speakers:

Dr Ohnmar Khaing, Coordinator, Food Security Working Group

Daw Mar Mar Oo, Labour Activist, Generation 88

Ms Anisa Draboo, Director of Communications and Advocacy, Landesa India

Ms Antoinette Royo, Executive Director, The Samdhana Institute

16:00-17:15

Mandalay room

How to cope with climate change: Women at the forefront of disaster prevention and management

As a group, women are said to be more vulnerable to climate change. They are also leading today in finding means to mitigate climate change's risks.

Moderator:

Dr Jean D'Cunha, Senior Gender Advisor (Focal Point for UN Women), Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator – Myanmar

Speakers:

Prof Dr Khin Ni Ni Thein, Member of the Committee and Secretary, Water Expert Group, National Water Resources Committee

Ms Christa Raeder, Bangladesh Country Director, World Food Programme

Dr Corazon Claudio, Chair/President, EARTH Institute Asia

Dr Sepali Kottegoda, Chair, Asia Pacific Women's Watch

17:30-17:50

Ballroom 1

Closing keynote address: 3 scenarios for ASEAN Women from 2015 onward

17:50-18:00

Ballroom 1

Closing words from the Women's Forum

Speaker:

Ms Jacqueline Franjou, CEO, Women's Forum for the Economy & Society

18:00-19:00

Farewell cocktail reception

Hosted by KBZ Group and Fortune International