

Forum on Regional Economic Integration and Inclusive Growth

17 September 2012

Carlos P. Romulo Hall, NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City

PIDS, in partnership with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA) and the Asian Development Bank Office for Regional Economic Integration (ADB OREI) will be conducting a forum on ***‘Regional Economic Integration and Inclusive Growth’*** on September 17, 2012. The forum will hopefully provide the appropriate base to better understand and resolve issues surrounding regional economic integration. In particular, it will highlight issues on the country’s preparedness for economic integration and the role of small and medium enterprises. It features presentations by leading experts in regional economic integration, and highlights issues on small and medium enterprises amidst globalization. Below is a tentative program for this event:

Tentative Programme

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| 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. | Registration |
| 9:30 - 9:45 a.m. | Opening Remarks
Dr. Josef T. Yap
President, PIDS |
| 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. | Asian Economic Integration Monitor (AEIM)- Regional Economic Integration: A Balanced View
Mr. James P. Villafuerte
Team Leader, Asia Regional Integration Center
Office of Regional Economic Integration, ADB |
| 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. | Health Break |
| 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. | Panel Discussion on ASEAN Economic Community Mid-term Review (AEC-MTR Report)

Trade Liberalization and Facilitation
Dr. Erlinda M. Medalla
Research Fellow, PIDS

Investment Liberalization and Facilitation
Dr. Rafaelita M. Aldaba
Research Fellow, PIDS

Transport Facilitation
Dr. Gilberto M. Llanto
Research Fellow, PIDS |
| 11:15 - 12:00 noon | Open Forum |
| 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. | Lunch Break |
| 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. | Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Globalized Economies: An Alternative Path to Inclusive Growth
Dr. Dionisius A. Narjoko |

Researcher, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

2:15 - 2:45 p.m. Corruption and the Local Business Environment: Insights from SMEs
in 29 Philippine Cities
Dr. Ronald U. Mendoza
Executive Director, AIM Policy Center
Associate Professor of Economics, Asian Institute of Management (AIM)

and

Mr. Joel E. Bancolita
Statistician, AIM Policy Center

2:45 - 3:00 p.m. Health Break

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Open Forum

4:00 -4:15 p.m. Closing Remarks
Hon. Merly M. Cruz
Undersecretary for Regional Operations Development
and Development Group (RODG)