

To: KONIG Helena (TRADE); art 4(1)(b) (); GUEREND Vincent (EEAS-JAKARTA) (Vincent.GUEREND@eeas.europa.eu); art 4(1)(b) ();
[redacted]
[redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (); [redacted] ()
Subject: Report Book launch event "Doing Business in ASEAN markets" - Indonesian mission - 23 April 2017
Attachments: DERAEFI_2017.03.28_17.39.36_5C4N7372_1.pdf; invitation to a book launching

art 4(1)(b) and the undersigned participated on Thursday 23 April in a book launch event "Doing Business in ASEAN markets" upon invitation by the Indonesian mission.

- Network opportunity with several Ambassadors (IDN, SGP, MAL, Brunei, DCM AUS) present. Usual circle of consultants attended.
- IDN quite concerned about the EP opinion report on palm oil, but keen to use this as an occasion to enter in dialogue with the EP. IDN had been contacted by the INTA Secretariat to organise a mission to IDN. Since INTA Sec emphasizes a field visit to a palm oil plantation IDN was considering to invite ENVI MEPs along.
- IDN President Jokowi and Trade Minister Enggar Lukita will come to Brussels for the opening of the Europalia festival in October 2017. IDN would like to be able to report on a successful third round with possibly some deliverables ahead of the visit. We asked the Mission to inform us of dates for a possible bilateral as soon as possible.
- We informed that HK would write to Pak Iman soon and stressed the importance of fixing dates for the 3rd round soon.
- The presentation of the book itself did not meet expectations but repeated generalities e.g. on the need for foreign investors to factor in country specifics and different legal regimes when wanting to invest in ASEAN. The most interesting part was a table illustrating how more than 50% of assets listed at the PHI or IDN stock exchange are controlled by the top 10 families in the country (see annex). In reply to a question posed by the Commission on the method used for calculating property ownership, the author could not elaborate on details regarding the treatment of SOEs (N.B. more than 150 in Indonesia), likely because this data was not original but taken from the World Bank.
- In the Q&A session I replied to a question from the audience on the state of play of the CEPA/FTA talks and outlined our wider engagement in ASEAN.

art 4(1)(b) and I received a copy of the book - in case of interest)

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DG TRADE

Unit C2 Trade relations with South and South East Asia, Australia, New Zealand

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