



16 November 2011

ACTION ASEAN !

Register now for Cocktails at HSBC

Our cocktail event and Mission update with gold sponsors, HSBC, is selling well so don't hesitate, if you haven't yet done so, to register and ensure your place.

Speakers include HSBC's Hong Kong based Regional Head of Trade and Supply Chain Asia Pacific, Simon Constantinides and Malaysia / Brunei Mission leaders, Sir Peter Maire and Sir Kenneth Stevens.

Date: Thursday 24 November 2011
Time: 5.00 to 7.00 p.m.
Venue: HSBC, Level 9, 1 Queen Street, Auckland
RSVP: By Tuesday 22 November 2011

For details and registration please [click here](#)
For a bio of Simon Constantinides [click here](#)

We thank HSBC for its continuing and valuable support and hospitality

Mission expressions of interest sought

If you are interested in the Mission and keeping up to date with plans, please both attend the Cocktail function on 24th November and register an expression of interest with Catherine Mullane of ENZ by [clicking here](mailto:Catherine.Mullane@ema.co.nz) (Catherine.Mullane@ema.co.nz)

Brunei shows promise of ICT innovation

IT services is one of the sectors featured on the March 2012 Trade Mission to Malaysia and Brunei.

This article from the Brunei Times seems to reveal there may opportunities for NZ to assist in this area. Please [click here](http://www.bt.com.bn/editorial/2011/11/15/it-help-them-make-us-proud) (<http://www.bt.com.bn/editorial/2011/11/15/it-help-them-make-us-proud>)

Thai Update Breakfast – Justin Barnett returns

Bangkok based New Zealander, Justin Barnett is the managing director of Grayling Thailand. He impressed us last February with a fascinating backgrounder on Thailand, its politics, its economy and in particular its business scene.

ASEAN NEW ZEALAND COMBINED BUSINESS COUNCIL INC.
PO Box 133262, Eastridge, Auckland 1146, New Zealand, phone +64 9 578 1312,
fax +64 9 578 1326, mobile +64 21 279 6545, email dcatty@asean.org.nz, www.asean.org.nz

Justin returns to update us at a members' breakfast being planned for Tue 28 February 2012. Whilst your management is doing the planning, please meantime diarise and full details will follow in the New Year.

Thai CEP review revels in trade growth

Since coming into effect on 1 July 2005, bilateral merchandise trade between NZ and Thailand has doubled to NZ\$2.086 billion in the year to June 2011

"... a remarkable achievement given the difficult global economic environment in recent years," according to Trade Minister Groser during a review with his Thai counterpart

"We are now looking to the future of the TNZCEP to see what improvements can be made, so that it continues to deliver benefits consistent with a modern 21st century trade and economic partnership," he continued.

For a copy of the Joint Report please [click here](#)

Think Small: Challenges and opportunities facing small countries in a rapidly changing global economy

For details of an interesting NZ Asia Institute event with now Singapore based, Dr David Skilling as guest speaker please [click here](#)

Agreeing to agree

The Hawaii announcement, basically agreeing to come to an agreement, was generally welcomed as was the confirmed interest of Japan and Canada. And China's having a look, of course, too.

A critical negotiation, where we hope time will not totally be of the essence. New Zealand and its ASEAN partners in the group will need to ensure their individual interests are not subsumed in such a powerful alliance.

For Bloomberg's report please [click here](#) (<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-11-13/obama-pushes-trade-deal-in-bid-to-bolster-u-s-foothold-in-asia.html>)

Who fiddled while Rome burned?

For a wry perspective [click here](#) http://www.investmentpostcards.com/2011/11/15/laugh-out-loud-berlusconi-retirement-party/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+wordpress%2FVYxj+%28Investment+Postcards+from+Cape+Town%29