

Essay 1 – ASEAN: Origin, evolution, economy

The integration of ten countries as ASEAN. Initially, there were only five countries setting up by the Bangkok declaration in 1967 (as follows Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Moreover, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Lao, Myanmar join the ASEAN group in the following years. The purpose of forming the Association of Southeast Asia National is to promote regional cooperation and ensure stability whether in economy or political also for mutual advantages as well.

As ASEAN community in phases of economic integration, proposed trade liberalization and package-deal arrangements for large industrial projects. The ASEAN free trade area or AFTA was set in 1992 for competing effectively in the international market and investment, its objective is free trade. Furthermore moderate tariff reductions in order to protect domestic products not only charge higher tariff for foreign products but also try to produce goods with the lowest cost as comparative advantage among ASEAN community. Consequently, there is an increasing the intra-ASEAN trade.

The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) is developed from ASEAN. Aiming to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) such as Japanese company, Toyota invested factory in Thailand because Thai labor has lower wage than Japanese labor. However, China and India as competitors that has the same destinations for FDI. The form of AEC could be seen as European Union (EU). The main focus is on functional cooperation, closing the development gap between ASEAN6 and CLMV, plus increasing market power in economy. ASEAN economy, the total number of population in ASEAN community combined is the third largest in the world in 2014

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and over the half of the ASEAN's population is under 30 years old which implies that ASEAN community has a huge number of people in labor force. [The overall of GDP since 2007 to 2014 increased by 76% in GDP per capita] or can be explained as amount of money earned per person in ASEAN has a gradual growth by 76%. Nevertheless, using GDP as the indicator to gauge the health of a country's economy among ASEAN countries, lately CLMV countries has boost their economy in the last seven years which is higher than ASEAN6 and the overall, it affects the overall economic sector, as the increasing in number of manufacturing and decreasing in agriculture, the evidence supported share by main economic sectors from 2015-2017. In my point of view, according to the growth theory, Solow growth model, for boosting economic growth, GDP growth can be derive from total factor productivity such as technical progress, better management and organization which can implies in the CLMV countries that they have been improved in the technological innovation. However, by management, the ASEAN community should be very carefully concern because the region of most ASEAN countries are proper agricultural. If they give up over agricultural, there would be over labor force in the industry.

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Essay 2 - Cambodia economy

Located in tropical zone north of the equator or to the west by Thailand, Cambodia. The capital city is Phnom Penh. The landscape comprise tropical rainforest and nutritious cultivated land. Therefore, the main export comes from paddy, rubber, peppers timber sales ,mostly are agricultural products .But also gold and cigarettes as well (in the black market). In comparing the neighbor countries, the growth in the economy of Cambodia still low, however the GDP itself is seen steady growth.

The income per capita or GDP per capita ,according to the population of Cambodia is approximately 16.28 million or ranking the 66th of the world, the GDP is steady growing around 7 percent and the sixth fastest growing economy in the world which the GDP per capita is a measure of a country's standard of living. It tells that standard of living of Cambodian rising every year. Furthermore, the other countries especially neighboring countries involved in helping Cambodia. Such as Thailand. Since the first election, Cambodia and Thailand have enjoyed the bilateral relations by exchanging the official visits in all levels included royal visits ,top leaders visits, ministerial level and People to people along the borders and other mechanisms. In the royal visits, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn has came to Cambodia even before their first election in 1993. She donated the money for the construction Kampong Chheuteal school and upgraded to Kampong Chheuteal Institute of Technology. Moreover, giving scholarships for studying in Thailand , as the guest Cambodia lecturer received this opportunity. The education system in Cambodia has been improved, and there has been cooperated in education at border provinces such as Koh Kong and Pursat in Trat Province, Thailand. The Cambodian the has studied at school in Thailand around border provinces has an ability to speak

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and understand Thai.

As mentioned earlier, the population of Cambodia is around 16.28 million and more than half of population is under 25 years old and the workforce is increasingly well educated. In the past, the reason Cambodia labor work in Thailand due to the higher pay wage rate. Nowadays, Cambodia labor force has become eager to learn and work with global companies, therefore they are not only employee anymore but the owner instead. Also, in further of more educated in Cambodia. It affects in the investment, the trade volume of Cambodian world wide has been making greater in these days and also in the future as well such as Agreement in Bilateral trade on investment promotion and protection.

In addition, the Ayeyawedy-Chao phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation strategy (ACMECS) was establish by the four member countries namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand as the objectives to complement economic gap and to further promote sustain growth of the sub-region and cooperate not only in trade but also benefit for transportation of goods but ~~people as well~~. ACMECS is benefit for the four founding countries themselves because they have been ~~agreed~~ ^{✓ or} for cooperation of using the route of each other ? which implies the political and economic among the countries are well organized. This ACMECS group not only benefit for themselves but also add value to ASEAN or a stronger ASEAN.

Cambodia is involved in ASEAN, CLMV and ACMECS which have the similar objective ~~is~~ to decrease the gap of development and also for further investment and trade and by all these activities would be the advantages for Cambodia.

V. ing

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