

Media Accreditation Opens for First East Asia Meeting in Bangkok

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- World Economic Forum on East Asia to take place for the first time in Thailand
- Over 450 participants to convene in Bangkok, Thailand, on 30 May – 1 June 2012
- Theme of this year's meeting: *Shaping the Region's Future through Connectivity*
- Media accreditation opens today; to apply, please register online at <http://www.weforummedia.org>

Geneva, Switzerland, 21 March 2012 – The World Economic Forum on East Asia will be held this year for the first time in Bangkok, Thailand, on 30 May – 1 June. Under the theme *Shaping the Region's Future through Connectivity*, the meeting will bring together over 450 leaders to discuss how to ensure a competitive and connected region, as well as to reinforce ongoing integration efforts to finally achieve the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint in the years to come.

“Strategically located between China and India, South-East Asia’s average growth rate in 2012 will surpass 5%, making this one of the most economically dynamic regions of the world,” said Sushant Palakurthi Rao, Senior Director, Head of Asia, World Economic Forum. “The meeting is therefore an exceptional opportunity not only for leaders from the ASEAN region, but also for those who see in the ASEAN countries a major evolving geopolitical and geo-economic pillar of the global economy.”

The Co-Chairs of the World Economic Forum on East Asia are: **Pailin Chuchottaworn**, President and Chief Executive Officer, PTT Public Company, Thailand; **Helene Gayle**, President and Chief Executive Officer, CARE USA, USA; **Gerald Lawless**, Executive Chairman, Jumeirah Group, United Arab Emirates; **Gérard Mestrallet**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, GDF SUEZ, France; **Malvinder M. Singh**, Executive Chairman, Fortis Healthcare, India; and **Masami Yamamoto**, President and Representative Director, Fujitsu, Japan.

Media accreditation for the meeting is now open. If you would like to cover this event, please register online at www.weforummedia.org by **Friday 18 May 2012**. As the number of accreditations issued is strictly limited, we will not be able to accommodate late registrations. No accreditation will be granted on site.

Located at the heart of ASEAN and representing its second largest economy, Thailand is an ideal place to discuss how senior decision-makers can shape the region’s future opportunities while creating the models for improved risk management and sustainable and equitable growth.

The programme of the meeting is built on three key themes:

- Rethinking Regional Models for a New Global Context
- Responding to a Region@Risk

Notes to Editors

Everything about this year's World Economic Forum on East Asia: <http://wef.ch/EA2012>

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