APEC Leaders’ Week 2013

The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) has functioned as a unique forum in which leading business and political leaders from the 21 APEC member economies come together to further enhance economic cooperation and growth for the Asia Pacific region through consensus. The APEC framework has helped facilitate cooperation and expand trade and investments throughout the region and beyond.

During the annual APEC Leaders’ Week, APEC leaders took the opportunity of this platform to interact with each other, discussing and ironing out trade and investment issues in an open and forthright manner.

The Summit was held in the beautiful island of Bali and hosted by H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia, who showed great leadership and sincerity in providing an environment conducive to achieving objectives that will benefit the Asia Pacific region.

Throughout the APEC Leaders’ Week 2013, heads of government, trade, economics and finance ministers from the 21 APEC member economies, together with many of the world’s most influential corporate titans and Chief Executive Officers, gathered to discuss and work out a broad framework towards sustainable growth and development, which aims to benefit all the generations to come in the Asia Pacific region.
APEC Voices of the Future 2013

APEC Voices of the Future, which is the main platform for ‘Youth Voice’ at the annual APEC Summit, was held in conjunction with the APEC Leaders’ Week and the APEC CEO Summit from 2 to 8 October 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. More than 130 APEC Voices educators and youth delegates from 17 APEC member economies, namely Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, People’s Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America and Vietnam, gathered in Bali to engage business and political leaders from the 21 APEC member economies.

“Our theme, ‘Resilient Asia-Pacific-Engine of Global Growth,’ is all about drawing on our strengths. Our objective is to make the region the epicentre for the world’s economic advancement. And in that light, Indonesia has set three priorities for the APEC year: ‘Attaining the Bogor Goals’, Achieving Sustainable Growth with Equity’ and ‘Promoting Connectivity’. I believe that through close collaboration with the business community, APEC can achieve these priorities.”

H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
President of the Republic of Indonesia

The Indonesian government, APEC Host Committee 2013 and ABAC Indonesia provided the APEC Voices delegates with excellent hospitality with VIP status throughout the whole APEC week. H.E. Gita Irawan Wirjawan, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia, extended a very warm welcome to the APEC Voices delegates and called upon the youth delegates, who represent the next generation of leaders, to take up the responsibility of promoting a stronger regional economy among the APEC member economies. He strongly believed that through the friendship, better understanding and bonds forged between delegates from the different economies during the APEC week, the APEC Voices of the Future delegates would grow to be connected leaders of tomorrow who will be well-placed to play key roles in creating a better world in line with the goals of APEC. He emphasised how the APEC Summit provides an excellent platform and opportunity for youth who are future leaders to cement the already good relations among the 21 APEC member economies even more.
I believe through the bonds forged between the Voices delegates from the different economies during the APEC Week, the Voices of the Future delegates will grow to be connected leaders of tomorrow, who will be well-placed to cooperate, to create a better world, much in line with the goals of APEC.

H.E. Gita Irawan Wirjawan
Minister of Trade
Republic of Indonesia

The APEC Voices of the Future 2013 programme also received a very strong endorsement and support from Wishnu Wardhana, Chair, APEC Business Advisory Council 2013, and Chair, APEC CEO Summit 2013, of the Republic of Indonesia. The strong support from Mr Wardhana, who is also the President Director and Group Chief Executive Officer of PT Indika Energy Tbk, was evident, and he was a key contributor to the success of the APEC Voices of the Future 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. Mr Wardhana not only assigned his staff from PT Indika Energy Tbk to serve as members of the APEC Voices 2013 Working Committee, he also personally oversaw the implementation of the APEC Voices 2013 day-to-day program in spite of his very hectic schedule during the APEC Summit 2013.

I believe through the bonds forged between the Voices delegates from the different economies during the APEC Week, the Voices of the Future delegates will grow to be connected leaders of tomorrow, who will be well-placed to cooperate, to create a better world, much in line with the goals of APEC.

H.E. Gita Irawan Wirjawan
Minister of Trade
Republic of Indonesia

The APEC Voices of the Future 2013 also received strong support from H.E. Made Mangku Pastika, Governor of Bali, who invited the youth delegates not just to attend the meetings during the APEC week, but also to find time to explore the natural beauty, nice weather and unique culture of Bali. More importantly, the youth also had the opportunity to get to know the friendly people of Bali better through these activities.

Dr Alan Bollard, Executive Director, APEC Secretariat, supported the APEC Voices programme as it offers an opportunity for youth leaders to engage and have dialogues with key policymakers and business leaders in one of the most dynamic regions in the world. He welcomed the perspectives and active participation of the youth at the APEC week in Bali.
Opening Ceremony

The APEC Voices 2013 Opening Ceremony was held at the beautiful and tranquil Ayana Resort in Jimbaran. The Opening Ceremony was graced by H.E. Made Mangku Pastika, Governor of Bali, Wishnu Wardhana, Chair, APEC Business Advisory Council 2013, and Chair, APEC CEO Summit 2013, who delivered the keynote address. In his address, Mr Wardhana reiterated the importance of building a stronger and more secure future for the people and businesses of the region in line with the theme “Towards Resilience and Growth: Reshaping Priorities for Global Economy”. He encouraged youth leaders from the APEC Voices to speak up and raise their concerns on issues related to regional trade and growth as they chart the course ahead for the region.

The Opening Ceremony of the APEC Voices 2013 was followed by the APEC Voices of the Future 2013 Youth Forum moderated by Dr Annie H. Liu, a professor with the Victoria Business School, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and a Board Member of VTM Foundation International, Washington, DC, USA. Members of the Distinguished Panel included Gatot Mudiantoro Suwondo, President Director/CEO PT. Bank Negara Indonesia (Persero) Tbk, Moderator, Dr Annie H. Liu, Victoria Business School, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Anthony Nowell, ABAC Member, New Zealand, and Chair, Regional Economic Integration Working Group and Noel Gould, Co-Chair, APEC Voices Leadership Council and Chairman, Virtual Trade Mission Foundation International.

“The most important thing for you to do during the APEC Week is to work hard to express your voices. We want you to be inspired, and take some of that inspiration back to your friends who did not have the chance to come to Bali.”

Wishnu Wardhana
Chair, APEC Business Advisory Council 2013 and Chair, APEC CEO Summit 2003 and President Director and Group CEO, PT Indika Energy Tbk

The Opening Ceremony of the APEC Voices 2013 was followed by the APEC Voices of the Future 2013 Youth Forum moderated by Dr Annie H. Liu, a professor with the Victoria Business School, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and a Board Member of VTM Foundation International, Washington, DC, USA. Members of the Distinguished Panel included Gatot Mudiantoro Suwondo, President Director/CEO, PT Bank Negara Indonesia (Persero) Tbk, Moderator, Dr Annie H. Liu, Victoria Business School, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Anthony Nowell, ABAC Member, New Zealand, and Chair, Regional Economic Integration Working Group and Noel Gould, Co-Chair, APEC Voices Leadership Council and Chairman, Virtual Trade Mission Foundation International.

The Youth Forum 2013 drew many questions from the APEC Voices delegates, and it was indeed a very engaging forum. Youth leaders took away much valuable information from their engagement with business leaders from the region.

Wishnu Wardhana, ABAC Chair 2013 and President Director and Group CEO, PT Indika Energy Tbk, delivering the keynote address at the APEC Voices 2013 Opening Ceremony.
Visit to the Green School

The Green School in Bali is an international school offering preschool to high school education. Its goal is to be the model of sustainability education in the world. With striking bamboo architecture and a solar-powered campus that spans 20 acres, the school has attracted 333 students from more than 45 countries seeking a unique, nature-based, student-centered education.

APEC Voices delegates visiting the Green School in Bali, Indonesia.

“We had an amazing week in Bali. It was an experience like no other. We experienced more of Indonesia and now better understand its tradition, culture and history. We had exclusive access to the APEC Summit where we got to learn from extraordinary panel sessions, connect with high level officials and business leaders, and share our views of business and politics with APEC leaders. This programme has helped us become not just the Voices of the Future but has given us the experience to be the Voices of Today.”

Gillian Fong- McMaster
Team Leader, APEC Voices delegation, Canada

APEC Voices delegates were given a tour of the school and were briefed on its mission and activities by the founder John Hardy. APEC Voices delegates gained firsthand experience of how environmental sustainability is practiced in real life. Youth delegates also took advantage of the ambience to discuss and prepare the APEC Voices 2013 Youth Declaration.

Visit to Kamasan Art Village

The visit to Kamasan Art Village was one of the highlights of the APEC Voices 2013. APEC Voices delegates received a very warm welcome from the villagers and community leaders upon their arrival. Kamasan Village is a centre of Balinese traditional painting and sculpting and is located in Klungkung District. The APEC Voices delegates were given the rare treat of learning Balinese traditional painting under the watchful eyes of two famous artists. It was a fascinating experience painting Balinese traditional paintings under Indonesia’s highly skilled artisans.

APEC Voices delegates experiencing the traditional Kamasan painting at the Kamasan Art Village.

Traditional lunch at the Royal Palace grounds at the seat of the Gelgel Dynasty.

Youth delegates participating in Business Games at the Kamsan Village Community Hall.

APEC Voices delegates visiting the Green School in Bali, Indonesia.

John Hardy, Founder, The Green School, welcoming the APEC Voices delegates during their visit to the Green School.
The APEC Voices delegates also participated in a Business Simulation Game organised by Daya Dimensi, Indonesia, at Kamasan Village Community Hall.

Thereafter, a traditional lunch was held at the Klungkung Palace hosted by ABAC Indonesia. It was an experience of a lifetime for delegates to lunch at this 17th century historical building surrounding by artefacts of the former Gelgel kingdom.

Delegates were given some free time to shop and hunt for souvenirs at the traditional craft market before visiting the famous Blanco Museum and having dinner at the Rondji Restaurant, Blanco Museum.

APEC SME Summit 2013

APEC Voices delegates were invited to attend the APEC SME Summit held at the Ayana Resort graced by H.E. Syarifuddin Hasan, State Minister for Cooperatives and SMEs. The SME Summit showed the APEC Voices delegates the challenges faced by SMEs at a global level.

Dialogue with Trade Minister of Indonesia

The APEC Voices delegates were honoured to attend a closed door dialogue with H.E. Gita Wirjawan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia, on 5 October 2013 at the Mercure Bali, Nusa Dua Hotel. The Minister openly shared the challenges faced by Indonesian youth and Indonesia’s role at the global and regional levels in relation to trade. He also touched on the importance of building regional understanding and relations among APEC member economies. The sharing was followed by a Question & Answer session where Minister Gita Wirjawan patiently answered the youth’s queries in spite of his very tight schedule. The dialogue session was moderated by Amy Swan, APEC Voices delegate from New Zealand.

“The APEC Voices Programme provides an excellent platform for the next generation leaders to understand regional trade policies and issues better through their interactions with APEC Leaders and business leaders at the annual APEC Week”

James Soh PBM MBE
Executive Director
National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore and Co Chair, APEC Voices Leadership Council

H.E. Syarifuddin Hasan, Minister for Cooperatives and SMEs of the Republic of Indonesia, welcoming Mr Soh to the APEC SME Summit in Bali.

H.E. Sjarifuddin Hasan, Minister for Cooperatives and SMEs of the Republic of Indonesia.

Dialogue session with Trade Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Gita Wirjawan.

The APEC Voices delegates were honoured to attend a closed door dialogue with H.E. Gita Wirjawan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia, on 5 October 2013 at the Mercure Bali, Nusa Dua Hotel. The Minister openly shared the challenges faced by Indonesian youth and Indonesia’s role at the global and regional levels in relation to trade. He also touched on the importance of building regional understanding and relations among APEC member economies. The sharing was followed by a Question & Answer session where Minister Gita Wirjawan patiently answered the youth’s queries in spite of his very tight schedule. The dialogue session was moderated by Amy Swan, APEC Voices delegate from New Zealand.

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James Soh PBM MBE
Executive Director
National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore and Co Chair, APEC Voices Leadership Council
APEC Voices Outstanding Leadership Award

Aileen Yap, Deputy Executive Director of the National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore and Co-Chair of the APEC Voices 2013 Working Committee, was honored at the APEC week in Bali for her dedication and outstanding leadership in chairing the APEC Voices Working Committee in Yokohama, Japan, in 2010, Honolulu, USA, in 2011, Vladivostok, Russia, in 2012 and Bali, Indonesia, in 2013.

The APEC Voices Outstanding Leadership Award was presented to Ms Yap by H.E. Gita Wirjawan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia. APEC Voices Leadership Council is indeed grateful for Ms Yap’s leadership and contributions.

APEC CEO Summit 2013

APEC Voice delegates also had the privilege to attend the APEC CEO Summit, thanks to the APEC Host Committee. This event was held on 6 and 7 October 2013 at the Bali International Convention Centre. It was officiated by H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia, who also delivered the keynote address. The delegates were even given the opportunity to meet the Indonesian President at the APEC CEO Summit.

During the two-day summit, APEC Voices delegates attended the APEC CEO Summit to listen to the addresses by APEC leaders on various issues related to the global economy and fielded their questions at the summit. Among the leaders who spoke during the APEC CEO Summit was H.E. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, H.E. Sebastian Pinera, President of Chile, H.E. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, H.E. Ollanta Humala, President of Peru, H.E. Benigno Aquino III, President of the Philippines, H.E. John Key, Prime Minister of New Zealand, H.E. Park Geun-Hye, President of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Najib Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, H.E. Enrique Pena Nieto, President of Mexico, H.E. Vladimir Putin, President of Russia, H.E. Xi Jinping, President of the People’s Republic of China, and H.E. John Kerry, US Secretary of State. Also attending the APEC Leaders’ Week were H.E. Tony Abbott, Prime Minister of Australia, and H.E. Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand.

APEC Voices delegates also had the opportunity to meet their respective heads of government during the APEC Leaders’ Week in Bali.
Closing Ceremony cum Cultural Night

The Closing Ceremony cum Cultural Night held at the Museum Pasifika was graced by Sudirman Said, APEC CEO Summit 2013 Executive Director. It was an evening of recognition for the hard work put in by the APEC Voices 2013 Working Committee, APEC Voices Leadership Council, APEC 2013 Host Committee, ABAC Indonesia and the hardworking staff of PT Indika Energy Tbk. The concluding event also acknowledged the successful participation of the youth delegates from the 17 APEC member economies dressed in their traditional national costumes showcasing their diverse talents through song and dance performances.

Appreciation and thank you speeches were the order of the night celebration, and the prize presentation ceremony of the June Mayne Gould Award was held. The award for 2013 was presented to Sang Hoon Seo of the Republic of Korea.

Appreciation and Gratitude

The APEC Voices Leadership Council and the APEC Voices Secretariat in Singapore would like to thank the government of Indonesia, especially the Office of the President, the Ministry of Trade, APEC Host Committee, ABAC Indonesia, PT Indika Energy Tbk, BNI, the Green School, Kamasan Art Village, Blanco Museum, DHL, our distinguished guests-of-honour, speakers and panelists, the National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore and the media for their tremendous support and contributions in making the APEC Voices of the Future 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, a resounding success.

Synopsis

With the huge success of the APEC Voices of the Future 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, and one of the best ever in the history of APEC Voices, the true spirit of APEC Voices came alive with new friendships forged as well as fond memories of the hospitable warmth of their Indonesian hosts and the scenic beauty of Bali.