



PRESS RELEASE

AFA continues to push for sustainability agenda in ASEAN

Collaboration is key to facilitate ASEAN accountants' role as enablers of sustainability

JAKARTA, October 8, 2022 – “Growing awareness towards sustainability matters led to greater demand for actions that goes beyond the urgency set by the 2030 United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2015 Paris Agreement. It is imperative that ASEAN accountants should play a key role in addressing the rising challenges and opportunities” said H.E. Dato’ Lim Jock Hoi (Secretary-General, ASEAN) in his remarks at the ASEAN Accountancy Conference on Sustainability.

The ASEAN Secretariat appreciates the proactive steps that AFA has taken in building regional awareness towards sustainability and encourages ASEAN accountants to be familiarised with the technicality of sustainability and ESG accounting. Dato’ Lim encourages AFA to develop a regional guideline for sustainability accounting and incorporate sustainability knowledge in CPD activities.

Jointly organised with the Federation of Accounting Professions ([TFAC](#)), the conference was attended by 500 participants in Bangkok, with hundreds joining virtually. Among the key prominent guests sharing their perspectives on sustainability were Dr. Tae-Young Paik (Member, ISSB), Esther An (Chief Sustainability Officer, City Developments Limited), Sajjeed Aslam (Regional Lead, Public Affairs for the Asia Pacific Region, ACCA), Mark Babington (Chair, Sustainability Working Group, IESBA and Executive Director, UK Financial Reporting Council), and Richard Spencer (Director of Sustainability, ICAEW).

Kevin Dancey (Chief Executive Officer, IFAC) in his message highlights the importance for the accountancy profession to take proactive steps to enable sustainable change, by advocating for smart policy and regulation, demonstrating sustainability-related skills and competencies, promoting climate reporting, and championing integrated mindset. Referring to IFAC’s [Call for Action](#) – Time of Action on Sustainability: Next Steps for the Accountancy Profession, accelerating sustainability and avoiding regulatory fragmentation will be key in enabling high-quality and decision-useful sustainability information.

“Collaboration between stakeholders in the region to ensure that the region would not be left behind in the global discussion on sustainability will be important” as said by Voravit Janthanakul (President, AFA). The conference was organised as part of AFA’s sustainability agenda for 2022 and fully supported by our International Platinum Partners, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants ([ACCA](#)) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales ([ICAEW](#)).

Re-live the discussions and sharing and watch the full recording of the conference [here](#).



About AFA (ASEAN Federation of Accountants)

AFA (www.afa-accountants.org) was organised on March 12, 1977, to serve as the umbrella organisation for the recognised national Professional Accountancy Organisations (PAOs) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States. Our ten Primary Members collectively represents a regional network of more than 200,000 accountants in the ASEAN jurisdictions, supported by a global network of Associate Members with close to 3 million members worldwide. AFA is an accredited Civil Society Organisation of the ASEAN recognised under the ASEAN Charter and an IFAC Network Partner.

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