

NEWSLETTER FROM VIETNAM

May 2017



A rattan artisan- Phu Vinh Rattan and Bamboo Village

A warm welcome to all our readers

Information in this newsletter is presented on a synthetic basis with a reference number. On request, our offices will be pleased to assist any Brussels company who wishes to receive further information on any of the topics exposed hereunder. Please return by e-mail the topic with its official heading, mentioning the issue and the reference number.

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- ✓ EuroSphere
- ✓ International Precision Engineering, Machine Tools and Metal Working
- ✓ International Footwear and Leather Products Exhibition
- ✓ Vietnam International Electrical Technology and Equipment Exhibition
- ✓ Vietnam Agritech Expo 2017

New project targets competitive seafood sector

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has approved a US\$ 4.47 mil - project to make the seafood sector more competitive with financial support from the State budget, international organization and businesses. The project will support restructuring of the seafood sector towards improving value added products; revise legal regulations; attract FDI for developing fresh, brackish and saline water aquaculture in the country by producing high quality seafood breeds, probiotics to treat water as well as feed; develop offshore fishing; and build national brand for key export seafood products (shrimp, tra fish and tuna). (*Vietnam News, 08/05/2017*)

MARD asks Grow Asia to help restructure agriculture

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development has asked Grow Asia to help Vietnam restructure agriculture, especially to create a value chain for Vietnamese farm produce. Previously, MARD had made a commitment to the World Economic Forum to achieve the 20:20:20 goal by 2020 (increase 20% in production efficiency; 20% reduction of poverty and 20% cut of emissions. To meet the target, MARD has coordinated with multinational companies to promote and improve productivity of numerous

types of farm produce, including coffee, tea, fruit, vegetables, seafood, pepper and spices, as well as to share experiences in agricultural finance. Besides, the ministry intends to add rice and livestock to the list of commodities receiving support. *(Saigon Times Daily, 11/05/2017)*

Gov't tightens regulations on ODA on-lending

Local governments wishing to borrow official development assistance (ODA) loans for the implementation of socio-economic development projects will have to meet a number of stricter regulations in the coming time, under the recent Decree No.52/2017/ND-CP of the Government which will take effect in the middle of next month. *(Saigon Times Daily, 11/05/2017)*

City to spend US\$1.9b on power development

The Hochiminh City has proposed the city's power transmission development plan with a total investment of about US\$1.9bil. Under the plan, about US\$478 mil will be spent on a 220kV transmission line, about US\$ 587 mil on the 110kV high voltage distribution line, and about US\$ 815 mil on the medium and low-voltage distribution lines. Several transformer station also will be built, including the 220kV high tech substations at Tan Cang, Dam Sen Park, Tan Son Nhat International Airport and Thu Thiem. It will install a six-wire transmission line at Cau Bong- Hoc Mon, a four-wire transmission line at Cau Bong- Binh Chanh, a two-wire underground cable line at Phu Lam- Dam Sen and Dam Sen- Ba Queo- Tan Son Nhat. In addition, the city will also upgrade many power transmission lines connecting Nhon Trach power plant with the Cat Lai- thu Duc line and build other high voltage, medium voltage and low voltage distribution lines. *(Vietnam News, 15/05/2017)*

Can Tho plans huge hi-tech agriculture park

Can Tho City is drawing up a project to develop a hi-tech agriculture park on more than 244 ha at a total cost of nearly VND 1.9 tril. The project would be divided into 2 phases, with phase 1 in 2017-2020 and phase 2 in 2021-2025, and consist of a central area, a processing and production area and a storage area. *(Saigon Times Daily, 16/05/2017)*

Deputy PM meets Belgian Ambassador

Deputy Prime Minister Vuong Dinh Hue on May 18 hosted a reception for Belgian Ambassador to Vietnam Jehanne Roccas in Hanoi. Deputy PM Hue told his guest that Vietnam desires to solidify stronger cooperation with Belgium in tertiary education, green economy and climate change adaptation. EUR2.2 billion in two-way trade is still a modest figure, Hue said, noting that he hopes Belgium will open its door for Vietnam's farm produce and support it in accessing advanced technology of Belgium and Europe. *(VOV, 19/05/2017)*

WB supports Danang's infrastructure investment

The World Bank approved on late May US\$ 72.52 mil in additional financing from the IDA scale up facility to support investments in infrastructure in Da Nang. The additional financing aims to help develop a separate sewer/house connection system, and hence minimize population risks for the coastal tourism area of My An-My Khe. Transport services are also targeted for improvement through the establishment of an integrated fare system and intelligent transport system for the city public transport including the bus rapid transit system. *(Saigon Times Daily, 30/05/2017)*

Vietnam prepares for opening of petroleum market.

Foreigners have been able to legally join the Vietnamese petroleum distribution market since the equitization of Vietnam's leading petroleum corporation. The Vietnam Petroleum Group sold 103.5 million shares, or 8%, to a foreign strategic partner – JX Nippon Oil & Energy from Japan. The state's ownership ratio in the group has dropped to 75.87%. With the Nghi Son Oil Refinery project in Thanh Hoa province developed by Idemitsu 8 and Vietnam's national oil & gas group (PetroVietnam), consumers hope there will be a foreign distributor in the Vietnamese market which will help make the market more competitive. Vietnamese petroleum companies have enough time to build facilities and develop networks to prepare for competition with foreign distributors once Vietnam opens the petroleum market. *(Vietnamnet, 31/05/2017)*

No wastewater treatment in many clinics

Standard medical wastewater treatment systems have been set up in only 60% of total 13,000 healthcare clinics nationwide. While by 2020, wastewater treatment facilities will be installed in all hospitals by 2020, then it is necessary to build a standout mechanism for the outsourcing of medical wastewater treatment services. Only 62% of central hospitals is outfitted with quality treatment systems while the figures in provincial hospital and district hospitals are 59.3% and 65.9%, respectively. State owned hospitals are allowed to outsource medical waste treatment services, according to the draft decision. *(Vietnam News, 01/04/2017)*

EXCHANGE RATE

1US\$ = 22,575.8 VND

1EUR = 25,185.8 VND *(Oanda on 31/05/2017)*

FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

Coffee Expo Vietnam 2017

Time: 01-03 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://vietcoffeefair.com>

Vietnam International Retail + Franchise show

Time: 01-03 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://vietrf.com>

Vietnam International Exhibition on Products, Services of ITC 2017

Time: 07-09 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://ictcomm.vn/>

Vietnam Industrial and Manufacturing Fair 2017

Time: 07-09 June 2017

Venue: Binh Duong Convention and Exhibition Center

Website: <http://vietnamindustrialfiesta.com>

Vietnam Autoexpo 2017

Time: 07-10 June 2017

Venue: ICE- Int'l Center for Exhibition, Hanoi

Website: <http://www.vietnam-autoexpo.com/>

Paper Vietnam 2017

Time: 13-15 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://www.pct-vn.com/>

Coatings Vietnam 2017

Time: 13-15 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://www.coatings-vietnam.com/>

Rubber and Tyre Vietnam 2017

Time: 13-15 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://www.rubber-tyre.com.vn/>

Mekong Beauty Show

Time: 15-17 June 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center-SECC

Website: <http://www.mekongbeautyshow.com/vi>

EuroSphere

Time: 16-17 June 2017

Venue: Gem Center, Hochiminh City

Website: <http://eurosphere.com.vn/>

International Precision Engineering, Machine Tools and Metal Working

Time: 04-07 July 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center-SECC

Website: <http://www.mtavietnam.com/>

International Footwear and Leather Products Exhibition

Time: 12-14 July 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center-SECC

Website: <http://www.ifle-vietnam.com>

Vietnam International Electrical Technology and Equipment Exhibition

Time: 19-22 July 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center-SECC

Website: <http://www.vietnam-ete.com/>

Vietnam Agritech Expo 2017

Time: 26-28 July 2017

Venue: Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center-SECC

Website: <http://vietnamfarmexpo.com>

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THANK YOU AND SEE YOU IN VIETNAM !