

**LIM HNG KIANG TO ATTEND 44th AEM AND RELATED MEETINGS IN
SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA, 27-31 AUGUST 2012**

Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Lim Hng Kiang will be in Siem Reap, Cambodia to attend the 44th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting and Related Meetings, as well as the 8th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting, from 27 to 31 August 2012.

2. At the AEM and AEC Council meetings, ASEAN Economic Ministers will discuss the progress in regional economic integration initiatives, and focus on working towards establishing an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. Also, the meetings will discuss ASEAN's initiative to establish the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which is a wider regional agreement involving ASEAN and its FTA Partners.

3. The ASEAN Economic Ministers will meet their counterparts from Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and the USA to discuss issues relating to ASEAN's Free Trade Agreements and economic relations with the Dialogue Partners.

4. Mr Lim will also be meeting private sector representatives from the ASEAN Business Advisory Council, the East Asia Business Council and the US-ASEAN Business Council on the sidelines of the AEM as part of a regular dialogue.

5. Mr Lim will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
26 AUGUST 2012**