

## LAUNCH AND DISCUSSION OF “THE STATE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA: 2020” SURVEY

Date: 16 January 2020 (Thursday)

Time: 10.00 am -12:00 pm

Venue: Tower Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel Singapore  
22 Orange Grove Rd, Singapore 258350

### ***About the Survey and Seminar***

The geo-economic and geo-strategic spheres in Southeast Asia and the wider region are undergoing fundamental shifts. Yet, there is little understanding – and even less agreement – on their implications and the region’s response to these new dynamics. Against this backdrop, the ASEAN Studies Centre at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute conducted the 2020 edition of the “State of Southeast Asia” survey to seek the views of Southeast Asian opinion leaders on regional affairs. The survey canvassed the views of 1,308 respondents who are regional experts and stakeholders from the policy, research, business, civil society, and media communities. Among the questions explored in the survey are the top security challenges facing Southeast Asia, the region’s views and levels of trust regarding the major powers, ASEAN’s role and relevance, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the politics of the 5G infrastructure, the Rakhine issue, and soft power. The launch event will present some of the major survey findings, which will be highlighted for discussion and analysis by a distinguished panel of speakers.

### ***About the Speakers***

**Ambassador ONG Keng Yong** is Executive Deputy Chairman of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore. Amb. Ong served as the 11<sup>th</sup> Secretary-General of ASEAN from 2003 to 2008, and continues to hold the position of Ambassador-at-Large at Singapore’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Ambassador PHAM Quang Vinh** served as Vietnam’s Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2011 to 2014 and ASEAN Senior Officials’ Meeting Leader from 2007 to 2014. He was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United States of America from 2015 to 2018.

**Mr. Kasit PIROMYA** served as the Foreign Minister of Thailand from 2008 to 2011. Previously, he was Director of the Policy and Planning Division, Deputy Director-General of the Economic Affairs Department, Ambassador (responsible for European Affairs) and Director-General of the Department of International Organisations.