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SINGAPORE

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Spotlight  
on **PERU**



Singapore  
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SINGAPORE  
30th APEC  
Economic  
Leaders Meet

ASEAN Gala  
Night Hits All  
the Right Notes

INTERVIEW  
H.E. Carlos Raúl Vásquez  
Former Ambassador  
of Peru



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**PUBLISHER**  
Sun Media Pte Ltd

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Nomita Dhar

**EDITORIAL**  
Ranee Sahaney  
Syed Jaafar Alkaff

**ADVERTISING & RESEARCH**  
Lovelyn Palec  
Abdul Adel  
Laurentia T. Pribadi  
Zahrotul Fauziah

**DESIGN & LAYOUT**  
Jeet Padhiyar  
Syed Jaafar Alkaff

**PHOTOS**  
Singapore Ministry of Culture and Information,  
Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs and Michael Ozaki

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**Contact**  
Sun Media Pte Ltd  
20 Kramat Lane #01-02 United House,  
Singapore 228773.  
Tel: (65) 6735 2972  
Email: edit@sunmediaonline.com

Website [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)

Advertising enquiries:  
Tel: (65) 6735 2972  
Email: [business@sunmediaonline.com](mailto:business@sunmediaonline.com)

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## 30th APEC Meeting in San Francisco

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong made a working visit to San Francisco, USA from 13th to 18th November 2023 to attend the 30th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) at the invitation of US President Joseph R Biden Jr

THIS year much of the focus at APEC has been on global economic resilience and sustainability and the AELM, held under the theme "Creating a Resilient and Sustainable Future for All," brought together leaders from the Asia-Pacific region to deliberate on strategies to reinforce international trade, enhance supply chain resilience, address climate change, and promote an inclusive future. Prime Minister Lee had also engaged in bilateral discussions with other APEC leaders on the sidelines of the main event.

Apart from his participation in the APEC proceedings, Prime Minister Lee is holding meetings with notable figures, including Governor of California Gavin Newsom, and key business leaders from prominent US companies such as Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai and Apple CEO Tim Cook.

Also on his agenda was the launch of Enterprise Singapore's San Francisco Overseas Centre and a gathering with the Singaporean community residing in the San Francisco Bay Area.

### IPEF Leaders Statement

There was also some progress made by the US-led **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)** which was launched by President Biden one and half years ago to step up economic agreements with Asia. The leaders from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Republic of Korea, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam have signed the first-of-its-kind Supply Chain Agreement and concluded much of the negotiations on a groundbreaking Clean Economy Agreement and an innovative Fair Economy Agreement. A Leaders Statement issued through the US Embassy in Singapore stated that apart from progress in these areas, the countries have also launched at the San Francisco meeting the IPEF Critical Minerals Dialogue to foster closer collaboration on strengthening IPEF critical mineral supply chains and boosting regional economic competitiveness. They hope to establish a ministerial-level IPEF Council that will meet annually starting next year and leaders' meetings every two years.



### EVENT

## India's Impact @ Fintech Festival 2023

The India Pavillion provided a global stage for 60 Indian entrepreneurs who showcased cutting-edge Fintech solutions and products

INDIA's technical prowess on the global economic stage was showcased when India's High Commissioner to Singapore, H.E. Dr. Shilpak Ambule inaugurated the India Pavilion at the Singapore Fintech Festival 2023 on 21st November 2023.

The India Pavilion is an initiative set up by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) with support from India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The pavilion serves as a global stage for over 60 Indian entrepreneurs, who are showcasing their cutting-edge Fintech solutions and products, highlighting India's innovation in the financial technology sector. The Indian entrepreneurs, from startups to SMEs, were able to present to industry leaders, investors and tech enthusiasts who are keen to explore the latest advances in fintech.

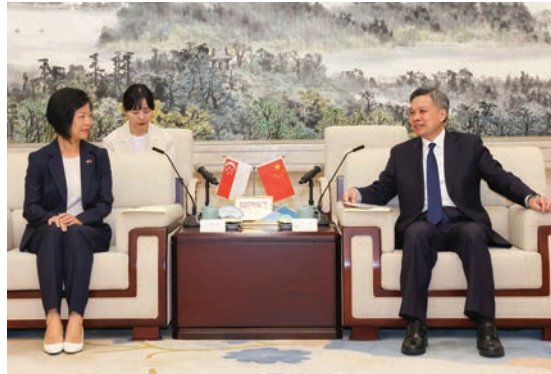
The inaugural ceremony was also witnessed by the Indian High Commission in Singapore Mr. T Prabhakar, First Secretary (Commercial) and Mr. Satyam Joshi, First Secretary (Economic).



# FACETIME IN NOVEMBER 2023



H.R.H. Prince William, The Prince of Wales, visited Singapore from 5th to 8th Nov 2023 where he attended the Earthshot Prize Awards Ceremony and the United for Wildlife Global Summit. Prince William made a courtesy call on President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and met Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana. Prince William also visited various places in Singapore, including Jewel Changi Airport.



Senior Minister of State (SMS), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of National Development, Sim Ann visited Zhejiang and Anhui from 29th Oct to 2nd Nov 2023. In Zhejiang, she met Zhejiang Dep. Party Sec and Hangzhou Party Sec Liu Jie (above), Zhejiang Vice Governor and Singapore-Zhejiang Economic and Trade Council Co-Chair Lu Shan, Yiwu Party Sec Wang Jian, and Yiwu Mayor Ye Bangrui. They discussed strengthening cooperation in areas like the digital economy, innovation, and youth exchanges. SMS also visited the Singapore-Hangzhou Science and Tech Park.



Minister in the PMO, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman made a working visit to Algeria from 7th to 8th Nov 2023, and Egypt from 9th to 11th Nov 2023. The visits reaffirmed Singapore's ties with the two countries. In Algeria, Minister Maliki commemorated the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties and met the Sec-Gen of the Algerian MFA, Mr Lounes Magramane. In Egypt, he met Egyptian leaders and representatives and also visited the Suez Canal Economic Zone.



The President of Kosovo Dr Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu was on a working visit to Singapore from 6th to 8th Nov 2023. She met Singapore leaders including President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and was also one of the keynote speakers at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum. She arrived with a delegation of businesses looking to create partnerships with Singapore enterprises.



The Vice President of People's Republic of China Han Zheng made his first Official Visit to Singapore from 7th to 8th November 2023 in his current capacity. His visit reaffirmed the substantive relations between Singapore and China, which were upgraded to an "All-Round High-Quality Future-Oriented Partnership" earlier this year. Vice President Han also spoke at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum on 8th November 2023.



Singapore awarded its top military honour to Indonesia's Defence Minister Prabowo Subianto in a ceremony at the Istana on 21st Nov 2023. The Darjah Utama Bakti Cemerlang (Tentera) or Distinguished Service Order (Military) was bestowed by Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam. It was in recognition of the Minister's substantial contributions to fortifying the enduring and close bilateral defence relations between Indonesia and Singapore.

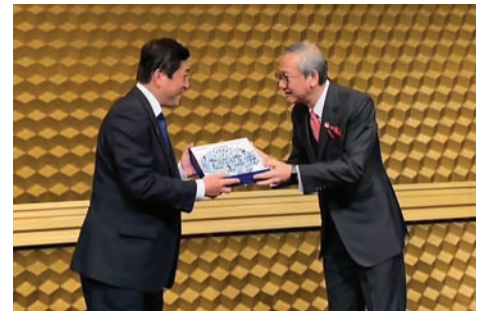
## EVENTS



The Bloomberg New Economy Forum opening panel on 8th Nov 2023 featured Singapore's Foreign Minister Dr Vivian Balakrishnan and Saudi Arabia's Minister of Investment Khalid Al Falih on the topic 'The Rise of Economic Statecraft'. The Saudi Minister said the Kingdom is presently focussed on the long term objectives of creating prosperity for the betterment of its people.



Dr Vivian Balakrishnan visited Cook Islands from 9th to 11th Nov 2023 for the 52nd Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders Meeting - the first time Singapore is attending as a Dialogue Partner following its admission in January 2022. The visit strengthened bilateral, economic, and multilateral cooperation with the Pacific islands. He later spoke at the 2050 Pacific Prosperity High-Level Thematic Dialogue on 10th November 2023.



Former Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sam Tan led the Singapore delegation to the 21st Singapore-Kagoshima Conference (SKC) in Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan on 22nd Nov 2023. The Japanese delegation was led by Governor of Kagoshima Prefecture H.E. Shiota Koichi. Delegates discussed further strengthening of economic linkages, boosting tourism flows, and deepening people-to-people exchanges.

**IN DIPLOMACY**  
Country Supplement

# SPOTLIGHT ON PERU



# H.E. Carlos Raúl Vásquez Corrales

## Mission Accomplished!

The former Peruvian Ambassador to Singapore can proudly look back to share the many milestones the country achieved with IN Diplomacy Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Ms Nomita Dhar

EXCELLENCY, congratulations for bringing the relationship between Singapore and Peru to such amazing heights and for the successful completion of your tenure. How was your journey in Singapore?

I came in September 2018 and it has been a very interesting five years with all the ups and downs because of the effects of the pandemic. When we arrived here, we had a very specific problem: to reinforce the bilateral links between Peru and Singapore through several very important mechanisms.

One was the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) - an FTA between Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore and Vietnam). And the other was the Pacific Alliance. We were involved in negotiations with Singapore to finally conclude and sign the agreement. It was a very prolonged and difficult negotiation, but we made it despite the effects of the pandemic. There were many virtual negotiating sessions but finally, we were able to sign the Pacific Alliance (PA) Agreement with Singapore in February 2022.

Then three and a half years into my tenure here Peru decided to join Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA). Finally, my country was completely persuaded about the benefits to join this very important partnership in the digital realm. Peru has already presented an official request to join DEPA, and the state partners of this agreement are assessing the Peruvian request. We hope to join by 2024.

But in general terms, to make Peru more known to Singaporeans, we also organized many cultural events during the past five years, even if it had to be in a virtual setting. These included seven film festivals and exhibitions such as the one on photography of the 12 Peruvian sites registered in the UNESCO World Heritage List. It was held in the Singapore Botanic Gardens in 2021 to celebrate the bicent-



nial of the Peruvian independence.

Ambassador, you had an almost 360-degree engagement with Singapore and helped raise Peru's diplomatic profile and engagement that also left a mark in many of us here and we are grateful for that. Thank you too for supporting our World Opportunities Forum. It's been a pleasure working with you. I hope things get better and the distance shorter between Singapore and Peru.

I will still be keeping in touch with Asian countries in Peru as I am going to assume a new role as Chair of the Senior Official Meetings of APEC. APEC is going to take place in my country next year. We have to organise more than 100 meetings, similar to the G20 organised by India this year. While there are 20 country members in the G20, there are 21 members' economies (including Singapore) in APEC.

The position that I am going to assume is to propitiate a common ground for consensus because all the decisions in APEC have to be made by consensus, so it's going to be a very challenging job but very stimulating at the same time. This is going to allow me to continue being in touch with Asian countries because many of the Southeast Asian countries here are member economies of APEC: Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam, and important economies in Northern Asia like Japan, Korea, and China. Other member economies are Australia and New Zealand, Russia, United States, Mexico, Chile, Peru and Papua New Guinea.

When this Asia Pacific community meets in Peru next year, it's going to be a very good opportunity for my country to showcase not just the advancements of Peru in the last few years, but to also reinforce our links together.

Tourist numbers to Peru flourished for a little

while pre-pandemic. How is it now?

Before the pandemic, there was a very significant increase for Singaporean visits to my country in 2017- it was approx. 2000 travellers. It wasn't many, but in a short frame of time by 2019, it increased to 3,000! In only two years, there was an increase of almost 30%!

There were many plans made by Peru's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism to promote tourism by developing many events in Singapore to reinforce its (tourism) strength. Unfortunately, due to the start of the pandemic in 2020, Singaporean tourists found it very, very difficult to visit through Peru. Now, we are renewing our efforts to promote visits from Singaporeans.

The previous trend is starting to register again from a low base of around 800 Singaporeans last year but apparently there is already increased interest by travellers here to visit my country. I think the Orchids of Machu Picchu exhibition in August at Gardens by the Bay contributed to this heightened interest. Machu Picchu is one of Peru's, indeed South America's most important tourist attractions.

Ambassador, you've been very close to the Diplomatic Corps, do you have any message for them?

I have developed very good relations with my colleagues. I think it's extremely important for an ambassador to establish the largest social network possible, not only for the benefit of his or her own country but to be able to enjoy life - that too is very important.

I would like to tell my colleagues that Singapore is a magnificent diplomatic posting and that they should take advantage of the privilege of living and working here. And I think the diplomatic corps here is very united group. We frequently meet and celebrate and are close together. I think that is very important for my colleagues to notice all the opportunities here not only in terms of business, trade or investment, but also in terms of health promotion, gastronomic promotion, even social promotion that Singapore offers here in South East Asia!

(Above): Ambassador Carlos Vásquez Corrales in conversation with Ms Nomita Dhar. (Left): Ambassador Vásquez with Guest of Honour, Singapore Minister, Indraneel Rajah, at the opening of Orchids of Machu Picchu at Gardens by the Bay

# Peru & Singapore Partners in Free, Fair & Open Trade

*Both countries share deeply a commitment to promote free and fair trade - to show international society that a world with open markets will bring more peace and equality*

PERU and Singapore maintain a close and strong bilateral relation since the establishment of diplomatic relations among both countries in 1980. Some years after, in 1992, Peru established its resident Diplomatic Mission in Singapore.

Peru and Singapore show a common interest in the promotion of free and fair trade, not only to boost the growth of their economies and the welfare of their respective populations but only as a way to show to the international society that a world with open markets will bring more peace and equality.

The above message was delivered by Peru and Singapore in several international forums and agreements in which both countries participate or are State Parts, such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum - APEC and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership - CPTPP.

The path followed by Singapore to become the First Associate State to the Pacific Alliance (similar to ASEAN) and the improvement of connectivity between Southeast Asia and Latin America, are concrete aspects that show both countries common mind-set and reinforce the bilateral ties between them. Other areas of mutual interest are cooperation in topics such as control and prevention of drug trafficking and associated crimes; defence and security, particularly in maritime issues; science and technology; education; environmental issues and sustainable management of water resources; and tourism and cultural promotion.



In the realm of economics, Singapore and Peru have forged a strong partnership. They are bound together by the Free Trade Agreement between Peru and Singapore, signed in 2008. Both nations are active members of the CPTPP and APEC, further solidifying their commitment to open trade and economic cooperation.

Notably, in February 2022, a significant milestone was reached with the signing of a Free

Trade Agreement between the Pacific Alliance and Singapore. The said agreement has already been ratified by both Peru and Singapore. Presently, both signatories await the ratification of a third state, which will set the stage for the agreement to take full effect. It is important to emphasize that once all signatory countries have ratified the agreement, Singapore will officially become the First Associated State of the Pacific Alliance.

## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOTS

**FDI** Singaporean investments in Peru amounted to SGD 2,095.00 million (approximately USD 1,566 million) as of 2021, the most recent year on record. Notable Singaporean companies that have invested in Peru include Olam International, Tamshi, PSA Marine, Boroo Pte Ltd, Crimsonlogic, Grupo Kaybee, and Aqua Expeditions. (Source: Singapore Department of Statistics)

**TRADE** Bilateral trade in the last five years between Singapore and Peru has shown signs of dynamic growth and potential. Peru's exports to Singapore started at \$9 million in 2018, and tripled by 2021, reaching \$33 million. Though 2022 experienced a slight dip, standing at \$16 million, the overall trend exhibits a positive trajectory. Conversely, the consistent rise in Peru's imports from Singapore, culminating at \$102 million in 2022, underscores Singapore's growing significance in the Peruvian market.

**EXPORTS** Peru's exports to Singapore are focused on 'traditional mineral products' with an export value of \$26 million in 2021, although it saw a reduction to \$4 million in 2022. The fishing sector showed a notice-

able increase in non-traditional products, moving from \$1 million in 2018 to \$5 million in 2022. Another steady sector is 'Agriculture and Agro Industries', exporting goods worth \$3 million from 2018 to 2022.

**IMPORTS** Peru's imports from Singapore went from \$68 million in 2018 to \$112 million in 2022. The 'Agriculture and Agroindustries' sector has consistently grown, starting at \$13 million in 2018 and increasing to \$22 million in 2022. The "Chemical" sector remains a significant contributor, with imports worth \$23 million in 2018 and reaching \$34 million in 2022. Peruvian Business Missions to Singapore in recent years:

**April 2018:** The Peruvian Association of Exporters (ADEX) participated in the "Food & Hotel Asia" expo with four Peruvian companies.

**June 2019:** ADEX organized a trade mission with a smaller delegation consisting of four representatives from two Peruvian companies.

**April 2023:** The Lima Chamber of Commerce led a delegation that showcased a pavilion at "Food & Hotel Asia 2023," featuring five Peruvian companies. Notably,

AJE, with regional offices in Bangkok, Thailand, also joined the Chamber's delegation.

**May 2023:** ADEX led a trade mission with a delegation of 14 representatives from eight Peruvian companies.

**TOURISTS** According to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism of Peru, the flow of tourists from Singapore to Peru has shown dynamic changes over recent years. In 2017, Peru welcomed 2,096 Singaporean visitors, which surged by 24.4% to 2,608 in 2018. This growth maintained a steady pace in 2019 with 2,666 visitors. The year 2020, however, witnessed a significant drop, bringing the number down to just 240 tourists due to the impacts of the pandemic. The subsequent year, 2021, saw a further decline to 48 visitors. However, 2022 observed a rebound with 635 visitors from Singapore. This suggests a resilient recovery in tourism connections between the two nations.

PROMPERU, the official tourism board for Peru, participated in this year's ITB Asia edition in October 2023, with a national pavilion featuring six companies and an additional Peruvian company participating individually.

2022

**JANUARY** • Interview on Chifa cuisine & Chinese migration at Canchita.  
**APRIL** • Peruvian Film Festival 2022 at Our Tampines Hub.  
**MAY** • Business Breakfast Meeting with SG Companies operating in Peru.  
**JULY** • Peruvian National Day Celebration - Peruvian film showcase at The Projector  
**AUGUST** • Top Peruvian chef couple Virgilio Martinez and Pia Leon of Central to run three-month residency at the Singapore National Gallery.  
**SEPTEMBER** • Award “Embassy of the Republic of Peru – Tumi de Plata” in recognition of the academic performance of one student from NAFA (Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts).  
**OCTOBER** • Reception on occasion of the Peruvian Armed Forces and the Navy Day (October 8). • Successful participation of Peruvian companies in the Singapore Specialty Coffee Auction 2022.  
**NOVEMBER** • Co-Host of the 21st Ambassadors’ Cup at Changi Sailing Club. • Tourism Promotion event organized with the agency Dynasty Travel. • Pisco & Mezcal Masterclass and Tasting @ Mandala Club Singapore.  
**DECEMBER** • Promotional campaign for Peruvian superfoods at NTUC Fair Price.

2023

**MARCH** • Products promotion in “Global Connect Networking Night” organised by the SBF.  
**APRIL** • Peru Pavilion in the Food and Hotel Asia - Food & Beverage 2023.  
**MAY** • Peruvian Trade Mission to Singapore led by Exporters Association of Peru – ADEX, which included a Networking session with SG companies. • Pucara bull exhibition at library@orchard.  
**JUNE** • Pucara bull exhibition at Bishan Public Library. • Co-organized the First Spanish Language Week in Singapore at Pungol Library.  
**JULY** • Celebration of the Peruvian National Day at Sofitel Sentosa.  
**AUGUST** • Launching of “Orchids of Machu Picchu” exhibition hosted by Gardens by the Bay in partnership with Embassy of Peru (duration: 6 months)  
**SEPTEMBER** • Screening of Peruvian movie ‘Ainbo: Spirit of the Amazon’ at Our Tampines Hub • Award “Embassy of the Republic of Peru – Tumi de Plata” in recognition of the academic performance of one student from NAFA (Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts).  
**OCTOBER** • Arrival of B.A.P Union Sailing Vessel. Singapore was the 5th port to receive the Peruvian ship during its 10-month circumnavigation. • Gastronomy Session at BAP Union with Singaporean Influencers, co-organized with Canchita. • Peruvian Pavilion at the - ITB Asia fair in Singapore.

## Opportunities in Gold Mining Sectors

THE mining sector has always been an important part of Peru’s economy contributing 10% of the country’s total output and two-thirds of its export value. Copper, gold and silver are found extensively in the country as are other rare metals such as lithium. Gold Reserves in Peru currently stands at 34.68 tonnes in the first quarter of 2023. One Peruvian mining company represented in Singapore, Boroo Pte Ltd, is a privately-held investment holding company principally engaged in operating, developing and acquiring gold properties globally. Boroo owns and operates various production-stage and development-stage assets in Central Asia and South America and spoke to *IN Diplomacy* more about the mining sector in Peru and its plans in Asia.

For the full story visit [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)

# BOROO

## Turning Around Undervalued Assets

Boroo owns and operates various production and development stage gold mines in Peru and Mongolia.

Boroo is principally engaged in operating, developing, and acquiring precious metals properties globally.



**Contact Details**

+(65) 63178521  
 info@boroomc.com.sg  
 www.boroomc.com.sg



# ASEAN GALA NIGHT 2023 HIT THE RIGHT NOTES FOR HARMONY IN DIVERSITY

The Annual ASEAN Gala Night has become a tradition here and is one of the social and diplomatic highlights for fellow members of the grouping to come together. They celebrated this year's theme "Harmonious ASEAN in Diversity."

THE ASEAN Gala Night 2023 was not only attended by the representatives of all the ASEAN member nations but also invited were the representatives from the ASEAN Dialogue Partner countries such as Australia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand, Russia and the United States.

The event celebrated the achievements of ASEAN in 2023 and H.E. Suryo Pratomo, the Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore, in his welcome speech highlighted how ASEAN unity is the most important element for the regional grouping in playing a central role in maintaining peace and stability in the region. Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary, Mr Albert Chua was the Guest of Honour.

There was also a symbolic handover for the ASEAN Chairmanship from Indonesia's Ambassador H.E. Suryo Pratomo to the next Chair of ASEAN - Lao PDR, which was represented by its ambassador here H.E. Sengkeo Pouangpadith. He received a traditional Indonesian Sumba Ikat weave cloth from Ambassador Pratomo.

More than 300 guests were treated to the best of ASEAN members' iconic products, cuisines, art and live cultural performances and, most of all, the event was true to the night's theme of showing the harmony in diversity among ASEAN.



More photos online at [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)

# DutchCham Winsemius Awards Celebrates Excellence in Dutch - Singapore Businesses

THE Winsemius Awards awards by the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (DutchCham) recognise Dutch and Singaporean companies here who have shown outstanding achievements in collaboration in the areas of business, innovation, social responsibility, and sustainability. The awards ceremony, held in high regard, was an evening of celebration and recognition, honouring individuals and companies that exemplify the values espoused by late Dutch economist Albert Winsemius in the 1960s. On 1st November 2023, DutchCham honoured three winners at its 7th edition of the awards at the Fairmont, Singapore:

- Winsemius Outstanding Business Award: **MO Batteries Singapore Pte Ltd**
- Winsemius Community Impact Award: **Randstad**
- Winsemius Red Orange Award: **Urban Farming Partners Singapore**



# Amazing Indonesia and Amazing Support by Country's Diaspora

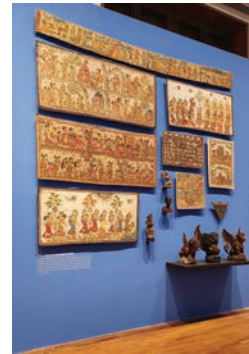
INDONESIA has one of the largest and most organised federations that link over 20 associations big and small in its diaspora network that come together for regular events and activities. Amazing Indonesia 2023 is one of its biggest events that is supported by the Republic of Indonesia Embassy, organised by the Indonesian Community Communication Forum (FKMIS) and the Indonesian Women's Association in Singapore (PWIS) with the participation of the DWP (Dharma Wanita Persatuan).

The two-day cultural extravaganza that started on 4th November 2023 was held at the Embassy's Nusantara Hall and celebrated Indonesia's rich heritage offering products that range from Indonesian food, fashion, culture to wellness products. Cultural performances were also held and the event catered to both Indonesian and local communities, attracting hundreds of attendees to experience a slice of Indonesia's cultural experience. A book on the history and development of the Indonesian diaspora movement was also launched at Amazing Indonesia titled *diaSPORA Bangsa Berbangsa* by Kompas Books in Bahasa Indonesian language.



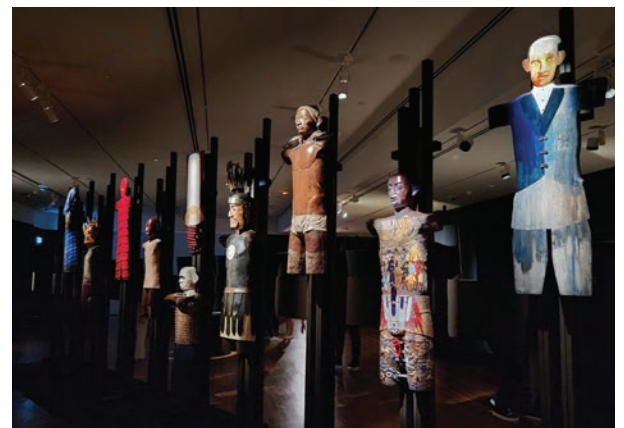
## Asian and Latin American Art in a Tropical Setting

Tropical: Stories from Southeast Asia and Latin America is this year's major 'Blockbuster' art exhibition that brings together in three galleries 200 works of art and 70 top artists - a world's first major comparative exhibition on both regions!



zoom calls. We also came also to realise there was an incredible gap in our work in connecting with our colleagues in Latin America in the formerly colonised world."

For the full story visit: [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)



It took more than seven years in the making but the results was more than worth the wait. According to Shabbir Hussain Mustafa (pictured left) the lead curator of the National Gallery Singapore talking to IN Diplomacy magazine while usually it takes about five years to gestate an exhibition on such a large scale, it took an extra three years because of the COVID pandemic. He said "But those three years became extra productive as we were able to do more research and connect with colleagues in Latin America over

## Philippine Embassy's ART Trek 15 Explores Shades of the Wind

The showcase for nine talented Filipino visual artists whose the diverse perspectives in exploring the role of colour in shaping self, identity, and culture

The Philippine Embassy's ART Trek 15 continues to enchant art enthusiasts with its 7th art exhibition and 5th Embassy-hosted exhibit titled, "Shades of the Wind." This captivating showcase, presented by One East Asia, unfolded on 10 November 2023, featuring the creations of Emman Cardeno, Mark Rocha Padernal, Martin Maturan, A.R. Manalo, Ezekiel Fajardo, Reyna Raymunda, Demi Padua, iSko Andrade, and Welbart Slowhands.

For the full story visit: [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)

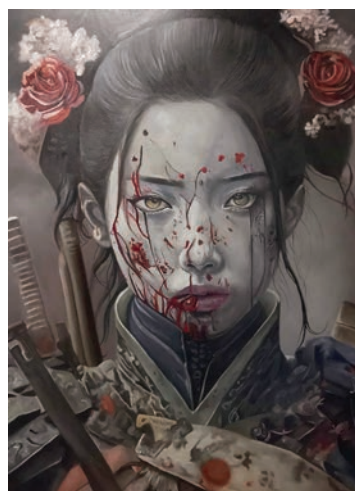


A.R. Manalo

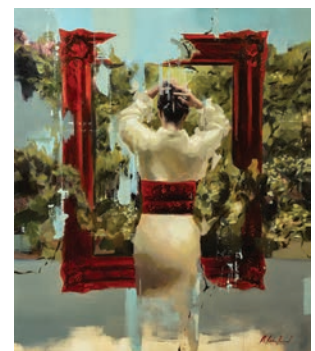


Demi Padua

Martin Maturan



Emman Cardeno



Mark R Padernal

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# Red Cross International Bazaar Returns with a Gong!

*It was truly an International Bazaar as 20 foreign missions in Singapore presented their rich culture and heritage all for a good cause!*



More photos online at [www.indiplomacy.com](http://www.indiplomacy.com)

THERE was a long line of almost 40 ambassadors, high commissioners and representatives from foreign missions here that welcomed H.E. Tharman Shanmugaratnam. President of Singapore to the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) International Bazaar 2023 on Saturday 18th November 2023 at Ngee Ann City Civic Plaza. The President, who is also the Patron of the Singapore Red Cross, officially launched the event, which was themed 'One World United in Harmony'. He then toured the charity booths to meet and sample the mix of local as well as foreign food and drinks.

There were more than 80 stalls set up by the diplomatic corps, local and international enterprises, civic groups and schools. Participants from all walks of life were able to indulge in delicacies such as Chilean empanadas, Hungarian scones, Pakistani chicken biryani, Panamanian chicken rice, Swiss cheese raclette and Venezuelan rum; shopped Columbia coffee powder, Japanese ceramic wares, Jordanian Dead Sea products and Maldivian canned tuna; while enjoying all-day entertainment including Chinese Orchestra, Peranakan songs, Tae Kwon Do demonstration and Mexican Dance. The programme stretched right up till seven in the evening with the Red Cross targeting to collect \$500,000.

The Bazaar is a wonderful testament to the hard work put in by the Red Cross and all the participating diplomatic missions that included:

- High Commission of Malaysia
- Embassy of the Republic of Chile
- Swiss Association Singapore
- Embassy of Ukraine
- Embassy of Panama
- Embassy of the Republic of Korea & The Korean Women's Association in Singapore (KOWAS)
- Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Singapore
- Embassy of the Czech Republic
- Embassy of the People's Republic of China
- Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
- Embassy of the Republic of Colombia
- Embassy of Japan A14: Pakistan High Commission
- Embassy of Jordan
- Royal Embassy of Cambodia Singapore
- Embassy of Turkey
- Embassy of Hungary
- High Commission of the Republic of Maldives in Singapore

## It's Never Too Late to Help!

All funds raised from the International Bazaar go towards SRC's local humanitarian services for vulnerable communities such as persons with disabilities; single elderly; lower-income families; children and youth; and migrant workers. SRC runs Singapore's only residential home for severely disabled persons, and many essential programmes and services such as TransportAid & Medical Chaperones; Tuition & Mentorship for Children & Youth from disadvantaged homes; Befriending and Psychosocial Support for Seniors living on their own. For more information on how to help those in need visit <https://donate.redcross.sg/donation>

