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SUN MEDIA NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Sun Media Singapore weekly e-newsletter! Your go-to source for the latest news and insights on key markets that include Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. In this edition, we'll be taking a closer look at the latest bilateral developments in Singapore, India, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and Malaysia with a focus on the economy, and business. So whether you're a business professional, investor, or just interested in keeping up with the latest news from these dynamic regions, this newsletter is for you. Let's dive straight in!

SOUTH AFRICA



South African Deputy President Visit **Commemorated 30th Anniversary** of Diplomatic Ties

The Deputy President of South Africa visited Singapore was on an official visit to Singapore to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Diplomatic Ties with Singapore from the 11th to 12th December 2023. The South African leader engaged in crucial meetings with Singaporean leaders, showcasing the commitment of both countries to enhancing cooperation. They held talks on key areas of collaboration, including water management, vocational education, the digital economy, pandemic preparedness, and air connectivity.

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ASEAN



Laos DPM-FM Saleumxay Kommasith Working Visit

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is the ASEAN Chair for 2024 and its Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Saleumxay Kommasith, was on a working visit to Singapore on 7th December 2023 where he met Singapore leaders to strengthens ties with them and addressed key issues and fostering collaboration. He also delivered the 24th ASEAN Lecture on Laos' ASEAN Chairmanship 2024 at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute. For highlights of his lecture visit the link below.

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BRUNEI



DPM Lawrence Wong Official Visit to Brunei

Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong led a delegation on an official visit to Negara Brunei Darussalam for the 9th Singapore-Brunei Young Leaders' Programme from 11th to 14th December 2023. In the visit DPM Wong said he looked forward to building on the foundations of Singapore-Brunei's "Special Relationship" by strengthening cooperation in four specific areas.

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SINGAPORE



COP28 Concludes with Call for Transition Away from Fossil Fuels

Representatives from nearly 200 countries at COP28, Dubai agreed to a roadmap for "transitioning away from fossil fuels" – a first for an UN climate conference. What were the main highlights and also a report on Singapore@COP28

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MAS Publish Code of Conduct for ESG and Data Products

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) has officially released its Code of Conduct for Environmental, Social, and Governance ("ESG") Rating and Data Product Providers, commonly known as the CoC. The announcement comes after a thorough public consultation conducted from June to August 2023. The CoC is accompanied by a Checklist, allowing providers to self-attest their compliance with the code.

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INDIA



Garba Now Part of UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

It was a proud moment for India when it was announced on 7th December that Garba, the traditional dance form originating from Gujarat has been inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The vibrant and colourful dance underscores the cultural richness of India. This is India's 15th item on the list.

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INDONESIA



Indonesia Investment Outlook 2024 & Green Economy Opportunities

The investment forum on 8th December 2023 was jointly organized by the Indonesian Ministry of Investment; Singapore Embassy, Indonesia: Indonesian Ministry of Commerce and supported by Enterprise Singapore (ESG); the Representative Office of the Bank of Indonesia in Singapore; Bank Indiri and the Indonesian Ministry of Finance. It brought together a distinguished gathering of stakeholders to delve into Indonesia's investment outlook for 2024 and the promising opportunities within the green economy.

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MALAYSIA



Sarawak and Singapore Sign Partnership on Energy Transition, Transformation & Decarbonisation

Surbana Jurong and Invest Sarawak signed a partnership at the Singapore COP28 Pavilion to deepen energy transition, transformation & decarbonisation initiatives in Sarawak State in pursuing net zero goals. One of the key features is a new Green Industrial Park in Sarawak.

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