



S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

RIAU ROUNDTABLE 2007: Opportunities and Challenges in the Riau Archipelago and Riau Province

27 JUNE 2007

Orchard Hotel, Singapore

Concept

Riau Roundtable 2007 is a one-day workshop to be held in Singapore and sponsored by the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies.

Description

Riau Roundtable provides a forum for networking and discussions among key policymakers and stakeholders in Riau – i.e., the Riau Archipelago and Riau Province – and in Singapore.

The purposes of Riau Roundtable 2007 are to:

- discuss various issues related to economy, politics, and society of the region;
- identify goals and strategies for regional and international cooperation;
- plan cooperative efforts in the areas of economy, local governance, cultural exchange, security, and other initiatives; and,
- improve communication among local decision-makers and Singapore/international stakeholders.

Topics

The topics of the roundtable include:

- assessing the process of preparing for the special economic zones (SEZs) in Batam, Bintan, and Karimun in commemoration of the MoU between Indonesia and Singapore;
- searching for a desirable model of legal framework for SEZs in the Riau Archipelago and beyond;
- discussing the opportunities and challenges that local players in the Riau Archipelago and Riau Province face at the crossroads between globalization and decentralization; and,
- identifying the characteristics of the multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and Melayu-oriented local societies in the Riau Archipelago and Riau Province in the regional and global context.

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, 27 June 2007, Orchard Hotel Singapore

0915 Opening Address

Ambassador Barry Desker, Dean, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies,
Nanyang Technological University

0930 Keynote Speech: Mr Ismeth Abdullah, Governor of the Riau Archipelago

1000 Session I – Economy:

Assessing the process of preparing SEZs in Batam, Bintan, and Karimun

Chair: Dr Nankyung Choi

Speakers: Mr Mustafa Widjaja, Head of Batam Industrial Development
Authority

Mr Johannes Kennedy Aritonang, the Riau Archipelago branch of
Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin)

Mr John Sulistiawan, General Manager of Batamindo Business
Council

1100 Break

1115 Session II – Economy:

Searching for a desirable framework for SEZs in BBK and beyond

Chair: Prof Soedradjad Djiwandono

Speaker: Mr Syamsul Bahrum, Head of Batam Development Section

Discussants: Mr Tony Chew, Chairman, Network Indonesia

Mr Ahmad Dahlan, Mayor of Batam

Mr Ansar Ahmad, Regent of Bintan

Mr Nurdin Basirun, Regent of Karimun

1245 Lunch

**1400 Session III – Opportunities and Challenges at the Crossroads between
Globalization and Decentralization**

Chair: Dr Vivienne Wee

Concept Paper Presenters:

Prof H Hasan Basri Jumin, Rector of Riau University (tbc)

Dr Aris Ananta, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Discussant:

Dr Alfitra Salamm, Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia (LIPI)

1530 Break

1545 Session IV – Ethnicity, Religion, and Melayu-ness in Riau Societies

Chair: Dr Bahtiar Effendy

Concept Paper Presenters:

Prof Vivienne Wee, City University of Hong Kong

Mr Al Azahar, Yayasan Kebudayaan Melayu (tbc)

Discussants:

Prof H Hasan Basri Jumin, Rector of Riau University

Dr Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, Department of Malay Studies (NUS) (tbc)

1715 Concluding Remarks:

Associate Professor Leonard Sebastian, Coordinator, Indonesia Programme,

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University