

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Asian Development Outlook 2015; P&G to invest \$100 million in new Gillette razor factory

FEATURES



Asian Development Outlook 2015 - Vietnam Summary

Rising FDI helped accelerate Vietnam's GDP growth to 6.0% in 2014. Inflation abated, and robust external accounts enabled the rebuilding of foreign reserves. Growth is forecast to edge higher again in 2015 and 2016, while inflation remains relatively low. Policy challenges are to reform banks and state enterprises and to integrate domestic firms into global value chains.



P&G to invest \$100 million in new Gillette razor factory in Binh Duong

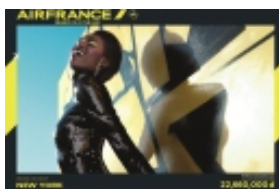
Procter & Gamble (P&G) Viet Nam announced an investment of US\$100 million to build a Gillette razor plant in Vietnam Singapore Industrial Park II, in Binh Duong Province, in a ceremony to celebrate its 20th anniversary in the country. P&G was among the first U.S. companies to enter Viet Nam after the Viet Nam - US normalization of relations. It has become one of the top fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies in the country.



Representative Sander Levin, leader of the Democrats, on TPP

In Levin's 32 years in Congress, he has voted in favor of 14 trade pacts and opposed four - defying then-President Clinton to vote against the North American Free Trade Agreement. How he will vote this time remains unknown to the White House, and maybe even to him. "It's all about trying to shape a trade agreement so you understand the impact on people, their livelihoods," Levin said.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



Fly to New York from 1,052 US\$ with Air France

Celebrate Air France's Anniversary in Vietnam and enjoy exclusive offers with all-in fares to New York from 1,052 US\$ in Economy and from 3,985 US\$ in Business Class! Take off with Air France in the morning and arrive the same evening in New York. To benefit from this offer, book before 06/04/15 and travel between 05/01-06/30/15 in Economy and before 08/31/15 in Business Class.



Korean Air - Special Offers To America

Korean Air, with a fleet of 155 aircraft, is one of the world's top 20 airlines, and operates more

than 400 flights per day to 125 cities in 45 countries. It is a founding member of the SkyTeam alliance, which together with its 19 members, offers its 552 million annual passengers a worldwide system of more than 15,000 daily flights covering 993 destinations in 187 countries www.koreanair.com



Double daily flights between Narita and Houston offered by ANA and United's Joint Venture

Starting June 12, ANA will launch a new daily service between Tokyo Narita and Houston. Its service will compliment United's already existing daily departure from Narita to Houston. Besides serving Houston itself, these two flights offer connections beyond to cities throughout the southern part of the United States as well as South America. HCMC customers can depart on ANA and connect to either of these flights at Narita. With these customers can now enjoy greater schedule choice with attractive fares. Please visit us at united.com and anaskyweb.com for further details.



Seeking funding for the 7th Child Genital Reconstruction Surgeries mission, for 21 children in Hanoi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City who have lost their genitals through birth malformations or traumatic injuries. Dr. Roberto DeCastro, Dr. Aurelie Chiappinelli and Dr. Emilio Merlini will perform these infant and child operations at no charge for the disadvantaged families. The mission requires \$89,000 (and a second mission in November 2015 will need an estimated \$90,000). This is a volunteer mission. Your help is sincerely appreciated (US contributions are tax deductible).

For additional information contact: Greig Craft: 0903401882 or email to: greig.craft@aipf-vietnam.org



Apr 6: Seminar: Laws and Regulations on Foreign Labor in Vietnam 2015

Briefing the latest updates and changes in Laws and Regulations relating to foreign labor in Vietnam in 2015, focusing on Immigration, Emigration, Personal Income Tax & Employment; B2G discussion channel to get detailed explanation and sharing about practical implementation cases; Connect with key person-in charge and business leaders to share and discuss your own case; Survey report on administrative procedures on expatriate recruitment in Vietnam by 2015.



HR COMMITTEE

Apr 7: Labor mobility within ASEAN Economic Community: Opportunities and challenges for companies in Vietnam

The prospect of Vietnamese labor policy being layered over by similar AEC policy sets the stage for an interesting discussion on how companies can navigate the impending hybrid labor law regime. Our Speaker, Mr. Eliseo Zuñiga Jr. from Quisumbing Torres, Member Firm of Baker & McKenzie International in Philippines, will briefly outline AEC objectives and key features of AEC integration from the mobility perspectives, followed by a panel which include representatives from major MNCs such as Pepsico Foods Vietnam, BAT Vietnam, Mead Johnson Nutrition, and Diageo Vietnam to discuss and provide insight on the AEC impact on the workforce global mobility of their companies.



JOIN US: Become a Member of AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

Expand your business by joining our AmCham Membership! We currently have almost 500 organizations represented by 1,000 representatives. They are multinational firms, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs. **Benefits include:** Networking, Information Sharing, Advocacy and Problem Solving, visibility and Corporate Exposure. Contact [Mimi Pham](#) for joining or additional information on membership.

AmCham Corporate Partnership Packages

The Corporate Partnership comes with a range of membership dues, event sponsorship,



advertising, and exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Corporate Partnership's annual, semi-annual, or quarterly billing simplifies your businesses' sponsorship efforts. Benefits in each Partnership Package include:

- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner on AmCham website homepage
- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner in Weekly Update Email
- Company profile on the "Corporate Partnership" page on AmCham website
- Corporate profile on screen during cocktail reception at Members' Nights
- Special recognition/Thank You Page in 2015 Membership Directory
- Special recognition at all business events' backdrop/banner
- Special recognition in all email signatures

For full information on benefits of each package, please click [HERE](#) or contact [Cindy Tran](#).

AmCham Member Discounts Program



The AmCham Member Discounts Program is provided as one of our Membership Benefits. It serves as a mutually beneficial opportunity for both AmCham Members and AmCham Discount Partners. Members present their AmCham Membership Card to receive special, privilege discounts offered by AmCham Discount Partners. A listing of discount offers is available in the annual Membership Discount Handbook (hardcopy) and on the AmCham website.



Networking Opportunities with AmCham HCMC

AmCham HCMC offers many opportunities to market your company's products and services to AmCham members, the business community and the general public. Our services include:

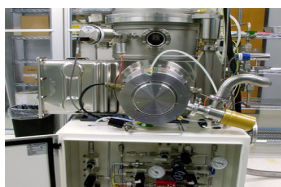
- Event Sponsorship
- Event Management Support
- Network (Advertise) on www.amchamvietnam.com: 450,000+ views/year, 200,000 visitors/year plus 8.3k twitter followers, 5.9k facebook fans, 4.1k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4,500+ AmCham company representatives and subscribers
- AmCham Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements in 2015.**
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online

News and Issues Updates



House of Representatives Minority Leader to visit Vietnam Mar 30-Apr 1

Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, the leader of the Democrats in the House of Representatives, will visit Vietnam Mar 30 - Apr 1 accompanied by nine other members. The California Democrat has essentially endorsed the approach advocated by House Ways & Means Committee Ranking Member Sander Levin, who has argued that lawmakers should focus their attention now on ensuring the administration gets the details of TPP right before approving TPA, or 'fast track,' which would allow the White House to submit a trade deal to Congress for straight up-or-down votes without any amendments. See below post for details of Levin's proposal.



Businesses protest plan to curb import of used machinery with revised Circular 20

"To be honest, a 20-year-old machine made in Sweden is better than a brand new one produced in China." Businesses are reluctant to buy Chinese machines even if they are new since the quality cannot be compared with those made in Europe, Japan or the US 10 years earlier. Nguyen Van Dong, chairman of Vietnam Printing Association, called the ban "unreasonable," "impractical" and "baseless," arguing that machines used in different sectors have different life expectancies. The proposed circular would only help Chinese companies

dominate the market by forcing small and medium businesses to buy cheap machinery from the neighboring country.



Vinatex to build textile and apparel raw materials complex - for TPP

Spread over 20ha in Que Son District, the VND1.14 trillion (US\$53.5 million) project will include a fibre factory that will produce 4,600 tonnes of products per year, a textile and dyeing factory with a 5,000-tonne annual capacity, and Huong An garment factory with 20 knitwear production lines, which will produce 20 to 25 million products per year. Vinatex will also build a wastewater treatment factory that will treat 5,000cu.m of wastewater per day to serve the production needs at the complex.



HCM City's Metro Line #1 picks up pace for completion

Construction on Ho Chi Minh City's Metro Line #1 has been accelerated with the anticipated completion date brought forward to 2019, and with the first trains to begin running by 2020. Duong Huu Hoa, deputy director of the Project Management Unit Metro Line 1 under the Ho Chi Minh City Management Authority for Urban Railways (MAUR) said, "we are speeding up the implementation of package 2 which covers the line along the Hanoi Highway. So far, we have completed more than half of the main construction work."



Vietnam is more attractive than China: Fuji Xerox CEO

Even though there is a lack of qualified local suppliers, Vietnam is a member of ASEAN, which is a giant and fast-growing market, plus the VSIP infrastructure in Hai Phong also meets the company's demands. Expanding the Hai Phong plant is thus the top choice of Fuji Xerox. Fuji Xerox's two Chinese facilities, in Shanghai and Shenzhen, will focus on serving the Chinese market, while the made-in-Vietnam products will target ASEAN and global markets.



Gov't pushes for reforms to improve business environment

The Prime Minister will focus on improving the business environment and strengthening the economy's ability to compete in 2015 and 2016. Key areas of Government Resolution 19/2015 released Mar 12 include pushing for reforms to reduce time-consuming and wasteful administrative procedures, enhancing governmental offices' transparency and accountability, and adopting regulations that are in accordance with international commitments and standards.



HCM City leaders committed to improve investment environment

In a meeting with FDI business associations Mar 4, HCM City leaders pledged to cut red tape, reduce administrative procedures; increase business-government consultations to make the business environment fair, transparent, efficient; and actively develop proposals to the local authorities and the central government to develop the most favorable policies for enterprises to expand their business. At the same time, leaders requested that "FDI companies increase production, expand business, and work to integrate domestic firms into your supply chains. If you face any difficulty or problem, please contact promptly the City's leaders and related departments so that they can offer timely solutions."



PM: Improving the business environment requires specific targets

Improving the business environment and national competitiveness requires specific target and solutions, stressed PM Nguyen Tan Dung at the Cabinet's meeting held on Mar 2. In this spirit, the Cabinet members deliberated on a draft resolution on key tasks and solutions to improve business environment and national competitiveness in 2015, which will detail assignments of each ministry, agency and locality. By the end of 2015, the time required for carrying out customs procedures for exports and for business establishment is expected to be 13 days and six days, respectively.



Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit awarded to AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

At AmCham's 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner on September 18, 2014, Vice Chairman of HCMC People's Committee Le Thanh Liem handed the Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit to AmCham Vietnam - HCM City and to Mr. Herb Cochran, Executive Director for their excellent performance in supporting and promoting trade and investment in Ho Chi Minh City and Vietnam.

AmCham Vietnam | herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com | <http://www.amchamvietnam.com>
New World Hotel Saigon #323
76 Le Lai Street, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City

© 2002 - 2015 [The American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam, HCM City](#)

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com by weekly@amchamvietnam.com | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



AmCham Vietnam | New World Hotel Saigon #323 | 76 Le Lai Street, District 1 | Ho Chi Minh City | Viet Nam