YCH Group spearheading the ASEAN Smart Logistics Network (ASLN) with the Launch of Vinh Phuc ICD Logistics Centre (SuperPort™) Project

Through its hard-earned experience in driving connectivity in the region, YCH has risen over the last few decades to be the leading integrated end-to-end supply chain management and logistics partner – with this latest effort looking to further strengthen the China-ASEAN connectivity. It is important for us to grow as a pack, to share our best practices and to innovate together so that we can capture the great opportunities generated by the burgeoning ASEAN economy. We look to drive more sustainable growth based on smart logistics infrastructure, aiming to support the ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan 2025. The launch event of ASEAN Smart Logistics Network (ASLN) is part of the agenda of the 37th ASEAN Summit that is held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 7 to 8 November 2020. Co-hosted by Vietnam, Her Excellency Ms Tao Thi Thanh Huong) joining in virtually.

Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong (top left) and Minister for Trade and Industry, Minister Chan Chun Sing (bottom right), together with Dr Robert Yap, Executive Chairman of YCH Group (bottom left, pictured together with Vietnam Ambassador to Singapore, Mr. Phan Thanh Phong) join the launch event of ASEAN Smart Logistics Network (ASLN) with the Launch of Vinh Phuc ICD Logistics Centre (SuperPort™) Project. The hybrid launch ceremony was graced by Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Minister for Trade and Industry, Chan Chun Sing, both welcoming the launch of ASEAN Smart Logistics Network (ASLN) and underscoring the importance of the project, stressing that it is key in building connectivity between China, Vietnam, ASEAN, and other regional and international markets. The SuperPort will be able to further connect many remote ASEAN locations to trading hubs, lowering entry barriers to supply chains. Hence, intra-regional connectivity will play a key part in the entire supply chain development in ASEAN. Connecting many remote ASEAN locations to trading hubs, lowering entry barriers to supply chains.

There is also an increase in trade corridors, such as the International Land-Sea Trade Corridor, with each trade corridor having a specific focus. With the rise of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), all with the aim of progressively reducing tariffs on many products within the respective regional trade bloc, as the region looks at mitigating the negative impact of COVID-19 and maintaining open supply chains.

While the pandemic crisis is driving the world to retreat from integration and accelerated deglobalisation, there are growing calls for regionalisation, and it certainly is gaining traction. Asia alone is already at the centre of two mega-regional trade agreements, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). However, the world has turned into reality,” said Mr Do Quang Hien, Chairman and CEO of T&T Group.

The concept of the ASLN was conceived in the 1st Annual Africa Asia Business Networking Council (AfABC) Plenary Session in March 2019, where it was proposed that planning should be done to create a sustainable and resilient supply chain network in Africa, focusing on connecting many remote and isolated locations to trading hubs, lowering barriers to supply chain access.

The concept was re-embraced by the 2nd Annual Africa Asia Business Networking Council (AfABC) Plenary Session in March 2020, with much more of a focus on connectivity. There is much potential to generate localised economic development to ensure that these trade corridors do not remain as mere transfer points but can become genuine hubs for regional and national development.

ASEAN will be one such platform in this regard, and the ASLN is looking to facilitate the transformation of ASEAN economies with the focus being on connectivity, sustainability, scalability, and agility. It will demonstrate the advantages of multi-modal transportation through the 20 industrial parks, this SuperPort will act as a supply hub for these manufacturing operations, which have projected to grow exponentially as manufacturing activities are shifting towards Vietnam.

The ASLN is a proposal that focuses on connectivity and digitalisation, underpinning the ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan (ACMP) 2025, which aspires for ASEAN to become the world’s leading global cluster, enjoying strong economic linkages within ASEAN and with the rest of the world, powered by a competitive, innovative and dynamic economy, where people live in a sustainable and livable region, secured in a peaceful and secure world.

About YCH Group

YCH Group is a Singapore-headquartered, end-to-end supply chain management and logistics provider with operations in more than 100 cities across the Asia Pacific region. The Group focuses on boosting productivity throughout the ASEAN region and beyond. There are already plans to increase and enhance YCH’s existing investment in Vietnam, for additional warehousing capacity.