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NEWS RELEASE

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AGN Asia Pacific and West Asia Africa regions at joint-meeting in Bali, Spain

First-time joint regional meeting for AGN Asia Pacific & West Asia and Africa regions was held on 19 - 21 June 2014 at the Royal Seminyak Beach Hotel in Bali, Indonesia. Highlight of the conference was the introduction of the recently appointed Association's new CEO.

Meeting started by welcoming speech by Camellia Darmawan from the local firm Darmawan & Hendang and from regional chairs, Thaddaeus Mueller (Asia Pacific) and Ian McMurray (West Asia & Africa). This was followed by a presentation about Bali by guest speaker Nyoman Darma Putra from Udayana University.

AGN International Chair's, Randy Redwitz introduced Malcolm Ward, the new AGN CEO who shared his views and thoughts about the future of the Association. Randy also clarified the new organisational structure of AGN recently put into place.

During the conference, focus was put on Business Development with each regions moderating a panel sessions discussing Business opportunities in countries of their region. Within Asia Pacific, Tony Shao (China Regal CPAs Co. Ltd, China) talked about business opportunities in China, ST Yuen (Union Power Hong Kong) described 'Cross Borders opportunities in Hong Kong', Masateru Sawada (Ohwa & Co) referred to the Japan Market. Finally, Ramanathan Bupathy (R. Bupathy & Co) shared thoughts about business opening in India.

West Asia and Africa's panel opened with regional Chair Ian McMurray's (McMurray Aldum Inc, South Africa) extensive presentation of Africa, followed by introduction of Sri Lanka by Sunil AbeyRatna (AbeyRatna & Co., Sri Lanka). Ahmed M. Maqtari and Mohan Balakrishnan from AI Maqtari Auditing (UAE) delivered talks respectively about Arab States and AI Maqtari firm.

On the last day, Audit and Tax Group sessions were held simultaneously. The Audit session was moderated by Hendang Tanusdjaja who reviewed IFRS and ISA latest updates. The taxation session's attendees were given presentations about 'Anti Avoidance' from an Indian perspective by Ramanathan Bupathy (R Bupathy & Co., India) and from a China perspective by Laura Shang (Linfang Certified Tax Agents).

Conference ended with conclusion words from Asia Pacific regional Director Stephen Leung.

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