

Brunei Country Report

BRUFA's Aim is to form regulated forwarding agents, to share the views, voice the opinions and collectively work with all the members, and with the Government and private sectors, in promoting the cargo forwarding industry, for the benefit of the nation and all the members.

BRUFA has a total of 25 members consisting Freight Forwarders and Logistics companies.

BRUFA CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS (Office bearers):

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2. Ms. Linda Chang : A.S.L. Winner Express
3. Mr. Tan Chee Khiong : B.T. Forwarding Company
4. Mr. Frederick Wong : Econopak Forwarding Co.
5. Mr. Paul Charles Morley: Morley & Co. (B) Sdn. Bhd.
6. Mr. Joseph Lim : Syarikat Sunny Forwarding.

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QUICK FACTS ABOUT BRUNEI :

- Highest human development index in the Islamic world (Human Development Report 2009)
- Highest macroeconomic stability in the world (Global Competitiveness Report 2009-2010)
- 2nd highest per capita income in ASEAN (Global Competitiveness Report 2009-2010)
- 2nd highest quality of life in ASEAN (Human Development Report 2009)
- 3rd most favourable tax regime in Asia (Global Competitiveness Report 2009-2010)
- 4th largest oil producer in ASEAN (World Trade Organization, 2008)
- 9th largest LNG exporter in the world (World Trade Organization, 2008)
- One of the lowest inflation rates in the world – 2.7% (Global Competitiveness Report 2009-2010)
- One of the highest literacy rates in the world – 94.9% (Human Development Report 2009)
- One of the best healthcare systems in Asia (World Health Organization)

Statistical Facts & Figures:

<i>GEOGRAPHIC</i>	
Land Size	5765 km ²
Coastline	161km
Rainforests	Over 70% of total land area
Climate	Tropical, humid, rainy
<i>DEMOGRAPHIC</i>	
Population (2009)	406,000
Language	Malay/English
Labour Force (2008)	188,800
Unemployment rate (2008)	3.7%
<i>ECONOMIC</i>	
Currency	Brunei Dollar (pegged to Singapore Dollar)
GDP (2008)	BND\$20.3 billion
Per Capita GDP (2008)	BND\$51,300
Average GDP Growth (1999-2007)	2.31%
GDP Growth Forecast (2009)	1.2% - 3.15%
Average Inflation (1999-2007)	0.21%
Exports (2008)	99% hydrocarbon resources
Total investment (2008)	BND\$563 million

OIL AND GAS	
Oil Production (2008)	175,000 barrels per day
Oil Exports (2008)	153,000 barrels per day
Gas Production (2008)	1,182 MMscf per day
LNG Exports (2008)	999,622 MMbtu per day

EXTERNAL TRADE : (BND Million)	2007	2008
Total Exports -----	11,556.4	14,941.9
Total Imports -----	3,166.0	3,647.3
Total Trade -----	14,722.4	18,589.2

MAJOR IMPORTS:

Machinery & Transport Equipments ----	44%
Manufactured Goods -----	22%
Food -----	12%
Misc Mfgd articles -----	8%
Chemicals -----	7%
Others -----	6%

MAJOR EXPORTS: (BND Million)	2007	2008
<i>Crude Petroleum (Japan, Korea & Singapore)</i>	7,626.5	7,948.5
<i>Natural Gas (Japan)</i>	3,484.2	6,886.8
<i>Garments (USA, Singapore & Hong Kong)</i>	175.6	121.1

PORT STATISTICS:

Muara Port is Brunei Darussalam's main port and the Gateway for Trade.

	2007	2008	2009
Total Cargo Handled (Tons)	968,944	948,033	927, 916
Total TEU's	98,987	90,372	85,060

Airfreight Statistics:

Air Cargo Movements at Brunei Airport -March 2008 to April 2009.

1. Total Thru Put - 18,300 Tons
2. Total Imports - 6,800 Tons
3. Total Exports - 740 Tons
4. Total Transit - 10,740 Tons

MAJOR INDUSTRY BESIDES OIL & GAS:

The Brunei Methanol Plant at Sungei Liang will produce about 2,500 tonnes of methanol per day for export. First export shipment will start in May 2010. To facilitate the export movement, a single point mooring system wharf has been built off Lumut.

9TH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The current 9th National Development Plan (2007-2012) marks a strategic shift in the planning and implementation of development projects, as it is the first national development plan to have been formulated in line with the objectives of Brunei Darussalam's recently launched long-term development plan, better known as "Wawasan Brunei 2035", or "Vision Brunei 2035".

Total allocation for the 9th National Development Plan (2007 – 2012) is BND 9.5 Billion. Of this, BND 1.03 Billion (10.8%) is budgeted for development of Industry & Commerce; and BND 1.07 Billion (11.2%) is for Transport & Communications.

Current Issues:

1. There are some glitches in the e-customs documentation process. Some of the government department are not linked to the e-custom documentation submission, where by certain approval licenses from, eg: Medical, Religious Affairs, Agriculture, Land Transport, etc., have to be obtained and submitted manually to customs for approval and clearance of shipment.
2. Similarly, the e-port processing system is still in a beginning stage and many forwarders are unable to obtain training as well as to purchase software.
3. Brunei customs do not practise carnet system for transshipment cargo and cargo on temporary import. The current process for advance payment of customs duty deposit and draw-back of the duty amount after the shipments are returned, is a tedious process.
4. Land Transport Department Ruling:
 - a. Age of used heavy equipments such as prime movers, trailers, trucks and other heavy equipments will not be of more than 8 years old for approval to import into Brunei.
 - b. Applications for trucks and heavy equipments under Permit S (for hire) and P (personal use) will be considered by LTD only if the last purchase of the similar equipment is over 12 months ago, even though one has new/current contracts and reasons for buying these equipments.

BRUFA holds discussions and dialogs with various ministries and government departments to resolve any issue which may effect our members and the service we provide to our customers.