



Trade Liberalisation and SMEs in ASEAN

By Tulus Tahi Hamonangan Tambunan

Nova Science Publishers Inc. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Trade Liberalisation and SMEs in ASEAN, Tulus Tahi Hamonangan Tambunan, In member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian nations (ASEAN), as in other Asian developing countries, the majority of firms are small-and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). In these countries, SMEs are very important because of their huge employment creation, especially in rural areas, and as the main source of income for poor households. Therefore, these enterprises have been considered as an important element of poverty education, employment creation, economic growth and export promotion policies. Furthermore, it is often stated in literature that the future prospect of SMEs in playing that role would depend on whether they can survive in the long run, in the course of economic modernisation and trade liberalisation. More specifically, it depends on whether SMEs' goods can compete, not only with goods produced by domestic large/modern enterprises (including multinational companies) but also with imported goods and in export markets. During the past few years, especially after the Asian financial crisis in 1997/98, ASEAN countries (especially Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, and Vietnam) have been undergoing economic reforms, including trade liberalisation. It is generally believed that trade liberalisation should...



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