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# Economists and Competition Law

**Dr R. Ian McEwin**

Khazanah Nasional Chair

University of Malaya Malaysian Centre for Regulatory Studies

**3rd June 2015 (Wednesday)**

**11:00am**

**Bilik Persidangan Pascasiswaza, Level 3,  
Faculty of Economics and Administration, University Malaya**

**All are cordially invited.**

RSVP by 28 May 2015

Contact : UMCoRS - Nurin, [nurin@um.edu.my](mailto:nurin@um.edu.my) (03 2246 3369) or

FEA - Hanie, [haniez@um.edu.my](mailto:haniez@um.edu.my) (03 7967 3633)

# ECONOMIST AND COMPETITION LAW

Modern competition law around the world is designed and implemented around microeconomics. This is reflected in the Malaysian Competition Act 2010, which says:

*“An Act to promote economic development by promoting and protecting the process of competition, thereby protecting the interests of consumers and to provide for matters connected therewith. WHEREAS the process of competition encourages efficiency, innovation and entrepreneurship, which promotes competitive prices, improvement in the quality of products and services and wider choices for consumers: AND WHEREAS in order to achieve these benefits, it is the purpose of this legislation to prohibit anti-competitive conduct:*

Both in administration and in court proceedings, competition law relies considerably on economics and economic expert witnesses. In competition law disputes, economic evidence usually determines the outcome - where experts testify about issues like the relevant boundaries of a market or the competitive effect of a business practice. To be effective Malaysian Competition Law will rely on economists. Are Malaysian economists ready? Or will important economic issues be left to lawyers? This seminar will deal with what economists show know to be credible experts in competition law.

## SPEAKER'S PROFILE

### **Dr R. Ian McEwin FAICD**

Dr McEwin LLB (Hons 1) PhD (Australian National University) is an Australian lawyer with a PhD in Economics. He is also a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He specialises in ASEAN competition law and economics. He has been an expert witness in major competition law cases in Australia and New Zealand and was foundation Director of the Centre for Law and Economics in the Law Faculty at the Australian National University in Canberra. In 2002 the Singapore Ministry of Trade & Industry recruited him to help with the drafting of the Singapore competition law and the setting up of the Singapore Competition Commission. He then became the Commission's first Chief Economist. Following that he became a visiting Professor of Law at the National University of Singapore and a Member of the Singapore Copyright Tribunal. He then became Visitor Professor of Law at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and set up Competition Consulting Asia LLP. He is co-General Editor of ASEAN Competition Law published by LexisNexis in loose-leaf format and edited Intellectual Property, Competition law and Economics in Asia published by Hart Publishing, Oxford in 2011. He helped draft three of the Guidelines for the Malaysian Competition Commission and has given courses and advice to several governments in Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Experts Group on Competition. He is a Member of the Editorial Boards of the Australian Business Law Review and Compliance Insider and a Co-Editor of Competition Policy International Journal, Boston. He was recently appointed to the Foundation Board of Advisors of the Global Antitrust Institute at the George Mason University School of Law in Washington. He is currently writing a book Competition Law in Southeast Asia for Cambridge University Press.