

SPEAKERS', DISCUSSANTS' AND MODERATORS' PROFILE*

(in alphabetical order)

Balthasar Kambuaya

Prof Balthasar Kambuaya is presently a Business Management Professor at Cenderawasih University in Papua, Indonesia. He is the former Indonesian Minister of Environment from 2011 until 2014, during the presidency of Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. Prior to that, he sat on Bank of Papua's Board of Commissioners and was the Rector of Cenderawasih University – a position he held from 2005. From 1995 to 2000, he was also Director of the Asian Development Bank of Project Implementation in Cenderawasih University. With close to 40 years of experience under his belt, Prof Kambuaya has authored several books based on his key research projects, which primarily focus on small businesses and economic development in Papua. He is also widely-respected as an educator, and was awarded the Satya Lencana Adhitya Dharma Nugraha by the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture in 1988 for his exemplary performance as a lecturer. Native to West Papua, Prof Kambuaya received his PhD in Economics from University of Hasanuddin in Makassar, Indonesia in 2003. Previously, he completed his Masters of Business Administration (MBA) at University of Durham, United Kingdom. Prof Kambuaya received his first degree from Brawijaya University in Malang, Indonesia.

Thomas CHAN

Thomas Chan is a Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Accounting). He has close to two decades of professional experience in the private sector, higher education industry and research sector. His expertise centres on grant management, policy writing and compliance, financial control and management reporting. He is currently the Associate Director at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, heading the Research Support Unit. He also oversees the administration of Asia Competitiveness Institute. Previously he was at the Centre for Quantum Technologies, the 1st Research Centre of Excellence funded by the National Research Foundation and Ministry of Education managing grants in excess of \$30 million a year. His topic interests are politics, international relations, history and heritage.

CHOW Wen Kang

Chow Wen Kang currently works as a Research Assistant at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). He is pursuing a BSc in Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Wen Kang is currently assisting in the report for ACI's Balanced, Sustainable and Competitiveness Enhancement (BSCE) Study for Vietnam, as well as the Productivity Tracking and Efficiency Monitoring Project for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Singapore. His research interests include international economics and sustainable development.

CHUAH Hui Yin

Chuah Hui Yin currently works as a Research Assistant at Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Hui Yin holds a Master's Degree in Development Studies from London School of Economics (LSE). She was a recipient of Commonwealth Scholarship nominated by LSE. Prior to that, Hui Yin graduated with a first class honours Bachelor degree in Economics from University of Malaya. At ACI, Hui Yin works on research related to international trade, ASEAN economies and Small and Medium Enterprises. Her research interests include development studies and public policy.

Sasidaran GOPALAN

Sasidaran Gopalan is a Research Fellow and Deputy Director (Administration) at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Prior to joining ACI, he was based in Hong Kong as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the HKUST Institute for

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Emerging Market Studies and HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). Dr Gopalan completed his PhD in Public Policy, specialising in International Finance and Policy at the School of Public Policy, George Mason University, USA. He obtained his Bachelors and Masters' degrees in Economics from Loyola College (Chennai, India) and Madras School of Economics (Chennai, India), respectively. He spent a year at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) post-graduation as a Research Associate and was subsequently based at the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) at NUS for two years undertaking research on international economic policy issues concerning South Asia. His scholarly publications include several journal articles in refereed international journals including top-tier field journals. He has also co-authored many books, published by leading publishing houses such as Oxford University Press and Palgrave-Macmillan. In addition, he has extensively contributed to book chapters in edited volumes, policy briefs as well as editorial opinion articles for leading global financial dailies. Dr Gopalan's research interests span the fields of international finance and development policy. At ACI, he is the lead coordinator for the flagship projects on India relating to competitiveness analysis, ease of doing business as well as impact of exchange rates on foreign direct investment and trade flows at the sub-national level. He also supervises and contributes to the formulation as well as implementation of several empirical research projects, targeted towards journal publications and broader policy outreach.

Fatouma Toure IBRAHIMA

Fatouma Toure Ibrahima is the Acting Director and Operations Adviser of the World Bank Infrastructure and Urban Development Hub in Singapore, where the World Bank, IFC and MIGA work together to generate direct investments and provide technical assistance for infrastructure and related sectors. Since joining the World Bank in 1998, Fatouma has worked in several sectors, including the finance and energy sector. Prior to joining the Singapore Hub, Ibrahima served as Regional Representative for the Public Private Partnership Infrastructure Facility (PPIAF), in charge of the West, Central and North Africa portfolio, and Senior Financial Sector Specialist and Task Team Leader in the Africa region, where she led the design and implementation of various country and regional-level energy projects. A national of Mali, Fatouma has also served as Special Assistant in the office of the World Bank Group Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer, and as Financial Sector Specialist in the Middle East and North Africa Region, where she managed financial sector and financial system infrastructure projects and contributed to the Financial Sector Assessment Program.

Kasan Muhri

Kasan Muhri currently serves the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia as Head (Director General) of Trade Analysis and Development Agency (TREDA), a think tank unit within the Ministry of Trade based in Jakarta. Born in Sumedang, West Java-Indonesia in 1966, he obtained his Master Degree from University of Indonesia in 1998 and his Doctoral Degree in Agricultural Economic from Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) in 2012. Since 2013, he is involved in the National Interest Advisory (NIA) Team and act as Head for the NIA Team starting 2017 which is responsible to provide recommendation for the Minister of Trade regarding the establishment of anti-dumping and safeguards measures for Indonesia. He is also the Expert Team Coordinator for the Acceleration of International Trade Negotiation Task Force in the Ministry of Trade. Prior to his career as a Head of TREDA, Kasan was an Expert Staff to the Ministry of Trade for International Relation (2016). He was also assigned as Director of Centre for Foreign Trade Policy- TREDA (2010 - 2016); Executive Secretary for Indonesia Safeguards Committee Authority (2012-2014) and Deputy Director of Trade Data Centre-TREDA (2005-2007). He has prominent knowledge on foreign trade issues in Indonesia. Kasan is actively involved in various research, publications and international trade negotiation activities. In International level, he is now acting as Chairman of Committee on Strategic Market Operation (CSMO) – International Rubber Consortium Limited (IRCo) for the period of April 2017 – April 2018. As a long-time researcher, he has published several journal, especially on international trade issues and has extensive experience as an editor for *Buletin Ilmiah Litbang Perdagangan* (Trade Scientific Journal) and Indonesian Trade Overview. He also actively shares his knowledge in Agricultural Economics as a member of The Indonesian Society of Agricultural Economics (ISAE/PERHEPI) and Economics as an Adjunct Lecturer at Asia Banking Finance and Information

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Institute-Perbanas Jakarta since 1998. Besides his formal education, he also received additional education from activities such as Frontier Future Leadership Course (2011); Preferential Trade Agreement for Development Issues an Implication Course (2009) both from World Bank Institute at Washington DC; Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Workshop from Asian Foundation (2006); General Equilibrium Modeling Course from Purdue University USA (2005); and Structural Adjustment Course from APEC Study Centre-Melbourne Australia (2004).

Nicholas KHAW

Nicholas Khaw is a development economist at Khazanah Nasional, Malaysia's sovereign development fund, where he leads the economic development research track. His work at Khazanah covers a wide range of development issues including, but not limited to, industrial policy, cluster development, economic complexity, demographics and political economics. In addition, he also heads the knowledge management team at Khazanah, covering knowledge systems, events, and publications as well as the Khazanah Resource Centre. Prior to Khazanah, Nick served as an economist in Malaysia's Economic Planning Unit, where he was directly involved in several national development projects such as the 10th Malaysia Plan, the Economic Transformation Programme, and the Strategic Reform Initiatives. His research interests and intellectual passions are in the field of development economics particularly related to the long-term persistence of historical events and cultural factors on economic and public policy outcomes today. Nick holds a Master in Public Administration in International Development from the Harvard Kennedy School and completed his undergraduate studies in economics at Harvard College. He writes a monthly column for The Edge Malaysia. All his writings can be found at www.nicholaskhaw.com.

Diamanta Vania LAVI

Diamanta is a Research Assistant at Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). She graduated as the inaugural class of Yale-NUS College with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree, and scored perfect GPA during her semester-long study at Columbia University in the City of New York. At ACI, she is part of the Indonesia Competitiveness team, leading research fieldwork coordination and assisting with data analysis. She is also part of the ASEAN cluster studying the impact of real exchange rate volatility on trade in value added. Her research interests span the fields of urban competitiveness, developmental studies, policy mobility as well as the translation of research into public policy.

LEE Jae Young

Dr Lee Jae Young is Group Head and Lead Economist at AMRO (ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office), responsible to lead a group of economists to undertake macroeconomic and financial market surveillance on major member economies in the ASEAN+3 Region, including Indonesia, Malaysia and Japan. Before joining the AMRO, Dr Lee was a career government official in Korea's Finance Ministry for more than 20 years. After joining the Ministry in 1991, He has held various positions at the Ministry, especially in the fields of international finance, economic policy, fiscal policy, financial policy and international cooperation, building extensive professional expertise in these areas. From 1996 to 1999, as the Deputy Director at the International Economic Policy Bureau, Dr Lee was in charge of trade and investment negotiations such as OECD MAI (Multilateral Agreement on Investment), Korea-US BIT (Bilateral Investment Treaty) and Korea-Chile FTA. Between 2005 and 2006, he served as the Assistant Secretary to the President of Korea for Policy Monitoring and Surveillance. He also worked on various policy areas including financial, economic and fiscal policies as he served as the Director of Financial Hub Cooperation Division (2006-2007), the Director of Welfare Economic Policy Division (2007-2008) and the Director of Cultural Budget Division (2009-2010). Dr Lee was the Director of Foreign Exchange Policy Division in 2008, when the global economy suffered after the collapse of Lehman Brothers, and at the time, he took charge of managing external debt and monitoring capital flows in and out of Korea. He was the Director of Financial Cooperation Division in 2010, making valuable contributions to strengthening regional financial cooperation among the ASEAN+3 countries. In particular, Dr Lee played an important role in establishing the AMRO and its early settlement. Not only has he worked within the ASEAN+3 framework, he also actively engaged in multilateral cooperation in APEC, ASEM and G20. Right before joining AMRO, he was the Director of Foreign Exchange Market Division and was in charge of

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exchange rate and foreign exchange reserves. Dr Lee holds master and PhD degrees in Economics from University of California at Irvine, USA. He also has Bachelor degree in Economics from Seoul National University, Korea.

LIEW Mun Leong

Liew Mun Leong has spent 22 years in the public service developing Singapore's Changi Airport, military airports and establishments. He was involved with the construction of Changi Airport from the beginning in 1975. He was appointed as the President of International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) in the late 1990s. In the private sector, he has another 24 years of experience leading 10 public listed companies investing and developing real estates in Asia, Middle East, UK and Europe. In 2000, he was the founding Group President & CEO of CapitaLand Limited, a public listed real estate company, which under his watch till 2012, has become one of the largest real estate group in Asia. He currently chairs the Changi Airport Group responsible for the operation and development of Changi Airport and Surbana Jurong Group, a large consultancy group in urban and infrastructure development. Mr Liew sits on the boards of Singapore Exchange, Singapore China Foundation and the Chinese Development Assistance Council. He also chairs the Management Advisory Board of NUS Business School and Temasek Foundation Nurtures CLG Ltd. In 2013, Mr Liew was appointed as Provost's Chair Professor (Practice) (pro bono) in NUS Business School and Faculty of Engineering. In 2017, he was appointed as Provost's Chair Professor (Practice) (pro bono) in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. For his exceptional contributions to Singapore, Mr Liew was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the President of Singapore in 2011. In 2016, Mr Liew was conferred France's National Order of the Legion of Honour (Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur), with the rank of Knight. Mr Liew is a registered professional civil engineer. He has written four books, titled Building People: Sunday Emails from a CEO, volumes 1–3 and Building People Volume 4 : Sunday Emails from a Chairman.

Immanuel LINGGA

Immanuel Lingga is a PhD candidate at the NUS Business School and currently work as Research Assistant at Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). He serves as a researcher at Ministry of Trade of Republic of Indonesia that focuses on import tariff policy. Currently in his PhD program, his research interests include the effects of institutional factors on firm performance, foreign ownership structure, labor productivity. For his PhD thesis, he is investigating the effect of corruption on the ownership structure of foreign companies in Indonesia and investigating how corruption may influence productivity of manufacturing firms. In Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), he joins Indonesia project team that conducts studies on the competitiveness across provinces in Indonesia and the effect of exchange rate on provincial export of Indonesia. He also actively involves in disseminating ACI competitiveness index to Indonesia provincial governments, businessmen, and academia.

LUU NGUYEN Trieu Duong

Luu Nguyen Trieu Duong is a Research Associate at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Luu graduated from NUS in 2015 with a Second Upper Class Honours Bachelor of Social Sciences in Economics. Luu was a recipient of the ASEAN Undergraduate Scholarship and was placed on the Dean's List and Dean's Scholar List on separate occasions during his course of study. At ACI, he is the lead coordinator of the ACI's flagship project "Cost of Living, Wages and Purchasing Power Indices for Expatriates and Ordinary Residents in World's Major Cities", the lead coordinator of the project "Econometric Modelling of Domestic and External Engines of Growth for ASEAN Economies" and the co-coordinator of the ASEAN research cluster overseeing all projects related to ASEAN-10. He also participated extensively in the research on growth slowdown analysis by income thresholds, the study on the effects of exchange rate on foreign direct investments and the research on the effects of exchange rate on export for ASEAN economies. Luu has co-authored journal article, books and editorial-opinion on cost of living in world's major cities as well as economic development in ASEAN economies. Luu's research interests include growth and development, ASEAN economies, applied econometrics, international trade and public economics.

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Kishore MAHBUBANI

A student of philosophy and history, Professor Kishore Mahbubani is the Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy of the National University of Singapore. Concurrently, Prof Mahbubani serves in the Boards and Councils of institutions around the world, including the Yale President's Council on International Activities (PCIA), University of Bocconi International Advisory Committee, and as Chairman of the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Nominating Committee. Before that, he enjoyed a long career with the Singapore Foreign Service from 1971 to 2004. He had postings in Cambodia (where he served during the war in 1973-74), Malaysia, Washington DC and New York, where he served two stints as Singapore's Ambassador to the UN and as President of the UN Security Council in January 2001 and May 2002. He was Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Ministry from 1993 to 1998. Prof Mahbubani has spoken and published globally. His articles have appeared in a wide range of publications, including *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Washington Quarterly*, *Survival*, *American Interest*, *National Interest*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Financial Times* and *New York Times*. He has also been profiled in the *Economist* and in *Time Magazine*. He is the author of *Can Asians Think?*, *Beyond The Age Of Innocence*, *The New Asian Hemisphere*, *The Great Convergence*, *Can Singapore Survive*, and co-author of *The ASEAN Miracle*. His books have been read and translated widely. *The Great Convergence* was selected by the Financial Times as one of the best books of 2013. Prof Mahbubani was awarded the President's Scholarship in 1967. He graduated with a First Class honours degree in Philosophy from the University of Singapore in 1971. From Dalhousie University, Canada, he received a Masters degree in Philosophy in 1976 and an honorary doctorate in 1995. He spent a year as a fellow at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University from 1991 to 1992. Prof Mahbubani was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Gold) by the Singapore Government in 1998. The Foreign Policy Association Medal was awarded to him in New York in June 2004 with the following opening words in the citation: "A gifted diplomat, a student of history and philosophy, a provocative writer and an intuitive thinker". He was listed as one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world by *Foreign Policy* and *Prospect* magazines in September 2005, and included in the March 2009 *Financial Times* list of Top 50 individuals who would shape the debate on the future of capitalism. He was selected as one of *Foreign Policy's* Top Global Thinkers in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, he was described as "the muse of the Asian century". Most recently, he was selected by *Prospect* magazine as one of the top 50 world thinkers for 2014.

Timothy MCDONALD

Timothy McDonald is a video, text and radio journalist who lives here in Singapore. He has his own company, Humidity Media, which primarily services international media clients. These include the BBC, Deutsche Welle, Australia's ABC and SBS. The company also provides media and writing services to local production houses. He was invited to give his views at this event after he wrote an article for BBC Capital on the cost of living in Singapore, which took a closer look at some of the assumptions and shortcomings of various cost of living surveys. Prior to arriving in Singapore four years ago, he worked at the ABC in Sydney, where he worked for the agenda-setting radio current affairs programs AM, PM and The World Today. He won a number of awards for his reporting there. He holds a BA in International Relations from the University of Mary Washington and a Masters in Journalism from the University of Technology Sydney.

Mulya Amri

Mulya Amri is a Research Fellow and Deputy Director (Research) at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). He has held a key role in ACI's research on Indonesian sub-national competitiveness since 2011, including co-writing three books on the topic, the latest one titled "2015 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Development Strategies for Indonesian Provinces". He is also closely involved in ACI's research on city liveability and competitiveness, and has written widely on the topic of urban development and city-level governance. Mulya has 15 years of working experience in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Upon moving to Singapore in 2008, he worked with HOK (a global planning and architecture consultancy firm) on city planning projects throughout Asia, and with Jurong Consultants (the consultancy arm of Singapore's JTC Corporation) on the planning of industrial zones in the Middle East. Prior to that, Mulya worked with international development agencies such as the World Bank, UNDP, and UN-HABITAT on

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projects related to urban and housing development, local governance, as well as community-driven development in various Indonesian regions. He is also a co-founder and sits on the advisory board of COMBINE Resource Institution, a non-profit organization based in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Mulya has a PhD degree in Public Policy from the National University of Singapore. Prior to that, he graduated with a bachelor's degree from Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia, and was awarded the Fulbright scholarship to study for a Master's degree in Urban Planning at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Chevening award to study at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

NGUYEN Dinh Cung

Dr Nguyen Dinh Cung is President of the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), Vietnam. Dr Cung got BA in Economics of Trade from Prague School of Economics, Czech Republic in 1982. He took a Master degree in Development Economics from University of Manchester, United Kingdom in 1996 and a PhD in Development Economics at the CIEM in 2009. Having more than 30 working years at the CIEM, Dr Cung has a wide range of working experiences. He has been a key drafter of many laws such as Law on Company and Law on Private Enterprise (1990), Law on Enterprise (1999, 2005 and 2014), Law on Investment (2005, 2014), Law on Bankruptcy (1991) and many guiding documents. He has participated in making many policies on state owned enterprise reform, business environment reform, competitiveness improvement, investment, public investment and encouraging fair competition, etc. Dr Cung was assigned to directly draft 4 resolutions on improving the business environment and enhancing national competitiveness, including Resolution No. 19/NQ-CP dated March 18th 2014; Resolution No. 19/NQ-CP dated March 12th 2015; Resolution No. 19-2016/NQ-CP dated April 26th 2016; and Resolution No. 19-2017/NQ-CP dated February 2nd 2017. These four resolutions have created conditions for institutional reform, administration reform to reduce time, cost and risk for enterprises, aiming at improving business and national competitiveness. His research concentrates on public investment, SOE reform, corporate governance, the development of private sector, institutional reform, business environment, etc. He is a pioneer in improving business environment and national competitiveness in Vietnam. He was a key author of the Report "Vietnam competitiveness Report 2010" in cooperation with experts from Asia Competitiveness Institute, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore. In 2010, his team also cooperated with the Asia Foundation to conduct the Report "Competitiveness of Vietnam Export Companies in Electronics, Textile and Sea-food products". He also has many publications. Some of his current publications (editor or co-editor) are, as follows: A reference book on "Monitoring and Assessment of the progress on the Proposal on Comprehensive Restructuring of the Economy" (2015); reference book on "State owned enterprises and market distortions" Financial Publishing House (2015); a reference book on "Reforming the model of exercising the state ownership functions at SOEs: Theoretical, international experiences and the application in Vietnam" Encyclopaedia Publishing House (2013), etc. Currently, he is a member of Prime Minister's Public Administration Reform Advisory Council and member of Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Group. Therefore, his recommendations/advices on improving business environment and enhancing national competitiveness can be directly proposed to Prime Minister. His contact information: Email: cunghoa22@gmail.com

NGUYEN Duy

Nguyen Duy is a Research Assistant at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Duy received his Bachelor (Honors) degree in Biology with first class from NUS and was also a recipient of the ASEAN Undergraduate Scholarship. His most recent publications are: "How Do Exchange Rates Affect Foreign Direct Investment Inflows?" and "Impact of Real Effective Exchange Rate Movements and Volatility on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows into Indonesia: An Empirical Assessment". His interests and also current researches in ACI are applying econometric methodology such as Vector Error Correction Model in regressing and forecasting economic entities, constructing competitiveness ranking and simulation studies for ASEAN-10 countries, building survey and collecting data of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) in Singapore, and investigating Cost of Living for expatriates and ordinary residents in cities across the world.

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Nursyahida Binte Ahmad

Nursyahida Ahmad is a Research Assistant at Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Nursyahida graduated from Nanyang Technological University, with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Economics. At ACI, Nursyahida is actively involved in Indonesia's competitiveness analysis at the provincial and regional level, as well as other thematic studies including impact of real exchange rates on trade and investment. She is also working on a research on firm-level productivity and efficiency. Nursyahida has co-authored three books on provincial development and policy options for Indonesia. Her research interests include development economics and socioeconomic studies.

Ramkishen S RAJAN

Ramkishen S. Rajan (PhD Claremont) is a Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Prior to this, he was a Professor of Economics at ESSEC Business School, Asia-Pacific. From 2006 to 2016, he was a Professor of International Economic Policy at the Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University (GMU) in Virginia, USA. In the past, he has taught at the University of Adelaide in Australia, Claremont McKenna College and Claremont Graduate University in California, Singapore Management University and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He specializes in international finance with particular reference to the developing Asia-Pacific region. He has published numerous books, journal articles and book chapters and a number of policy briefs, op-eds and book reviews on various aspects of international economics.

REN Dongyan

Ms Ren Dongyan, General Manager of China Construction Bank Singapore branch. Ms Ren has a double Masters' degree in Economic Studies and Environment Chemical Engineering. She started her career with China Construction Bank ("CCB") in 1996, working in the International Department. From 1997 to 2001, she was working at CCB Frankfurt branch. She is with CCB Singapore branch since March 2012. She has more than 20 years of banking experience, working in various departments, holding various appointments and accumulating a strong set of experience in front office sales, middle office, back office operations and research positions. She also took part in the research of various Head Office level strategic transformations plan and product development. She was mainly responsible for leading the innovation of "民本通达" series livelihood products, which is one of the core competitive products offered by CCB in this area. She was also awarded the CCB "Top 10 Outstanding Youth" Award. CCB Singapore branch, holding the Wholesale Banking License, has been in Singapore for more than 19 years. In recent years, the branch has transformed and streamlined its business structure, to provide its customers with an integrated financial services covering trade finance, corporate banking, investment banking, treasury and private banking services. In April this year, CCB setup two head office level centres in Singapore, namely, Infrastructure Financing Service Centre and Private Banking Centre, providing financing service solutions to the various "One Belt One Road" projects along South East Asia covering railways, ports, air transportations, roads, logistics, energy, infocomm etc. The Private Banking Centre will provide wealth management services to high net worth individuals in South East Asia. CCB Singapore branch geographical operational coverage includes Singapore, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Brunei, India and Pakistan.

K SHANMUGAM

Mr K Shanmugam was educated at Raffles Institution from 1972 to 1977. He then read law at the National University of Singapore (NUS), where he graduated with First Class Honours, at the top of his class, in 1984. He was admitted to the Singapore Bar as an Advocate & Solicitor in 1985. Mr Shanmugam went into private practice and became one of the Senior Partners and Head of Litigation & Dispute Resolution at Allen & Gledhill LLP, which was the largest law firm in Singapore. In 1998, he was appointed a Senior Counsel of the Supreme Court of Singapore at the age of 38, one of the youngest lawyers to be so appointed. Mr Shanmugam had a successful practice and was consistently recognised in international publications, as one of the top litigation, arbitration and insolvency Counsel in Asia and Singapore. While in practice, he regularly handled trial work in major corporate, commercial and insolvency disputes, malpractice suits and inquiries; and has acted for lawyers in disciplinary inquiries as well as in criminal

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proceedings. Mr Shanmugam has also acted for senior government leaders in Singapore, including the current and previous Prime Ministers of Singapore, as well as for the Chief Justice of Singapore. More than 100 of the cases handled by Mr Shanmugam have been reported in the Law Reports. Prior to accepting public office, Mr Shanmugam served in various committees and Boards, including the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Law; the Raffles Institution Board of Governors; the Media Development Authority, and Sembawang Corporation Industries Ltd (a company listed on the Singapore Exchange). Mr Shanmugam was also President of the Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA) from March 2002 to March 2009. On 1 May 2008 Mr Shanmugam was appointed a Cabinet Minister. He is now the Minister for Home Affairs and the Minister for Law. He has also served as the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

TAN Eng Chye

Professor Tan Eng Chye will be the National University of Singapore's (NUS) 5th President on 1 January 2018. He will be the 23rd leader to head Singapore's oldest higher education institution, which traces its roots to a modest medical school founded in 1905. He currently serves as the University's Deputy President (Academic Affairs) and Provost. Prof Tan, who attended Raffles Institution (1974 to 1979), obtained his Bachelor in Mathematics (First Class Honours, 1985) at NUS and his PhD (1989) at Yale University. He joined NUS as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics in 1985, as a Senior Tutor, and has held visiting positions at various universities overseas such as the Rutgers University, University of Washington at Seattle, University of California at Berkeley and University of Maryland, USA; Universities of Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan; as well as the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Prof Tan's research interests are in the Representation Theory of Lie Groups and Lie Algebras; and Invariant Theory and Algebraic Combinatorics. He has been invited to speak in numerous top conferences overseas, and has published more than 20 articles in top internationally-refereed journals and conference proceedings. He has co-authored three books on mathematics, including a well-known graduate text on non-Abelian harmonic analysis. Prof Tan is a passionate and award-winning educator. He was a pioneer architect of the current academic system in NUS, and has seeded many initiatives such as the Special Programme in Science, University Scholars Programme, University Town Residential College Programme, Grade-free Year, Technology-enhanced Education, etc. He was recognised with the University Teaching Award for Innovative Teaching in 1998, and was President of the Singapore Mathematical Society (2001 to 2005) as well as the South East Asian Mathematical Society (2004 to 2005). He is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Defence Science & Technology Agency, (DSTA), Ministry of Defence; Board Member of Bizlink Centre, a social enterprise; and a Member of the Board of Governors of NUS High School of Mathematics and Science. He has also sat on the boards of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Defence Science Organisation (DSO) Laboratories, National Institute of Education, and the Infocomm Development Agency. Prof Tan received the Public Administration Medal (Gold) at Singapore's National Day Awards in 2014 for his outstanding contributions to education.

Gareth TAN Guang Ming

Gareth Tan Guang Ming is a Research Assistant at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (NUS). Graduating with a First Class Honours from the University of York at undergraduate level, Gareth subsequently pursued a Masters in World Literatures in English at the University of Oxford, from which he graduated with a Distinction in 2016. Signing on with the ACI in early 2017, Gareth is currently assisting with the compilation of materials for the institute's OUE Business Case Study project, as well as taking part in ongoing data collection and analysis efforts for the ACI's ambitious Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Productivity Tracking and Efficiency Monitoring index. He is also assisting with ongoing efforts to update ACI's Cost of Living, Wages and Purchasing Power, and Global Livable Cities Indices. Gareth has co-authored an op-ed entitled "Forging a new consensus for the future economy", which was published in The Straits Times. His research interests include economic development within ASEAN, as well as the intersections between foreign policy and economic growth vis-à-vis ASEAN member states.

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TAN Khee Giap

Tan Khee Giap is a Co-Director of the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) and Associate Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He is also the Chairman of the Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation. Upon graduating with a PhD from University of East Anglia, England, in 1987 under the Overseas Research Scheme awarded by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom. He joined the banking sector as a treasury manager and served as secretary to the Assets and Liabilities Committee for three years, there after he taught at the Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore, 1990-1993. Dr Tan joined Nanyang Technological University in 1993 and was Associate Dean, Graduate Studies Office, 2007-2009. Dr Tan has consulted extensively with the various government ministries, statutory boards and government linked companies. He has also served as a consultant to international agencies such as the Asian Development Bank, Asian Development Bank Institute, United Nations Industrial Development Group, World Gold Council, ASEAN Secretariat, Central Policy Unit of Hong Kong, Kerzner International, Las Vegas Sands and Marina Bay Sands. Dr Tan is the lead author for more than 20 books, serving as journal editors and published widely in international refereed journals. He is the associate editor of the journal Review of Pacific Basin Financial Markets and Policies (US) and is on the editorial advisory board of the journal Competitiveness Review (UK). His current research interests include econometric forecasting, Cost of Living Index, Global Liveable Cities Index and competitiveness analysis on 31 provinces in China, 35 states in India, 33 provinces in Indonesia and ASEAN-10 economies. Dr Tan was Deputy President of the Singapore Economic Society, 2004. He served in the 2002 Economic Review Committee (ERC), and was Chairman of the Task Force on Portable Medical Benefits (PMB) and Deputy Chairman of the IPS Forum for Economic Restructuring (IFER) in 2003. He is a member of the Resource Panel of the Government Parliamentary Committee (GPC) for Transport, GPC for Finance and Trade & Industry and GPC for Defense and Foreign Affairs since 2007. Dr Tan has extensively advised and guided multinational corporations leading to public listings especially those companies from Mainland China and Taiwan. He is also currently an Independent Director of the publicly listed BreadTalk Group, Boustead Projects, TEE Land and Chengdu Rural Commercial Bank.

TAN Kong Yam

Professor Tan Kong Yam is presently the Co-Director of the Asia Competitiveness Institute. He is also Professor of Economics at the Nanyang Technological University. From 1985-89, he was the chief assistant to the late Dr Goh Keng Swee on his consultancy to Mr Deng Xiaoping on China's development strategy. From June 2002 to June 2005, he was a senior economist at the World Bank office in Beijing. In 2004, he was a member of the World Bank expert group on the eleventh five year plan (2006-2010) for the State Council in China. The expert group provided analysis and policy recommendations on urbanization, regional inequality, innovation policy, energy and water policy as well as strategy on banking reform to the Chinese government. Prior to that, he was the chief economist of the Singapore government (1999-2002), Head, Department of Strategy and Policy, Faculty of Business Administration at the National University of Singapore (NUS). He is a graduate of Princeton (1975-79, class of 1931 scholar, Paul Volcker Thesis prize) and Stanford University (1980-83), where he completed his Master and PhD in three years. Prior to joining NUS, he has worked at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, World Bank, the Monetary Authority of Singapore, and was the Director of Research at the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore. His research interests are in international trade and finance, economic and business trends in the Asia Pacific region and economic reforms in China. He has published ten books and numerous articles in major international journals including American Economic Review, World Bank Economic Review, etc on economic and business issues in the Asia Pacific region. He served as board member at the Singapore Central Provident Fund Board (1984-96) and the National Productivity Board (1989-90). He has also consulted for many organizations including Temasek, GIC, Citigroup, IBM, ATT, BP, ABN-AMRO, Ikea, Bank of China, China Construction Bank, People's Bank of China, EDB, Areva, Capitaland, Samsung, Mobil, etc.

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THAM Siew Yean

Tham Siew Yean is a Senior Fellow at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute and Adjunct Professor at Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She was formerly Professor and Director at Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She has served as a consultant to national agencies such as Malaysia Productivity Centre (MPC) (before it was renamed as Malaysia Productivity Corporation), Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), and Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) in Malaysia. Her consultancy work also included international agencies, such as UNESCAP, World Bank, World Bank Institute, Asian Development Bank, and Asian Development Bank Institute. Her research interests and publications are in foreign direct investment, international trade, trade policies, and industrial development in Malaysia and ASEAN. Her recent publication includes among others, "Moving Up the Value Chain in ICT: ASEAN Trade with China", *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, Vol. 46, No. 4: 680-699; 2016 (with Andrew Jia Yi Kam and Nor Izzatina Aziz); "Examining the Shift to Services: Malaysia and China Compared", *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, April 2017, DOI: 10.1080/00472336.2017.1310273 and "Institutionalization of economic cooperation in East Asia" Chapter 3 in *Institutionalizing East Asia* (edited by Alice D. Ba, Cheng-Chwee Kuik, and Sueo Sudo), (co-authored with Sueo Sudo), Abingdon, Routledge, 2016. She has a PhD in economics from University of Rochester, USA.

VU Tien Loc

Member of Parliament of 14th Legislature (2016 – 2021),
Chairman and President of Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Chairman of APEC CEO Summit 2017

Dr Vu Tien Loc has been President and Chairman of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry since 2003. He is a senior Member of the National Assembly since 2001, and is a member of its Economic Committee. Dr Loc is also President of ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Born in the northern coastal province of Thai Binh in 1960, Dr Loc holds a number of influential positions within Vietnam's political structures. These include, but are not limited to: Chair of the Central Council for Vietnamese Businesses, Co-Chair of the Vietnam Business Forum (VBF), and Vice Chair of the Prime Minister's Advisory Council for Administrative Procedures Reform; Dr Loc has been at the forefront of establishing formal business associations and having business and entrepreneurship recognized by Government and the Party as a praiseworthy sector. For example, he was first to coin the phrase "Entrepreneurs – Soldiers in Peace Time". Dr Loc was a driving force behind the Resolution on Entrepreneurs which was approved by the Vietnam Communist Party in 2013 as its first Party Resolution (09NQTW) to formally recognize and endorse entrepreneurship. Such has been Dr Loc's centrality to business advocacy is that in 2013 he proposed to – and convinced – the National Assembly that business and entrepreneurship be recognized in the Constitution of Vietnam. Dr Loc is the Director of the National Project on Improving Vietnam's Competitiveness. He has overseen creation of the Provincial Competitiveness Index (PCI) and the Ministerial Effectiveness Index (MEI) in order to motivate the reform process and improve authorities' governance. He has chaired and directed the implementation of first development programs for Small and Medium Enterprises. Dr Vu Tien Loc has a PhD in Economics, Senior Political Theory. He has chaired many research projects and lectured at several major universities in Vietnam and abroad.

WANG Jiann-Chyuan

Wang Jiann-Chyuan graduated from Dept of Economics, National Taiwan University in 1982. In 1989, he obtained his PhD Degree from Dept of Economics, Purdue University, USA. Since then, he joined Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research (CIER), one of the most regard economics think tank in Taiwan. He has served CIER for 28 years. His current position is vice president and director for Taiwan Economy Division. He is also an adjunct professor at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology. Dr Wang majors in industrial economics and industrial policy. He participated in more than two hundred projects. He published several books and about 20 papers in SSCI or EI journals. In addition, he also writes articles commenting major economic issues in Taiwan's newspapers.

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Almud WEITZ

Ms Almud Weitz is the Practice Manager for Transport of the World Bank's Global Practice for Transport and ICT, covering Southeast Asia and the Pacific islands countries. Prior to her current assignment, she served for 9 years in the World Bank's Global Water Practice as Regional Team Leader for the Water and Sanitation Program in East Asia and South Asia, as well as Lead Water and Sanitation Specialist. Before joining the World Bank in 2007, Ms Weitz held project task management positions at the Asian Development Bank in Manila and in Jakarta, for over 8 years. She started her career as a Policy Analyst with the United Nations Development Program in New York. She is a German and Italian national and holds a Masters in Economics from Free University of Berlin in Germany.

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Professor Wong, Wing Keung obtained his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA with major in Business Statistics (Statistics and Finance) and obtained his Bachelor degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, with a major in Mathematics and a double minor in Economics and Statistics. Currently, he is a Chair Professor at the Department of Finance, Asia University. He was Full Professor at the Department of Economics, Hong Kong Baptist University and Deputy Director in at Risk Management Institute, National University of Singapore. Professor Wong appears in "Who's Who in the World." His Erdos Number is 3. He is ranked top 1% by Social Science Research Network and in the list of top Taiwan economists and Asian economists and top economists by RePEc. He got 5124 (3209 since 2012) citations by google scholar, more than 2854 by Researchgate, and more than 600 citations from Web of Sciences. He also gets h-index: 40, (32 since 2012) and i10-index: 114, (94 since 2012) by Google Scholar citation. He has been serving international academies, Government, society and universities, providing consultancy to several Government departments and corporations, and giving lectures and seminars to several universities. For example, he has been serving as editor, guest leading editor, advisor, associate editor for some international journals, appointed as an advisor/member of various international associations/institutes, serving as referee for many journals/conferences, supervising solely or jointly several overseas graduate students, appointed as external reviewer and external examiner by other universities, and invited by many universities/institutions to present papers or conduct seminars. He has published more than two hundred papers including papers published in Contemporary Accounting Research, Annals of Applied Probability, Scientific Report, Mathematical Finance, European Journal of Operational Research, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Economic Theory, Journal of Empirical Finance, Journal of Financial Markets, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economics Letters, Econometrics Journal, Quantitative Finance, Economic Inquiry, Energy Economics, Statistics and Probability Letters, Journal of Risk, Journal of Operational Research Society, Journal of Financial Econometrics, Journal of Forecasting, Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions & Money, Transport Policy, Personality and Individual Differences, Journal of Time Series Analysis, Applied Economics, Journal of Multinational Financial Management, Journal of Behavioral Finance, Pacific-Basin Finance Journal, Global Finance Journal, Annals of Finance, Mathematics and Computers in Simulation, IMA Journal of Management Mathematics, Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting, North American Journal of Economics and Finance, Accounting & Finance, Economic Modelling, Energy Policy, Applied Mathematics Letters, Journal of International Consumer Marketing, Statistical Papers, Japanese Economic Review, Global Economic Review, Multinational Finance Journal, Central European Journal of Mathematics, Journal of Asian Economics, Mathematical Scientist, Applied Mathematics Letters, Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services, International Review of Financial Analysis, Current Issues in Method and Practice, etc.

ZHANG Xuyao

Zhang Xuyao is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Dr Zhang received his PhD in Economics from NUS in 2016 and obtained her Bachelor (Honors) degree in Applied Mathematics from NUS as well in 2012. During the PhD candidature, he worked as teaching assistant in conducting undergraduate tutorials, such as Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Managerial Economics. His research focuses on Industrial Organizations, Applied Game Theory, and Public Economics. In particular,

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he is interested in technology transfers and anti-trust policies. He studies the optimal environmental taxation on the pollution problems in the presence of corruption. He also works on the beneficiary of research joint ventures with technology transfer. He also studies the Qualcomm's anti-trust case in China. At ACI, he is the coordinator for the Competitiveness Analysis for Greater China Economies and the Shandong Urban Development Index project. He is also the co-coordinator for the project studying the impact of exchange rate on trade at provincial level of Mainland China. Dr Zhang is also working on the methodology of applying the concept of Shapley values to index ranking analysis. This method will subsequently serve as a robustness check to all the competitiveness ranking studies in ACI. Additional projects he is working on include the construction of the Special Economic Development Area index and the Infrastructure index.

ZHANG Yi

Zhang Yi serves as Head of Operation Management Department of ICBC Singapore, responsible for the RMB clearing business. She has been working in ICBC Singapore for more than 4 years since June 2013, when the Singapore RMB Clearing Bank start operation. She Joined ICBC in 2002 and has around 15 years experience in the clearing and settlement business. Prior to the current role, Ms Zhang worked in ICBC H.O. with the position of Deputy Head of Investigation & Problem Solving Division, Operation Management Department of ICBC H.O., in charge of ICBC payment clearing investigation and customer service. During that period, she participated actively in the construction and development of ICBC's in-house clearing systems and promoted several SWIFT solutions on cross-border payments. She was invited as the guest speaker at Sibos (SWIFT International Banking Operations Seminar) for several times. Previously, she worked in the International Business Dept, ICBC Suzhou Branch, dealt with foreign exchange clearing and trade business. Ms Zhang graduated from Soochow University with Bachelor's degree in International Economic Law. She possesses the Legal Profession Qualification of China and FRM (Financial Risk Management) Certificate. In 2012, she joined ICBC International Leadership Development Program, studying at University of Toronto for 10 months.

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