

## A course on telecom reform, including World Dialogue on Regulation Expert Forum

*Catalyzing change: Strategies to achieve connectivity and convergence*

LIRNEasia and LIRNE.NET  
in association with  
School of Communication and Information, Nanyang Technological University &  
The Infocomm Development Authority (IDA), Singapore

The Elizabeth Singapore

25-30 September 2005

*Course Convenors:*

Professor Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia &  
Professor William H. Melody, LIRNE.NET

### COURSE PROGRAM

The reference texts for the course are:

W.H. Melody (ed.), *Telecom Reform: Principles, Policies and Regulatory Practices*, [www.lirne.net](http://www.lirne.net) ; and H. Intven (ed.), *Telecommunications Regulation Handbook*, [www.infodev.org/projects/314regulation](http://www.infodev.org/projects/314regulation) handbook.

Hard copies of the texts will be provided at site: material may be accessed in advance online. Copies of presentations and supporting materials distributed at the course.

## Sunday, 25 September

16:00 Registration (at The Elizabeth Singapore)

18:00 Reception

### 19:00 Opening Session

#### *Chair*

William H. Melody, Managing Director, LIRNE.NET and World Dialogue on Regulation for Network Economies (WDR); Professor/Visiting Professor, Centre for Information and Communication Technologies (CICT), Technical University of Denmark, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, and Witwatersrand University, South Africa

#### *Welcome*

Randolph Kluver, Executive Director, Singapore Internet Research Centre & Associate Professor, Nanyang Technological University, representing the School of Communication and Information, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

#### *Welcome*

Tan Geok Leng, Chief Technology Officer, Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore

#### *Overview of the program*

Rohan Samarajiva, Executive Director, LIRNEasia; Honorary Professor, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka; Guest Faculty, TERI School of Advanced Studies, India; former DG, Sri Lanka Telecom Regulatory Commission (1998-99)

#### *Opening presentation: Effective regulation from the perspective of an Asian telecom multinational*

Satish Ranade, Secretary to the Board & Vice President (Legal), Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL)

20:30 Dinner

## Monday, 26 September

- 08:30-09:00 *Introduction to the course and its management*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 09:00-10:30 *Challenges facing telecom regulators: Priority issues*  
William Melody, LIRNE.NET
- 10:30-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:30 *Regulatory design for a catalytic role*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:30 *Challenge of VOIP*  
William Melody, LIRNE.NET
- 15:30-16:00 Break
- 16:00-17:30 *The use of benchmarks in regulatory practice*  
Ewan Sutherland, INTUG
- 19:30 Dinner

## Tuesday, 27 September

- 08:30-10:00 *Interconnection: Light at the end of the tunnel?*  
William Melody, LIRNE.NET
- 10:00-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:30 *What corporate customers want?*  
Ewan Sutherland, INTUG
- 11:30-12:30 *What customers on a shoestring want? Results of a pioneering study*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:30 *The end of price regulation?*  
William Melody, LIRNE.NET
- 15:30-16:00 Break
- 16:00-17:30 *Regulatory aspects of disaster management*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 19:30 Dinner

## Wednesday, 28 September

- 08:30-10:00 *Transitioning to a new licensing regime*  
Rajendra Singh, Secretary, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 10:00-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:30 *Regulating competition, with and without competition law*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 11:30-12:30 *Regulating the local loop in the transition to broadband*  
Jens Arnbak, Delft University of Technology
- 12:30-13:30 Lunch
- 13:30-14:00 Travel to IDA offices
- 14:00-17:30 *Tour and program at Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore*  
Coordinated by Andrew Haire, Assistant Director General (Telecom), IDA
- Scanning the technology horizon (including a tour of the IDA Proof of Concept Lab)
  - Spectrum planning and management
  - Singapore's competition framework
  - And more
- 20:00 Dinner at restaurant, location TBA

## Thursday, 29 September

- 08:30-10:00 *Supranational governance: New directions in telecom regulation*  
Jens Arnbak, Professor, Delft University of Technology & former  
Chairman OPTA (Netherlands regulatory agency)
- 10:00-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:30 *Spectrum management in the age of WiFi and WiMax*  
Rajendra Singh, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 11:30-12:30 *Alternative regulatory practices and alternative dispute resolution*  
Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia
- 12:30-1400 Lunch
- 14:00-15:00 *Assessing IDA*  
Milagros Rivera Sanchez, National University of Singapore
- 15:30-16:00 Break
- 16:00-16:45 *Transparency and participation: Asian regulatory web survey*  
Chanuka Wattegama, LIRNEasia
- 16:45-17:30 *Reflections on the course and learning experience*  
Course participants
- 19:00 Course Banquet at The Pines  
*Catalyzing change: Reflections on the evolution of IDA and IDA's role in  
the ICT sector in Singapore*  
Andrew Haire, Assistant Director General (Telecommunications),  
Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore  
Dinner and awards ceremony\*

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\* Please note that the course does not conclude on Thursday; the Friday WDR Forum is an integral part of the course. The banquet and awards ceremony are scheduled for Thursday in order to increase travel flexibility for participants.

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Telecom Reform course *Catalyzing change: Strategies for connectivity and convergence*

18-23, September 2005

Singapore



regulateonline.org

World Dialogue on Regulation for Network Economies

**Friday, 30 September (World Dialogue on Regulation Expert Forum)**

***Diversifying participation in network development***

**Session 1 (08:30-09:45): Chaired by Rajendra Singh (TRAI, India)**

08:30-09:15 *Diversifying participation in network development (including summaries of research from LIRNE.NET)*

William Melody, LIRNE.NET

09:15-09:45 *Smart subsidies and the preconditions for their success*

Harsha de Silva & R.K Tuladhar, LIRNEasia

09:45-10:15 Break

**Session 2 (10:15-12:30): Chaired by Peter Waters (Arculli Associates, Hong Kong)**

10:15-10:45 *Having a backbone; making best use of what you've got*

Rohan Samarajiva on behalf of Harsha Vardhana Singh, TRAI & LIRNEasia

10:45-11:30 *Universal Service Fund and Access Deficit Charges*

Payal Malik & Harsha de Silva, LIRNEasia

11:30-12:00 *Is the Grameen mix of telecom and micro finance replicable?*

Ayesha Zainudeen & Abu Saeed Kahn, LIRNEasia

12:00-12:30 *WiFi for extending connectivity*

Divakar Goswami, LIRNEasia

12:30-14:30 Lunch

**Session 3 (14:30-16:15): Chaired by Laurent Elder, Pan Asia Networking, IDRC  
Canada**

14:30-15:15 *Telecom strategies on a shoestring (household income below USD 100/month)*

Ayesha Zainudeen & Rohan Samarajiva, LIRNEasia

15:15-16:15 *How do we know we're making progress? Indicators for measuring progress in network extension*

Alison Gillwald, LINK Centre University of Witwatersrand & Research ICTs Africa!

With additional comments by Sriganesh Lokanathan, LIRNEasia

16:15-16:45 Break

**Session 4 (16:45-17:30): Chaired by Bill Melody, WDR and LIRNE.NET**

16:45-17:30 *Reflections on the WDR 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle Studies and Directions for the 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle* by a panel made up of **Jens Arnbak** (Delft U of Technology, Netherlands), **Margaret Tan** (Nanyang Technological U, Singapore), **Lorraine Salazar** (U of Philippines & National U of Singapore) and invited others