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# CELEBRATING APCEL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

A Fireside Chat moderated by Ambassador-at-Large Professor Tommy Koh with  
Opening Address by Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean, NUS Law

THURSDAY 12 AUGUST 2021 | 4.00PM TO 5.30PM (SGT)  
VIA ZOOM



**JOLENE LIN**  
PANELLIST



**KOH KHENG LIAN**  
PANELLIST



**LYE LIN-HENG**  
PANELLIST



**AMB TOMMY KOH**  
MODERATOR

### INTRODUCTION

When APCEL was established in 1996 in response to the call in Agenda 21 to build capacity in environmental law, the region faced a myriad of environmental challenges including a lack of capacity to address these challenges. Over the past twenty-five years, significant progress has been made and APCEL has been one of the pioneers in promoting environmental law consciousness and developing capacity in the region. However, new environmental threats have emerged including biodiversity loss, plastics pollution and climate change which pose different types of challenges and require urgent and innovative solutions. To commemorate APCEL's 25th Anniversary, this Fireside Chat brings together the founders of APCEL, its past directors and current director to explore APCEL's foundation, legacy and future through the lens of the development of environmental law in the Asia-Pacific region. Moderated by Ambassador Tommy Koh, the Fireside Chat will engage in a wide-ranging discussion on the most pressing environmental issues at the time that APCEL was founded, the progress that has been made, and the role that APCEL and the legal community should play in tackling contemporary environmental issues in the future.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Government officials, academics, policy-makers, lawyers, and students with an interest in environmental law and policy.

### SILE CPD POINT

#### 1 Public CPD Point

Practice area: Others/Multi-disciplinary

Training level: General



Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points are reminded that they must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For this activity, this includes logging in at the start of the webinar and logging out at the conclusion of the webinar in the manner required by the organiser, and not being away from the entire activity for more than 15 minutes. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy will not be able to obtain CPD Points for attending the activity. Please refer to <http://www.sileCPDcentre.sg> for more information.

To register for this programme, go to <https://bit.ly/3cAxktv>  
or scan QR code.

Registration closes on Tuesday 10 August 2021, noon (SGT).

For enquiries, please email Nur Fazirah at [rescle@nus.edu.sg](mailto:rescle@nus.edu.sg)



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### ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**KOH KHENG LIAN**  
**PROFESSOR EMERITUS, NUS LAW**

Koh Kheng Lian is a founder and was the former Director of APCEL from 1996 to 2013. She is currently Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. She was the IUCN-CEL Regional Vice-Chair for South and East Asia, and a member of its Steering Committee from 1996 to 2004. Some of her other appointments include serving as consultant of the Capacity Building in Environmental Legal Education Project for the Asian Development Bank and Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Seminars on Urban and Industrial Environmental Management. Prof Koh was awarded the Elizabeth Haub Prize in Environmental Law in 2013 and in the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame in 2014 for her pioneer work in the development of environmental law in the ASEAN region. She was recently named the Environmental Lawyer of the Year (ASEAN) for 2020 by the Asian Research Institute for Environmental Law. Prof Koh currently serves on the Board of Governors of the International Council of Environmental Law.



**LYE LIN-HENG**  
**HONORARY FELLOW & ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, NUS LAW**

Lye Lin-Heng was the former director of APCEL from 2013 to 2017. She is an Honorary Fellow and Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. At the local level, she has been a member of various committees in the Ministry of Environment & Water Resources, and was Honorary Legal Advisor to the Nature Society for many years. She is a member of the Board of Governors, WWF Singapore. At the international level, she was a member of the Board of Governors of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law and resource person in capacity-building programs conducted by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Ministry of Environment, Singapore. Prof Lye Lin-Heng was awarded the Public Service Medal (PBM) in 2016.



**JOLENE LIN**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & DIRECTOR, APCEL, NUS LAW**

Jolene Lin is the current director of APCEL. She is a member of the advisory board for the University of Strathclyde's LLM in Climate Change Law and Policy and a member of the editorial boards of: Journal of Environmental Law, Chinese Journal of Environmental Law, and Climate Law. Before joining NUS, Jolene was associate professor of law at the University of Hong Kong. Jolene has served as consultant to the Hong Kong Department of Justice, international NGOs, the United Nations Environment Programme, and global law firms. She has also served on the Hong Kong Appeal Tribunal Panel (Buildings Ordinance) and the Hong Kong Appeal Board Panel (Town Planning).



**AMB TOMMY KOH (MODERATOR)**  
**PROFESSOR, NUS LAW**

Professor Tommy Koh is Singapore's Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rector of Tembusu College, Special Adviser of the Institute of Policy Studies, and Chairman of the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore. In his career, Prof Koh has served as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, as Ambassador to the United States of America, as President of the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea and Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and the Main Committee of the UN Conference on Environment and Development. He also served as chairman of the committee that drafted the founding ASEAN Charter. Prof Koh has been the co-chair of the APCEL Advisory Board since its inception.