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**NEWS RELEASE**

**MYCC HOSTS BID RIGGING WORKSHOP WITH THE  
OECD/KOREA POLICY CENTRE**

**KUALA LUMPUR, 27 June 2013** –The Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC) jointly hosted a three-day *Workshop on Fighting Bid Rigging* with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Korea Policy Centre (KPC) from 25 to 27 June 2013.

As bid rigging is one of the MyCC's focus areas for the year, advocacy efforts by the MyCC such as the joint workshop, centres on the subject. Subject matter experts from the OECD and KPC were brought in to speak at the three-day conference, which saw participation from several Asian countries and also officers from local government ministries.

The MyCC Chairman, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Siti Norma Yaakob, in her opening speech had observed, especially among the ASEAN economies, that, "We may have different policy measures, different sets of laws, and or different approaches but one thing we have in common is that there is a strong need to fight and find the anti-dope against cartel practices which are virtually prohibited by all systems of competition law and are often the subject of severe penalties and it is also worth reemphasizing that one of the core of cartel practices is perhaps the issue of bid rigging."

The MyCC Chairman added she hoped that the specifically designed workshop will enable participants to get a clearer picture on the latest detection methods and approaches in fighting bid rigging.

Also present at the workshop were the Director General of the Competition Programme from the OECD/KPC, Mr Kyeoung Man Lee, Director from OECD/KPC, Ms Hyeelim Jang, and Senior Competition Expert, Ms Simone Warwick, from the OECD.

The first two days of the workshop focused on bid rigging from the standpoint of competition authorities. An estimated 30 participants comprising delegates from countries such as India, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei, Pakistan, Philippines and Korea, in addition to MyCC staff, took part during the *Workshop on Fighting Bid Rigging: A Competition Authority Perspective*.

The last day of the workshop was for officers from the public procurement divisions of various government agencies. About 60 participants attended the *Workshop on Fighting Bid Rigging in Public Procurement*.

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According to Tan Sri Dato' Seri Siti Norma Yaakob in her address during the workshop for public procurement officers, the victims of bid rigging are the customers and in public procurement where the customers are government agencies, the harm extends to the whole economy. The impact is particularly serious when it involves the provision of essential goods and services that affects the lives and well-being of citizens.

“Cartels as we know usually operate in secrecy, with parties going to great lengths to hide any evidence of the collusion. Therefore, it is very important for such awareness programmes especially relating to bid rigging to be undertaken not only for businesses but also for procurement agencies. All stakeholders must recognise what competition law is and why it is beneficial not only to the economy in general but to citizens in their role as consumers; otherwise all efforts by the agency in enforcing the law will not be successful,” said the MyCC Chairman.

The Chief Executive Officer of the MyCC, Pn Shila Dorai Raj, added in her closing remarks that collaborations with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and National Audit Department are vital in detecting bid rigging during the procurement process.

The *Workshop on Fighting Bid Rigging* marked the third international event hosted by the two-year-old Commission, with the first two being the organizing of the APEC Training Course on Competition Policy in 2011 and the 1<sup>st</sup> East Asia Conference on Competition Law and Policy in 2012.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> this year, the MyCC will also host its 1<sup>st</sup> Competition Law Conference themed *New Standards for Business in Malaysia*. Key speakers for the conference include 17 international competition law experts with participation from the government and private sectors.

For more information on the Competition Act 2010 and the MyCC, log on to [www.mycc.gov.my](http://www.mycc.gov.my).

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**About Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC)**

Established in June 2011, the MyCC is an independent body responsible for enforcing the Competition Act 2010. The Act was implemented to create healthy competition, which would in turn stimulate productivity and innovation, thus creating wider choices of products for consumers with better quality and reasonable prices.

The Act applies to all commercial activities undertaken within and outside Malaysia that affects competition in the Malaysian market. It provides a regulatory framework including powers to investigate, adjudicate and impose penalties.

For more information on the Act and the MyCC, log on to [www.mycc.gov.my](http://www.mycc.gov.my).