

**PRESS RELEASE**

**COMMISSION AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADMINISTER AND ADVISE ON  
PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT**

The Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) will set up a Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) and a Data Protection Advisory Committee on 2 January 2013 to respectively administer, and advise on the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) which will come into effect on the same day.

2 The PDPA was passed in Parliament on 15 October 2012 after a year-long series of public and industry consultations. It will be implemented in phases over an 18-month period to allow time for organisations to adjust fully to the new law.

**Personal Data Protection Act**

3 The PDPA will govern the proper collection, use, disclosure and care of personal data. The Act includes a national Do Not Call (DNC) registry for individuals to opt-out of receiving unsolicited marketing calls, SMS/MMS and fax messages.

4 Provisions relating to the scope and interpretation of the Act, establishment and powers of the PDPC, the Advisory Committee, and other general provisions will come into force on 2 January 2013. Details on the provisions that will come into force on 2 January 2013 will be published by end December 2012 through a notification in the Gazette at <http://www.egazette.com.sg/Welcome.aspx>. The DNC registry provisions are expected to come into force after a transition period of at least 12 months in early 2014. Provisions relating to the data protection rules are expected to come into force after a transition period of at least 18 months in mid-2014.

**Personal Data Protection Commission**

5 To administer and enforce the PDPA, the PDPC, supported by the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), will be established on 2 January 2013.

6 The PDPC will undertake education and outreach programmes to help organisations and the public understand the law, as well as issue advisory guidelines for organisations to comply with the PDPA, from the first half of 2013. The Commission will also work closely with sectoral regulators such as the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), as well as associations including Singapore Business Federation (SBF) and Consumer Association of Singapore (CASE) to help organisations adjust to and comply with the Act. It will set up the DNC registry in early 2014 for public registration.

7 The PDPC, appointed for a three-year term, will be helmed by Mr Leong Keng Thai, Deputy CEO and Director-General (Telecoms and Post) for IDA. Please refer to [Annex A](#) for more information on the Commission's members.

**Data Protection Advisory Committee Members**

8 The Data Protection Advisory Committee will be formed on 2 January 2013, to advise the PDPC on matters relating to the key roles of PDPC, administration and enforcement of the Act.

9 The eight-member committee, appointed for a two-year term, will be chaired by Ms Liew Woon Yin, Director, Abundanti and former Director-General of Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS). Please refer to Annex B for more information on the Advisory Committee's members.

**Further information**

10 More information on the Personal Data Protection Act can be obtained at ([http://www.mci.gov.sg/content/mci\\_corp/web/mci/personal\\_data\\_protectionbill.html](http://www.mci.gov.sg/content/mci_corp/web/mci/personal_data_protectionbill.html))

11 From 2 January 2013, more information on data protection and related matters, including the DNC registry, can be obtained through the website ([www.pdpc.gov.sg](http://www.pdpc.gov.sg)), email ([info@pdpc.gov.sg](mailto:info@pdpc.gov.sg)), or hotline number (+65-6377-3131).

---

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION**  
**20 DECEMBER 2012**

**For media queries, please contact:**

Shakera Stationwala (Ms)  
Senior Manager, Corporate Relations Division  
Tel: +65-6837-9661  
Email: [shakera\\_stationwala@mci.gov.sg](mailto:shakera_stationwala@mci.gov.sg)

National Archives of Singapore

**Profiles of Commission Members**

**1. Mr Leong Keng Thai (Chairman)**

梁景泰

Deputy Chief Executive and Director-General of Telecoms and Post, IDA

Mr Leong Keng Thai is currently the Deputy Chief Executive and Director-General of Telecoms and Post, IDA, and has more than 25 years experience in the telecommunications industry. As the Director-General of Telecoms and Post, Mr Leong has played a key role in significant milestones of the industry, including the full liberalisation of the telecommunications sector, the introduction of a competition regulatory framework, and most recently, the deployment of the Next Generation Nationwide Broadband Network.

**2. Ms Aileen Chia**

谢爱玲

Deputy Director-General of Telecoms and Post, IDA

Ms Aileen Chia is currently the Deputy Director-General of Telecoms and Post, IDA and oversees the policy and competition development functions of IDA, which takes charge of developing and implementing infocomm-related frameworks to enhance the vibrancy and competitiveness of the infocomm sector in Singapore.

**3. Mr James Kang Eng Guan**

江永元

Assistant Chief Executive, Government Chief Information Office (GCIO), IDA

Mr James Kang is the Assistant Chief Executive, Government Chief Information Office (GCIO), IDA. He has more than 25 years of experience in the infocomm industry, working in both the public and private sectors as well in local and international companies. As the ACE (GCIO), he oversees initiatives to harness infocomm technology to plan, develop and implement the next generation of government, as well as initiatives to leverage on infocomm to transform key industry sectors to gain competitive advantage, in collaboration with the private sector.

**4. Ms Koh Li-Na**

许丽娜

Deputy-Director and Covering Director for Infocomm Policy, IDA

Ms Koh is the Deputy Director and Covering Director for the Infocomm Policy Division at IDA. The division is responsible for the formulation of regulatory policies for the telecommunications sector, on issues like spectrum auctions and net neutrality, as well as for policies to enable the growth of the infocommunications sector, including issues like data protection, electronic transactions and spam control.

**5. Mr Ong Tong San**

王东山

Director of Competition and Market Access, IDA

Mr Ong Tong San is currently the Director of Competition and Market Access, IDA and oversees the licensing of telecommunication and postal operators. Mr Ong also oversees the enforcement of competition and regulatory frameworks, such as the Telecom Competition Code and quality of service framework.

**6. Mr Amos Tan Wei Ngee**

陈伟义

Director for Government ICT Strategy & Performance Management; and Director for Data Protection, IDA

Mr Amos Tan is currently the Director for Government ICT Strategy & Performance Management; and Director for Data Protection, IDA. He has more than 15 years of infocomm experience in the public sector. In his career, Mr Tan had worked in several government agencies, responsible for their infocomm master planning; applications deployment; and technical infrastructure implementation. He also led the development of the eGov2015 master plan and had also spent time in the middle-east with foreign governments like the Kuwaiti, Qatari governments on their e-government programmes.

National Archives of Singapore

**Profiles of Advisory Committee Members**

**1. Ms Liew Woon Yin**

廖媛然

Director, Abundanti

Former Director-General, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)

As former Director-General of IPOS, Ms Liew was responsible for administering the protection of Intellectual Property (IP) systems in Singapore, strengthening the legal framework of IPOS, promoting public awareness and effective use of IP rights, developing an IP-savvy business sector in Singapore and promoting Singapore's profile in the international arena. She also initiated the establishment of the IP Academy in January 2003; an important national initiative dedicated to the deepening and broadening of Singapore's knowledge and capabilities in IP protection, exploitation and management. Upon her retirement, Ms Liew continues to be active in the IP scene regionally and internationally, by providing IP and management consultancy services, as Director of Abundanti.

**2. Mr Arun Mahizhnan**

Special Research Adviser at the Institute of Policy Studies

As the Special Research Adviser at the Institute of Policy Studies, Mr Mahizhnan advises the Director on IPS' research projects and undertakes selected research projects. He is concurrently an Adjunct Professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication & Information at the Nanyang Technological University. Before joining IPS in 1991, he had worked in both the public and private sectors for 20 years, mostly in public communication fields. Mr Mahizhnan was also previously the Deputy Director of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and his past research interests included business issues such as regionalisation of the Singapore economy, and development of entrepreneurship.

**3. Professor Simon Chesterman**

陈西文

Dean and Professor of Law, National University of Singapore

Professor Chesterman is Dean of the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law. He is also Editor of the *Asian Journal of International Law* and Secretary-General of the Asian Society of International Law. His teaching experience includes periods at the Universities of Melbourne, Oxford, Southampton, Columbia, and Sciences Po. From 2006-2011, he was Global Professor and Director of the New York University School of Law Singapore Programme. Prior to joining NYU, he was a Senior Associate at the International Peace Academy and Director of UN Relations at the International Crisis Group in New York. He has previously worked for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Yugoslavia and interned at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Professor Chesterman is a recognized authority on international law and author or editor of twelve books

including *One Nation Under Surveillance* (OUP, 2011) and *Law and Practice of the United Nations* (with Thomas M. Franck and David M. Malone, OUP, 2008).

**4. Mr Ho Meng Kit**

何鸣杰

Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Business Federation (SBF)

Mr Ho assumed the post of Chief Executive Officer of SBF in 2011. The SBF is the Apex Business Chamber of Singapore with membership from more than 18,400 top companies. Prior to joining SBF, Mr Ho has held a variety of senior policy and executive positions including four years as Principal Private Secretary to then Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew; as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry and later in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he was also Singapore's Senior Official for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). He was also Chief Executive of the Singapore Broadcasting Authority and Land Transport Authority where he worked collaboratively with Singapore's media, transport and construction industries. As Managing Director of the Economic Development Board, Mr Ho has extensive exposure to corporations, their business challenges and the opportunities they seek. He has an excellent understanding of government policies, particularly those relating to support for businesses.

**5. Mr Lim Biow Chuan**

林谋权

President, Consumers Association of Singapore (CASE)

Mr Lim is a lawyer and has been in legal practice for 23 years. He is currently a senior partner in Derrick Wong & Lim BC LLP and is a Commissioner for Oaths as well as a Notary Public. Mr Lim served as a grassroots leader in Jalan Besar for 16 years before he was elected as Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC in April 2006. He was re-elected as Member of Parliament for Mountbatten SMC in May 2011. Mr Lim is also currently the President of CASE, and Chairman of Marine Parade Town Council. He sits as a Director for the Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre Pte Ltd (FIDREC) and a director for Marine Parade Leadership Foundation. He was awarded the Public Service Medal (PBM) in 2001.

**6. Mr Lim Chin Hu**

林振富

Managing Partner, Stream Global Pte Ltd

Mr Lim is the Managing Partner of Stream Global Venture Catalyst Pte Ltd, a venture fund providing seed funding for Infocomm startups in the social media and interactive digital media space. He currently serves on the board of Changi General Hospital and is a member the Audit Committee and Chairman of the IT Committee. He is also a board member in G-Able (Thailand) Ltd, a leading IT services company based in Thailand. Mr Lim is an independent director at Caledonian Investment Pte Ltd, a New Zealand technology investment company and Kulicke & Soffa, a US NASDAQ listed company

(NASDAQ: KLIC). He is also a Director of Singapore Institute of Director (SID). Mr Lim has over 28 years of experience in the technology industry, having been Managing Director of Sun Microsystems and CEO of Frontline Technologies Corp and CEO of British Telecom (BT) South East Asia.

**7. Mr Png Cheong Boon**

方章文

Chief Executive Officer, SPRING Singapore

Mr Png was appointed the CEO for SPRING Singapore in 2008. He joined SPRING in July 2003 as its Deputy Chief Executive and has been leading efforts in developing a competitive SME sector and nurturing innovative Singapore enterprises. Prior to his current appointment, Mr Png spent ten years with the Economic Development Board (EDB), holding various appointments in EDB's Singapore and US operations. He also served as a Director in the Employment and Employability Institute Pte Ltd and Singapore Israel Industrial Research & Development Foundation (SIIRD). He is also a member of the Institute for Engineering Leadership Management Board.

**8. Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin**

余文正

Second Solicitor-General, Attorney General's Chambers (AGC)

Mr Yee was appointed as the Second Solicitor-General with effect from 2011. Mr Yee started his legal practice as a State Counsel in the Civil Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC) in 1991 and was posted to AGC's International Affairs Division in 1995. He held a number of concurrent appointments between 1995 and 2006, which included Deputy Director (Legal) in the Ministry of Law; Legal Adviser to the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations in New York ; and Senior State Counsel in the Criminal Justice Division of AGC. He was the Director-General of the International Affairs Division from 2008 to 2012. Mr Yee is also a Board Member of the Competition Commission of Singapore and is an Arbitrator and Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. He was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 2001 and the Public Administration Medal (Gold) in 2008.

National Archives of Singapore