



PENANG INSTITUTE

(formerly known as Socio-economic & Environmental Research Institute-SERI)



INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC AND
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (ISIS) MALAYSIA

jointly invites

to a Seminar on

"THE FUTURE OF FOOD SECURITY IN ASIA: WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?"

by

PROF C. PETER TIMMER

Harvard University, USA

Friday, 7 October 2011

Seminar Room 2 & 3, Level 2

Wawasan Open University (WOU), Penang

PROGRAMME		ABOUT THE SPEAKER
9.45am – 10.00am	Arrival of Guests and Registration	C. Peter Timmer is currently the Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Development Studies, <i>Emeritus</i>, Harvard University; Professor of Development Studies, <i>Emeritus</i>, University of California, San Diego; and Adjunct Professor at Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australian National University. He has served as a professor at Stanford, Cornell, three faculties at Harvard, and the University of California, San Diego. Timmer is a leading authority on agricultural development and structural transformation during the process of economic growth. He is a core advisor on the World Bank's <i>World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development</i>. He has long worked with and advised a number of Asian governments on domestic food and agricultural policies and, more recently, on their responses to the crisis in the global rice market. He was the principal analyst for the Asia Society-IRRI Task Force on Food Security and Sustainability in Asia which led to the publication, <i>Never an Empty Bowl: Sustaining Food Security in Asia</i> in 2010. He is also an advisor to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on agricultural development strategy.
10.00am – 10.05am	Welcoming Remarks by Datuk Dr Goh Ban Lee Chair of City, Urbanization & Environment Programme Penang Institute Chair : Dr Larry Wong Program Director ISIS Malaysia	
10.05am – 10.35am	Presentation by Prof C. Peter Timmer Harvard University, USA	
10.35am – 11.30am	Question & Answer Session, End.	

ABSTRACT

In addressing the future of food security in Asia, the speaker focuses on four key issues and their implications. Firstly, the continuous declining farm sizes. Secondly, that while integrated technologies will increasingly be the route to greater crop (and livestock) productivity, they may have *important scale economies in total*, even when the *individual components appear to be scale neutral*. Thirdly, reaching small farmers with modern inputs and buying their increasingly diversified outputs will require a new, information-intensive marketing system involving new supply chains, often driven by supermarkets. Finally, there is the issue of "scalability". The speaker emphasizes that historically, only market processes have managed to be scalable. But markets have also demonstrated historically a lack of concern for the survival of small farmers, the sustainability of food production techniques, or whether poor people get enough to eat.

ADMISSION IS FREE. Please confirm your participation via fax or e-mail **not later than 28 September 2011** to:

RSVP: Tel: 03 2693 9366 ext 144 / 164 Fax: 03 2694 9227 / 2691 3210 Email: azeema@isis.org.my / hanafi@isis.org.my

☐ Yes, I will be able to attend.

☐ No, I will not be able to attend.

☐ I will send a representative to attend.

Name: _____

Position: _____ Organisation: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____