



jointly invites

to a Public Lecture on

"FOOD SECURITY IN ASIA: NEW DIMENSIONS AND THE CHANGING ROLE OF RICE"

by **PROF C. PETER TIMMER**
Harvard University, USA

Wednesday, 5 October 2011

Heritage Hall, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Perak Campus), Kampar Perak

PROGRAMME

9.45am – 10.00am	Arrival of Guests and Registration
10.00am – 10.05am	Welcoming Remarks by Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat Vice President, UTAR
10.05am – 10.35am	Chair : Dr Stephen Leong Director, Centre for International Studies, UTAR Co-Chair : Dr Larry Wong Program Director ISIS Malaysia Presentation by Prof C. Peter Timmer Harvard University, USA
10.35am – 11.30am	Question & Answer Session, End.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

C. Peter Timmer is currently the Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Development Studies, *Emeritus*, Harvard University; Professor of Development Studies, *Emeritus*, 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 *World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development*. 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, *Never an Empty Bowl: Sustaining Food Security in Asia* in 2010. He is also an advisor to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on agricultural development strategy.

ABSTRACT

The determinants of food security have changed in the past several decades. The speaker contends that since the 1960s, government interventions coupled with technological change have led to rapid, inclusive economic growth that gave Asian households access to food in their fields and markets. The major changes are to be found in the *structural transformation driven by these processes and the role of rice in the economy*. Asia is now richer, more urban, better connected and much better fed than before, resulting in rice playing a much less significant role in food production and consumption. This coupled with a transformed food marketing system involving modern supply chains and supermarkets as well as increased uncertainty about weather patterns and increased instability in food production, supplies and prices pose serious but different sets of problems for food security. The speaker warns that unfortunately, much of the current policy debate over food security in Asia reflects the mindset of the 1960s rather than the reality of the 2010s.

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: _____