

WCMS forum to focus on FinTech

It will feature business and technology leaders, domain experts and start-ups

PETALING JAYA: The Securities Commission (SC) will host the World Capital Markets Symposium (WCMS) this week, which will feature discussions on financial technology such as peer-to-peer lending, equity crowdfunding, digital wallets and crypto currencies.

The symposium will be held at Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur starting today until Friday and will see the sharing of ideas and insights themed "Markets and Technology: Driving Future Growth through Innovation".

Financial technology, also known as FinTech, will be the main highlight for this year's symposium. FinTech is a business based on using software to provide financial services.

FinTech focuses on innovations in trading software, market data, exchange technology, analytics, cloud computing, high-speed networking and mobile.

"FinTech companies are driving significant changes in the way financial markets and market players think about and use technology," SC said in a statement.

WCMS 2015 will feature business and technology leaders, domain experts and start-ups who will talk about mobile money, big data



and cloud, crypto-currency such as bitcoins, P2P lending platforms, digital delivery services such as robo-advisers, and the digitisation and social media strategies of established players as they reinvent and reimagine business models to defend current market share or win new ones.

Some of the prominent personalities in the industry that will converge at this year's WCMS include Paddy Ashdown, member of the House of Lords and president of Royal Institute of International Affairs; NR Narayana Murthy, founder of Infosys; and Dr Marc Faber, executive director of Marc Faber Ltd.

Financial technology and business leaders include John Goodall, co-founder and chief executive officer of Landbay UK; Chris Brycki,

founder and CEO of Stockspot; Theresa Burton, deputy chief executive of Trillion and co-founder of Buzzbnk; Leo Shimada, co-founder and CEO of Crowd; Paul Schulte, chairman of Schulte Research; and Azran Osman-Rani, CEO of iflix Malaysia.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will be kicking off the two-day symposium by

delivering a keynote address while SC chairman Datuk Ranjit Ajit Singh will deliver his opening address.

For this year, attendees would also see a special session by eminent persons who have been involved in the architecture of the Asean Economic Community (AEC). The panellists would discuss the opportunities that could be harnessed and the challenges that need to be overcome to achieve the ambitious targets of the AEC.

The WCMS was introduced in 2009 as a platform to promote informed debate led by global opinion leaders, policymakers, influencers, domain experts, business and market leaders on the big questions confronting us today – creating value, promoting sustainable, inclusive growth, opportunities for employment and transforming societies.

This regional flagship event has hosted some of the world's most prominent thought leaders from economics, finance, business, geopolitics and regulation, among them Dr Raghuram Rajan, Haruhiko Kuroda, Paul Krugman, Nouriel Roubini, Dr Laura Tyson, Dr Mark Zakaria, Lord Adair Turner and the honourable Sheila C. Bair.