

An impressive line-up of some of the world's leading accounting and financial personalities will be in Colombo this month to steer the Conference on Financial Reporting for Economic Development, organized by the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA), the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), the World Bank and hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka).

High-profile representation from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, together with representatives from IFAC, CAPA, International Integrated Reporting Council among several other leading accounting bodies will be part of the three day conference from May 19th to 21st 2014 as speakers and panelists where experts will discuss at length the state of the financial reporting supply chain in Asia and its relevance to private and public sector development.

The speakers and panelists will include Fayeze Choudhury, Chief Executive Officer of IFAC, Jennifer Thomson, Chief Financial Management Officer of the World Bank, Kathleen Moktan, Senior Advisor, Financial Management of the Asian Development Bank, Sujeewa Mudalige, President of CAPA and Mervyn King, Chair of the International Integrated Reporting Council.

The keynote speech at the inauguration ceremony on May 19th 2014 will be delivered by Ajith Nivard Cabraal, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, while Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Deputy Minister of Financial and Planning will deliver the keynote address during the first day of the technical sessions on 20th May 2014.

The internationally renowned speakers and panelists will also include Akira Nozaki of the Corporate Governance of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development, Clement Chan, Chair of the Asian-Oceanian Standard-Setters Group & President Hong Kong Institute of CPAs, Andreas Bergmann, Chair of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board, Suhas Joshi, Regional Advisor South & South East Asia of the International Monetary Fund, Sharmila Gopinath, Research Director of the Asian Corporate Governance Association and P. R. Ramesh, Chair of Deloitte India and a number of leaders from the UK, Australian and South Asia professional accountancy organisations.

Several well-known Sri Lankan accounting professionals including Arjuna Herath, President of CA Sri Lanka, Nilanthi Sivapragasam, Chief Financial Officer of Aitken Spence & Chair of the Financial Reporting Faculty, Manil Jayasinghe, Chair of the Education and Curriculum Committee of CA Sri Lanka and Partner of Ernst & Young, Reyaz Mihular, Member of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants, Naomal Goonewardena, attorney and Partner of Nithya Partners and Suresh Gooneratne, Executive Director of Diesel & Motor engineers PLC will also speak and serve during the panel sessions at the conference.

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Monday, 12 May 2014 05:20 -

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The aim of the conference is to boost awareness amongst regulators and policy makers in Asia – particularly in South Asia – on the role and importance of accounting and auditing to enhance the business climate to boost shared prosperity and to strengthen public financial management to enhance governance and accountability.