



Lecture on
“Promoting Competition in a Free Market – The Case of Hong Kong”

*by Mr. Kwok-chuen Kwok, Chairman of the Enforcement Committee,
Hong Kong Competition Commission;
Former Government Economist, HKSAR Government*



Date: 18 April 2017 (Tuesday)

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 8,
2/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Language: English

Abstract:

Hong Kong has been known as one of the world’s freest markets. The freedom of entry and exit in most market segments in Hong Kong led many people to believe that a competition law was not needed. However, developments in the past decade or two have shown that free trade in a small open economy is not a sufficient condition to ensure competitive markets. There are also sectors that are not open to international competition. After a series of consultations and reviews, the government introduced a competition bill into the Legislative Council in July 2010, and the Competition Ordinance was enacted in June 2012 and commenced operation on 14 December 2015. Mr. Kwok will give a brief overview of the key elements of the Competition Ordinance and some of its noteworthy features, highlighting what businesses should do and should not do. He will also outline the work of the Competition Commission in various areas, including enforcing the law, reviewing trade association practices, conducting market studies, providing policy advice to the government, performing engagement and advocacy work with the public and businesses, and dealing with a block exemption order application.

About the Speaker:

Mr. Kwok-chuen Kwok has been a member of the Competition Commission since it was set up in May 2013, and he chairs its Enforcement Committee. He is also an Independent Non-Executive Director of DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Ltd. and of SUNeVision Holdings Ltd. He was the Government Economist of the Hong Kong SAR government during 2004–2008 and was the Regional Chief Economist for East Asia of Standard Chartered Bank before joining the government.

Mr. Kwok graduated from The University of Hong Kong in 1976 and got a Distinguished Alumni Award of the University in 2007. He also got his MPhil (Econ) from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1984 and an MSocSc (Public Admin) from The University of Hong Kong in 1987.

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