

# Corporate Governance Developments in the ASEAN Region

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# **ASEAN**

### **Economic Community**

— at a Glance —

#### **M ASEAN Economy**

A Highly Competitive Economic Region

With a combined GDP of **US\$2.6 trillion** in 2014, ASEAN economy was

7th largest in the world and the 3rd largest in Asia

### **†** ASEAN Population

A Region Fully Integrated Community

In 2014, ASEAN was

largest market in the world with 622 million people behind only China and India

#### ASEAN Trade

A More Integrated Market

Total trade increased by nearly

between 2007 and 2014, with Intra-ASEAN trade comprising the largest share of ASEAN's total trade by partner.



#### **ASEAN FDI**

A World Class Investment Destination

ASEAN attracted

US\$136 billion

in FDI in 2014, accounting for 11% of global FDI inflows, up from only 5% in 2007

#### **ASEAN Connectivity**

A More Connected Community

Annual tourist arrivals were up from 62 million in 2007 to 105 million in 2014, almost half of which were intra-ASEAN

The rate of Internet subscription more than doubled from 11.8 per 100 inhabitants in 2007 to 28.6 in 2014



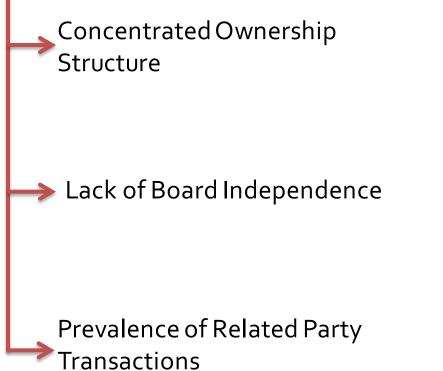


one vision one identity one community



## Causes of the Asian Financial Crisis

## **Challenges in Asia**









Source: OECD CG White Paper on Asia



# First Wave: Regulator-Led Foundations

| Country     | Landmark CG Laws  | CG Private Sector Partners                         |  |  |
|-------------|---|--|--|--|
| Indonesia   | General Guidance on Good<br>Corporate Governance (2001)                             | Indonesian Institute of Corporate Directors (2000) |  |  |
| Malaysia    | Financial Reporting Act (1997);<br>Development Financial<br>Institutions Act (2002) | Minority Shareholder<br>Watchdog Group (2000)      |  |  |
| Philippines | Code of Corporate Governance (2002)   | Institute of Corporate Directors (1999)            |  |  |
| Singapore   | Securities and Futures Act (2001)   | Singapore Institute of Directors (1998)            |  |  |
| Thailand    | 15 Principles of Good<br>Corporate Governance (2002)                                | Thai Institute of Directors (1999)                 |  |  |



# OECD Principles of Corporate Governance (2004)

- Ensuring the Basis for an Effective Corporate Governance Framework
- The Rights of Shareholders and Key Ownership Functions
- The Equitable Treatment of Shareholders
- The Role of Stakeholders in Corporate Governance
- Disclosure and Transparency
- The Responsibilities of the Board



# Second Wave: Convergence of CG Laws

| Country     | Recent CG Development   |
|-------------|---|
| Indonesia   | Indonesian Corporate Governance Roadmap (2013)  |
| Malaysia    | Corporate Governance Blueprint (2011) Bursa Malaysia Corporate Disclosure Guidelines (2013) Malaysian Code for Institutional Investors (2014) |
| Philippines | Philippine Corporate Governance Blueprint (2015) Code of CG for PLCs (2016)   |
| Singapore   | SGX Listing Requirements (amended in 2011) Singapore Code of Corporate Governance (revised 2012)  |
| Thailand    | Principles of Good Corporate Governance for Listed Companies<br>2006 (revised 2013)<br>Sustainability Development Roadmap (2013)              |
| Vietnam     | Corporate Governance Code 2007 and Amendments (2012) Disclosure Rule (2012) Listing rules of the Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi stock exchanges        |

# Introduction of Corporate Governance Scorecards

1990s – adoption of country CG codes

2004 onwards – development of scorecards

2011 — ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) initiates ASEAN CG Scorecard



## Initiatives towards an ASEAN integrated market...

# Cross-border fundraising

- ASEAN Disclosure Standards for equity and plain debt securities
- Expedited entry for secondary listings

# Cross-border product distribution

- Mutual recognition of Collective Investment Schemes
- ASEANTrading Link
- Settlement Link

# Cross-border offering of services

 Common regulatory model for cross-border provision of supporting marketing services

# Regional capital market development

- Corporate governance ranking of ASEAN PLCs
- Regional cooperation in Islamic capital markets
- Cross-border enforcement and dispute resolution
- Technical support for newer markets e.g.: Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Brunei



# ACGS is an ASEAN Capital Markets Forum initiative:

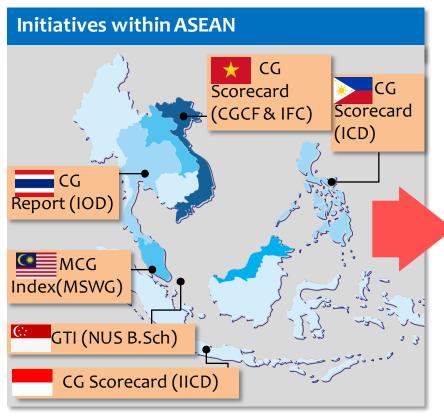
 Raising corporate governance standards of ASEAN PLCs

2. Promote ASEAN as an asset class spearheaded by its PLCs

# The Scorecard is mainly based on OECD Principles of Corporate Governance...

... and takes into account other global and regional best practices and initiatives





Since the implementation of the ASEAN CG Scorecard, most countries have indicated their commitment to adopt the ASEAN CG Scorecard in place of their national initiatives



### Focus of the ASEAN CG Scorecard



#### World Bank CG ROSC Assessment

WORLD BANK GROUP

Assesses the compliance of a **COUNTRY** with the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance:

- Corporate Governance Framework
- Shareholder Rights
- Equitable Treatment of Shareholders
- Role of Stakeholders
- Disclosure and Transparency
- Responsibilities of the Board



**ACGA-CLSA Corporate Governance**Watch

Assesses a **COUNTRY** in the following categories:

- CG rules and practices
- Enforcement
- Political and regulatory
- Accounting & Auditing (IGAAP)
- CG culture



## **ASEAN Corporate Governance Scorecard**

Assesses the compliance of a PLC with the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance

... based on **publicly available** and **accessible information**, sourced from:

- Annual reports
- Company websites
- Announcements of AGM
- Articles of association
- Minutes of AGM
- Corporate Responsibility / ESG Report



### Weightage of each part takes into account national initiatives

| Sections of                                  | Weights per section of Scorecard |          |      |             |      |      |             |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|------|-------------|------|------|-------------|
| Scorecard                                    |                                  | <b>*</b> | ***  | <b>(</b> :: |      | *    |             |
| A: Rights of shareholders                    | 20%                              |          | 20%  |             | 20%  | 15%  | 10%<br>(25) |
| B: Equitable<br>treatment of<br>shareholders | 15%                              | 20%      | 20%  | 5%          | 15%  | 20%  | 15%<br>(18) |
| C: Role of stakeholders                      | 15%                              | 0%       | 10%  | 0%          | 20%  | 5%   | 10%<br>(21) |
| D: Disclosure and transparency               | 25%                              | 40%      | 25%  | 20%         | 20%  | 30%  | 25%<br>(41) |
| E: Responsibilities of the board             | 25%                              | 40%      | 25%  | 75%         | 25%  | 30%  | 40%<br>(74) |
| Total  | 100%                             | 100%     | 100% | 100%        | 100% | 100% | 100%        |

Each descriptor/item in Level 1 is allocated 1 point

**Bonus (11)** 

Penalty (22)

Bonus and penalty sections are added to:

 reward CG practices that are higher than the common standards adopted by ASEAN countries

penalize those that do not meet the common standards

Max 26 pts

Max -53 pts

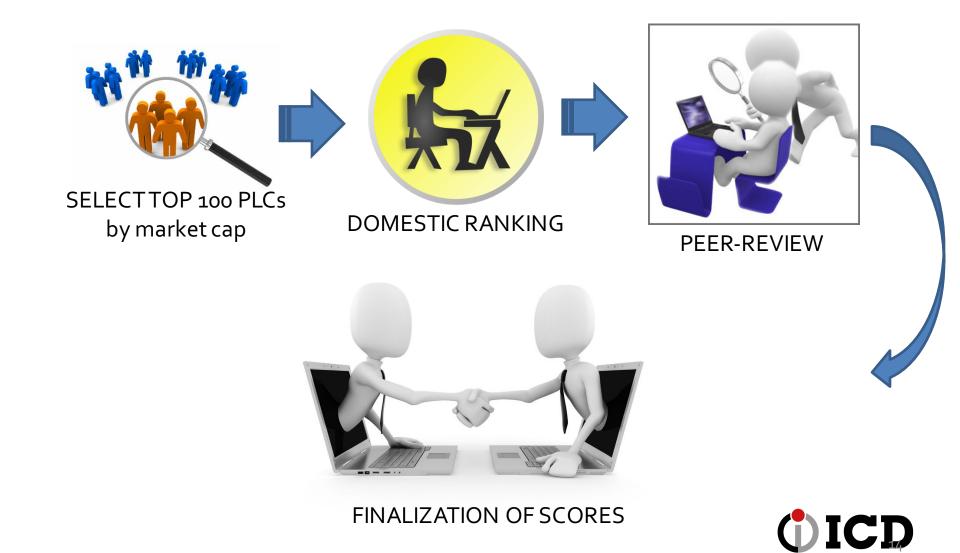
Each BONUS item is allocated 2, 3 or 4 pts

Each PENALTY
attracts between 1 and -4 pts

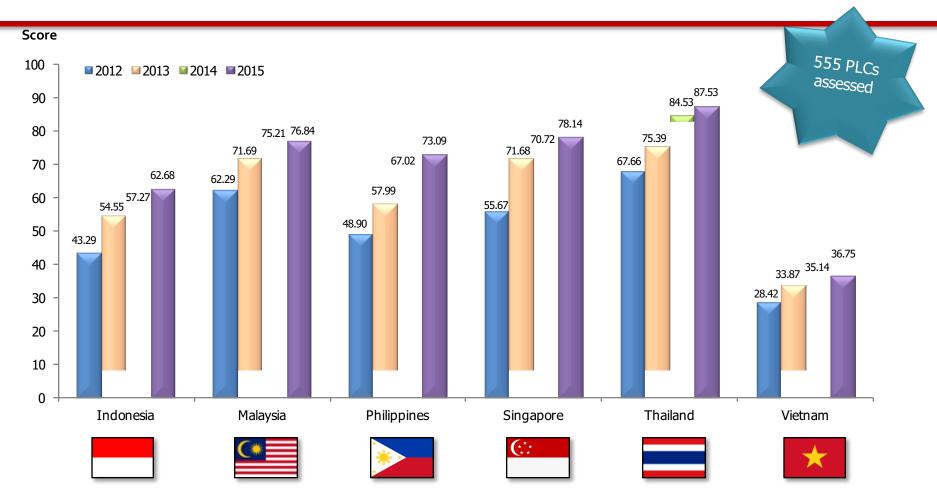
Note: Number in ( ) indicates no. of questions



## **Assessment Process**



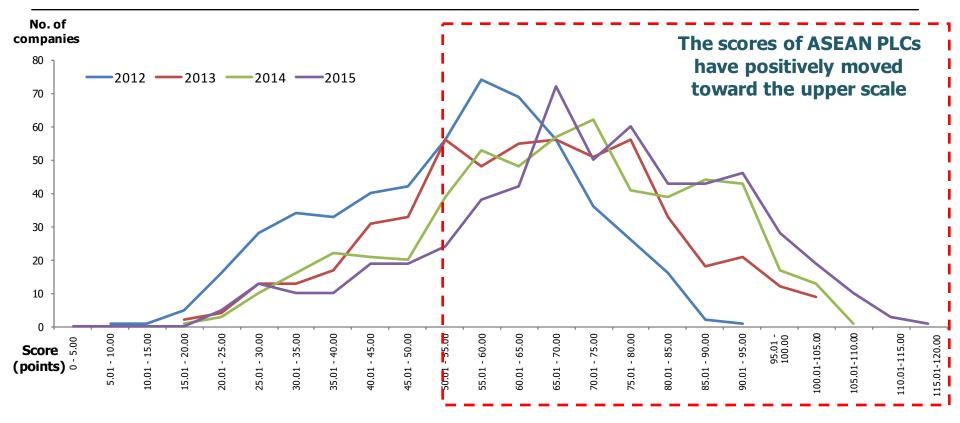
# 2015 ACGS Result - ASEAN



- Based on average scores, the best performing PLCs were from TH followed by SG and MY.
- Countries with most improved average scores since 2012 are PH (49.5%) and IND (44.8%).



### Comparison of 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015



### Breakdown by Levels...

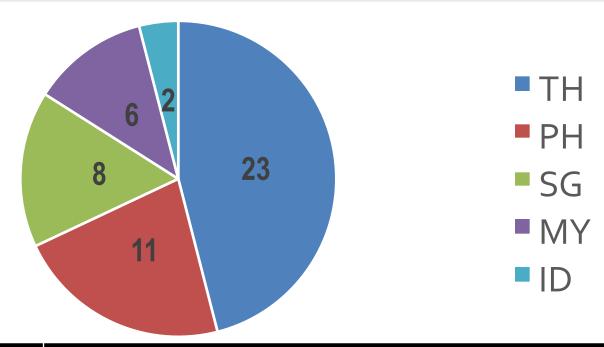
| OVERALL              | 2012  | 2013  | 2014   | 2015   |
|----------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Mean                 | 53.66 | 64.02 | 67.69  | 71.81  |
| Median               | 55.79 | 64.55 | 68.29  | 72.69  |
| Max attainable score | 90    | 100   | 105.48 | 115.95 |
| No. of PLCs          | 536   | 529   | 550    | 555    |

| LEVEL 1 | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  |  |  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|
| Mean    | 54.32 | 60.09 | 64.72 | 68.87 |  |  |
| Median  | 56.91 | 61.50 | 65.56 | 70.16 |  |  |
| LEVEL 2 |       |       |       |       |  |  |
| Mean    | -0.66 | 3.92  | 2.98  | 2.94  |  |  |
| Median  | 0     | 3.00  | 2.00  | 2.00  |  |  |

Mean for total scores increases by 5% in 2015 compared to 2014



# 2015 ASEAN Top 50 PLCs



| No. | Country | TOP 5 ASEAN PLCs (in alphabetical order)   |
|-----|---------|--|
| 1   | MY      | BURSA MALAYSIA BERHAD                      |
| 2   | SG      | DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD                     |
| 3   | TH      | PTT GLOBAL CHEMICAL PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED |
| 4   | TH      | SAMART CORPORATION PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED  |
| 5   | SG      | SINGAPORE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED       |

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**FAQs** 

Frequently asked

Today is August 9, 2016

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In view of the forthcomi Scorecard Assessment, all publicly (CEO) should be separate their 2014 ACGR together with their (CEO) should be separate Scorecard Assessment, all publicly Commission and to the Philippine take the place of the Corporate Go should not have been the

The ACGR is to be attache i.e., "Please refer to attached AC nore than five (5) concurrent portion of the Annual Report.

Otherwise, the company an incomplete filing.

Mandaluyong City, 12 March 2015.

SEC ADVISORY

In view of the best corporate governance practices espous Geographic Received and indict of the Commission's vision governance culture for Philippine companies, the Commission publicly-listed companies (PLCs) to adopt the following practices:

- 1. The Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Office individuals:
- 2. The Chairman of a publicly-listed company (PLC) : company's CEO in the last three (3) years;
- 3. Independent and non-executive directors should not hold n board seats in PLCs;
- 4. At least one (1) female independent director should be elec



# The SingTel Case: Board Diversity

- 7 male, 4 female
- 1 executive, 10 non-executive
- 8 independents, 3 non-independents
- 7 Chinese, 4 foreign
- 7 over 60 years old, 4 between 50 and 60 years old, 1 below 50
- At least 1 female on the Corp Gov & Nomination Committee



# The SingTel Case: Board Development and Director Training

- Presentations by experts in telco technology, regulatory matters, economic/business environment
- Seminars and courses
- Overseas trips
- Key industry events



# The SingTel Case: Director Commitment

- No more than 6 principal board appointments
- Directors must provide the CGNC with details of their other board commitments and an indication of time involved
- NEDs must consult with the Chairman or CGNC Chairman before accepting other appointments
- Cannot trade in shares of listed associates of SingTel



# The SingTel Case: Role of the Chairman

- Executive but separate from CEO
- Leads the board and ensures its effectiveness
- Sets agenda in consultation with CEO
- Promotes dialogue between CEO and directors
- Works with CEO on talent management
- Together with board and management, establishes risk boundaries
- Ensures governance systems and processes are in place
- Communicates with large shareholders



# The SingTel Case: Board Committees and Composition

- Audit: 4 IDs, 1 non-ID
- CG & Nomination: 3 IDs, 1 non-ID
- Executive Resource & Compensation: 4 IDs, 1 non-ID
- Finance & Investment: 3 IDs, 1 non-ID
- Risk: 2 IDs, 1 non-ID
- Technology Advisory Panel
- Optus Advisory Board



# The SingTel Case: Disclosures

- Board and committee attendance for the year
- Quarterly results released 45 days after quarter close
- Remuneration paid to individual directors and CEO
- Remuneration paid to employees who are related to directors



# The SingTel Case: Investor Relations

- group/one-on-one meetings
- Conference calls
- Email and website
- Investor conferences
- Roadshows
- surveys



# The SingTel Case: Director Remuneration

- Chairman remuneration
  - > 2/3 in cash with balance in shares
  - > Car benefit
  - > No committee fees or travel allowance
- NEDs compensation consists of
  - Basic retainer
  - Committee fee
  - Attendance fee for ad hoc meetings
  - Travel allowance for overseas directors.

# The SingTel Case: Executive Remuneration

Total remuneration = fixed + performance-related

Fixed = base + benefits + retirement

Performance-related = variable bonus + LT incentives



## The SingTel Case: Executive Remuneration - Bonus

Value-sharing: deferred bonuses to align sustainable value creation

- "bank" is created for each executive annually
- 1/3 of bonus is paid in cash
- 2/3 carried forward and at risk/subject to clawback depending on the performance of SingTel



# The SingTel Case: Executive Remuneration – Long Term Incentives

Restricted Share Awards: 2 year performance period

50% NPAT vs targets; 50% Free Cash Flow

| Accomplishment | Vesting |
|----------------|---------|
| Stretch        | 130%    |
| Target         | 100%    |
| Threshold      | 50%     |



# The SingTel Case: Executive Remuneration – Long Term Incentives

Performance Awards: =3 year performance period

50% shareholder return vs MSCI Asia; 50% absolute shareholder return

| Accomplishment | Vesting |
|----------------|---------|
| Stretch        | 130%    |
| Target         | 100%    |
| Threshold      | 50%     |



# Best practices being adopted:

- Disclosure of voting and vote tabulation procedures
- Appointment of an independent party to evaluate the fairness of transaction prices
- Disclosure of policies to encourage shareholders participation (including institutional investors)
- Disclosure of policies on related party transactions
- Communication of internal control and risk management systems
- Disclosure of safety, health, welfare, training and development programs for employee



# Areas of Improvement

- Term limits for independent directors
- Limits to number of board seats
- Voting by poll
- Board performance evaluation
- Relationship with other stakeholders





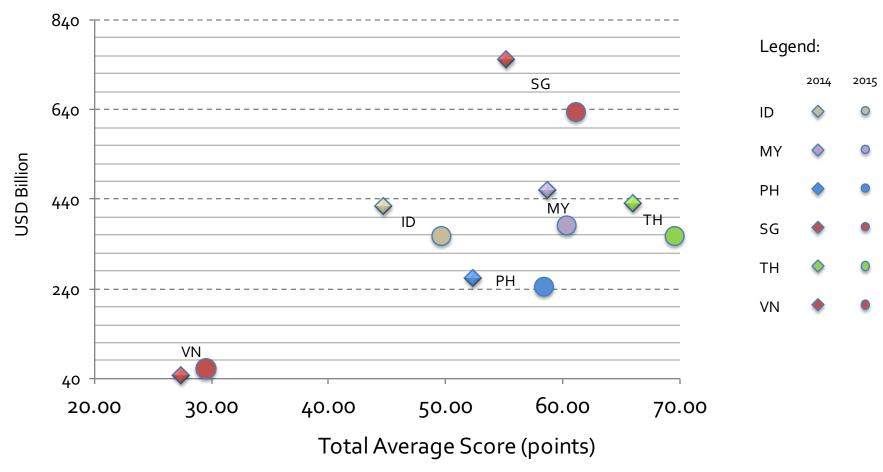
"Has there been empirical evidence to show that corporate governance has a significant influence on the performance of a company? To date, we have not seen any study that supports in a concrete way that view.... I think there is some but not significant. "

– MVP, November 2015



# Total Average CG Score vs. Capitalization

(Per Country, 2014-2015)





## Updated G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance

I. Ensuring the basis for an effective CG Framework

- Quality of supervision & enforcement by regulatory agencies
- Role of stock markets in promoting corporate governance
- II. The rights and equitable treatment of shareholders and key ownership functions
- <u>Information technology</u> at shareholder meetings
- Procedures for approval of RPTs
- Shareholder participation on executive remuneration
- III. Institutional investors, stock markets and other intermediaries
- · Fiduciary capacity of institutional investors
- Need to disclose and minimize conflict of interest that may compromise integrity of analysts, brokers, rating agencies, etc.
- V. Disclosure and transparency
- Recognition of trends with respect to <u>non-financial information</u> that companies may volunteer in their management reports
- VI. The responsibilities of the board
- Role of the board on risk management
- Recommends board training and evaluation



## Third Wave: Investor-Led Reform?

- Stewardship Codes
- Environmental, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) Reporting





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# Corporate Governance Framework - Indonesia

- Indonesian law on limited-liability companies (Undang-Undang No. 40 2007 Perseroan Terbatas)
- General Guidance on Good Corporate Governance developed by the National Committee on Governance Policy in 2001 (revised in 2006)
- Indonesian Corporate Governance Roadmap
   ("Roadmap") which was launched in early 2014 by the Indonesia
   Financial Services Authority (Otoritas Jasa Keuangan / "OJK"



# Corporate Governance Framework - Malaysia

- Major Laws and Regulations Affecting Corporate Governance in Malaysia
  - Companies Act of 1965 and amendments in 2007
  - Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1989
  - Development Financial Institutions Act of 2002
  - Financial Reporting Act of 1997
  - Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements
  - Securities Commission Act 1993 and amendments in 2011
  - Capital Markets and Services Act of 2007
  - Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance of 2012



# Corporate Governance Framework - Malaysia

- Corporate Governance Blueprint 2011
- Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance, 2012
- Bursa Malaysia Corporate Disclosure Guidelines 2013
- Malaysian Code for Institutional Investors (MCII) 2014



# Corporate Governance Framework - Singapore

- Companies Act (revised 2014)
- Securities and Futures Act of 2001 (and subsequent amendments),
- Listing Requirements (amended in 2011)
- Singapore Code of Corporate Governance (revised 2012)



# Corporate Governance Framework - Thailand

- Public Limited Companies Act
- Securities and Exchange Act
- Civil and Commercial Code
- Listing Rules of the Stock Exchange of Thailand
- 15 Principles of Good Corporate Governance 2002 (revised 2006, 2013)
- Sustainability Development Roadmap 2013



# Corporate Governance Framework - Vietnam

- Law on Enterprises of 2005
- Law on Securities of 2006
- Corporate Governance Code 2007 and Amendments 2012
- Disclosure Rule 2012
- Listing rules of the Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi stock exchanges



# Corporate Governance Framework - Philippines

- Corporation Code
- Securities Regulation Code
- PSE Listing Requirements
- BSP Circular No.749 Guidelines in Strengthening Corporate Governance in BSP Supervised Financial Institutions
- Code of Corporate Governance (revised 2016)
- Philippine Corporate Governance Blueprint 2015

