



Michele Kythe Lim

Partner

Michele Kythe Lim is a senior corporate governance leader with over 30 years of experience advising boards, regulators and senior management on governance excellence, board effectiveness, succession planning, regulatory compliance and sustainability.

She leads the firm's Corporate Governance & Compliance Practice, bringing deep regional expertise and an extensive network within Malaysia's board and regulatory community. Michele works closely with boards, the director community, regulators and key stakeholders to strengthen governance frameworks, enhance board performance and build long-term institutional resilience.

Michele advises on a comprehensive range of corporate governance and compliance services including:

- Board effectiveness reviews and independent board evaluations
- Governance framework design and enhancement aligned with Malaysian and international best practices
- Directors' duties advisory, fiduciary risk management, and boardroom advisory support
- Succession planning for boards and senior management
- Development and review of board charters, policies, and governance manuals
- Regulatory and corporate compliance advisory, including Bursa Malaysia and Securities Commission requirements
- Sustainability and ESG governance oversight frameworks
- Director training, induction programmes, and continuing professional development
- Crisis governance advisory, ethics and board-level risk oversight frameworks
- Governance advisory for IPO-bound companies, PLCs, GLICs/GLCs, family-owned enterprises, and multinational corporations

Michele is the Founding Past President & CEO of the Institute of Corporate Directors Malaysia (ICDM), where she transformed the organisation from a start-up into Malaysia's premier centre for board and director development. Under her leadership, ICDM introduced structured director development and accreditation programmes, board advisory services, and impactful research and advocacy initiatives aligned with the vision of the Securities Commission Malaysia to strengthen Malaysia's corporate governance culture. She also spearheaded the ASEAN IoD Platform & Network and secured a landmark collaboration with the Institute of Directors (IoD UK), elevating Malaysia's governance standing regionally and internationally.

Prior to ICDM, Michele served as Group Head, Corporate Secretarial & General Counsel, and subsequently also Chief Sustainability Officer at IHH Healthcare Berhad, where she oversaw group-wide governance, legal, corporate secretarial, and sustainability functions. She also held senior leadership roles at Proton Holdings Berhad, advising on corporate and regulatory matters within large, complex organisations.

Michele holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB Hons) from University of Wales, Aberystwyth (1991) and is a Barrister-at-Law of Middle Temple, London. She completed the Senior Management Development Programme at Harvard Business School in 2009 and is also a Licensed Company Secretary.

Her leadership has been widely recognised where she was named one of the Women of Power 2022 by Prestige Malaysia and received the Best Malaysian Woman CEO – Corporate Governance award at the Women's Tabloid Awards in 2024.

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Qualifications

- LL.B Hons, University of Wales, Aberystwyth
- Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple, London
- Senior Management Development Programme, Harvard Business School

Practice Areas

- Corporate Governance
- Board Advisory & Effectiveness
- Directors' Duties & Fiduciary Risk
- Regulatory & Corporate Compliance
- Sustainability & ESG Governance
- Corporate Succession Planning
- Crisis Governance & Risk Oversight
- IPO & Public Listed Company Governance Advisory