

## CONTESTING INDONESIA SEMINAR SERIES



### Andrew Rosser

Senior Lecturer in Development Studies, University of Adelaide

Chair: Toby Carroll  
Research Fellow, Centre on Asia and Globalisation, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Date: Thursday, 2 October 2008

Time: 12.15 p.m. - 1.30 p.m.

Venue: Seminar Room 3-1, Level 3  
Manasseh Meyer  
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
469C Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259772

This is a brown bag seminar and you are most welcome to bring your own packed lunch

## The Politics of Corporate Social Responsibility in Indonesia

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Andrew Rosser is Senior Lecturer in Development Studies at the University of Adelaide. He is the author of *The Politics of Economic Liberalisation In Indonesia: State, Market and Power* (Curzon, 2002) and numerous book chapters and journal articles on aspects of Indonesia's political economy.

### SYNOPSIS

This paper traces the political dynamics that have shaped public debates and legislative developments in relation to CSR in Indonesia and assesses their likely outcome in terms of the model of CSR that will develop in Indonesia in the foreseeable future. We argue that public debate in Indonesia over mandatory vs. voluntary approaches to CSR, the introduction of provisions mandating CSR in the recent investment and limited liability companies laws, and the non-issuance of implementing regulations related to the latter law need to be understood in terms of a contest between competing coalitions of interest over who pays for the costs and reaps the benefits of exploitation of Indonesia's natural resource sectors. We argue that, notwithstanding the introduction of provisions mandating CSR in the above laws, the coalition opposed to mandatory CSR has prevailed in this contest, with the result that Indonesia will de facto have a voluntary model of CSR for the foreseeable future.

This seminar is part of the Contesting Indonesia series organised by the Centre on Asia and Globalisation, at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. The series provides an opportunity for scholars and practitioners within the region to present their take on the world's third largest democracy. It runs from October 2 2008 into early 2009. For more information on the series please contact [spymle@nus.edu.sg](mailto:spymle@nus.edu.sg) or visit <http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/CAG/home.aspx>