



Dato' Dan E. Khoo
Chairman, WITSA

Dato' Dan E Khoo is the newly elected Chairman of the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA).

WITSA is a consortium of 70 information technology (IT) industry associations from economies around the world. WITSA members represent over 90 percent of the world IT market. As the global voice of the IT industry, WITSA is dedicated to advocating policies that advance the industry's growth and development; facilitating international trade and investment in IT products and services; strengthening WITSA's national industry associations through the sharing of knowledge, experience, and critical information; providing members with a vast network of contacts in nearly every geographic region of the world; hosting the World Congress on IT, the premier industry sponsored global IT event; hosting the Global Public Policy Conference; and hosting the Global Information Security Summit.

Founded in 1978 and originally known as the World Computing Services Industry Association, WITSA has increasingly assumed an active advocacy role in international public policy issues affecting the creation of a robust global information infrastructure, including increasing competition through open markets and regulatory reform; protecting intellectual property; encouraging cross-industry and government cooperation to enhance information security; bridging the education and skills gap; reducing tariff and non-tariff trade barriers to IT goods and services; and safeguarding the viability and continued growth of the Internet and electronic commerce.

Dato' Khoo was the Chief Executive Officer of WCIT 2008 Sdn Bhd, the company formed to organize WITSA's 16th World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT 2008) in Kuala Lumpur on May 18-22, 2008. As CEO, he is responsible for all areas of WCIT 2008, from strategic to operational, including raising money through sponsorships and other revenue streams, recruiting global personalities as speakers and drawing up the Congress program, putting together a world-class ICT exhibition, attracting C-level delegates, and producing the entire show.

In this role, Dato' Khoo brought his entrepreneurial experience to turn WCIT 2008 into an event was declared by WITSA as the best ever in its 30-year history, with more than 3,313 delegates registered and 42,659 expo visitors from 92 countries. 105 prominent personalities spoke and ICT Ministers from 35 countries were present during the event. WCIT 2008 also raised over US\$11 million in sponsorships, the most in the history of the World Congress.

Dato' Khoo has travelled around the world and has had significant interactions with policy makers, national and regional ICT associations, senior business leaders, as well as civil society participants to create a platform that can showcase ICT's power to enable, empower and enrich.

Dato' Khoo has also spoken widely in national and international events, including the 10th World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT 1996) in Bilbao, Spain.

Dato' Khoo is also the Vice President of Business Strategy and Transformation of Multimedia Development Corporation Sdn Bhd (MDeC), the body responsible for the development of Malaysia's Multimedia Super Corridor.

Dato' Khoo brings with him more than 20 years of experience in the Information Technology and media industries. Throughout this time, he has played leading roles in organisations that are a unique blend of content, media and technology.

With 11 years of his career spent pioneering and developing IT journalism in Malaysia, Dato' Khoo has the distinction of having started and co-started the computer sections of the two leading Malaysian English dailies – The Star and The New Straits Times – respectively. After leaving the print medium, he went on to successively lead two Malaysian IT firms, the second of which he helped take public on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange as executive director and CEO in 1997.

In December 1998, at a time when the Malaysian dotcom scene was still in its infancy, Dato' Khoo again played a pioneering role when he formed e-Asia Sdn Bhd to specialise in the Internet advertising industry. In accordance with its business model of affiliation and representation, the firm went on to represent local and international media giants such as The Star, The New Straits Times, TV3, Yahoo! and Microsoft Network (MSN). A year later, he sold a majority stake in e-Asia to Nasdaq-listed Chinadotcom Corporation. He was then appointed to the management board of Hong Kong-based 24/7 Media Asia, a subsidiary of chinadotcom.

Dato' Khoo continues to play an active role in promoting Information Technology and the Internet in Malaysia and around the region, holding, and having held many leadership, advisory and supporting roles in industry and trade associations, government agencies, and policy development bodies.

Dato' Khoo has spent more than 15 years volunteering his services in ICT Associations, having held leadership positions in both national and regional ICT bodies.

Dato' Khoo was Chairman of the Association of the Computer Industry Malaysia (PIKOM), a WITSA Member, from 1995 to 1997 and continues to serve as an Adviser and a member of the association's Board of Trustees.

In the regional arena, Dato' Khoo was President of the Southeast Asia Information Technology Organisation (SITO), a regional industry organisation with members representing the IT industries of Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Japan, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and India, from 1996 to 1998.

Dato' Khoo was also a Director of ASOCIO (Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization) from 1995 to 1997. ASOCIO has 20 members representing Japan, Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. It has seven guest members from USA, UK, Canada, Spain, France, Russia and Kenya. ASOCIO members associations, through their own members, represent more than 10,000 IT companies in the region.