

MALAYSIA  
HR FORUM

# SECTION 17A COMPLIANCE: SAFEGUARDING YOUR BUSINESS AND REPUTATION



Admission Price:  
**RM69.00**

**excl. SST**

**Inclusive:** Material, breakfast  
lunch and e-certificate  
(Non-HRDF Claimable)

Tuesday, 4th November 2025 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Venue: Malaysia HR Forum Academy, Petaling Jaya



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**Section 17A Compliance: Safeguarding Your Business and Reputation**

# Introduction

Corruption continues to drain economies and damage corporate reputation, with Malaysia not spared from this global challenge. The introduction of Section 17A of the MACC Act has shifted the landscape by imposing corporate liability on organisations for corrupt practices by their employees or associates – even if top management did not authorise or consent.

To safeguard against this, companies must demonstrate they have implemented Adequate Procedures, guided by the TRUST Principles. This training equips participants with both the legal awareness and practical tools needed to strengthen their organisation's anti-bribery and anticorruption (ABAC) framework, foster a culture of integrity, and ensure compliance is embedded in day-to-day operations.

## CORRUPTION





## Section 17A Compliance: Safeguarding Your Business and Reputation

# Course Outline

### Introduction & Objectives

- Why ABAC matters (global cost of corruption, Malaysian context).
- Programme objectives expected outcomes.
- Icebreaker: "What corruption risk worries you most in your role?"

### Section 17A & Corporate Liability

- Individual vs Corporate liability.
- Section 17A explained:
- Who is an "associated person"?
- Penalties (fines, imprisonment, reputational loss).
- Defence: Adequate Procedures.
- Case Study: R v Skansen
- Activity 1: If this happened in your organisation, what process/values failed?

### TRUST Principles in Practice

- Walkthrough of T.R.U.S.T. with real examples.
- Linkage to MS 2764:2022 & ISO 37001
- Activity 2: Participants map their department's risks against the TRUST framework.

### Ethical Dilemmas

- Ethical Blindness
- Fear of Finding Out
- Bonus segment: Fraud Triangle

### From Policy to Culture

- Positioning organisation's vision, mission & values in ABAC.
- "Heart, Hand & Habit" framework → embedding culture.
- Participants take ABAC pledge.

### Wrap-Up & Action Points

- Recap on takeaways on S17A & TRUST.
- Each participant commits to 1 ABAC action in their role.
- Subject Evaluation



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# Learning Objectives

- Explain the scope and impact of Section 17A MACC Act, including how corporate and individual liability applies in real-world situations.
- Apply the TRUST Principles to assess corruption risks within their own department and identify gaps in existing controls.
- Demonstrate practical responses to ethical dilemmas (e.g., gifts, facilitation payments, third-party dealings) that align with Adequate Procedures and organisational values.

# Targeted Participants

- Directors, CEOs & Senior Managers
- Compliance, Legal, Risk & Audit Officers
- HR, Operations & Procurement Leaders
- Department Heads and Managers involved in governance and third-party dealings



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# Trainer's Profile

A passionate advocate for antibribery and anticorruption (ABAC) and business ethics, Balakrishnan has dedicated his professional journey since 2012 to training, speaking, and nurturing integrity values across the corporate, education, and non-profit sectors. He is currently championing ABAC through his own initiative, Project Bamboo.



**Balakrishnan Rajagopal**

Among the highlights of his professional journey, Balakrishnan has been accredited as a Certified Integrity Officer by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Academy (MACA). He has also served as a member or EXCO in several organisations, including the Association of Certified Integrity Officers (ACEiO), the Anti-Bribery Management System Association Malaysia (ABMS-MY), the Malaysian Institute of Corporate Governance (MICG), Transparency International – Malaysia (TI-M), the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE, currently pursuing CFE), the Malaysian Foundation of Crime Prevention (MFCP), the Malaysia Society of Integrity & Governance (MSIG), Malaysian Corruption Watch (MCW), and the Coalition of Business Integrity (CBI).

He has been selected as a conference proposal reviewer for the International Conference on Academic Integrity (ICAI) in both 2024 and 2025. These roles reflect his contributions to national and international conversations on integrity and compliance, including active participation at the OECD Global Anti-Corruption and Integrity Forum and the UNODC Business Integrity Workshops.

Balakrishnan's academic foundation includes a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B Hons) from the University of Wolverhampton and a Master of Laws (LL.M) from Universiti Malaya. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) with Universiti Malaya-Wales. To complement this academic grounding, he is also a Lead Auditor for Anti-Bribery Management Systems (ISO 37001:2016) and an HRD Corp Accredited Trainer (ID 11474, 2024–2026).

