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The Faculty of Law at The University of Western Australia in partnership with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative presents a special pre CHOGM lecture

## **The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG: “Commonwealth Reform Package: A Human Rights Preview”**

At the 2009 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Trinidad and Tobago, Commonwealth leaders were faced with strong criticism about the organisation. Public opinion had begun to question the relevance and effectiveness of the Commonwealth.

Faced with this challenge, the Commonwealth Heads of Governments formed the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group to examine the options for reform with the aim of making the Commonwealth's institutions stronger and more effective.

As the Commonwealth Heads of Governments deliberate the Eminent Persons' findings, The Hon. Michael Kirby, a member of the Eminent Persons Group, will share his insights into a number of issues, including the Charter of Commonwealth Values, the proposed Commissioner on Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights and changes to the rules governing the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group tasked with overseeing the Harare Declaration.

### **ORGANISERS**

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) is an independent, non-partisan, international NGO working for the practical realisation of human rights in the Commonwealth. Since its establishment in 1987 the organisation has actively worked on access to justice and access to information in the Commonwealth and has consistently advocated for Commonwealth reform in the field of human rights.

### **FACULTY OF LAW**

Since 1928, the Faculty of Law at The University of Western Australia has achieved an outstanding record of excellence in all aspects of teaching and research in law. The Faculty has an established expertise in areas such as environmental law and native title, and a growing expertise in international and human rights law.

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### **ABOUT MICHAEL KIRBY**

The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG served as a High Court judge for thirteen years and has twice been Acting Chief Justice of Australia. He has been active on various international bodies and has served as President of the International Commission of Jurists, Geneva (1995-8); as a member of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Judicial Reference Group (2007-), and as a member of the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights (2004-). He is currently a member of the Eminent Persons Group, a panel tasked with investigating options to reform the Commonwealth of Nations. In 2010, Michael Kirby was awarded the Gruber Justice Prize.

### **LECTURE DETAILS**

**Date:** Thursday, 27 October 2011

**Time:** 6.00pm – 7.30pm

**Venue:** Law Lecture Theatre, Law Building  
The University of Western Australia

**Parking:** Car Park 3, Hackett Drive Entrance 1

**This lecture is free and open to the public, no RSVP required.**