

# The ICSA in Ireland Annual Conference 2010



15 September 2010 ■ Gresham Hotel, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1

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## Building the recovery

As the Irish economy emerges from recession, this is a crucial time for business and regulators alike as they lay the groundwork for recovery. This year's ICSA in Ireland conference will examine that work from a variety of perspectives – from the ongoing programme of company law reform, to proposals for a uniquely Irish corporate governance code. We also look at what the changing landscape means for directors, and at recent moves on money laundering. Finally, this year we're delighted to welcome Helen Dixon, the new Registrar of Companies, to talk about the work of the Companies Registration Office (CRO).

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## Programme

- 08.15 Conference opens, registration and tea/coffee
- 09.00 **Introduction and welcome**  
*Brendan O'Connor FCIS, President, ICSA Irish Region*
- 09.10 **OPENING ADDRESS: Building the recovery**  
The work of the Company Law Review Group on a new framework for Irish company law continues apace. In this session, we look at some recent changes, including progress on the new consolidating Companies Bill and take-up of the European Company form.  
*Dr Thomas B Courtney, Partner and Head of Company Secretarial Practice, Arthur Cox*
- 09.40 **A code for Ireland**  
At the start of July, the Irish Stock Exchange issued for consultation a draft new Irish Corporate Governance Code, aimed specifically at Irish listed companies. This session examines what's in the Code – and how it differs from its UK counterpart.  
*David Fitzgibbon, Partner, William Fry*
- 10.10 **Putting theory into practice**  
Following publication of the revised UK Corporate Governance Code, thoughts are turning to how companies might best put its provisions into effect through the guidance on improving board effectiveness, and to related initiatives such as the new stewardship code for investors.  
*Seamus Gillen FCIS, Director of Policy, ICSA*
- 10.40 Tea/coffee
- 11.00 **Tough at the top?**  
With so many regulatory and legal changes in the works, this is a particularly significant time for company directors in Ireland. In this session, we ask: what now for directors – and how can company secretaries best support them in difficult times?  
*Bob Semple, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers*
- 11.30 **Widening the net**  
In July, the new Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act came into force, and with it a significant extension of the law in this most crucial of areas. This session looks at what's in store under the new regime.  
*Conor Sweeney ACIS, Director, Company Secretarial and Company Formation, OmniPro*
- 11.45 **Ongoing obligations**  
It may be a time of economic hardship for some companies, but their filing and compliance obligations continue nevertheless. In this session, we look at what that's meant over the past year.  
*Helen Dixon, Registrar of Companies, Companies Registration Office*  
*Kevin Prendergast, Corporate Compliance Manager, Office of the Director of Corporate Enforcement*
- 12.25 **Closing words**
- 12.30 Close
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