



### **Abdul Rashid Ismail**

Abdul Rashid Ismail has been in legal practice for over 20 years at the Malaysian Bar and his areas of practice is corporate and commercial litigation. He is the Managing Partner of a law firm in Malaysia, Messrs. Rashid Zulkifli. Rashid dedicates part of his legal practice to *pro bono* human rights work. He has been involved and continues to be involved in landmark constitutional cases involving the mandatory death sentence, the rights to fair trial and the rights of the vulnerable including the mentally ill facing execution.

In 2019, Rashid submitted an extensive expert report to the Special Committee on Alternative Sentencing that was set up to look at proposed reforms on death penalty laws in Malaysia and alternative sentencing upon the abolition of the mandatory death penalty. Rashid is a past President of the National Human Rights Society of Malaysia (HAKAM) and has previously served on the Human Rights Committee of the Malaysian Bar Council for many years.

Rashid received a Chevening Scholarship from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and successfully completed a MSt in International Human Rights Law from University of Oxford in 2011. Rashid was instrumental in the setting up of the Brunfield Oxford Asean Human Rights Scholarship for residents of ASEAN to study MSt in International Human Rights Law. He is currently pursuing his Doctor of Philosophy at University of Oxford and he is researching the abolition of the death penalty in Malaysia.