



### South Centre Tribute to Mr. Martin Khor (1951-2020)



**Mr. Martin Khor**, the Executive Director of the South Centre in 2009-2018, passed away on 1st April 2020 in Penang. The South Centre pays homage to his indefatigable work against inequality and the marginalization of the peoples of the South. He guided and inspired many who, both in the North and the South, seek a fairer and more inclusive international system. His intellectual contributions covered a wide range of issues, from international trade to climate change and the effects of antimicrobial resistance. As Executive Director of the South Centre, he was able to expand the scope and reach of its activities in support of the development efforts of the countries of the South.

Martin was an economist trained at Cambridge University and the Universiti Sains of Malaysia. Before joining the South Centre, he was the Director of the Third World Network and the Research Director of the Consumers' Association of Penang, and an Economics Lecturer in the Universiti Sains Malaysia. He is the author of several books and articles on economics, sustainable development, globalization, trade and intellectual property. He was formerly a member of the United Nations Committee on Development Policy, the United Nations Secretary-General's Task Force on Environment and Development and a Vice Chair of the Expert Group on the Right to Development of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. In his seminal book *Rethinking Globalization: Critical Issues and Policy Choices*, he set out concrete proposals for what Third World governments could do to shape globalization to their particular circumstances. Martin was also the founder and main editor of the South-North Development Monitor (SUNS), a unique source of information, from the Southern perspective, on the processes of negotiations and issues of concern for developing countries.

Martin's commitment, deep knowledge and grasp of the international North-South economic disparities, as well as of the cross connections between different challenges confronting the South and their deep roots in a hegemonic world order, leave indelible lessons for all.

The South Centre extends its condolences to his family. We will fondly remember him as a deeply passionate, knowledgeable and full of empathy colleague and director.