

HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATORS
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
7th December 2005

Dear Members,

A warm greeting to you all . I take this opportunity to report that we had a fruitful year.

1. Education/ Training

Our Institute has been active in training. We had two Entry Courses: our own Entry Course in April, and a Joint Entry Course with Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in November. We had a Fellowship Assessment Course in October conducted by Professor Pitchforth, Vice- President of the New Zealand Institute of Arbitrators.

2. Cooperation with PRC Arbitration Commissions

We continue to maintain good relationship with the PRC Arbitration Commissions:-

We received guests from Dalian, Weizhou and Wenzhou Arbitration Commission as well as PRC lawyers from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou .

Our Institute and Weizhou Arbitration Commission co-organized a one day arbitration seminar on 9th August 2005 in Weizhou. Mr. Philip Yang and Mr.Samuel Wong presented papers on behalf of our Institute. Our Institute arranged for members to visit Weizhou and to attend the seminar.

Following a visit to Wuhan, a cooperation agreements with the Wuhan Arbitration Commission was signed.

3. Promoting arbitration locally

We invited Legco member The Hon. Mr. Jeffrey Lam, leaders and chairmen from various Industries, Chamber of Commerce, and professional bodies to join us for luncheon at HKIAC on 17th March 2005.

Our Council had lunch with our Patron The Hon. Mr. Justice Andrew Li, Chief Justice on 10th October 2005. We were able to have a very productive time, sharing our views.

On 4th November 2005, our Council had lunch with the Hon. Mr. Geoffrey Ma, the Chief Judge, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Reyes who is in charge of the Construction List. Again, we had a good dialogue with the Judges.

4. Evening Programs

A good number of talks were presented:

- 16 October 2004 Mr Samuel Wong on Soy Bean Contracts and FOSFA Arbitration
- 27 November 2004 Professor Peter Malanczuk on WTO Dispute Resolution
- 13 December 2004 Mr Ian Pennicott QC on 100-Day Arbitration Procedure
- 25 January 2005 Talk by Ms Sally Harpole on Recent Reforms in Arbitration in China -
the Newly Revised CIETAC Arbitration Rules
- 14 February 2005 Talk by Mr Andrew Jeffries on Arbitration in the PRC Enforcement Issues
- 26 February 2005 One-day Seminar by Mr Philip Yang on Document-only Arbitration Pupilage
- 17 March 2005 Talk by Mr Russell Coleman on Challenges on Arbitral Awards

- 26 April 2005 Talk by Mr David Bateson & Mr Raymond Leung on
ADR for Construction and its practical application
- 26 July 2005 Talk by Mr Stephen Wong, Ms Sylvia Siu and Mr Christopher To on
It's time to simplify the Arbitration Ordinance
- 9 August 2005 Weizhou Seminar, Talk by Philip Yang & Samuel Wong
- 31 August 2005 Talk by Mr Peter Berry on
New Standard Form of Building Contract from the Contractors point of view
- 8 October One-day Seminar by Mr Philip Yang on Part II-Document-only Arbitration Pupillage Seminar

I take this opportunity to thank each and every speaker for their time and efforts in preparing and presenting their papers to our members

5. Activities

A free drinks evening was arranged on 9th November 2004 for our members to meet the new Council. Suggestions were put forward for the Institute's activities, we have taken on the idea of having more talks for members.

We had a good X'mas Cocktail on 21st December 2004, with lots of members and guests attending. Our guests included leading arbitrators, Legco members, Exco members, Judges, Chairmen from various Chamber of Commerce, President of the Law Society, representatives from Bar Association, solicitors, barristers etc attending.

A BBQ party was arranged on 16th April 2005 at St Stephen College. Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the event: good food, great companionship, and fantastic venue with a private beach for our own use and enjoyment.

6. Membership

I am most pleased to report that there is a great growth in membership. Last year, we had 726 members, today we have 820 members. I thank our Membership Chairman Mr. YK Chan for his excellent job in handling this task.

7. Finance

Our Institute is in a very healthy financial state, and a report from our Treasurer will confirm the same. I thank our Hon. Treasurer Mr. Huen Wong for his professionalism in preparing our accounts.

I have served my 3 years' term on the Council. This is the maximum term permitted by our Institute's Articles. I do thank members for your support and interest in the Institute's affairs. I would like to express my appreciation to fellow council members for their contributions. With the good financial position, and the good harmony within the council, I have every reason to expect the new council to do a very excellent job. My very best wishes to you all.

Sylvia Siu
President