Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators President Raymond Leung's Report (7 September, 2006)

I would like to extend my warmest welcome to you all, and take this opportunity to report our events in the past year.

(1) Cooperation with PRC Arbitration Commissions

The institute continued to foster good relation with PRC and Regional Arbitration Commissions:

On 15 January 2006, we sign cooperation agreement with Wuhan Arbitration Commission.

On 26 April 2006, the Secretarial General of Wuhan Arbitration Commission comes to meet us in Hong Kong.

(2) Cooperation with Asia Arbitration Commissions

On 5 May 2006, we sign cooperation agreement with Singapore Institute of Arbitrator.

On 18 May 2006, we meet the Macau Voluntary Arbitration Center.

On 26 May 2006, we held a Conference in Shenzhen on "Cooperation and Development: Arbitration Institutions in Greater China".

On 29 May 2006, we meet the Dalian Arbitration Commission.

On 14 July 2006, I attend the signing Ceremony of PRC / HKSARP concerning Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters between DOJ and Supreme Court of China.

On 19 September 2006, we will sign cooperation agreement with Macau.

September 2006, we are in the process of setting up a Greater China Forum for arbitration institutes / bodies for the long term promotion of international arbitration in the region and upgrading our international image. HKIArb will initially be the Secretarial of this Forum.

(3) Evening programs and Activities

In the past few months, a number of talks were organized:

On 15 February 2006, Talk by Mr. Philip Nunn "The Effective Exercise of the Powers and Duties of the Arbitrator".

On 24 February HKIArb functions: Chinese New Year Cocktail.

On 14 March Talk by Mr. Paul Starr "How can PRC Arbitration improve Common Lawyers".

On 12 June 2006, we held a Past Presidents Lunch, to brief all Past Presidents on matters related to the current year and to listen to advise and views from all Past Presidents for the betterment of HKIArb. I find this is essential for the betterment of the institute and hope this can be continuous in future.

On 7 Sept 2006, AGM and 10th Anniversary Cocktail of HKIArb.

(4) Institutional Development

On 19 January 2006, we had a Meeting with our Hon Secretary of Justice, Wong Yan Lung.

We had a lunch with our Hon Legco Members (Margaret Ng, Philip Wong), Basic Law Committee Members (Maria Tam).

On 20 January 2006, I represent HKIArb to attend the Hong Kong Federation of Insurance Cocktail party.

On 24 Feb 2006, I had attended the Education and Manpower Bureau (HKSAR) Spring lunch on cum Qualifications Framework Acknowledgement Ceremony.

On 17 March 2006, I attend Hong Kong Mediation Council 12th Annual Dinner on behalf of HKIArb.

On 27 March 2006, HKIArb is a supporting organization to the ICC / HKIAC Symposium.

On 21-23 March 2006, HKIArb is a supporting organization to the CIArb-Russian Special Members Course.

On 26 April 2006, Congratulations Message is sent to the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) 50th Anniversary on behalf of HKIArb.

On 14 May 2006, I attend Hong Kong WTO Research Institute, Round-table conference with European Union-Germany Delegation "The Challenges of Globalisation for China and Germany". The subject is on China in the Global Economy future multilaterial cooperation in German-Chinese Relations hosted by Hong Kong WTO Research Institute. A german delegation lead by the Minister-President Mr. Roland Koch was there. It was well attend with about 150 people.

On 2 -4 June 2006, I attend the HKSAR Mission to Guangzi tour with the Chief Executive on behalf of HKIArb.

On 13-15 September 2006, HKIArb is a supporting organization of International Project Management Forum 2006.

On 15 September 2006, HKIArb is a supporting organization of ADR in Asia Conference, the topic is "Effective Management of Arbitral Processing".

On 26 October 2006, HKIArb is a supporting organization of ADNDRC, conference on Domain Name Dispute Resolution.

(5) Education /Training

On 29 June 2006, we sign a recognition agreement with City University in recognition of City University's academic qualification, graduates of the Post graduate Diploma / Master of Arts in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution to be our members of the institute. It will enhance research collaboration and exchange of information in the area of arbitration and the various dispute resolution techniques.

On 17-21 August 2006, we held a Fellowship Course in Hong Kong, I was approved by Council that a pass in the MA/Postgraduate Diploma examination would be exempted from the award writing part of the Institute's Fellowship course.

On 21 -23 August 2006, we held a conference in Suzhou, Representative from the Qinzhou Arbitration Commission, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, CCPIT (XinUiang Branch Branch) and the Dispute Resolution Centre of Massey University (New Zealand) attended.

We will have a Joint Entry Course with CIArb in December 2006.

(6) Membership

There were 158 Fellows and 571 Associates as of August 2006.

(7) Updating HKIArb Website

We are in the process of updating HKIArb publication and material. Website has been updated already.

(8) Finance

I will leave this to the Treasurer.

I like to express my sincere thanks to all council members who have selflessly dedicated their time to serve the institute. Huen Wong is on the money side; Y.K.Chan keeps an excellent record of our membership; Sally Harpole and Sylvia Siu have been involved in the education development; Jonathan Harris is on the arrangement of all the talks; Chris To's excellent effort on the Shenzhen Conference and the HKIAC's back up support to our institute. Gary Soo is on his excellent record keeping of our minutes and record. Also,our Vice-President Russell Coleman for his continuous support to all of our activities. Without their helps, I am sure I will not be able to complete all the tasks that has be accomplished in my term of office. Once again, thank you all. Finally, I look forward to see prosperity of the institute to grow from strength to strength with all your member's support. Thank you.