



ASEAN LAW ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER (February 2012 - June 2013)

15-18 February 2012: The 11th ALA General Assembly & 34th ALA Governing Council



Opening Speech by Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

The 11th ASEAN Law Association (ALA) General Assembly was held on 15 – 18 February 2012 in Nusa Dua, Bali. The delegates from 7 (seven) ALA member countries attended this conference. The conference theme was *Embracing the New Role of ALA after the ASEAN Charter*. The event commenced after a welcome speech from the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. In his keynote speech, President Yudhoyono encouraged ALA member countries to further strengthen the rule of law as he highlighted the needs for legal cooperation and harmonization.

During this three-day conference, there were six legal workshops held over the course of two days and conducted by some of the finest and most distinguished legal professionals in the region. The topics were specially crafted to correspond well with the concerns faced in the region. The topics discussed during the workshops include *Establishment of Center of ASEAN Law Information, Framework for Judicial Cooperation in Case Management, Critical Issues on Investment Law Harmonization within ASEAN, Implementation of International Agreements in the Realization of the ASEAN Charter, Mediation Practices, and ASEAN Charter and the ASEAN lawyers*.

After the workshops, the 34th ALA Governing Council was held on 18 February 2012. It was the last Governing Council under the Vietnam's Presidency of ALA. The Governing Council then elected Dr. M. Hatta Ali, the Chief Justice of the Republic of Indonesia as the incoming President of ALA and Mr. Swandy Halim as the Secretary General of ALA for a 3-year term starting 2012.

The Governing Council also discussed the results of the Task Force deliberations. Under the chairmanship of Mr. T P Menon, the Task Force Group submitted to the Council *The Guidelines on Best Practices of the Enforcement of Arbitration in ASEAN*. It was proposed guidelines on dispute settlement mechanisms between conflicting parties in ASEAN. Upon receiving positive feedback and encouraging remarks from ALA members, the proposed guidelines was endorsed by the Council and sent to ASEAN Secretary General for further consideration.

The upcoming 35th ALA Governing Council will be held on 23-25 August 2013 in Singapore.



The President of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono as seen with the Heads of ALA Delegations



Speakers for Workshop 1 entitled *Establishment of Center of ASEAN Law Information*



Participants of the ALA Championship Golf Tournament held at the Nirwana Golf & Country Club, Bali



25-27 March 2012 : President of ALA visited China for the Inauguration of *China-ASEAN Legal Cooperation Center*



On 25-27 March 2012, The President of ALA and the delegates from ALA Indonesia visited Haikou, China for the opening ceremony of the China-ASEAN Legal Cooperation Center. The newly established Centre is intended to promote extensive researches and legal studies in ASEAN and China. The mission of this center is to strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation between ASEAN and China.

In his opening speech, Dr. M. Hatta Ali, the President of ALA who is also the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Indonesia, complimented on the strategic positions that both ASEAN and China enjoy at the global stage. He added that strategic cooperation between ASEAN and China would play a pivotal role in enhancing peace and prosperity regionally and internationally. The President of ALA also hoped for further collaboration in the legal field through legal researches, internships and exchange projects between legal professionals of the participating countries.

On the visit to China, the President of ALA was accompanied by the Chairman of ALA Indonesia, Chief Justice Harifin A. Tumpa, Vice Chief Justice Ahmad Kamil, Justice Widayatno Sastro Hardjono, Justice Syamsul Maarif, Professor Sidik Suraputra, and the Secretary General of ALA, Mr. Swandy Halim.

19-21 November 2012 : President of ALA visited Philippines to honor the appointment of Chief Justice Maria Lourdes A. Sereno



On 19-21 November 2012, the President of ALA, Secretary General of ALA and the delegates from ALA Indonesia attended the Testimonial Dinner Reception held in honor of Chief Justice Maria Lourdes A. Sereno in Manila, Philippines. On this visit, the President of ALA took a special opportunity to congratulate Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno for being trusted to hold the top position as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Philippines. Chief Justice Sereno's achievement is remarkable as she is the first female and the second youngest person in Philippine to lead the Judiciary. This event was also attended by several key figures of ASEAN judiciaries such as Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi of Brunei Darussalam, Justice Paulus E. Lotulung and Justice Widayatno Sastro Hardjono of Indonesia, Justice Lee Sei Kin of Singapore, Justice Thanan Wannakowit, Justice Surajit Pilankhum, Justice Chinnawat Soopanit of Thailand.

17-19 June 2013 : President of ALA visited Manila, Philippine for Foundation Day Celebration of ALA Philippines and the Launching of the Preparation for the Holding of 12th ALA General Assembly



On 17-19 June 2013, Dr. H. M. Hatta Ali, as the President of ALA, Mr. Swandy Halim, the Secretary General of ALA, together with the delegation from ALA Indonesia attended the Foundation Day celebration of ALA Philippines in Manila. In his opening address, the President of ALA expressed his gratitude for being invited to join the big family of ALA Philippines to celebrate this special occasion and he extended his heartiest congratulations to ALA Philippines for its Foundation Day anniversary. Chief Justice Hatta Ali also expressed his full confidence on ALA Philippines for the holding of 12th ALA General Assembly in Philippines in 2015 which will coincide with the inauguration of the ASEAN Economic Community under the ASEAN Charter. The event ended with a spectacular performance from one of ASEAN's musical prodigies, Dr. Jose Artemio Panganiban.



NEWS FROM ALA VIETNAM

15-16 May 2012 : ALA Vietnam Hosted a Workshop on Constitutional Amendments in Ha Long City, Vietnam

On 15-16 May 2012, ALA Vietnam, in cooperation with the Vietnam Lawyers Association (VLA) and American Bar Association (ABA) hosted a workshop on constitutional amendments in Ha Long City, Quang Ninh province, Vietnam.

This workshop was chaired by Mr. Pham Quoc Anh, who is the president of VLA and former president of ALA. This workshop was attended by more than 40 participants from various countries such as China, Russia and United States.

The workshop discussed two important topics: (1) constitutional provisions on courts; (2) constitutional provisions on procurement.

The results of the presentations by the Vietnamese and international experts as well as opinions from the workshop participants were sent to the Constitution Drafting Committee for further consideration.

NEWS FROM ALA SINGAPORE

Retirement of the Hon. Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong and Appointment and Election of the Hon. Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon as Chief Justice of Singapore and Chairman of ALA National Committee of Singapore

Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong, Chairman of ALA National Committee of Singapore, retired on 5 November 2012 at the age of 75, after serving as Singapore's Chief Justice from 2006 to 2012, and Chairman of ALA National Committee of Singapore from 2012-2013. He is succeeded by Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon.



Born in 1962, Chief Justice Menon graduated from the National University of Singapore with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) in 1986. In 1991 he obtained a Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1987 and as an Attorney and Counsellor-at-law of the Bar of the State of New York in 1992. From 1987, he practised law in the law firms of Shook Lin & Bok, Wong Partnership, Rajah & Tann and Jones Day.

From April 2006 to March 2007, he was appointed Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court. He was appointed Senior Counsel in January 2008.

From 1 October 2010 to 24 June 2012, Mr. Menon served as the Attorney-General of Singapore. He was appointed Chairman of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights on 1 October 2010.

He was appointed Judge of Appeal on 1 August 2012 and was appointed the Chief Justice of the Republic of Singapore on 5 November 2012.

Chief Justice Menon is the current Chairman of ALA National Committee of Singapore, having been elected to this position at the Association's elections in January 2013.



NEWS FROM ALA INDONESIA

Retirement of Hon. Chief Justice Harifin Andi Tumpa, Hon. Justice Paulus Effendi Lotulung and Hon. Justice Mieke Komar Kantaatmadja from the Supreme Court of Indonesia

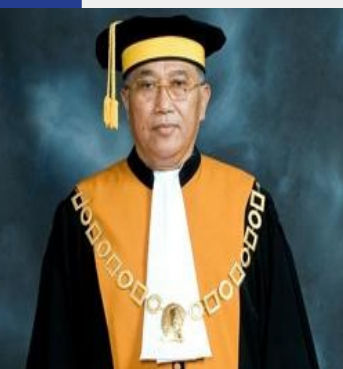

Supreme Court Chief Justice Harifin Andi Tumpa, Chairman of ALA National Committee of Indonesia, retired on 1 March 2012 at the age of 70. He has served as the Chief Justice of Indonesia from 2009. He was succeeded by Chief Justice Hatta Ali. Born on 23 February 1942 in Soppeng, South Sulawesi, Dr. Harifin Andi Tumpa obtained his law degree from University of Hasanuddin in Makassar, his Master Degree from University of Krisna Dwipayana and Doctorate Degree in Law from University of Gadjah Mada. Prior to his appointment as the Chief Justice, he has served as Vice Chief Justice for non-judicial affairs in the Supreme Court, Deputy Chief Justice in charge of civil cases and the Head of High Courts in Sulawesi and DKI Jakarta. Throughout his long and distinguished career as a judge, Dr. Harifin Tumpa is recognized by his peers as having a reputation for commitment to judicial excellence.



Justice Mieke Komar Kantaatmadja retired on 1 April 2012. Born in Manado, North Sulawesi on 25 March 1942, Justice Mieke Komar Kantaatmadja graduated from University of Padjadjaran with a degree in international law. She then pursued her master degree in Comparative Law in Southern Methodist University (Dallas, Texas) and graduated in 1970. She was later honored as The Distinguished Global Alumni Award from the same University. She completed her Notary Education in 1973 from University of Padjadjaran, Bandung. Subsequently, she obtained her doctorate degree in international law with cum laude from University of Padjadjaran, Bandung.

Law of University of Padjadjaran. Her dedication to the Judiciary and the community is highly appreciated.

She was appointed as Justice of the Supreme Court from a non-career path. Prior to her appointment as Justice at the Supreme Court, she has dedicated a huge part of her life to the field of legal education. She has served as Professor and Dean at the Faculty of



Supreme Court Justice Paulus Effendi Lotulung retired on 1 April 2013. Justice Paulus was born on 9 March 1943 in Boyolali, Central Java, Indonesia. He obtained his masters and doctorate degree in administrative law and public service from University of Paris I (Sorbonne) in France in 1978 and 1982 respectively. He obtained his bachelor degree in administration law from the Law Faculty of University of Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia.

He started his career as a clerk in the District Court of Gresik (East Java). He steadily rose up the ranks and was eventually entrusted with the position of Justice of the Supreme Court in 1998. In the year of 2000, he was appointed as the Deputy Chief Justice in charge of Administrative Laws.

Besides serving as a Supreme Court Justice, Justice Paulus has dedicated a great deal of his time to the legal education. Justice Paulus is also a Professor of Administrative Law in the Faculty of Law at University of Pakuan Bogor. He is often invited as Visiting Professor and speaker at various legal forums on the national and global stage. He has also authored many informational books on administrative laws. Justice Paulus has been actively serving in the ASEAN Law Association and has previously served as the Deputy Chairman of ALA Indonesia National Committee.