



33rd ALA Governing Council Meeting in Pattaya-Thailand 4-5 March 2011

The 33rd Meeting of the Governing Council of the ASEAN Law Association was held on 5 March 2011 at Pattaya Cliff Beach Resort in Pattaya, Thailand. Delegates from 07 countries (Brunei Darrusalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) attended the Meeting.

The main contents of the meeting were discussion of the workshop topics of the Bali General Assembly in 2012 and discussion of a short paper on dispute settlement mechanism between private parties in ASEAN submitted by the Task Force Group, which



*Hon. Chief Justice Sobchok Sukharmna
President of the Supreme Court of
Thailand, Chairman of National Committee
of ALA Thailand delivering welcome speech
at the 33rd ALA Governing Council Meeting*

proposed to set up a special Committee to draft guidelines on best practices of arbitration in ASEAN.

It was decided that instead of setting up a new Committee, the Task force Group would continue their work to draft the guidelines on best practices of arbitration in ASEAN. It was also decided that the topics for General Assembly workshops would be in general based on the topics proposed by different standing committees at 33rd Governing Council meeting and that ALA Indonesia would elaborate and send the list of proposed topics to all member countries for final approval. The Governing Council meeting has agreed to hold the next General Assembly in Bali, Indonesia from 14 to 19 of February 2012.



*Hon. Pham Quoc Anh, ALA President
delivering opening speech at the 33rd
ALA Governing Council Meeting.*



*Participants of the 33rd ALA Governing Council Meeting
standing for the ALA anthem*



*Heads of delegations took group photo with the ALA President
and ALA Secretary General*



Delegation of ALA Brunei



Delegation of ALA Indonesia



Delegation of ALA Malaysia



Delegation of ALA Philippines



Delegation of ALA Singapore



Delegation of ALA Thailand



Delegation of ALA Vietnam



Cultural performance by ALA Brunei



Cultural performance by ALA Indonesia



Cultural performance by ALA Malaysia



Cultural performance by ALA Philippines



Cultural performance by ALA Singapore



Cultural performance by ALA Thailand



Cultural performance by ALA Vietnam



Thai artists performed songs of ALA Member Countries at the Welcome Reception

Meeting of ALA Task Force in Ho Chi Minh City-Vietnam 1 October 2011

At the 32nd Governing Council Meeting of the Asean Law Association (ALA) held in Manila on the 20th February 2010 the Governing Council (GC) after consideration of two papers that had been tabled for discussion at the GC Meeting resolved that the papers be submitted to a Task Force for further consideration. The Task Force was to be made up of two representatives from each of the seven (7) member States who were present at the GC Meeting.

The first meeting of the Task Force was held in Hanoi, Vietnam on the 16th October 2010. At the conclusion of that first meeting it was resolved by consensus that a short paper on "dispute resolution between private parties with focus on arbitration and other mechanism such as mediation" be submitted by the Singapore representative of the Task Force. The short paper entitled "Short Paper by the ASEAN Law Association Task Force on dispute Resolution between Private Parties in Commercial Matters" was accordingly submitted to the GC at the 33rd GC Meeting in Pattaya at which the GC requested the Task Force to draft guidelines based on the recommendations in the short paper. Ahead of the second meeting of the Task Force, the Singapore representative submitted a set of "Guidelines on the Best Practices on the Enforcement of Arbitral Awards within Asean" (Guidelines) for consideration by all Task Force members.

The second meeting of the Task Force was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on the 1st October 2011. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. TPB Menon, Chairman of the ALA Task Force and attended by ALA President, ALA Secretary General and 14 representatives from 07 member countries (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore), Thailand and Vietnam to consider the Guidelines. At the conclusion of the second meeting the Task Force approved the Guidelines with minor amendments. The Guidelines (as amended) are to be placed before the Governing Council for its consideration at its next meeting to be held in Bali, Indonesia in February 2012.



Hon. Pham Quoc Anh, ALA President delivering opening speech at the 2nd ALA Task Force Meeting.



Participants of the 2nd ALA Task Force Meeting took group photo with ALA President, ALA Secretary General and ALA Task Force Chairman.



Participants of the 2st ALA Task Force Meeting at the Farewell dinner party hosted by ALA Vietnam

Trip of the ALA President and Secretary General to Indonesia December 2011

From 1st to 4th December, 2011 a delegation of 5 people from ALA Vietnam lead by Honorable Pham Quoc Anh, ALA President visited Indonesia and had a meeting with Hon. Chief Justice Dr. Harifin Tumpa, Chairman of Indonesian ALA National Committee and other members. The meeting focused on discussion of preparations for the eleventh ALA General Assembly in Bali, Indonesia from 14 to 19 February 2012.



Meeting between ALA President, ALA Secretary General and ALA Indonesia representatives



Hon. Chief Justice Dr. Harifin A. Tumpa (4th left to right) took photo with ALA President and ALA Secretary General

ALA Website development: Last news about ALA Website

The ALA Website (at www.aseanlawassociation.org), established in 2004 pursuant to a unanimous resolution of the Governing Council in Chiang Rai on 26th June 2004, was officially launched at the ALA 25th Anniversary Special Commemorative Session in Manila, Philippines. The ALA Website contains valuable information on the history of ALA, its membership and activities, as well as the ever popular e-book on the Legal Systems of ASEAN. The ALA Website has attracted a lot of interest from all over the world. Latest figures for the year 2011 indicate an average of 121,516 hits a month (*ie.* 3,997 hits per day), almost a nine-fold increase from the 13,716 hits recorded in December 2005.

ALA Members Directory

In August 2008, during its 29th meeting held in Penang, the ALA Governing Council endorsed the establishment of an ALA Members Directory, to be hosted on the ALA Website. The ALA Members Directory was launched during the 10th ALA General Assembly in Hanoi in October 2009. The objectives of the ALA Members Directory are as follows:

- (a) to serve as a membership privilege for ALA members;
- (b) to facilitate contact and interaction between ALA members; and
- (c) to enhance the utility of the ALA Website.

The ALA Members Directory publishes on a voluntary basis, certain pre-determined categories of information in respect of each ALA member, namely:

- a. Name of member
- b. National chapter member is affiliated to

Optional fields

- c. Name of organisation
- d. Designation in organisation

- e. Mailing address
- f. Telephone number
- g. Facsimile number
- h. Email address
- i. Website address of organisation / member
- j. Area(s) of specialisation / expertise and other information.

As agreed during the 29th ALA Governing Council meeting, ALA (Singapore) bore the initial cost of creating the ALA Members Directory and the parallel ASEAN Law Firms Directory. It was agreed that an annual listing fee (USD100) be collected from subscribers to the ASEAN Law Firms Directory as the funding model to maintain the ALA Members Directory and ASEAN Law Firms Directory.

ASEAN Law Firms Directory

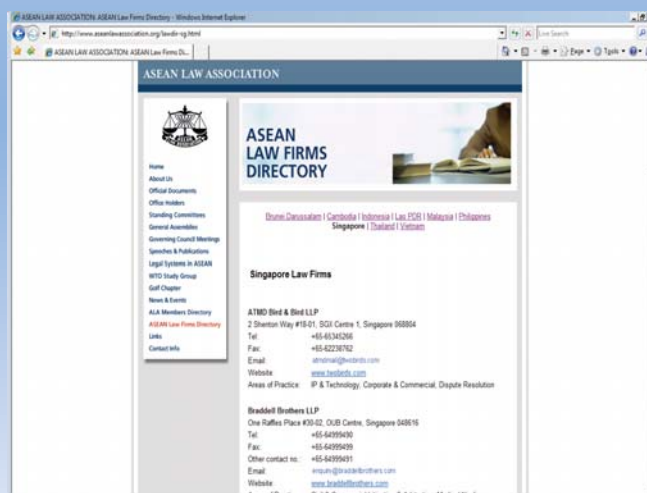
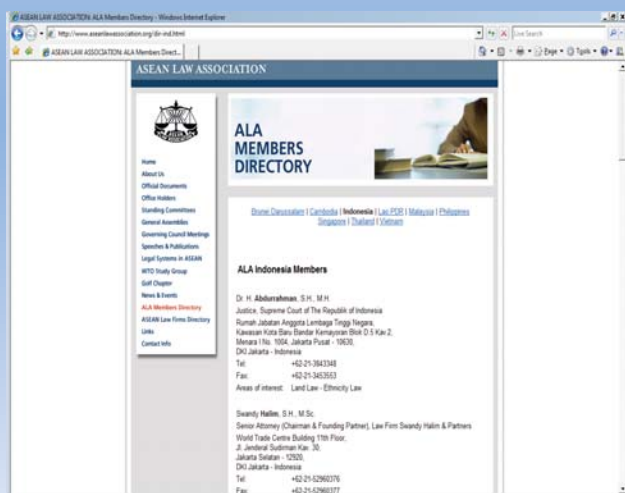
The ASEAN Law Firms Directory was soft-launched on 20 February 2010 at the 32nd ALA Governing Council meeting in Manila. Law firms that are institutional members of ALA or have at least one ALA member in their firm are eligible for listing. The objective of the Directory is to serve as a membership benefit, and to provide publicity to listed law firms by publishing, on a voluntary basis, certain pre-determined categories of information in respect of each firm, including the address, contact information and areas of practice. The Directory currently contains records of law firms from 4 member countries (namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore). Eligible law firms are invited to submit their applications to ALA (Singapore) or to their respective ALA National Committee. The application forms will be made available during the 11th ALA General Assembly in Bali.

Access by Users from other countries

Our web logger recorded hits on the ALA Members Directory and ASEAN Law Firms Directory from search engines within the respective countries as well as from outside the respective countries and even from outside ASEAN (e.g. from www.google.co.uk, www.google.ca). For example, in the ALA Members Directory, the Malaysia page recorded searches from the UK, Nigeria and Australia, while the Philippines page recorded searches from India, Germany, Canada, Nigeria and Singapore. In the ASEAN Law Firms Directory, the Indonesia Law Firms page recorded searches from Singapore and UK, while the Malaysia Law Firms page recorded searches from Thailand, India, Singapore and France. The web logger also recorded searches from search engines such as www.google.com and www.bing.com which are often used by users all over the world, in which case the origin of the users could not be ascertained.

Conclusion

It is hoped that the ALA Members Directory and the ASEAN Law Firms Directory will help create a higher profile for ALA in the region and beyond. ALA (Singapore) is honoured to be entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the ALA Website, and thanks all ALA members for their strong and steadfast support of this undertaking



News from ALA Thailand

Appointment of the Hon. Chief Justice Pairoj Wayuparb as President of the Supreme Court of Thailand and Chairman of National Committee of Thailand



The Honorable Chief Justice Pairoj Wayuparb was born on 19 September 1950. He graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree with honors from Thammasat University in 1972 and qualified as a barrister-at-law of the Institute of Legal Education, the Thai Bar in 1973.

The Honorable Chief Justice Pairoj Wayuparb began his professional career as a law lecturer and public prosecutor. Thereafter, he commenced his judicial career as a judge-trainee in 1977. During his distinguished career on the Thai bench, he served as Justice of the Supreme Court and then Vice-President of the Supreme Court of Thailand. On 3 December 2011, he received the royal endorsement appointing him as new President of the

Supreme Court. Currently, he also serves as the Chairman of the Judicial Commission, Chairman of the Judicial Administration Commission, Chairman of the Commission on Jurisdiction of Courts and President of the Thai Bar.

ALA Vietnam co-organized the 3rd Workshop on the South China Sea

Following the fruitful results of the first and the second International Workshop on the South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development which were held in 2009 and 2010, the Vietnam Lawyers Association and the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV) co-organized the third workshop on the South China Sea in Hanoi on 4 and 5 November 2011.

Under the theme “The South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development”, the workshop comprised six main topics: (1) Global and Regional Significance of the South China Sea; (2) Interests of regional and extra-regional parties in the South China Sea; (3) Recent developments in the South China Sea; (4) Disputes in the South China Sea: International legal aspects; (5) Dispute settlement and conflict management in the South China Sea; (6) Ways and means to promote cooperation in the South China Sea.

The workshop brought distinguished international scholars from ASEAN countries and China together with those from Australia, Canada, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and a number of European nations and attracted around 190 participants.

This third international workshop provided an excellent opportunity to assess the current situation in the South China Sea from an interdisciplinary perspective, to explore areas confidence building measures under the just adopted ASEAN-China Guidelines to Implement the Declaration on Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and to consider and discuss measures to maintain peace and stability in the area while promoting regional cooperation. At the same time, China and Vietnam have the opportunity to move from confrontation to cooperation under their bilateral Agreement on Basic Principles for the Settlement of Sea Issues.



Participants of the 3rd Workshop on the South China Sea took group photo

ALA Golf Tournament

The 8th ALA Championship Golf Tournament 2011 for the coveted Tun Dzaiddin Challenge Trophy was held at Burapha Golf Club in Pattaya, Thailand on 4th March 2011 together with the 33rd Governing Council & Standing Committee Meeting of the ASEAN Law Association.

There had been 100 golfers representing the host country - Thailand and 86 golfers from other member countries participating in the games. The election of the new golf captain and the secretary-general of the ALA Golf Chapter was conducted within the tournament. Justice Datuk Bentara Luar Dato' Hashim bin Dato' Haji Yusoff and Mr. K. Puspalingam both from ALA Malaysia were unanimously elected as the Captain and Secretary-General respectively of the Golf Chapter.

The Tun Dzaiddin Challenge Trophy was won by ALA Thailand with 188 stableford points. ALA Malaysia was a distant second with 184 points and ALA Indonesia a close third with 183 points.

Bapak Bambang Satyadi an 8-handicapper from ALA Indonesia returned with the best gross score of 77 on count back thus winning the gross champion trophy for the second year running.

The prize presentation for the golf tournament was held during the welcome reception at the Royal Cliff Beach Hotel in Pattaya, Thailand on the same day.

On behalf of the golfing fraternity of ALA, Mr. K. Puspalingam Secretary-General ALA Golf Chapter extended heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Judge Montri Sillapamahabundit of ALA Thailand and the members of his organizing committee for a splendid and wonderful golf tournament.

