IPBA Australian-New Zealand Regional Forum

New Asian Investment Issues – The Lawyer’s View

Chair: Michael Butler (Finlaysos)

Host Committee: IPBA Australian-New Zealand Regional Forum

Date: 4 July 2019
Venue: College of Law, Sydney
Level 16, St James Centre, 111 Elizabeth Street, Sydney

This Regional Event will continue the IPBA’s tradition of providing stimulating debate and exploration of topical issues and developments relevant to those with a legal practice or interest in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The central focus of this Event will be on some of the Australian issues facing foreign investors from the Asia-Pacific Region who wish to invest and operate enterprises in Australia, and will introduce you to a whole new world of acronyms!

We are fortunate to have a fantastic line-up of speakers and look forward to seeing you at this complimentary event.

3.00pm Registration / Coffee

3.30pm Introduction from Co-Chairs

3.35pm Session 1

Recent developments with Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB), Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Counter-Terrorism Financing (CTF) & trade law affecting inbound international investment from Asia

Marcus Connor (Connor & Co – Sydney, Australia)

4.10pm Session 2

FATCA, CRS and implications for inbound investors with Australian accounts

David Laanemaa (Managing Director, Back9 Capital Management – Sydney, Australia)

• Reporting: the new paradigm
• Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) & the US
• Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI), the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) and the rest of the World

5.20pm Session 4

Challenges facing Asian investors in dealing with Australian and NZ lawyers and vice versa: Examining the “cultural issues” associated with cross-border investment

Hak Jun Lee (Partner, Hesketh Henry – Auckland, New Zealand) and Liyao Wang (Lawyer, Finlaysons – Adelaide, Australia)

[With comments from Marcus Connor, David Laanemaa and Neil Russ]

5.55pm Close & Refreshments

• An outline of the new land investment restrictions, and the Australian / Singaporean exceptions
• New remote services and low value goods GST rules
• Living with the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) and Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) & OECD Common Reporting Standard (CRS) regimes
• AML / CFT as it applies to lawyers – the (painful) NZ experience

5.45pm Session 3

Recent NZ Developments – including new OIO rules, GST changes, FATCA / AEOI / CRS and AML / CFT

Neil Russ (Managing Director, Russ + Associates – Auckland, New Zealand)

• How do Asian clients locate the “right law firm” and the “best lawyer” for their legal work?
• How do Asian clients communicate their legal requirements to professional advisors?
• How to guide Asian clients to understand the role of Australian and New Zealand lawyers?