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Report on the IPBA 25th Annual Meeting and Conference in Hong Kong, 6 - 9 May 2015

First of all, I would like to thank you for inviting me as a scholar to this outstanding event. I have decided to apply for this scholarship because I believed that meeting lawyers from the Asia-Pacific region can give me a new perspective in my work life. The conference did not only live up to my expectations but it went beyond them.

On our first conference day, we were visiting the Hong Kong High Court and we were attending few court sessions. Observing how the court is proceeding was an extremely interesting experience – it is very different than at the Polish courts. Following the court tour, we were invited to visit one of the largest law firms in China - Deacons. During this visit Charlie Liu and Emily Wong explained us the principle of 'one country, two systems' and the legal framework of Hong Kong. We learned that it is based on the English common law and it's completely different than the legal framework of mainland China.

The following days were filled with many interesting conference panel sessions. The conference program was extremely rich and informative. As my practice area focuses on employment law, I attended mainly the employment and immigration committee sessions. However, I also had the opportunity to learn about other area of law. My particular attention attracted the banking committee session: "The reality of modern Islamic Finance". It was very interesting to learn what Islamic banking is and what challenges it brings about for lawyers.

Attending the conference was, however, a lot more than only learning about foreign laws. For me it was a way to look at the Asia-Pacific region with new eyes and get know lawyers from this region. Being part of this amazing group of lawyers was a great opportunity to broaden my horizons and get in touch with people I would normally never have the chance to meet. The conference gave me the amazing opportunity to talk with professionals with completely different backgrounds who are united by their work, enthusiasm and interest for law. I hope that we will have the chance to work together in the future.

Last, but not least, I was amazed by the organization of the social events. They took place at splendid places, such as Happy Valley, Clearwater Bay Golf and Country Club. I will always remember these exciting experiences.

Thank you very much for organizing this amazing conference. I am looking forward to attending the next year conference.