

INTER – PACIFIC BAR ASSOCIATION  
22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference  
“Legal Trends, Thoughts and Times”

### **Report of IPBA Scholar**

*by Pham Thi Nguyen Anh*

To start the report, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the IPBA Scholarship Committee as well as the IPBA Secretariat for all your support and help to give me the opportunity to participate in the 22<sup>nd</sup> IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference in New Delhi.

The IPBA 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference is a great event, where I had the opportunity to meet many international lawyers, who are the leading practitioners, experienced lawyers and young professionals, to learn the experience and exchange the knowledge in interesting fields of law, business and culture.

In the first day of the Conference, IPBA offered the Scholars a visit to the New Delhi High Court. This tour gave me a lot of interesting impressions, which are definitely different from what we have gained in Vietnam. Firstly, it was the security system. To access the courtroom, we had to pass numerous strict security control gates. The second was the impressive amount of work resolved. More than 30 courtrooms were all operating at full capacity with a great number of lawyers. Through the participation in two trials, I could learn more about the legal system and legal procedures in India and make a comparison with Vietnam, the jurisdiction in the Civil Law system.

I was fascinated by the greetings for New Members & IPBA Scholars, which was simple but meaningful. With the brief introduction of Ms. Varya Simpson, the Scholars were welcomed warmly. I also participated in the Reception for Women Business Lawyers and acquired the share of other female lawyers on how they combine family and professional careers. I met my two buddies, who were very friendly and enthusiastic in introducing me to other lawyers, so I could faster integrate into the IPBA.

In the next morning, I attended 'Plenary Session Life, Liberty and Law' with other Scholars. I had been thinking that IPBA was only interested in the topics related to commerce or business, thus, I was very surprised with the subject of the Plenary Section, which were the issues concerned in the life and liberty of people around the world. The speakers, who were the leaders of IBA, UIA, AIJA, Inter-American Bar Association, ABA, IPBA and The Bar Association of India would highlight the prevailing situation with regard to Life, Liberty & Law in their respective jurisdictions and regions.

I also had chance to take part in several interesting sessions, such as: "Regulatory Challenges Faced by Global Financial Institutions," "The Rising Significance of Cross-Border Employment: Issues, Difficulties & Solutions", "Legal Trends, Thoughts and Times - Recent Issues with Cross-Border M&A and Private Equity Investment". The conferences were beyond my expectations. "The Cultural Exchange", the last session before the General Meeting, was presented by the Women Business Lawyers Committee, with all of the female speakers from Asia, North America, South America and Europe, discussing some of the differences and unique features of their individual cultures and traditions of legal business in the community. Perhaps as this was the last panel and the topic is needed for all cross-border activities, it attracted a lot of lawyers to involve with many interesting exchanges.

It will be a mistake if I do not mention the three dinners at Taj Palace, Kingdom of Dreams and The Ashok. Authentic India cuisine and shows made all the dinners become cultural extravaganza events.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all my fellow Scholars for their great friendship. It was an honor to be a member of such distinguished group of 8 members from 8 different countries. Although there were only 4 days, but with all our time spent together, I truly believe that it will be unforgettable memories when we recall the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of IPBA. I do wish them success in their career and we will always keep in touch.

As a scholar I feel that the meeting truly gave us a rich and memorable experience. Once more, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the IPBA Scholarship Committee and Secretariat, and the entire members of the IPBA. I do look forward to participating in many more IPBA activities and hope to see you again soon.

Yours truly,

Pham Thi Nguyen Anh

*Hanoi, Vietnam, 26 March 2012*