

Thit Thit Kyaw

Jurisdiction: Myanmar

**Report on 28<sup>th</sup> IPBA Annual Meeting and Conference 2018 held on Manila, Philippine,  
14 March to 16 March at F1 Hotel**

On 14 March \_ I met with the other IPBA scholars in the early morning and we are warmly welcomed by Mr. Jay LeMoine, Christine Chen and Picharn Sukparagansee from IPBA Scholarship Committee. Firstly, we visited to the Regional Trial Court in Makati City and met the Executive Judge of the Makati City Regional Trial Court, Hon. Elmo Alameda and deputy Judge. I learned about the Philippines legal system and this was very impressive of the management of legal system that all civils or criminals litigation cases shall be six to nine months at the longest for the whole period of litigation case. I was very surprised because in my country the duration of criminal case shall be taken at least 1 year and the duration of civil sue shall be taken a time up to 3 years. We all asked so many questions to the Judges regarding to legal issues and legal system in Philippines.

Then we continued to visit to a big law firm “Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc & De Los Angeles” in Manila. The Partner and her colleagues from the firm provided us the warmly welcome and introduced with firm history and work life as the short time. I enjoyed taking around into the law firm. Sheryl, she was along with us the way to go to Court and visited to the law firm, at the lunch time a nice lady treated us to lunch and we had a free time at the moment.

I attended the opening ceremony with amazing playing and the other sessions. As the networking events, I met with the new members of IPBA. I also attended IPBA Scholars reception and welcome reception as friendly with everyone. At first, I was worried to attend the conference alone and getting understood that a kind of friendly with each of the lawyers and scholars made me disappeared of my worries.

On 15 March \_ By the recommendation of Jay, I chose to attend in the young lawyers category to participate in the Training and Mentoring Junior Lawyers in the Legal Profession session. I have learned that there were a discussion so many point of views of senior lawyers and partners and all the junior lawyer shall require the training from its senior for the improvement of future life and effectiveness to the organization.

As regards the selection of concurrent committee sessions, I confused to choose the sessions to attend, then I selected the perfect session based on my interested and relevant to my practice. I selected the following sessions based on the information provided:

1. Shareholder Agreements (Cross Border Investment Committee)
2. Bridging the Cultural Gap in Cross-Border M&A Transactions (Cross Border Management Committee)
3. A Survey of the Rules on Cross Border Legal Practice in the Asia Pacific Region (Legal Practice Committee)
4. The New Suite of FIDIC Contracts\_ Good news or bad? (International Construction Project Committee)
5. A Crash Course in Negotiation an International Loan Agreement (Banking, Finance & Securities Committee)
6. Technology and International Arbitration, AI or IA? (Dispute Resolution & Arbitration Committee)
7. Cross Border Investment Committee

Regarding to AI and IA, this was a new subject to me and I noticed Ms. Sae Youn KIM who she had a good point of every single things of the session as a moderator and I though she is very nice since at the session of "Training and Mentoring Junior Lawyers in the Legal Profession". I think she might have a good mindset to her students and to her country. Those all sessions gave me a very good understanding of the relevant subjects and I believe that other scholars and I had a great chance to learn from different jurisdiction and learn about the legal system of the different countries. It was very effective for my career development and got very great experience that I had in Manila.

Then, I enjoyed at the Gala Dinner nights with the other scholars and that moment was very remarkable and memorable with them.

I would like to say thank you to all of the IPBA Committees and Members and I wish to contribute the IPBA' information to young lawyers in Myanmar. During the conference of IPBA, I have been offering to assist to hold the IPBA conference 2018 in Myanmar and I met and discussed with the organizers from IPBA for further conference in Myanmar. I am now providing some kind of assistances to organizers to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mekong Regional Forum in Myanmar.