

## Manila Good News

July 2016

### Quisumbing Torres Arbitration Academy Presents International Arbitration Updates

Manila, Philippines, 4 July 2016 – Quisumbing Torres' (QT) Arbitration Academy hosted the "International Arbitration Updates: A mock arbitration on the new SIAC Rules" ("SIAC Rules 2016") last 23 June at the Discovery Primea, Makati City. The event provided practical insights about the new SIAC Arbitration Rules (scheduled to come into effect on 1 August 2016) through a mock arbitration and was attended by in-house counsels and decision-makers representing 18 companies.

The event aimed to provide Philippine business decision-makers and in-house legal advisers a deeper and at the same time practical understanding of arbitration as a mode of dispute resolution, and a glimpse of the latest developments in arbitration within the Philippines and throughout the region.

Donemark Calimon noted that a significant development in the area of Philippine arbitration is the creation, by the Office for Alternative Dispute Resolution, the government agency primarily tasked to promote alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in the Philippines, of a technical working group on arbitration to study possible amendments to the Philippine arbitration law. Donemark is a member of the working group and hopes that their efforts will lead to further improvements in the law to enable the Philippines to keep up with the demands of the continuing globalization of trade and commerce.

Leng Sun Chan, SC, who chairs the Baker & McKenzie International Arbitration Steering Committee, provided legal updates on international arbitration. He demonstrated how investment treaty arbitration works using the Australian tobacco case as illustration.

Singapore International Arbitration Centre and Singapore International Mediation Centre CEO, Lim Seok Hui, presented the highlights of the SIAC Rules 2016. To demonstrate the application of the new rules, a mock arbitration was led by Leng Sun and QT's Dispute Resolution and Arbitration lawyers along with Adriana Uson, a counsel at SIAC, and Jannet Cruz-Regalado, vice president of Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation and managing counsel of the Royal Dutch Shell Global Litigation Asia Pacific.

QT's Dispute Resolution Practice Group represents parties in commercial arbitrations, including arbitrations conducted under various arbitration rules, as well as in *ad hoc* arbitrations. For years 2014 to 2016, Chambers Asia Pacific ranked the Arbitration Team of the Firm's Dispute Resolution Practice Group in Band 1.



Donemark Calimon, head of Quisumbing Torres' Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Practice Group, is an accredited arbitrator, director and treasurer of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. He is currently assisting the President of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines as a Presidential Assistant on Alternative Dispute Resolution. He is also one of the founders of the Philippine Institute of Arbitrators (PIARB).



Leng Sun Chan, SC, chair of Baker & McKenzie's International Arbitration Steering Committee, is a chartered arbitrator and is also on the panel of leading arbitral institutions. He is president of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb) and serves on the Advisory Panel of the Singapore Maritime Foundation.



As the CEO of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC), Lim Seok Hui is responsible for the overall management and operations of both institutions.

QT's Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Practice Group performed a mock arbitration applying the SIAC Rules 2016. Joining the cast is Jannet Cruz-Regalado (top row, left) from Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation and the Royal Dutch Shell Global Litigation Asia Pacific, and Leng Sun Chan, SC (top row, middle).

### For more information



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### About Quisumbing Torres

Quisumbing Torres (QT) is the member firm of Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss Verein with member law firms around the world.

For more than five decades, we have helped top multinational and domestic companies drive their growth in the country. We provide global reach with deep local roots, delivering exceptional and effective legal advice and assistance to clients across borders seamlessly.

With our team of more than 50 Philippine lawyers, we are a full-service firm, advising clients in the Banking & Finance, Corporate & Commercial, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Immigration, Intellectual Property, and Tax practice areas.

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