

Report the experiences as IPBA scholar in IPBA 21st Annual Meeting and Conference

April 21-24, 2011 Kyoto/Osaka, Japan

By KONG Phallack

1. This report describes my experiences and feelings about IPBA prior and post selection as a 2011 IPBA scholar from Cambodia.
2. I heard about IPBA from a Cambodian lawyer, Mr Ven Pov who attended the previous IPBA Conference in Singapore in 2010. I was glad to hear that such a great organization exists and provides a golden opportunity for lawyers from an LDC like Cambodia. Mr Ven Pov encouraged me to apply for the scholarship of the 2011 and he told me, I will gain a lot of knowledge and build a network with all lawyers around the world. I followed his advice and on September 9, 2010, I decided to apply for a scholarship to attend the IPBA 21st Annual Meeting and Conference in Kyoto/Osaka, Japan from April 21-24, 2011. Finally, I was informed about my selection on February 10th, 2011.
3. I was excited and happy to receive an email from Ms Rohnda Lundin, an IPBA secretary. In my view, she is a very kind, helpful, capable and efficient IPBA person who provided me a lot of information and assistance. By following her advice through emails and documents she sent me, I was able to at Kansai International Airport on April 20th, 2011 and find Kyoto ICC easily on the same day and participated in the conference from April 21-24 successfully. I think other scholars and participants of the conference will share the same idea about Ms Rohnda Lundin. I felt that it is a kind of threat to see a good leadership of 2011 IPBA Secretariat and its host committee's staff. I am thinking whether Cambodians are able to serve all scholars and participants well like that if Cambodia is going to host an IPBA Conference in the future. We must build a strong team and everyone must be committed to the assigned tasks otherwise we could not overcome all difficulties. Though Japan just faced sufferings resulting from a natural disaster, everyone still did their jobs and worked hard. This is a very good example for me to learn. I appreciate everyone's efforts and leadership of IPBA as a whole.
4. On April 21st, 2011, I and other scholars from China, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam,

South Korea, Mongolia, and USA met Mr Shin Tada, a representative of IPBA 2011 Kyoto/Osaka Host Committee and his team in the morning at Kyoto ICC lobby and then we went to visit the court and observed two hearings, a robbery case resulting in an injury and a violation of the Stimulant Drugs Control Acts case. It is a great experience and opportunity to observe an inquisitorial court in criminal cases in Japan. After the court, we visited Oike Law Firm and had lunch over there. This is another opportunity to learn about the Japanese law firm management and practice. After visiting the law firm, we came back to Kyoto ICC to meet the Scholarship Committee, attend a reception of Women Business Lawyers, the Tea Ceremony and the Welcome Reception. It was an unforgettable experience to learn about the hosting protocol and Japanese cultures through the two receptions.

5. On April 22nd 2011, I attended numbers of programs because they were so interesting. I wish I could attend all but I could not manage myself since there were concurrent sessions. The programs that I participated are: i) an efficient arbitration, disability discrimination at the workplace, an innovation in legal practice and a dispute resolution in innovation. Among these programs, I found the disability discrimination at the workplace was very interesting because each speaker expressed a different point of view from his or her own jurisdiction. This program can be a model for IPBA Conference in the future. I trained in ADR and practice labor Arbitration and corporate laws, I found the knowledge I obtained from these programs are important for my career as a lawyer and professor of law as well as an ADR practitioner. In addition to the programs, I also attended the Kyoto Night and had an opportunity to visit the Ninna-ji Temple in the evening. The reception at the temple was fantastic.
6. On April 23rd, 2011, I attended a special session with APEC, role of in-house counsel in risk management, an anti-corruption legislation, and an innovative due diligence techniques. I felt impressed with a session on innovative due diligence techniques and session with APEC. The session on innovative due diligence techniques can help me improve my legal services for my clients and the session with APEC can bring benefits to IPBA's members in term of legal services and development laws and justice in the region. The Gala Dinner at Miyako Hotel Kyoto was fabulous plus a charity event, Silence Auction was so

meaningful. I was happy to be part of the contributor of the charity, though the Cambodian purse made of silk did not win the high price. I left the Gala Dinner with the happiest feeling and I wish IPBA's leaders could become the world leaders to make the world peaceful and help people who are in needs.

7. On April 24th, 2011, I attend an M&A Negotiation trends and practice in the USA, facilitating an IP innovation, a Mock Arbitration, and an innovative cross border investment techniques. I found the programs are very important and I learnt a lot by attending. The Mock Arbitration was an interesting one for me as an Arbitrator but the performance was the mediation. Therefore, this session should be called a mock mediation rather than a Mock Arbitration.
8. In conclusion, I found the programs of the conference were so interesting and important for me as a scholar from Cambodia. I really appreciate the excellent job of the organizing committee and IPBA leadership in organizing such a conference in a hard time very successful. Without commitments and efforts from IPBA's leaders and staff, such a wonderful conference did not happen from April 21-24, 2011 in Kyoto/Osaka, Japan. I wish such a great leadership exists forever. As a Cambodian lawyer, I would like to see IPBA plays a role in legal development in the region, especially in harmonizing legal systems. I am wondering IPBA is ready to take this role.
9. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you to the IPBA for giving me this wonderful experience that I am sure to never forget. I wish IPBA becomes bigger and bigger and become a legal think thank of the region.

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