

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADVOCATES AND BARRISTERS

Dear All

I am sure by now you are all back at work and the memory of the 5<sup>th</sup> World Bar Conference in Sydney is already beginning to fade. Before that happens, I wish to take the opportunity on behalf of myself and Hugh Mohan (as an outgoing Co-Chair of ICAB) put in writing our thanks to the Australian Bar Association in general and in particular Peter Riordan SC, Dan O'Connor and of course His Honour Glenn Martin for all the hard work that went into the organisation of the Conference.

I also wish to put on record my thanks to the individual Bars and the Heads of Bar who attended at the Conference as without continued support from the individual Bars the organisation cannot continue to flourish.

As an example of one of the benefits that can accrue from these Conferences we at the Northern Ireland Bar have invited Dame Hazel Genn to come to Northern Ireland to address us on the issues she discussed at the Conference namely, the impact of the Woolf and Jackson reforms and I trust other jurisdictions found the subject of the sessions equally valuable.

Looking forward, Stephen Hockman QC has already called a preliminary meeting of the Conference Committee in London and I can confirm that the original provisional date which I outlined at the Gala Ball, namely 29 June-1 July 2012, has been agreed. It may well be that Thursday 28 June will be included and some events may go on until 2 July depending on how the Conference is eventually structured.

I would therefore ask individual Bars even at this early time to publicise those dates on their websites so that members may have as much advance notice as possible of the date.

I have also been in contact with Colin Carruthers SC from the New Zealand Bar who confirms that his Bar Council remain committed to placing a bid for the 2014 Conference in New Zealand.

I hope to keep all Bars regularly updated about the progress of the 2012 Conference and would be interested at this stage to know how many Heads of Bar intend to travel to Vancouver for the IBA Conference so that I can decide whether it is worthwhile calling an ICAB meeting at that event.

Kindest regards

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