

Press Release of the Hong Kong Bar Association

**IBA Human Rights Award 2019 Presented Jointly to
Mr Martin Lee SC JP and Dr Margaret Ng**

The International Bar Association (IBA), established in 1947 and now comprising of more than 80,000 individual international lawyers and 190 bar associations and law societies from more than 170 countries as members, has bestowed the 2019 IBA Award for Outstanding Contribution by a Legal Practitioner to Human Rights on Mr Martin Lee SC JP and Dr Margaret Ng jointly for their tireless dedication to the protection of human rights and the pursuit of justice.

The Award was first introduced in 1995 and is conferred on a legal practitioner who has made an outstanding contribution to the promotion, protection and advancement of the human rights of any group of people, particularly with respect to their right to live in a fair and just society under the rule of law. This year marks the first time that the Award has been bestowed jointly.

In a joint written statement, Mr Lee and Dr Ng said: “We do not believe that this award is conferred on us because of our own achievements. We accept this award on behalf of all members of the Hong Kong Bar who have also been doing their absolute best in upholding the rule of law in the very trying circumstances in Hong Kong.”

IBA President Horacio Bernardes Neto commented: “It is an honour to bestow this award upon two incredibly worthy winners. The unwavering commitment of Mr Lee and Dr Ng to advancing democracy and human rights in Hong Kong is admirable, particularly given the current state of unrest in the region. It is imperative that the international legal community recognises and supports those who stand up for justice and the rule of law.”

The IBA will present the Award to the two recipients on Thursday, 26 September 2019 during the IBA Annual Conference in Seoul, South Korea.

Hong Kong Bar Association
10 September 2019