



HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION

Secretariat: LG2 Floor, High Court, 38 Queensway, Hong Kong

E-mail: info@hkba.org Website: www.hkba.org

Telephone: 2869 0210 Fax: 2869 0189

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**Hong Kong Bar Association's Press Statement
on the Beijing Official Visit 2013**

A delegation comprising 20 members of the Hong Kong Bar Association visited Beijing from 30th October 2013 to 2nd November 2013. The delegation met the following bodies and representatives during the visit

- Ministry of Justice – Vice Minister Mr Zhao Dacheng and representatives
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Deputy Director-General of the Department of Treaty and Law, Mr Jia Guide and representatives
- Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council – Party Member, Mr Feng Wei and representatives
- Basic Law Committee of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress – Director Mr. Li Fei, Deputy Director Mr. Zhang Rongshun and representatives
- Supreme People's Court – Vice President Ms He Rong and representatives
- All China Lawyers Association – Vice President Mr Jiang Min and representatives

The Bar was warmly received by various officials and judges, and was able to undertake open and frank discussions on topics of mutual interest. In particular, during meetings with and receptions hosted by the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office and the Basic Law Committee, the Bar explained and elaborated on its position over a number of key topics concerning the Rule of Law and issues over

implementation of the Basic Law in Hong Kong as well as how they may be approached. Recognizing that the two legal and political systems may well approach an issue from different perspectives, participants in the discussions were able to exchange their views and opinions emanating from differing perspectives in a cordial and respectful atmosphere. The Bar considers that its position had been adequately and effectively brought across and understood. The Bar has been given to understand that Chinese officials well recognize the Bar as a highly independent profession free from the influence of any business or political interests, and its views expressed on legal issues of public interest are unbiased and firmly rooted in upholding the Rule of Law in Hong Kong. The Bar strongly believes that its views and opinions on such issues will be valued and respected by the Chinese government.

The Bar was also pleased to have had the opportunity during this visit to introduce the concept of an independent and specialist Bar to the All China Lawyers Association. It is hoped that such introduction and greater measures of co-operation will promote a better interflow of information between the legal profession in the Mainland and the Bar in Hong Kong, particularly with regard to the specialist and expert services offered by the Hong Kong Bar.

Hong Kong Bar Association

5th November 2013

香港大律師公會代表團訪問北京

香港大律師公會代表團於 2013 年 10 月 30 日至 11 月 2 日訪問北京，代表團由 20 名成員組成，於訪問期間會見了以下機構的主要官員/負責人及其部門的代表：

- 司法部副部長趙大程先生
- 外交部條約法律司副司長賈桂德先生
- 國務院港澳辦黨組成員馮巍先生
- 全國人大常委會基本法委員會主任李飛先生，副主任張榮順先生
- 最高人民法院副院長賀榮女士
- 中華全國律師協會副會長蔣敏先生

大律師公會獲得北京官員和法官的熱情接待，並就共同關心的議題閉門進行坦率而誠懇的討論，尤其在與港澳辦和基本法委員會會面期間，代表團就一些關鍵議題，解釋和闡述了公會的立場，這些議題包括法治、基本法在香港實施及對有關問題的思考角度及處理手法。雙方明白到由於涉及兩個法律和政治制度，各方大有可能從不同的角度著眼。與會人士在平和及互相尊重的氣氛中，從不同的角度闡釋了自己的看法並交換意見。經代表團清楚解釋後，公會的立場獲中方充分理解。中方官員亦表示明白大律師專業的性質高度獨立，不受任何商業或政治利益影響，旨在不偏不倚地維護香港法治的精神。本會深信所表達的意見將得到重視和尊重。

大律師公會亦非常榮幸，在此次訪問中有機會向中華全國律師協會介紹大律師專業的獨立性及其專業服務的範疇，期望這次簡介能促進以後的合作，加強中國律師業界和香港大律師業界的資訊交流，令國內法律同業能進一步了解香港大律師所提供的專業法律服務。

香港大律師公會
2013 年 11 月 5 日