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VICE CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE AGM

1. I thank everyone for his or her contribution to the work of the HKMLA over the last year. I would especially like to thank Mr Justice Barma for his on-going interest in and support for the Association. Also Mr Edward Alder, our Secretary, for the time and effort that he has put into HKMLA's business, and his secretary Meeta for her great assistance during the year.
2. We had a lack of suitable speakers this year for our popular Speaker Lunches. That meant that we only held one formal event during the year, which was a seminar on recent maritime cases on 31 May at the FCC which sported Fergus Saurin, Raymond Wong, Nick Luxton and Edward Alder as speakers. Unfortunately I was away, but by all reports it was a great success with a waiting list and standing room only at the back. We will consider running such a seminar again in the new year.
3. Behind the scenes, there are things to report:
 - (1) We are very pleased that following tradition, Mr Justice Anthony Chan took up the invitation to be Honorary Chairman of the HKMLA and that he will attend the Summer Dinner. We have notified CMI. This will not involve the Judge carrying out any executive responsibilities for the Association.
 - (2) At the request of CMI, we wrote to the DoJ to ask the Hong Kong SAR Government to support the CMI initiative to have UNCITRAL examine the need for a convention on Judicial Sales of Ships. That initiative was later successful and UNCITRAL has taken this up.
 - (3) William Leung, Steven Wise and I met with Laurence Teh, the CMI 'Administrator' for the Asian region.
 - (4) Nick Luxton has agreed to take up the responsibility of monitoring Hong Kong case law for decisions on international conventions and reporting them to CMI.
 - (5) We have lent our name as 'supporting organisation' to a number of events including the Asian Maritime and Logistics Conference.

4. We have arranged our first Speaker Lunch of this calendar year next month on 23 October when Robert Bright QC will be in town. Emails will go out closer to the time and it is hoped many of those present at the Summer Dinner will attend.
5. In conclusion, I should highlight Hong Kong Maritime Week, which will take place this year from 18 to 24 November. Numerous exciting events have been scheduled with numerous interesting and provocative speakers from Hong Kong and abroad lined up to share their views on a wide range of aspects of the shipping industry. This year, all the legal and arbitration bodies in town, that is CIETAC/CMAC, HKMAG, CIArb, HKIArb and HKMLA, have teamed up for a joint event on maritime arbitration which the DoJ have kindly agreed to host at their Lower Albert Road auditorium. We hope many of you will attend that.

Jon Zinke

26 September 2018