Session Title: Investments and Investment Arbitration

Date: 15 April 2016

Time: 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm

Duration: 90 minutes

Synopsis: Investments and investment arbitration has recently become one of the hot topics internationally. Increasingly investors file complaints against a host state based on bi- or multi-lateral investment treaties. Due to the unique nature of state-investor relationship, when making investment in any country, investors are most concerned with how their investment is protected under the national laws of the host country and under any treaty that binds the host country. When a dispute of this type arises, most investors prefer an independent international forum such as ICSID to the national court system within the host country. The session will highlight the foreign investors view and will focus its attention on identifying suitable rules to protect an investment and potential loopholes in bilateral investment treaties. Recent developments such as the TPP negotiations in Asia and the TTIP that is being negotiated between the USA and Europe question the appropriateness of this type of investor protection.

Committee: Cross Border Investment Committee

Moderator: Trinh Nguyen (Trinh Nguyen & Partners, Vietnam)

Speaker: Kamraj Nayagam (Mah Kamariyah & Philip Koh, Malaysia), Santiago Gatica (Guyer & Regules, Uruguay), Hiroko Shibata (Nishimura & Asahi, Japan), 'Matthew Secomb (White & Case LLP, Singapore), Paul Key QC (Essex Court Chambers, England), Shweta Bharti (Hammurabi & Solomon, India)