

# Report

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## 1. Introduction

As a first person for the IPBA scholar, I would like to thank you all of who supported me to attend the IPBA Manila conference. Thank you Rhonda from IPBA Secretariat for organizing my travel perfect and safe. Thank you all the IPBA Scholarship committee members for giving me a golden opportunity in Manila.

## 2. About myself

I started my career at Kinomura Hideaki Law Office, located the east side of Hokkaido, 6 years ago. I practice every fields of company-related cases, such as Litigation, Corporate matters, Trademark infringements as well as Bankruptcy cases, criminal defense (I talked with many participants and all of them were surprised to hear that I deal with so many fields of cases. But it is quite normal work life for Japanese small law firm Lawyers).

Our base district, Hokkaido, is a large agricultural sector in Japan. Recently, made in Hokkaido Grocery is getting popular among foreign countries (especially in Southeast Asia), so that local companies are actively exporting products to overseas and expanding overseas stores. I have some chance to deal with international cases due to that expansion of outbound trade.

Unfortunately, few Hokkaido-based lawyers can deal with an international cases so we need more and more experiences and networking when we practice an international cases. That is a reason why I apply on the IPBA Scholarship Program.

## 3. Makati Court tour

The IPBA Scholarship offered all the Scholars a great opportunity to learn the local judicial system and practices. Makati court tour was one of chance to learn about it. It was impressive for me to talk with the Chief Judge of Makati Court. He taught us the practice and systems of Justice of Philippines. Amazingly, most of the judge handle civil court

cases while they also handle with family court cases, criminal court cases. I believe they work so hard every day. The court tour finished at the court room of the Chief Judge. The judge kindly allowed us to take a picture inside the court room (I believe it is an aspect of the openness of the Judicial systems of Philippines. In Japan, security reasons won't allow us to taking a picture inside the court building and that is one of the aspect of Japanese closed Judicial systems.)

We also visited one of the top Law Firm in Philippines. Although it was very short time to visit there, I enjoyed looking their tiny and clean offices.

#### 4. Inspirational sessions and events

After the tour of Makati court and the Law Firm, the time of IPBA annual meeting and conferences had come.

On the First day of the sessions, I joined the “How to training and mentoring young lawyers” session. This session literary discussed about how to train and mentor the young lawyers, that is one of the most difficult theme for many of the senior lawyers. In this session many mentoring cases were introduced by the speaker (and some time by the participants). I am a young lawyer so I never thought about training and mentoring for junior lawyers but I found that the senior lawyers are always thinking about young lawyers. Although some lawyers said it is a waste of time to mentoring young lawyers (many of the participants agreed that opinion!), many of senior lawyers are thinking about young lawyers can get a great time with their mentor. Even if most of young lawyers will leave the firms for couple of years, I think it is important to offer young lawyers a rich training and mentoring systems so that the firm can hire the competitive lawyers.

Cross-border session was also interesting. As I said, the reason why I applied on the IPBA Scholarship was to learn the cross-border matters more and more so this session was one of the inspirational for me. The speaker was making a leading role at their jurisdiction so they provide an interesting topic and trend for current cross-border cases.

#### 5. Networking

Not only great sessions and events, I was glad to see many kind and friendly participants of the IPBA. When I entered the board room at the first day, I felt bit isolated to see

many participants talking friendly. But all of the participants were very friendly to me so I could get great opportunity to communicate with many participants from all over the world.

#### 6. Benefit for the Scholars

It was very happy to say that I got a chance to get to know the IPBA Scholar from another jurisdiction. They are diverse, and acting a leading role at each country. It stimulates my mind and motivates me to make more and more efforts for specializing my fields of practices.

As a Scholar for the IPBA Manila meeting and conferences, I am now willing to promote the IPBA to the Hokkaido-based young lawyers. Unfortunately, they usually don't know about the IPBA or don't have chance to join any other international conferences. I hope many of them will apply on and join the IPBA meeting and conferences. I believe I could help promote the IPBA and the IPBA Scholarship program to them.

Finally, thank you very much again to selecting me the Scholar of the IPBA Manila meeting and conferences. I look forward to contributing the future IPBA events in the future.