

Environmental Law Training And Activism — “We are in This Together”

24 Oct 2015 (Saturday)
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Raja Aziz Addruse Auditorium
Straits Trading Building
Unit 2-02A, 2nd Floor
2 Leboh Pasar Besar
50050 Kuala Lumpur



Admission is free but advance registration is required

CPD Code: T3/24102015/BC/BC152398/2

Registration for the event will begin at 9:30 am

This environmental law training organised by the Bar Council Environmental and Climate Change Committee (“ECCC”) has a threefold purpose:

- (1) To reduce what are usually seen as daunting and complex environmental laws into core principles / components;
- (2) To present the range of pressing environmental issues that threatens our right to — and quality of — life; and
- (3) To introduce the need for urgent action, whereby the practice of environmental laws and activism must go hand in hand to ensure our survival in a world where the environment is continually desecrated in the name of generating wealth and development.

The training is led by **Roger Chan Weng Keng, Chairperson of ECCC**, who has spoken and debated on many environmental law issues in fora, both local and international. His methodology forewarns limitations to the conventional approaches to environmental law. Therefore, he introduces real-life environmental conundrums and abandons seeming solutions in environmental laws that are not helpful to environmental activism. In the group exercises in this training, he will be assisted by equally passionate members of ECCC.

The training will focus on:

- ◆ sourcing out Malaysian environmental laws using the “Framework Legislation Model”;
- ◆ identifying and assessing the impact of regional environmental instruments such as the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution 2002, and paragraph 28(f) of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration 2012, which incorporate a “right to a safe, clean and sustainable environment” as an ingredient of an adequate standard of living;
- ◆ introducing the international dimension of environmental laws, such as the Rio Declaration of 1992, which enunciated the 3-pillar principles of peoples’ right to information, public participation and access to environmental justice. Next in this line of focus will be the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“WSSD”) 2002 and the Rio+20 Conference, which have consistently maintained, and been a reminder of, the principles of sustainable development;
- ◆ the inclusive principles but diverse and cross-cutting nature of environmental laws, their impact on human rights and constitutional rights;
- ◆ the pre-Stockholm model of our environmental laws and the need to accord proportionality to the common perception that lack of enforcement is the root cause of our environmental problems, as many of our environmental laws are environmentally-unfriendly;
- ◆ appreciating and addressing the plethora of pressing environmental issues in Malaysia — such as massive forest clearing and floods, loss of biodiversity, environmental corruption,

radioactive waste disposal, nuclear energy and others — through case studies and interactive activities;

- ♦ understanding the need for urgent action for climate justice, and why climate change issues are too important to be left in the hands of politicians and the United Nations;
- ♦ how to rise to a new consciousness and lobby for environmental rights as a fundamental right and safeguard to the right to life, so that in the year 2050 (the year set by the international community as a benchmark whether we are going to environmentally make or break), our hypothetical 10-year old grandchild, who by then will be 45 years old, can judge whether we have made any difference;
- ♦ group interactive exercises in environmental activism (facilitated and guided);
- ♦ how strategic interest litigation affecting marginalised and vulnerable groups such as the Orang Asli, can be made less cumbersome and less expensive for easier access to justice; and
- ♦ addressing some of the apparent weaknesses of the Environmental Court, with a view to making recommendations on how to extend its reach to environmental cases of a civil nature. In this context, taking the cue from the “National Green Tribunal Model” of India would be useful.

The personal information that you provide to the Bar Council, whether now or in the future, may be used, recorded, stored, disclosed or otherwise processed by or on behalf of the Bar Council for the purposes of facilitation and organisation of this event, research and audit, and maintenance of a participant database for the promotion of this event, and such ancillary services as may be relevant.

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I would like to register for the event (all fields must be completed):

Name: _____

Member of the Bar Pupil Law Student Non-Member
(Tick where applicable)

Membership No (for Members of the Bar only): _____

NRIC No (Pupils / Law Students / Non-Members): _____

Email: _____

Name of Firm / Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Places are limited and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, kindly complete and submit the registration form by **21 Oct 2015 (Wednesday)**.

Cancellations must be made in writing. The organiser reserves the right to modify, cancel or postpone the event, should circumstances arise that make such action necessary.

Points for the Continuing Professional Development (“CPD”) Scheme will not be awarded to Members of the Bar and pupils in chambers who arrive more than 15 minutes late, are not present throughout the event, or leave before its scheduled end.

Please direct all correspondence (including completed registration forms) and enquiries to:

Florence Laway

(03-2050 2104; florence@malaysianbar.org.my) or

G Shagela Nair

(03-2050 2099; shegi@malaysianbar.org.my)

Fax: 03-2032 2043



Organised by
Bar Council Environment and
Climate Change Committee