International Conference on Cross Border Insolvency and Maritime Matters

27 November 2017
Xu Di

In collaboration with United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law (HKCMT) hosted an international conference with a theme of “International Conference on Cross Border Insolvency and Maritime Matters” on 21st and 22nd of November 2017. This is the third occasion that the Centre has hosted as an international conference on maritime law. This conference is not only an important event of the Maritime Week 2017 organized by Hong Kong government, but also one of the conferences for celebrating the 30th anniversary of the School of Law of City University of Hong Kong (CityU).
The conference aimed to investigate the current law and practice regarding the cross border insolvency and maritime matters worldwide by collecting comprehensive analyses from domestic laws and international rules for the interaction of cross border insolvency law and maritime law. The sub-themes of this conference were 1) General principles of cross border insolvency and maritime laws; 2) Cross border insolvency and maritime matters in certain law jurisdictions; and 3) Other relevant issues relating cross border insolvency and maritime matters. Thirteen leading maritime law specialists and scholars from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Korea, Australia, United States and United Kingdom participated in this conference.

The conference was kicked off by the welcome speech of Professor Geraint Howells (Dean & Chair Professor of Commercial Law, School of Law and Director of HKCMT, CityU). Professor Howells introduced the background and the aim of the conference. He also thanked all participants for their support of the conference, especially the overseas speakers who traveled a long way to Hong Kong. Other officiating guests included Ms Kate Lannan (Legal Officer and UNCITRAL Secretariat, Office of Legal Affairs, Vienna, Austria), Professor Anselmo Reyes (Chairman of Hong Kong Maritime Law Association and Professor of Legal Practice, the University of Hong Kong) and the Hon Mr Justice Liudong Ye (President of the Guangzhou Maritime Court, China).

The conference was divided into three sessions. The first session was chaired by Dr Xing Lijuan (School of Law, CityU) and the second and third sessions were chaired by Dr Zhao Liang (School of Law, CityU). Invited speakers were Professor Beiping Chu (Faculty of Law, Dalian Maritime University), Professor Jason Chuah (The City Law School, City University of London), Professor Martin Davies and Ms Jingchen Xu (Tulane University Law School), Mr Look Chan Ho (Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer), Captain Guobin Hou (Yang & Lin Law Firm, Shanghai Office), Professor In-Hyeon Kim (School of Law, Korea University), Ms Kate Lannan, Mr Lianjun Li (Reed Smith Richards Butler), Justice Danke Pingyang (Guangzhou Maritime Court), Professor Anselmo Reyes, Professor Mikis Tsimplis (School of Law, University of Southampton), and Justice Bo Zhang (Qingdao Maritime Court).

The whole conference was ended with the closing remarks of Professor Geraint Howells who thanked all the conference speakers for their contributions to the conference. The conference was fruitful and thought-provoking, and the atmosphere throughout the whole conference was interactive. The insightful views of all the speakers who are the experts in the field of maritime law served as an important foundation for further research regarding cross border insolvency and related legal practice.
Session 1 (from left to right): Professor In-Hyeon Kim, Professor Beiping Chu, Dr Xing Lijuan, Ms Kate Lannan, Professor Anselmo Reyes

Session 2 (from left to right): Professor Mikis Tsimplis, Professor Jason Chuah, Dr Zhao Liang, Mr Look Chan Ho

Session 2 (from left to right): Dr Zhao Liang, Mr Lianjun Li, Mr Look Chan Ho

Session 3 (from left to right): Justice Bo Zhang, Justice Danke Pingyang, Dr Zhao Liang, Captain Guobin Hou, Professor Martin Davies, Ms Jingchen Xu