

## Hong Kong Mediation Centre Holds 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Leaders from Different Sectors Gather to Celebrate and Strive to Develop the New Chapter of the Mediation Profession

Hong Kong Mediation Centre ("HKMC") hosted the "Hong Kong Mediation Centre 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner" on 22 November 2024 (Friday) at Kowloon Shangri-La, Hong Kong. Over 200 guests from Hong Kong, the Mainland China and abroad, including government officials, members of the Legislative Council, foreign consuls, representatives from the legal and dispute resolution sectors, business leaders, community leaders, scholars, friendly partners and members, gathered to share the joy of celebrating the silver jubilee.

The event featured a distinguished line-up of officiating guests including Secretary for Justice, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mr. Paul Lam Ting-kwok, SBS, SC, JP; Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR (OCMFA), Mr Fang Jianming; and Deputy Director-General of the Department of Law of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR (LOCPG), Ms. Zhang Yumei.

At the event, President of HKMC, Dr. Francis Law Wai-hung said in his welcome speech, "HKMC is a vital member of Hong Kong's international dispute resolution and risk management system. As one of the leading international professional mediation organisations, HKMC is dedicated to serving the dispute resolution industry in Hong Kong and globally."

Dr. Law also shared with the guests about the latest development of HKMC, including HKMC being designated by the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China and becoming one of the first specially invited mediation organisations invited by the Shenzhen Qianhai Cooperation Zone People's Court to assist the country in handling disputes related to foreign matters. Within just three months, HKMC has successfully mediated over a hundred cases and received recognition from the parties involved as well as the local courts.

During his speech, Secretary for Justice, Mr. Lam commended the efforts of HKMC over the past 25 years, he said, "Over the past 25 years, HKMC has been committed to promoting the development of mediation in Hong Kong as a prevalent and widely recognised method for resolving disputes through providing professional mediation services, conducting mediator training courses, and making relentless efforts in public education and external collaboration."



Deputy Commissioner of OCMFA, Mr. Fang also expressed appreciation for HKMC in his speech, he said, "Since its establishment, HKMC has adhered to its missions and demonstrated the sense of patriotism with affection for the country and Hong Kong, and dedicated in the provision of mediation services. HKMC has built its brand and established its image, and has become a renowned and influential legal and professional organisation in Hong Kong, the Mainland China and around the globe. HKMC has also played a significant role in the professionalisation, popularisation and internationalisation of mediation services in Hong Kong, and contributing to the country's foreign-related legal enhancement and development as well as the nurturing of talents."

Deputy Director-General of the Department of Law of LOCPG, Ms. Zhang extended her warm congratulations to HKMC on its silver jubilee during her speech, she said, "Over the years, HKMC has been committed to promoting the development of mediation, fostering social harmony, providing professional mediation services, and making contributions to the industry and society. LOCPG will continue to act as the bridge and link to facilitate interchanges and cooperation in the field of dispute resolution between the two regions."

The event was star-studded with distinguished guests: Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Prof. Priscilla Leung Mei-fun, GBS, JP; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Mr. Holden Chow Ho-ding, JP; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Mr. Lam San-keung, JP; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Ms. Carmen Kan Wai-mun, JP; Honorary Advisor of HKMC, Dr. Elsie Leung Oi-sie, GMB, JP; Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court, the Judiciary of the HKSAR, Mr. Herbert Au-yeung Ho Wing; The Ombudsman, Office of The Ombudsman of the HKSAR, Mr. Jack Chan Jick-chi; Law Officer (Civil Law) of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Ms. Christina Cheung Kam-wai, JP; Secretary, Law Reform Commission of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Wesley Wong Wai-chung, SC, JP; Director of Legal Aid, Legal Aid Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Chris Chong Yan-tung, JP; Solicitor General, Constitutional and Policy Affairs Division of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Llewellyn Mui Kei-fat, JP; Commissioner for Belt and Road, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Nicholas Ho Lik-chi; Director of Intellectual Property, Intellectual Property Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. David Wong Fuk-loi, JP; Deputy Secretary for Security, Security Bureau, the Government of the HKSAR, Ms. Vega Wong Sau-wai, JP; Assistant Director, Home Affairs Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Chris Ng Hung-



fai, JP; Director-General, International Organization for Mediation Preparatory Office, Dr. Sun Jin; Deputy Director, Justice Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality, Mr. Cao Hailei; Deputy Consul General of Egypt in Hong Kong, Mr. Sherief Malaty; Chairperson, Property Management Services Authority of the HKSAR, Dr. James Wong Kong-tin, BBS, JP; Commissioner, Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation of the HKSAR, Mr. Terence Chiu Man-chung.

During the dinner, HKMC presented various awards to the mediation professionals who have dedicated themselves to the mediation industry for many years, including the "Award for Outstanding Contributions in Mediation", "Distinguished Mediation Coach Award", "Distinguished Greater Bay Area Mediator Award", "Distinguished Mediator Award", "Distinguished Pro Bono Mediation Service Award", "The Active Participation Award", "Distinguished Mediation Ambassador Award", "Outstanding Mediation Promotion in Property Management Award", and "The Best Mediation Case Manager Award", to commend the efforts and outstanding performance of the awardees over the years. Simultaneously, HKMC also presented certificate of appreciation to its advisors, thanking them for contributing to the continuous progress of HKMC and fostering the flourishing development of the dispute resolution industry with their professional expertise and abundant experience.

The dinner was packed with exciting events, including the screening of a commemorative video showcasing the 25-year journey of HKMC which did not only enable guests to recall the key milestones and major achievements of HKMC, but also to reminisce about the development of the mediation industry over the years.

In addition, guests were also treated to a delightful performance by Hong Kong Harmonica Association St James' Settlements Junior Harmonica Orchestra at the dinner. The melodious tunes brought the guests together, hence adding a warm and lively ambiance to the celebration.

Looking ahead, HKMC will inherit the past and move forward by continuing to uphold its professional spirit and remain steadfast in its mission. Through collaborating with various sectors, HKMC will further integrate Hong Kong's mediation industry into the nation's development, as well as foster the global growth of the dispute resolution industry, thus jointly build a harmonious and prosperous society.

Please click here to download event photos.



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## **Event Photos**



President of HKMC, Dr. Francis Law Wai-hung, delivered his welcome speech.



Secretary for Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Paul Lam Ting-kwok, SBS, SC, JP, delivered his speech.



Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR, Mr Fang Jianming, delivered his speech.



Deputy Director-General of the Department of Law of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, Ms. Zhang Yumei, delivered her speech.



Distinguished guests at the Hong Kong Mediation Centre 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.

(Front row from left to right) Deputy Consul General of Egypt in Hong Kong, Mr. Sherief Malaty; CEO/Secretary General of HKMC, Ms. Amy Wong Yan; Director-General, International Organization for Mediation Preparatory Office, Dr. Sun Jin; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Ms. Carmen Kan Wai-mun, JP; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Prof. Priscilla Leung Mei-fun, GBS, JP; Secretary for Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Paul Lam Ting-kwok, SBS, SC, JP; President of HKMC, Dr. Francis Law Wai-hung; Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR, Mr Fang Jianming; Deputy Director-General of the Department of Law of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, Ms. Zhang Yumei; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Mr. Holden Chow Hoding, JP; Member of the Legislative Council, HKSAR, Mr. Lam San-keung, JP; Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court, the Judiciary of the HKSAR, Mr. Herbert Au-yeung Ho Wing

(Second row from left to right) Vice-President of HKMC, Dr. Alfred Chan Ho-man; Deputy Secretary for Security, Security Bureau, the Government of the HKSAR, Ms. Vega Wong Sau-wai, JP; Director of Intellectual Property, Intellectual Property Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. David Wong Fuk-loi, JP; Solicitor General, Constitutional and Policy Affairs Division of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Llewellyn Mui Kei-fat, JP; Secretary, Law Reform Commission of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Wesley

Wong Wai-chung, SC, JP; The Ombudsman, Office of The Ombudsman of the HKSAR, Mr. Jack Chan Jick-chi; Law Officer (Civil Law) of the Department of Justice, the Government of the HKSAR, Ms. Christina Cheung Kam-wai, JP; Director of Legal Aid, Legal Aid Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Chris Chong Yantung, JP; Commissioner for Belt and Road, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Nicholas Ho Lik-chi; Deputy Director, Justice Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality, Mr. Cao Hailei; Vice-President of HKMC, Mr. Frankie Kwan Wai-king; Assistant Director, Home Affairs Department, the Government of the HKSAR, Mr. Chris Ng Hung-fai, JP

(Third row from left to right) Former President of HKMC, Mr. Lam Yeung-yin; Council Member of HKMC, Dr. Alex Lau Shui-yin; Council Member of HKMC, Mr. Jacky Law Chi-kei; Consultant of HKMC, Mr. Chan Bing-woon, SBS, JP; Honorary Legal Advisor of HKMC, Dr. Jimmy Ma Yiu-tim, SBS, JP; Chairperson, Property Management Services Authority of the HKSAR, Dr. James Wong Kong-tin, BBS, JP; Commissioner, Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation of the HKSAR, Mr. Terence Chiu Man-chung; Honorary Advisor of HKMC, Mr. Albert Wong Kwai-huen, SBS, BBS, JP; Council Member of HKMC, Mr. Tang Kim-sung; Council Member of HKMC, Dr. Charles Leung Tong-lit; Council Member of HKMC, Ms. Angel Fan Wing-yan; Former President of HKMC, Mr. Tang Chi-wang



Distinguished guests offered a toast at the Hong Kong Mediation Centre 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.



Guests were treated to a delightful performance by Hong Kong Harmonica Association St James' Settlements Junior Harmonica Orchestra.



Guests gathered at the Hong Kong Mediation Centre 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner with a lively ambience.