

律政司
法律政策科
香港金鐘道66號
金鐘道政府合署高座4樓
圖文傳真：852-2869 0720
網址：www.doj.gov.hk



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Legal Policy Division
4/F., High Block
Queensway Government Offices
66 Queensway, Hong Kong
Fax : 852-2869 0720
Web Site : www.doj.gov.hk

本司檔號 **Our Ref.:**
來函檔號 **Your Ref.:**
電話號碼 **Tel. No.:** 2867 4752

24 February 2009

Ms Amy Yu
Clerk to
Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yu,

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services

**Information on Legal Practitioners
Handling Arbitration Cases in Hong Kong**

At the meeting of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services held on 20 October 2008, the Department of Justice was requested to provide information on the respective numbers of local and overseas legal practitioners handling arbitration cases in Hong Kong.

Although the Department of Justice does not keep any statistics on the nationality of arbitrators involved in arbitration cases conducted in Hong Kong, we have made enquiries with the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (the “HKIAC”). We understand from the HKIAC that it does not keep such statistics either.

However, HKIAC estimates that foreign arbitrators were involved in roughly 30-50% of the arbitration cases handled by the Centre. This is a rough estimate only and it should be seen in light of three important caveats.

Firstly, local arbitrators also serve as members in the arbitral tribunal in roughly half of the cases in which foreign arbitrators are involved. Secondly, arbitrators are not necessarily legal professionals. Thirdly, the rough estimate does not take into account arbitrators involved in *ad hoc* arbitrations (non-institutional arbitrations) and arbitrations administered by other arbitration institutions (e.g. the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) and the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICCICA)) in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,

(Frank Poon)
Deputy Solicitor General

cc SASG(GLP)
AA/SJ

#346209