VIETNAM-CANADA LEGAL REFORM ASSISTANCE PROJECT (LERAP)

Conference on Governance Models for Justice Sector Professionals

Hanoi Vietnam 15-17 January 2007

28 November 2007

Jerald Gomez,
Advocate and Solicitor
Jerald Gomez and Associates
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dear Mr. Gomez:

By this letter and on behalf of LERAP, I wish to formally reiterate our invitation to you of 26 October 2006, as accepted on 6 November 2006, to you to participate in and present a paper to our Governance Models Conference to be held in Hanoi Vietnam on 15-17 January 2007.

The overall objective of the Conference is to better understand the relationship between a society's legal culture and the governance models chosen by its lawmakers for the recognition and regulation of legal sector occupational groups. The experience of selected jurisdictions will be examined and compared, specifically China, Malaysia, Canada and Vietnam.

We are very anxious for you, with your strong record of professional service and familiarity with the legal system of Malaysia, to discuss the Malaysian situation and to contribute to the roundtable discussions that are to be a feature of the Conference. The other guest experts from China, Canada and Vietnam have confirmed their participation and the registration of the law experts from across the Government, Courts and other legal agencies who will attend the Conference has also been completed.

Vietnam is much interested in the experience of other jurisdictions in their legislative and regulatory organization of both self-governing and government- regulated "law associations". A series of legislative measures providing for the recognition and registration of several justice sector occupations is presently being considered within the Ministry of Justice. Our Conference will afford the policy makers an opportunity to consider and compare relevant foreign experience in this important area of justice policy on the eve of Vietnam's accession to the World Trade Organization.

LERAP is a major Legal Change Advisory undertaking supported by the Canadian International Development Agency in partnership with the Ministry of Justice of Vietnam. We are now in our fifth year of operation with a Field Office in Hanoi. The Governance Models Conference is being organized by LERAP and the Ministry's Institute of Legal Science and its Centre for Comparative Law. The Institute is the principal policy research and advisory unit in the Ministry.

We look forward very much to working with you in Hanoi in January.

Sincerely,

W. A. W. Neilson

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