

Colloquium for the Judiciary on Civil and Criminal IP Appellate Cases

On 20th September 2017, Mr. Kowit Somwaiya, Managing Partner of LawPlus Ltd. and Chair of the Harmonization of Trademark Law and Practice Committee of the International Trademark Association (“**INTA**”) attended the ASEAN-USPTO Colloquium for the Judiciary on Civil and Criminal IP Appellate Cases at Grand Hyatt Erawan Hotel, Bangkok. The event was organized by the USPTO from 20th to 22nd September 2017 consisting of speeches, remarks, presentations and panel discussions on the role of courts in adjudicating and enforcing IPR, the challenges for consumers and rightholders in the global and online environment, the IPR issues and legal trends, the transparency in proceedings and decision-making, the civil litigation and appeals in IP dispute, the criminal prosecutions and appeals in IP cases. Around 40 attendees attended the events. They were mainly IP specialized judges from ASEAN countries. Speakers and panelists were judges, law professors, representatives of rightholders and mediators. Mr. Peter Fowler the Senior Counsel of the USPTO, Hon. Judge Bernice B. Donald of the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and Hon. Judge Kent A. Jordan of the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit also attended and lead discussions.

The session participated by Mr. Somwaiya was the "**Challenges for Consumers and Rightholders in the Global and Online Environment**". He spoke for INTA by introducing INTA to the attendees (history, mission, objectives, members, committees, plans and policies, activities). In relation to the challenges for consumers and rightholders in the global and online environment, he pointed out the facts that the scale of physical and online counterfeiting and their huge negative impacts on brand owners, consumers and economies. He also emphasized that there were a large number of players and stakeholders in efforts against counterfeiting and that a more harmonized approach and international cooperation mechanisms would help increase success and efficiency of anti-counterfeiting activities.



AUTHOR



Kowit Somwaiya
Managing Partner | **Bangkok**
kowit.somwaiya@lawplusltd.com

LawPlus Ltd.
Unit 1401, 14th Floor, Abdulrahim Place 990
Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10500, Thailand
Tel: +662 636 0662
Fax: +662 636 0663

LawPlus Myanmar Ltd.
Unit No. 520, 5th Floor, Hledan Centre
Corner of Pyay Road and Hledan Road, Kamayut Township,
Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 (0)92 6111 7006

and +95 (0)92 6098 9752