



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **ABA sends contingent to Malaysia**

The Australian Bar Association (ABA) is sending a contingent including a High Court Judge and four silks (one a former Commonwealth Solicitor General) to Kuala Lumpur to speak at the International Malaysia Law Conference (24 – 26 September) as part of the ABA's ongoing commitment to strengthening ties with the profession across Asia, and promoting the accessibility and quality of Australian advocates.

Speakers will include Justice Susan Kiefel AC (High Court of Australia), former Commonwealth Solicitor-General Dr Gavan Griffiths AO QC, Campbell Bridge SC, Ian Robertson SC and ABA President, Mark Livesey QC. They will join a line-up of legal luminaries from Hong Kong, Malaysia and the UK.

“Australian barristers already contribute thousands of hours of pro bono training and professional development for our colleagues in Asian nations,” said Mr Livesey. “This conference will be one of the few times that the connections and work of our barristers is visible, and will allow us to explore more ways we can provide more services and training in our neighbouring region.”

The opening keynote address will be delivered by the Chief Justice of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal, Geoffrey Ma, GBM. The conference will cover topics as diverse as financial reporting standards, Islamic finance, tax, personal data protection and tracing matrimonial assets – all with a cross-border, international focus.

“This is an exciting opportunity to showcase the expert advocacy and deep expertise of the Australian profession, and the ease and proximity of our expert advocates before an international audience. There is no doubt this is an important growing market for legal services in our region,” said Mr Livesey.

“It is part of the ABA strategy to promote the outstanding calibre of expertise and the excellent international mediation and arbitration resources available in Australia, and part of our strategy to build strong and supportive relationships between our respective bars.”

Justice Kiefel will speak on barrister immunity, tracing the development of the law in England and compare the justifications for the abolition of the immunity in England and its retention in Australia. Dr Griffiths and Mr Bridge will speak on international arbitration, Mr Robertson on expert evidence and Mr Livesey on directors duties in an insolvency setting.

More about the conference can be found at the Malaysian Bar website [www.malaysianbar.org.my](http://www.malaysianbar.org.my)

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