

## Secretary-General of Permanent Court of Arbitration speaks on “The Role of Arbitration in a Globalizing World: A Vision of the Future”

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-Scarlette Cheung



The School of Law, City University of Hong Kong was honoured to have Secretary-General Christiaan Kröner to speak at the Eminent Lecture Series on 13 September 2010.

Mr Christiaan Kröner is the Secretary-General of Permanent court of Arbitration (PCA). He is also the head of the international Bureau of the PCA. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1973 and has held several positions throughout his diplomatic career. He was appointed Ambassador-at-Large and Deputy Director-General Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague; Consul-General in Munich; and Deputy Head, Directorate Atlantic Cooperation and Security Affairs, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague; and Ambassador of the Netherlands in the United States of America. He holds a law degree from the University of Leiden, where he studied international law.

The topic of the speech was on “The Role of Arbitration in a Globalizing World: A Vision of the Future”. Secretary-General Kröner elaborated the subject in three aspects: (1) the promise of arbitration; (2) the PCA and globalization: flexibility in a changing



world and (3) coming full circle: the necessity of arbitration in a globalizing world. Participants and Secretary-General Kröner had a lively and thought provoking discussion.

The lecture was attended by other prominent figures in legal field. There were Mr Zhan Yongxin, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR (FMCOPRC); Mr Zhang Xumin, Deputy director-General of the Department of Treaties and Laws of the FMCOPRC, and Ms Khong Cheng-ye, Secretariat of the International Chamber of Commerce International Court of Arbitration, Asia Office.

