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ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES (IILS) is one of the five (5) institutes constituting the UP Law Center through which the research and extension functions of the UP College of Law are carried out. Following the reorganization of the UP Law Center by the UP Board of Regents in May 1989, the IILS took over the functions of the International Studies Institute of the Philippines (ISIP) and the Academy of ASEAN Law and Jurisprudence (AALJ) and was formally organized in November of the same year. The IILS was established to undertake research and extension functions in international law, comparative law, international relations, and foreign policy, specifically in areas that affect the Philippine interests in the global arena. To fulfill its mandate, the IILS identifies the major issues affecting Philippine foreign policy and foreign relations as well as organizes and supports research and extension activities in these areas towards building capacity and expertise. IILS is also a base for sustained opportunities for Filipino scholars to contribute solutions to regional and global problems affecting the Philippines.

Currently, the IILS is undertaking research and extension activities in the fields of International Trade and Economic Law, ASEAN, International Comparative Law, Territorial Studies, International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Law, Private and Transactional International Law and International Environmental Law. It also receives requests for opinions and other forms of legal assistance from Congress, the Supreme Court, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Trade and Industry, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, among others. To this end, IILS maintains institutional linkages with both national and international organizations involved in international law issues.



INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LAW CENTER



ON-GOING PROJECTS

ASIAN COMPARATIVE LAW — This project will be a publication of papers providing a comparison of laws in certain Asian countries with the laws in the Philippines. Each chapter will be focusing on a specific branch of law in their respective country. There will be two phases: (1) papers focused on Asian laws, and (2) collaboration and comparison with Philippine law. A conference will be the culminating activity where the publication will be launched.

ASEAN: FIFTY YEARS HENCE — The project aims to put in perspective the last 50 years of the ASEAN: to recognize the milestones of the organization, identify current and relevant issues, and to assess options and plans looking forward. The output seeks to consolidate various fields of expertise in a publication designed to inform the general public of the ASEAN's past, present and future while stimulating conversation in the policy and academic circles. The publication will include three main sections, namely, economic, socio-cultural and political-security. The authors will include local and foreign experts on each topic in order to present the Philippine and international perspectives.

FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD SECURITY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON LAW AND POLICY ON BIOTECHNOLOGY — The project seeks to study food safety and security in relation to biotechnology in order to come up with reasonable and informed recommendations on possible legislative and/or regulatory actions that the government can take in addressing the food safety and security concerns of the country. To arrive at its recommendations, there is a comparative study of laws on biotechnology from ASEAN member states as well as key policy movers in biotechnology from other regions. In line with the multidisciplinary aspect of the problem, the project will bring together home grown experts from the various disciplines, e.g. science, economics, agriculture, and law, to come up with a holistic recommendation.

MAGNA CARTA FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS — The IILS initially conducted studies and research on the protection of the rights of Filipino seafarers. The IILS has since expanded the coverage of its work by including not only sea-based workers but land-based workers as well. The output is the Magna Carta for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). The Magna Carta is a draft piece of legislation that built and improved on the provisions of

Republic Act No. 8042, as amended by Republic Act No. 10022, otherwise known as the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act." The Magna Carta incorporated international standards based on ILO conventions. The proposed Magna Carta for OFWs has already been completed and is now under review by a committee of experts. After the review, the final draft will then be submitted to Congress for filing and sponsorship.

AN INTERNALLY DETERMINED ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA — This project has a two-pronged approach to address the issue on MEA implementation. The first will be a series of seminars on the three broad categories of international environmental treaties and the translation to national action. The second will be a guide book on how local government officials can implement obligations on environmental treaties. Key government agencies recognize the fact that international treaties change shape once implemented here due to the mix of the unique biodiversity of the Philippines, the local culture, and the unpredictable political climate and economy. While some treaties have explicitly provided mechanisms on their implementation, others do not. Because of these special circumstances, there is a need to translate the concepts and agreements embedded in these international treaties to national action, which heavily involves the participation of local government units (LGUs).

TRAINING SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW FOR PROFESSORS, STUDENTS, LEGAL PRACTITIONERS AND THE MEDIA — International Humanitarian Law (IHL) forms a major part of public international law. It comprises the rules which, in times of armed conflict, seek to protect people who are not or are no longer taking part in the hostilities, regulate the conduct of armed conflict and limit its effects. It also restricts the methods and means of warfare employed. More so, it also serves as the law governing armed conflict. As such, the government must enact legislation and take practical measures in order for the rules to be effective. Professors, students and legal practitioners and members of the media are all stakeholders in this endeavor. In line with this, a Training Seminar on International Humanitarian Law for Professors, Students, Legal Practitioners and the Media, will be conducted to focus on the enforcement of Republic Act No. 9851 or the Philippine Act on Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide and Other Crimes Against Humanity. It is a way of equipping and educating the stakeholders on the rules of engagement for the different forms of conflicts they are engaged in.

EMB MANUAL OF UNIFORM PROCEDURE of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources–Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) aims to standardize all the processes involving accreditation, registration, issuances of clearances, permitting and enforcement within the bureau, as well as adjudication of environmental cases and complaints brought before it. With the completion and approval of this manual, it effectively harmonizes and unifies the procedures in the different Regional Offices. The project is a collaborative effort of the EMB Legal and Technical Working Group and the University of the Philippines Law Center–Institute of International Legal Studies.

The Manual is divided into regulatory procedure, which includes permitting, accreditation and registration, and adjudicatory procedure. The regulatory procedure outlines the different processes for permitting, registration, accreditation, and other forms of authorizations issued by the EMB. The adjudicatory procedure involves the procedure when any interested individual files a complaint with the different offices adjunct to the DENR–EMB. The annexes include the different templates, forms, checklists, flowcharts, penalties, matrices and the organizational chart of the EMB.

PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ ASEAN Economic Integration: Solutions to Legal Challenges for the Philippines
- ◆ Asia-Pacific Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law
- ◆ International Commercial Arbitration for the Philippine Legal Profession, Volume I: Jurisdiction and Arbitrability
- ◆ International Pamphlet Series
- ◆ Philippine Treaty Series

