

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting held on 11th November 2000, 10:00 am – 12.30 pm
Board Room Rajah & Tann, 4 Battery Road, #26-01 Bank of China Building, Singapore

Present: Dr. Axel Reeg (Chairman)
Mr. Thomas Weidlich (Deputy Chairman)
Dr. Thomas R. Kloetzel (Committee Member)
Mr. Rüdiger Ackermann, Rechtsanwalt
Ms Annemarie Bloss, Rechtsreferendarin
Dr. Thu Nga Haskovcova, Attorney at Law (Czech Republic)
Mr. Dirk M. Janssen, Rechtsanwalt and Solicitor
Ms Manuela Moritz, Assessorin

1. Opening of the meeting

Thomas Weidlich opened the meeting and gave a short introduction to the purposes of the meeting:

- Review of the last 6 month of the association
- 1st annual meeting to be held in spring 2001

2. Status report

The chairman gave a status report and highlighted the fact that the idea of such an association was born about 2 years ago. Breakthrough was the meeting with the Singapore Foreign and Law Minister, Prof. Jayakumar, and both ambassadors, HE Prof. Dr. Walter Woon, and HE Volker Schlegel, in June this year.

The foundation of the association was speedily concluded and the inaugural meeting was held on 17 July 2000 in Berlin. The official registration with the local court Charlottenburg took place on 06 November 2000.

In the meantime, the chairman and the deputy chairman started promoting the Association with the competent authorities in Singapore (Attorney-General, Law Society, NUS etc) and Singapore lawyers.

3. Postponing the 1st Annual Conference

The deputy chairman explained the reasons for postponing the 1st annual meeting until next spring, which was initially planned to be held on 11 November 2000. He highlighted the short notice regarding the German-Singapore Business Forum and only limited response by German and Singaporean Lawyers.

An open discussion about the following points started:

4. Aims for 2001

- It was resolved to organize an interesting conference as the most important aim.
- The Association may become member of the Singapore Law Society – this will be further discussed with the Law Society. The advantages will be to contribute to and be informed of relevant developments in the legal field.
- Chairman and deputy chairman will contact the members of the Faculty of Law of the NUS and maintain the relationship.
- The Association wants to establish relationships with Inhouse Lawyers of German companies based in Singapore.
- The Association's web-site is in process and use / links e.g. to Singapore Law Gazette have been discussed.

5. First Annual Meeting

- Dr. Thomas R. Kloetzel suggested that the First Annual Meeting should take place in Germany, then likely in Berlin. This was discussed but there was no agreement among participants. It was decided to obtain a survey amongst the members regarding the date and the place of the conference. The following dates were suggested:

- a) 25th to 27th Mai 2001
- b) 1st to 3rd June 2001

- The survey should have a short deadline in order to start planning before Christmas.

6. Discussion of the topics for the First Annual Meeting

The conference topics, suggested prior to this meeting, were agreed by all participants. The following additional items were discussed:

- In order to find a speaker for an arbitration topic, the chairman will contact the Singapore International Arbitration Centre.
- Further topics could be:
 - "Distribution Law" (Dr. Klötzel ?) as a good area for relevant EU Law
 - "Working as a Singaporean Lawyer in Germany"
 - "Study Experiences by Singaporean Law Students in Germany"
 - "German Law Students and their Experience in Singapore".
- Singaporean lawyers and law students should be encouraged in considering exchange programmes for students and LLM programmes offered by German law faculties also in English.

7. Conference fee

The conference fee shall not exceed an amount of 200-300 DEM / S\$ per participant. It shall also cover the expenses for a small cultural program.

8. Sponsoring

The possibilities of finding sponsors for the meeting were discussed. The chairman will contact the Ministry of Law of Germany to get fundings. Other opportunities should be explored.

There was no other business, the chairman closed the meeting at 12:30 PM.