## **NARIT & ASSOCIATES**

Attorneys at Law

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## **EVENTS & SEMINARS**

Mr. Narit Direkwattanachai Addressed the Dispute Settlement System & Strategy in Thailand during the East Asia Trade Disputes Settlement Mechanism Seminar at the 6<sup>th</sup> East Asia Business Forum

Haikou City, Hainan, CHINA, Tuesday May 13, 2014 - Mr. Narit Direkwattanachai was honored to have been invited as the speaker in business forum, the East Asia Trade Disputes Settlement Mechanism Seminar at the 6<sup>th</sup> East Asia Business Forum, a multilateral forum to promote economic exchange and trade cooperation among East Asian countries, on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at Shangri-la Hotel, Haikou City, Hainan, People's Republic of China. The event was hosted by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. Mr. Direkwattanachai's speech addressed Thailand's legal system, arbitration and enforcement of an arbitral award in Thailand. Mr. Direkwattanachai was invited to serve as Advisory Member of the East Asia Trade Disputes Settlement Advisory Committee.

The summary of his presentation is provided here below.

- 1. Thailand is a civil law jurisdiction.
- 2. That court uses the accusatory (adversarial) system of justice with a bench trial (no jury trial).
- 3. Judges as referees.
- 4. Thailand is a signatory to the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.
- 5. An arbitral award (including a foreign arbitral award) is enforceable in Thailand and is typically enforced by the Thai court.

Narit Direkwattanachai is a Thai attorney, founder and principal of NARIT & Associates, a law firm based in Bangkok, Thailand. He specializes in commercial disputes, corporate & commercial and tax. Narit regularly serves clients from different industries on debt collection, shareholders/partners disputes, commercial disputes, breach of contract, labor disputes, construction and real estate disputes, tax disputes, arbitration and trade name disputes. His client list includes publicly held companies (or their Thai subsidiaries) listed in New York Stock Exchange, Frankfurt Stock Exchange, Tokyo Stock Exchange, Singapore Exchange, and Stock Exchange of Thailand, Thai subsidiaries of multinational corporations, Thai owned companies and foreign investors.

Narit holds a bachelor of laws degree with first class honors from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. He won a British Chevening Cambridge Scholarship to read law at Wolfson College, the University of Cambridge, England where he graduated with a master of law degree. He pursued and received an MBA degree in finance from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, the United States of America, on the Georgia Rotary Student Program Scholarship.

Narit commenced his legal career at Baker & McKenzie, Bangkok office. He also worked at Baker & McKenzie, Sydney office, Australia and the Investment Banking Group – Telecom, Media and Technology at DBS Bank, Singapore. Narit serves on the Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT) Property Committee and served on Thai Contractors Association under H.M. The King's Patronage, Subcommittee on Complaints, Laws, Regulations and Contracts.

Narit is regularly invited to speak on business law and tax at various venues, including Dataconsult's CEO Breakfast, the Asia Business Forum, the Agency for Real Estate Affairs (AREA), the Petroleum Institute of Thailand, and Business and Manufacturing Network Media Co., Ltd.'s Industry Forum. Narit also offers his corporate trainings and seminars to companies and interested parties as demand arises. He has been actively writing articles and legal updates for his firm's monthly newsletter, and his tax and legal article are also published in Property Report Magazine and Advance, the Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce's Magazine. He authors a book, What Every Executive Needs to Know About Thailand Tax.