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PRESS RELEASE (For immediate release)

# Mr. Thomas S.T. So elected as President of the Law Society of Hong Kong

The Law Society of Hong Kong held its 2016 Annual General Meeting on 26 May 2016 at which an election of Council members took place. Out of the candidates standing for election, Mrs. Cecilia K.W. Wong was re-elected and Mr. C.M. Chan, Ms. Serina K.S. Chan, Mr. Warren P. Ganesh, Mr. Simon S.C. Lai and Mr. Roden M.L. Tong were elected as Council members for the new term of 2016/17.

On 7 June 2016, the Council elected Mr. Thomas S.T. So as President and Ms. Melissa K. Pang and Mr. Amirali B. Nasir as Vice Presidents.

The list of Council members for 2016/17 is attached.

#### List of Council members (2016/17):

Thomas S.T. So (President) Melissa K. Pang (Vice President) Amirali B. Nasir (Vice President)

Stephen W.S. Hung Huen Wong Michael J. Lintern-Smith Cecilia K.W. Wong Denis Brock Bonita B.Y. Chan C.M. Chan Warren P. Ganesh Roden M.L. Tong Junius K.Y. Ho Peter C.L. Lo Billy W.Y. Ma Brian W. Gilchrist Nick Chan Mark Daly Serina K.S. Chan Simon S.C. Lai

For media enquiry, please contact Ms. Rachel So, Director of Communications and External Affairs, by phone (2846 0520) or by email <u>adceag@hklawsoc.org.hk</u>

#### About the Law Society of Hong Kong

The Law Society of Hong Kong is a professional body of solicitors in Hong Kong vested with the statutory powers to regulate the professional conduct of solicitors. It establishes and promotes professional standards and the solicitors' code of conduct and practice and ensures its compliance. The Law Society assists its members to promote Hong Kong legal services and offers its views from time to time on legal issues that are of public concern. For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk">www.hklawsoc.org.hk</a>

### Thomas S. T. So, President of the Law Society of Hong Kong

Mr. Thomas S. T. So was elected President on 7 June 2016 and elected Vice-President of the Law Society on 20 May 2013 and re-elected in 2014 and 2015. Prior to that, Mr. So has been serving as a Law Society Council member since 2005 and had acted as the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Compliance, Standing Committee on Practitioners Affairs, Law Week Organising Committee and Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights Committee. He is currently the Chairman of Greater China Legal Affairs Committee.

Mr. So is a partner at Mayer Brown JSM advising on property-related, libel and media related litigation work, as well as cross border litigation and arbitration in the PRC. He obtained his LL.B degree from University of Hull (1985), LL.M degree in International Commercial Law from University of Hong Kong (1993), LL.B degree at China University of Political Science & Law, Beijing (1997), and Doctor of Laws from Tsinghua University, Beijing (2005).

Admitted to practise in Hong Kong (1988), England & Wales (1991) (non-practising), Australia - ACT (1991), Australia - High Court (1991), Singapore (1993) and the People's Republic of China (2009), Mr. So is also a China-Appointed Attesting Officer (2003).

# Melissa Kaye Pang, Vice-President of Law Society of Hong Kong

Ms. Melissa K. Pang has been serving as a Law Society Council member since 2005. Ms Pang was elected Vice-President of the Law Society on 2 September 2014 and re-elected in 2015 and 2016. Ms. Pang currently serves as the Chairperson of International Legal Affairs Committee, Consents Committee and Pro Bono and Community Work Recognition Committee. She is also a member of several other committees overseeing compliance, policy and resources, external affairs, and constitutional affairs and human rights.

Ms. Pang is qualified to practise as a solicitor in Australia (1989), England and Wales (1991), and Hong Kong (1991). She is also a Notary Public, Civil Celebrant, accredited mediator, associate member of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators, and China Appointed Attesting Officer. Her main areas of practice are commercial law, property law and litigation. She is a Partner of Pang & Associates.

Ms. Pang was nominated to represent the Law Society in the LAWASIA executive committee and Hong Kong Legal Aid Services Council. With her devotion to public service, Ms. Pang was awarded the Medal of Honor in 2006 and Justice of the Peace in Hong Kong in 2010.





# Amirali B. Nasir, Vice-President of Law Society of Hong Kong

Mr. Amirali B. Nasir first joined the Law Society Council in 2005 and has since been involved in the work of Guidance Committee, Standing Committee on Practitioners Affairs, Standing Committee on Policy & Resources, Standing Committee on Compliance, Standing Committee on Standards and Development, Standing Committee on Member Services, Litigation Committee, Technology Committee, Working Party on Islamic Finance and various other committees. Mr. Nasir is the founder of Nasirs Solicitors. His main areas of practice are litigation, company, commercial, islamic finance, property, trusts and notarial services.



Mr. Nasir was educated in, and first qualified as a solicitor, in London, UK. He moved to Hong Kong and first practised as a solicitor at a prominent local firm of solicitors after which he established the firm of AB Nasir & Co later renamed NASIRS. In addition to his practise as a Solicitor in Hong Kong, he is enrolled as a solicitor in England and Wales and as a Notary Public by faculty granted in Hong Kong and in England and Wales. Mr. Nasir is also a trustee of a local charitable trust serving the local community in all aspects of life.

Mr. Nasir was appointed a Justice of the Peace in July 2005.