

## **GMAP Internship Report / GMAP インターンシップ報告書**

No. 2019-02

### **I. Basic information / 基本情報**

- 1) Name / 名前 : Kosit Prasitveroj
- 2) Enrolled year / 入学年 : 2019
- 3) Period of internship / インターン期間 : February 3, 2020 to March 31, 2020
- 4) Place of internship / インターン場所 : UNCITRAL-RCAP
- 5) Person who accepted your internship / インターン受入担当者 : Ms. Athita Komindr
- 6) Content of work in your internship / インターン中の作業内容 : Promotion of the uniformity of international trade laws at the global level.

### **II. Details and impressions / 詳細と感想**

**Including the following points: merits, demerits, lessons, contribution to your future career, personal experience etc.**

UNCITRAL, as a whole, promotes the uniformity of the international trade laws, the works of which are evinced in form of various model laws and conventions implemented worldwide. By honourably having the opportunity to join the internship at UNCITRAL-RCAP—the regional office of UNCITRAL of which the mandates cover the legislations in Asia and Pacific regions—I was required to choose three different areas of law relating to the works of UNCITRAL-RCAP for the concentration during my internship. Based on my interests and experiences, I decided to choose (1) international arbitration, (2) international mediation and (3) public-private partnership and public procurement.

During the internship, all legal interns, including me, were tasked to research and update the news on international trades on weekly basis. This news includes the negotiations or executions of international investment and free-trade agreements, updates on domestic legislation relevant to international trades and the governments' actions or approaches that may be likely to affect the international trades. From the news being gathered, the legal experts at UNCITRAL-RCAP would view if there is anything worth deeper analysis. Then, should there be any, they would assign the interns to conduct further analysis for the official publication. This task allowed me to look beyond the texts themselves and see the political and economic factors that indispensably shape the international trade laws. By working together with other interns from various countries, on the weekly basis, we exchanged the views on politics and economics from each country.

Another ongoing task was to update CLOUT—the case law on UNCITRAL texts—due to which the interns were required to conduct the researches and update the cases—in which UNCITRAL texts are applied—from the countries under UNCITRAL-RCAP’s coverages. This was my most favourite task. This is because, as an arbitration enthusiast, I have been involved with various arbitration cases. From this, I have learnt that Thai arbitration laws and court decisions thereon carry many defects that require serious rectifications. By updating CLOUT, not only to review Thai cases in detail, it allowed me to compare them with the approaches from other jurisdictions, with regards to both legal frameworks and judicial interpretations. This entrustment has shed light over my potential academic works or amendment of Thai laws in the future.

In addition, it was indeed my luck to do the internship at the exact moment where the staffs at UNCITRAL had to publish the annual report. Therefore, I was tasked to conduct the researches on implementations and developments thereof of UNCITRAL texts in Asia and Pacific regions. Since the scope of UNCITRAL texts went beyond international arbitration, such task has effectively widened boundary of knowledge. I was thereby enlightened with countless legal frameworks that I had never known prior, *inter alia*, those on insolvency, electronic transaction, electronic signature and maritime carriage. Then, my assignment included drafting the annual report on the implementation of UNCITRAL texts, supervised by the legal expert from Hong Kong.

Some *ad hoc* assignments included the researches on recently enacted laws in certain countries, for instance, Cambodian electronic transaction and consumer protection laws. The largest one amongst the *ad hoc* tasks was the research project on electronic transaction laws in Asia and Pacific regions, in particular, those pertaining to trading platform and consumer protection. This assignment was the most challenging one. The factors contributing thereto were me being a newbie in the electronic transaction realm and scale of the project itself. However, albeit being arduous, through the kind supervisions from my supervisor and staffs from Vienna office, I was eventually able to render the summary of the same. This task was of significance in expending my knowledge on electronic transaction and the importance and need of the regulation of the trading platforms nowadays.

Apart from the assignments, the environment at the office was splendid. I worked at the well-decorated building in which most floors are occupied by many UN offices. The staffs at UNCITRAL-RCAP were very knowledgeable, professional and kind. Working with them has magnificently inspired me to become more professional, especially, when it comes to the work at international level. The interns there were friendly and smart. My jubilation of the internship was significantly ascribed to people there.

And, in spite of the necessity of work-from-home policy resulting from the novel coronavirus that partially affected my internship, UNCITRAL’s staffs had proved their professionalisms by swiftly adapting the work systems to match the current dynamics, which, at the same time, preserved the effectiveness of the works and accesses to initial resources. The work-from-home policy and mechanism introduced by UNCITRAL offered me more flexible and time-efficient methods in the

midst of this crisis. This somehow allowed me to experience firsthand how to work professionally in the face of urgent accidents. Perhaps, what you lose on the swing, you gain on the roundabout.

Indeed, this internship contributes to my deepened and broadened knowledge on international trade laws. Moreover, it taught me to pay more attentions to the environments surrounding us that play a pivotal role in shaping the legal frameworks, for instance, politics and economics. Since I have planned to resume being a dispute resolution lawyer at the law firm after my graduation, and, if possible, with the concurrent academic profession, this internship—that has apparently strengthened my practical and academic foundations—thus has marked the crucial milestones of my life.

[I did not take any photo as I was mostly working from home.]

April 7, 2020 (Date / 記載日)