

Should Class Actions be Introduced in Hong Kong?

A discussion forum - 10 May 2010

About the topic

The idea of class actions, a form of multiparty litigation, stirs up strong views both for and against. But what are the facts? A subcommittee of the Law Reform Commission (LRC) has recently consulted on proposals for the introduction of class action procedures in Hong Kong, which would allow one or more representative plaintiffs to sue the same defendant on behalf of a number of persons ("the class") who have suffered the same or a similar alleged wrong. Such actions are not uncommon in the United States and elsewhere, and they are often associated with product liability claims. How would class actions impact on accountants, engineers, architects and other professionals? Would they lead to more claims by shareholders, investors and other stakeholders? The Institute and The Hong Kong Coalition of Professional Services are jointly hosting this seminar to enable professionals to understand the implications and significance of the LRC subcommittee's proposals.

The seminar will cover:

- Current situation and background to the class actions consultation
- Key issues, and the pros and cons of the proposals
- Potential impact on professionals and other implications for Hong Kong
- Experience of other jurisdictions

Speakers

Opening address by Albert Au, past president of Hong Kong Institute of CPAs, who will also be the forum chair

Welcoming remarks by the Hon. Leung Chun-ying, GBS, JP, chairman of The Hong Kong Coalition of Professional Services and convenor of the non-official members of the Executive Council, Hong Kong SAR

Speakers:

- Anthony Neoh, SC, JP, chairman of Class Actions Sub-committee, Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong
- Huen Wong, president of The Law Society of Hong Kong
- James J. Farrell, partner, Latham & Watkins, LLP, Los Angeles office
- Peter Griffiths, general counsel, Deloitte, Hong Kong

About the programme

Date & Time	10 May 2010, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Venue	Conference Centre, Hong Kong Institute of CPAs, 27/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East
Fee	HKD100 per person for members of coalition member bodies listed below
HKICPA CPD credit	1.5 hours
Language	English
Target audience	Professionals
Competency/ Rating	General business and professional knowledge*/ Intermediate*
Enrolment deadline	5 May 2010

*Please refer [here](#) for descriptions of other competencies and ratings for HKICPA CPD events

Rundown

- 6:15 p.m.** Registration starts
- 6:30 p.m.** Opening address by Albert Au, past president of Hong Kong Institute of CPAs (forum chair)
- 6:35 p.m.** Welcoming remarks by the Hon. Leung Chun-ying, chairman of The Hong Kong Coalition of Professional Services
- 6:45 p.m.** Presentations
- 7:45 p.m.** Q&A session
- 7:55 p.m.** Closing remarks by forum chair

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Registration

The registration is on a first-come-first-served basis.

To register:

- **Online registration** (for HKICPA members only): Please [click here](#).
- **By post or by fax**: Complete the attached reply slip and return it to the Institute on or before 5 May 2010, together with a cheque made payable to “Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants”. Fax registration will be accepted for payment by any Visa / Master credit card. Confirmation of registration will be sent by e-mail. If confirmation has not been received by 7 May 2010, please contact Ms May Hung at 2287 7009 / Ms Canace Leung at 2287 7089.

CPD credit

HKICPA members with full attendance of the forum will be granted 1.5 hours of CPD credit. For members of other coalition member bodies, please contact your relevant member bodies directly.

