Introduction to Investment Law and Dispute Resolution

*Professor Jane Willems & Mr David Branson*

**Date & Time:** 21 April 2018 (Saturday) 09:00 – 17:00                         *CPD points being applied for

**Venue:** Room 1501-02, 15/F Hong Kong Club Building, 3A Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong.

**Fee:** AAIL member – HK$500; non-member – HK$800

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**The Speakers**

**Jane Willems,** Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B. (Paris I), B.A. (INALCO Paris) is an Associate Professor at Tsinghua University, School of Law. Her research interests are international investment law and international arbitration. She has authored several books, book chapters and articles, including *Sino Foreign Joint Ventures Disputes before International Arbitrators* [in French: *Les contrats de joint ventures sino-etrangeres devant l'arbitre international*] (2015); “Investment Disputes Under China’s Bits” in *Investment Law and Arbitration in the Asia-Pacific* (CUP 2017); “The Settlement of Investor-State Dispute and China: New Developments on ICSID Jurisdiction”, SCJIL&B, Vol. 8:1 (2011). She has served as counsel, arbitrator or chair in commercial arbitrations, including ICC, HKIAC, CIETAC, BAC and UNCITRAL Rules. She also served as counsel for the state in *Sanum v Lao PDR* (PRC-Laos BIT); *Lao Holdings v Lao PDR* (Netherland-Laos BIT).

**David Branson,** J.D. Georgetown University Law Center, L.L.M. Cambridge University Law School, is admitted to practice law in Washington D.C. Mr Branson has practiced in the field of international arbitration for 35 years. Along with Charles Brower, Mr Branson was counsel to the Government of Indonesia in the case of *Amco Asia Corporation and others v. Republic of Indonesia*, ICSID Case No. ARB/81/1. For the past eight years, he has been counsel to the Government of the Lao PDR in a series of investment arbitration cases. In addition, he has been a Senior Lecturer, School of Law, University of Intl Business & Economics, Beijing, 2014- 2016 and a Visiting Fellow, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, 2010-2013. He has authored several articles on the selection of arbitrators, including “American Party Appointed Arbitrators, Not the Three Monkeys”, *30 Dayton Law Rev. 1* (2004) and “Sympathetic Party-Appointed Arbitrators: Sophisticated Strangers and Governments Demand Them”, *25 ICSID Review 367* (2011).

**The Workshop**

This workshop is an inaugural course of AAIL’s new series on Investment Law. It aims to introduce the main features of International Investment Agreements (IIAs) and arbitration using a mock case. The first session is dedicated to an introduction to the Vienna Convention on Law of Treaties and IIAs. The latest developments and trends in investment treaty practice will be discussed. Importantly, participants will gain insight into the current contours of core substantive provisions of IIAs, such as fair and equitable treatment, full protection and security, protection against unlawful expropriation and non-discrimination obligations. The second session will focus on investor-state arbitration under the ICSID Convention and other dispute resolutions mechanisms. Participants will be familiarised with special aspects of investor-state arbitration proceedings and enforcement of the arbitral award.

**The Organiser**

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