

# Strengthening Environmental Law enforcement in South-east Asia

**Status: 10.10.2014**

The KAS Rule of Law Programme Asia launched the annual Environmental Law Talks in 2012. Now in its third year the talks are being held in the Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam. As a region that is blessed with abundance of natural resources and in light of various environmental concerns that have occurred in the recent years a nod on environmental protection is called for by the times, no doubt.

With each year, our objectives have developed from a thematic discussion to more crystallized topics – e.g. the 2014 Environmental Law Talks is centered around a discussion on **Effective Enforcement and adjudication of Environmental Laws**; a theme that grew out of a general consensus from the previous Environmental Law Talks on what is deemed to be the most urgent need in the sphere of Environment Law and Policy in South-east Asia today.

Another focus that has emerged from the previous Environment Law Talks is **Transboundary Environmental Crimes** that are inter-linked with organized crime networks and the burgeoning illegal Trade in Wildlife despite international co-operation efforts undertaken in recent years to combat this phenomenon. The issues are inter-connected on the premise that if Environmental Law enforcement is strengthened in every country, it is likely to tighten measures to combat transboundary eco-crimes on a regional scale.

This continued focus on the environment sits well with KAS's long-standing objective of bringing people together for the promotion of socially equitable, economically efficient and ecologically sustainable societies. The rule of law is thus a key factor to realize this objective.

To institute a vibrant exchange of knowledge across the region, KAS has sought to ensure the presence of key resource persons representing the Judiciary, academia and active organizations in related disciplines.

KAS thanks you for obliging this forum with your meaningful presence. You are invited to seize this occasion and to take active part in the exciting line-up of talks and activities we have carefully planned in part with our partner, the Institute of State and Law, Vietnam.



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## International Seminar on

# 'ENVIRONMENT AND RULE OF LAW: ' STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTH- EAST ASIA'

Hanoi, Vietnam  
21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 2014

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## *20th October, 2014*

### Arrival of Participants and Check- in at:

**Hotel l'opera Hanoi**  
**29 Trang Tien Street**  
**Hoan Kiem District**  
**Hanoi, Vietnam**

19.00 hrs      Welcome Dinner at Satin Restaurant, Lobby Level, Hotel l'opera Hanoi (for organizers and International guests only)

## *21st October, 2014*

Conference Venue:  
Salon Vang + Do, Level 1

**08.00 hrs      Registration**

**08.30 hrs      Opening remarks:**

**Mr. Nguyen Nhu Phat, Assoc.Prof. Dr.**  
Director,  
Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social  
Sciences.

**Judge Marc Spitzkatz, Director,**  
Rule of Law Programme Asia, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

## **SESSION 1: MECHANISMS FOR STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT IN A RULE OF LAW STATE**

Chairpersons: - **Mr. Nguyen Nhu Phat, Assoc.Prof. Dr.**, Director, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.  
- **Mr. Pham Huu Nghi, Assoc.Prof**, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

09.00 hrs Topic: ***Rule of law State and the need to ensure national environment protection***  
**Mr. Le Hong Hanh, Prof.Dr**, Vietnam Lawyers' Association

09.30 hrs Topic: ***Rule of law State and legal mechanisms to ensure the human right of living in healthy environment***  
**Mr. Pham Huu Nghi, Assoc.Prof.Dr**, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

**10.00 – 10.30 hrs Tea break**

10.30 hrs Discussion

11.00 hrs Topic: ***Responsibility and obligation to protect environment of the Government***  
**Mr.Vu Dinh Nam, LLM**, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

11.30 hrs Discussion

**12.00 – 13.30 hrs Lunch**

## **SESSION 2: ENVIRONMENT AND RULE OF LAW IN VIETNAM**

Chair person(s): - **Mr. Nguyen Nhu Phat, Assoc.Prof**, Director, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.  
- **Mr. Bui Nguyen Khanh, Assoc.Prof, Vice Director**, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

13.30 hrs Topic: ***The role of civil society in environmental protection***  
**Mr. Nguyen Van Phuong, PhD**, Ha Noi Law University

14.00 hrs Topics: ***"Rule of Law State and right of access to environmental information"***  
**Mr. Pham Van Vo, PhD**, Ho Chi Minh city University of Law

**14.30 hrs Discussion**

**15.00 – 15.30 hrs Tea break**

- 15.30 hrs            Topic: ***Environmental Conflict and Environmental dispute resolution mechanisms in Rule of Law state***  
**Mr. Vu Thu Hanh, Assoc.Prof**, the Central Committee of Internal Affairs.
- 16.00 hrs            **Discussion**
- 16.30 hrs            **Day Debrief**
- 17.00 hrs            *Buffet Dinner at Cafe Lautrec Restaurant***

## ***22nd October, 2014***

Conference Venue:  
 Salon Vang + Do, Level 1

### **SESSION 3: THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME TO COMBAT TRANS-BOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES**

Chair person(s):    - **Mr. Nguyen Nhu Phat, Assoc.Prof**, Director of Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.  
                               - **Mr. Bui Nguyen Khanh, Assoc.Prof**, Vice Director, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

09.00 hrs            Topic: ***Aspects of Criminal Responsibility in International Environmental Law***  
**Prof. Joerg Menzel**, Bonn University, Germany

09.45 hrs            **Discussion**

**10.00 – 10.30 hrs    *Tea Break***

10.30 hrs            Topic: ***ASEAN's Role in Combating Environmental Crimes: Case Study of Transnational Illegal Wildlife Trade***  
**Emeritus Prof. Koh Kheng Lian**, National University of Singapore

11.00 hrs            **Discussion**

11.30 hrs            **Group Photo**

**12.00 – 13.30 hrs    *Lunch***

### **SESSION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA**

Chair person(s):    - **Mr. Bui Nguyen Khanh, Assoc.Prof**, Vice Director, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.  
                               - **Mr. Pham Huu Nghi, Assoc.Prof**, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

- 13.30 hrs            Topic: ***Preventing, Fighting and Deterring Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Philippines***  
**Prof. Gloria Estenzo Ramos**, University of Cebu, College of Law, the Philippines/Vice President, Oceana Philippines
- 14.15 hrs            **Discussion**
- 14.30 hrs            Topics: ***The Role of 'Specialized' Court in Combating Environmental Crimes in Indonesia?***  
**Prof. Laode M. Syarif**, KEMITRAAN, Indonesia
- 15.15 rs             **Discussion**
- 15.30 hrs            **Day Debrief**
- 16.00 hrs            Seminar conclusion
- Mr. Nguyen Nhu Phat, Prof. Dr**, Director of the Institute of State and Law, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.
- Judge Marc Spitzkatz, Director of Rule of Law Programme Asia**, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 16.30 hrs            *Buffet Dinner at Cafe Lautrec Restaurant***

***23nd October, 2014***

Field Trip