## <u>Investment Law and Investor-State</u> <u>Mediator Training Course co-organised</u> <u>by DoJ concluded successfully</u>

World-renowned trainers in the international investment law and investor-state mediation were invited to share their knowledge and expertise at a one-week training course co-organised by the Department of Justice (DoJ), the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and the Asian Academy of International Law. The training course concluded successfully today (November 3).

Following the success of the inaugural round last year, the Investment Law and Investor-State Mediator Training Course was held again this year commencing on October 28. At the opening ceremony, the Secretary for Justice, Ms Teresa Cheng, SC, said that the DoJ is devoted to developing Hong Kong into an international investment law and investment dispute resolution skills training base with a view to building up a team of investment mediators specialised in handling international investment disputes in Asia.

Topics covered in this year's training include the fundamentals of international investment law, and topical issues raised in international investment disputes and dispute resolution process. The training course also engages participants through role play in investment mediation, and explores topics such as mediation process consideration and stakeholder mapping analysis for case studies.

The training course attracted enthusiastic responses. About 40 participants from around the world, including government officials as well as legal and mediation practitioners from the Mainland, Association of Southeast Asian Nations countries, the Middle East, Africa and Hong Kong, gathered in Hong Kong for intellectual and professional exchange in these subject areas.

The training course included a stellar line-up of participating trainers, comprising experts from the ICSID, International Energy Charter and the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution as well as experienced practitioners and academics in the field.

With the conclusion of the investment agreement under the framework of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement on June 28, 2017, which provides mediation as a means of dispute resolution, the training course is one of the DoJ's related initiatives.