

## **Adjudication in Action: Implementation of the Construction Industry Security of Payment Ordinance**

The Conference “Adjudication in Action: Implementation of the Construction Industry Security of Payment Ordinance” was successfully held on 28 May 2026 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre in hybrid mode, attracting over 800 participants both in person and online. Organised by the HKIE Construction Dispute Resolution Committee (CDRC) in collaboration with the AALCO Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre (AALCO-HKRAC), and funded by the Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (PASS), the event marked a significant milestone following the full implementation of the Construction Industry Security of Payment Ordinance (Cap. 652) in August 2025.

We were honoured to have Dr the Hon Horace K.K. Cheung, SBS, JP, Deputy Secretary for Justice, and Ir Alice Chow, President of HKIE (Session 2025/2026), as Guests of Honour. In her welcome remarks, President Alice Chow described the Ordinance as a transformative step in strengthening payment certainty and sustainability within the construction industry, and emphasised the engineering profession’s role in upholding professionalism and integrity in adjudication practice.

Dr Cheung highlighted Hong Kong’s continued commitment to enhancing its status as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre, noting that effective implementation of statutory adjudication would reinforce confidence in the rule of law and commercial certainty.

Keynote speeches were delivered by Ir Johnny C.H. Chan, JP, Deputy Secretary for Development (Works), and Prof the Hon Nicholas Chan, BBS, MH, JP, Legislative Council Member and Director of AALCO-HKRAC. Ir Johnny Chan underscored adjudication as a speedy, cost-effective and binding mechanism to address long-standing payment disputes and improve cash flow across the construction supply chain. Prof Nicholas Chan shared insights on leveraging adjudication to strengthen Hong

Kong's role as a "super-connector" under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework.

Distinguished speakers from Malaysia enriched the programme with comparative perspectives. Ms Raagini Sama Sundaram, Senior Case Counsel of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), shared practical insights from Malaysia's experience under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012. The Hon Justice Dato' Lee Swee Seng, Judge of the Federal Court of Malaysia and former presiding judge of the specialist Construction Court in Kuala Lumpur, offered authoritative judicial views on fairness, jurisdiction and timing in adjudication.

The Conference provided a timely platform for engineers, legal practitioners and stakeholders to promote best practices under Hong Kong's new statutory adjudication regime.



**Ir Alice Chow (6<sup>th</sup> from left), Dr Horace Cheung (7<sup>th</sup> from left), Ir Johnny Chan (5<sup>th</sup> from left), Prof Nicholas Chan (5<sup>th</sup> from right) and Ir Ben Chan (3<sup>rd</sup> from right) having photo with speakers and organizer of the event**



**Prof Nicholas Chan (7th from right), Ir Ben Chan (6th from left) and Ir Prof Christopher To (5<sup>th</sup> from right), having photo with speakers and HKIE-CDRC Committee members**