

Report of the Special Committee on Overseas Admission (Civil)

Membership:

Rimsky Yuen SC (chairman)
Andrew Liao SC
Gladys Li SC
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1. In 2008, there are altogether 59 proposed applications for admissions of overseas counsel. Of these 59 proposed applications, 49 are civil cases. The Bar consented to 44 applications and a total of 35 applications (out of these 49) have been allowed by the Court.
2. The principles upon which admissions would be allowed are fairly settled through cases decided in the past. The decisions handed down in respect of applications made in 2008 do not go beyond the previously established principles.
3. Unlike the past, not all applications involve London silks. In particular, there is one recent application involving US attorneys (though the application is rejected).
4. Last but not least, may I express my gratitude to all the members of this Special Committee for their time and hard work. From time to time, the papers involved in the applications are rather voluminous and considerable time have to be spent before they can advise the Bar Council whether the applications should be opposed. Further, I would also express my gratitude to those who appear for the Bar when the Bar saw fit to oppose to some of the applications. Not only did they have to spent time in preparing the case on a pro bono basis, very often the applications require urgent attention.

Rimsky Yuen, SC
Chairman

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