Seminar

Seafood Fraud: Hong Kong as a Role Model for Safe Food

Adam Soliman

Director and Founder, The Fisheries Law Centre (FLC)

Thursday, 10 October 2013
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Academic Conference Room, 11/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower
The University of Hong Kong

A recent study by Oceana, an international ocean conservation organization, shows that more than one-third of the seafood products in the United States (most of which are imported) are mislabelled- a microcosm to the prevalence of seafood fraud around the world. Hong Kong and China have a significant role and interest in resolving this problem: China is the largest consumer, importer, exporter and producer of seafood in the world, and Hong Kong is the world's most important hub through which a significant amount of seafood is traded. Mislabelling of fish raises serious concerns for consumers, not the least of which are grave health risks. This lecture will provide an overview of the regulatory food safety scheme that Hong Kong and other jurisdictions have in place, and will discuss changes which can be employed to combat the problem of seafood fraud. Participants will be left with an in-depth knowledge of the current legal issues associated with seafood fraud and an appreciation of its complexity. Particularly, this lecture will cover labelling requirements, certification schemes, traceability regulations, and Port State Measures. This lecture will also discuss Hong Kong's recent initiative to impose regulatory import controls on aquatic products as well as regulations governing import/export data reporting.

Adam Soliman is the Director and Founder of The Fisheries Law Centre (FLC). FLC is a non-profit research center in Vancouver, Canada. The focus of FLC is on research, education and advocacy as it relates to fisheries law. Furthermore, Adam is an agricultural economist and legal researcher focused on legal and economic issues in Fisheries & Seafood sectors. He started his career in the agribusiness sector, working for a family operation and holds graduate degrees in Agricultural Economics (BSc & MSc), Law (JD), and Agriculture and Food Law (LLM).

