

**Mobilizing Key Actors within Bar
Associations in the Region to Lay the
Groundwork for 'Asian Bar Associations
Human Rights Network'**

Sep 26 2020 Takgon Lee

Human Rights Issues for Regional Collaboration

- Asia-Pacific region is a region of 3.5 million refugees, but with relatively low ratio of ratification of the Refugee Convention, and few domestic laws
- Nature of Refugee Status Determination needs information-sharing and collaboration
- Asia-Pacific region is home to large migrant population, with both receiving and sending countries
- Need for collaboration between different countries and civil societies

Bar association as the forum for human rights network

- Bar association's representative status and reach to a wide spectrum of lawyers
- Bar association's pro bono requirements
- Wide spectrum of lawyers, need for appropriate focal point
- Korea Bar Association's experience in forming ad-hoc legal assistance groups

Promising practices, requirements for network

- Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network's experiences with diverse and cross-cutting working groups on different issues and regions
- Recent efforts between East Asian jurisdictions
- Need for stable focal points in domestic bar associations
- Reasonable expectations for preliminary steps - information-sharing on implementations of international law, similarly modeled domestic laws, etc.
- Relationship with existing network's human rights component

Thank you!