Chairman’s Reflection (2014-2018)

Mr. Daniel Wu
Asian Bankers Association
Mr. Daniel Wu, President of CTBC Financial Holding Co., was first elected as Chairman of the Asian Bankers Association (ABA) during the 31st ABA General Meeting and Conference held on 19-20 November 2014 in Muscat, Oman, taking over from Mr. Lorenzo V. Tan, then President and CEO of Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation from the Philippines. Prior to that, Mr. Wu served as ABA Vice Chairman from 2012 to 2014.

Two years later, during the 33rd ABA General Meeting and Conference held on 10-11 November 2016 in Ha Long Bay, Vietnam, Mr. Wu was re-elected as ABA Chairman, making him the first to be voted to the position for a second term – and marking a milestone in the history of the Association.

His two terms at the helm of the ABA saw him building on the achievements of his predecessors while making his own important contributions to the progress and development of the Association as well. In his Valedictory Address at the 35th ABA General Meeting and Conference on November 15-16, 2018 in Maldives, he expressed his deep gratitude to the general membership for their cooperation and support of the projects and programs that his administration during his four-year incumbency. “All your cooperative endeavors - which have been the hallmark of ABA - have certainly made my task as Chairman more worthwhile, rewarding, and enjoyable in so many levels, thereby providing me with a memorable four-year tenure. Without your collaboration, the various programs that we set out to do at the start of my term would not have been achieved,” Mr. Wu told members.
Mr. Daniel Wu’s accomplishments focused mainly on the following major areas:

**Policy Advocacy**

The ABA policy advocacy efforts over the four-year term of Mr. Wu continued to focus on financial inclusion, the impact of continuing changing regulations on financial institutions, and the promotion of the ABA Informal Workout Guidelines and Model Agreement. In addition, the range of issues addressed by the ABA’s policy advocacy efforts over the same period further expanded to include the promotion of financial literacy in the region, the promotion of cooperation in undertaking business process re-engineering initiatives, cybersecurity management, promoting cooperation in achieving the rapid adoption of new financial technologies, promoting cooperation in Islamic Banking, and promoting greater understanding of KYC/AML/CFT compliance.

Over the four-year period, the ABA was also invited to participate in the two roundtable meetings held by the Task Force on Standardized Approaches of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision – the first one held in Frankfurt, Germany in February 2015, and the second one held in February 2016 in Basel, Switzerland. The ABA was one of the seven banker associations from around the world invited to join the roundtable discussions.

The ABA was also invited to join in the annual symposium on Asian banking and finance jointly organized by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

These activities indicated that ABA’s policy advocacy efforts are being recognized by relevant organizations in the banking and financial sector, and that the Association’s inputs are being sought on issues of concern to the industry.

Mr. Wu expresses his hopes that for the Association would remain an important contributor in policy discussions by the Basel Committee in the future, and encourages members to continue to play an active role in this regard.

**Training Activities**

Under the guidance of Mr. Wu, the ABA continued to meet the training needs of members. Over the past four years, the ABA collaborated with a number of member banks, training institutes, other regional organizations, and event requirements of members and enable them to remain competitive amidst a fast-changing market environment.


Mr. Wu’s appreciation also goes to the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific
Summary of Accomplishments

(ADFIAP) as well as the Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia (ACRAA) for collaborating with the ABA on the conduct of an international study tour and a workshop on SME development and financing programs and on bank rating and analysis, respectively, both of which were held in Taipei.

Membership

During the four-year tenure of Chairman Wu, the ABA was also able to expand its membership not only in terms of the additional members admitted, but also in terms of the broadening of its geographical scope with the admission of members from Bhutan and the Middle East.

ABA Website

Chairman Wu also initiated the upgrading of the ABA website to help increase the Association's prominence within the regional and global banking community. With the new website, ABA members can now network more effectively with each others to improve how they can communicate with each other and the world at large, and to find potential partners in other Asian countries and worldwide.

ABA Face / ABA LinkedIn

In addition to the ABA website upgrade, Chairman Wu also instructed the Secretariat to set up an official ABA Facebook Page and ABA LinkedIn Page to serve as additional platform to communicate with ABA members and the public in general. These were aimed to enable members to post news materials on or promote their activities and events, and encourage interaction among members by commenting, liking, and sharing posts.

ABA Logo

It was also during Mr. Wu's Chairmanship that a new ABA logo was launched. The new logo retains the general concept of the old logo, but with the letters “ABA” rendered in gold to signify “value” or “wealth”, which the financial and banking industry represents.
MOU Signing
Chairman Wu also took the opportunity to establish and strengthen ABA's relations with other bankers associations in the region, through the signing of MOUs outlining possible areas of cooperation between these organizations and the ABA. These bankers associations included:
(a) Vietnam Banks Association
(b) Japanese Bankers Association
(c) Indian Banks Association

Lifetime Achievement Awards
As proposed by Chairman Wu, an important highlight of the ABA Conference held in Taipei in 2015 was the presentation of ABA Lifetime Achievement Awards to four distinguished members – all of whom had served as chairmen of ABA in the past – in recognition of their continued long involvement in the Association and their important contribution to the banking industry in their respective countries.

Participation in ADB Annual Meetings
As an Accredited Guest Association in the annual meetings of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the ABA continued to invite its members to attend the annual gathering held by the ADB during the tenure of Chairman Wu between 2015 and 2018. The presence of ABA members gave them the opportunity not only to take part in the dialogue between leading government and private sector representatives on key financial issues shaping the Asia-Pacific region, but also to meet other financial experts and from other countries.

In his Valedictory Address at the 35th ABA General Meeting and Conference on November 15-16, 2018 in Maldives, Mr. Wu told members that, given the rapid changes taking place in the economic and financial environment not only in the region but globally as well, the role of ABA as a regional organization and the voice of the banking sector will become increasingly important.

“It has been a great honor and privilege for me and the CTBC Financial Holding to have served the Asian Bankers Association and its members in my capacity as ABA Chairman over the past four years.

“Indeed, we strongly support ABA’s vision of promoting cooperation among banks in the region and advancing the interests of the Asian banking sector. We are committed to its objective of providing a forum for an effective exchange of information and networking among its members. Above all, we believe in the capacity of ABA to serve as a vehicle for member banks to develop long-term relationship and friendship, which is the binding force that will make the Association grow stronger in the years to come.”
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General Meetings and Conferences

Asian Bankers Association (ABA) invites you to the 32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference on Asian Banks: Growing Beyond Borders in Taipei, November 12-13, 2015.

Asia's most distinguished bankers congregate to discuss "Asia's turn to transform". Will you be there?

Towards Global Integration

The 32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference

From 10-13 November 2015 at Hong Kong City

www.2015aba.org
32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference (November 2015, Taipei, Taiwan)

Over 200 bankers from 23 countries led by ABA Chairman Mr. Daniel Wu gathered in Taipei on November 12-13, 2015 for the 32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference hosted by CTBC Bank and the Bankers Association of the ROC. Focusing on the theme “Asian Banks: Growing Beyond Borders”, the Conference discussed what Asian banks need to do to successfully expand from their domestic borders into the regional and international markets. The Opening Ceremony was attended by the President of the Republic of China, Mr. Ma Ying-Jeou.

An important highlight of the Taipei gathering was the presentation of the ABA Lifetime Achievement Awards to four members who had served as strong pillars of the Association, namely Dr. Amnuay Viravan (Bangkok Bank PCL Ltd.); Dr. Mochtar Riady (Lippo Banking Group); Dr. David K. P Li (Bank of East Asia Ltd.); and Amb. Alfonso Yuchengco (Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.). The ABA also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Vietnam Banks Association outlining possible areas of cooperation between the two organizations.
33rd ABA General Meeting and Conference (November 2016, Ha Long Bay, Vietnam)

Over 200 bankers from Asian countries attended the 33rd ABA General Meeting and Conference hosted by the Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam (Vietcombank) in Ha Long Bay, Vietnam on November 10-11, 2016. Focusing on the theme “Asian Banks: Towards Global Integration”, the Conference featured speakers from the banking and financial industry, regulatory agencies, and the academe who examined issues that revolve around Asia's growing influence in and integration with the global economy and its implications for Asian banks. The Keynote Speech was delivered by H. E. Le Minh Hung, Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, the country's central bank.

During the Conference, the ABA elected 25 members of the Board of Directors who would serve for the 2017-2018 term. The newly elected Board chose Mr. Daniel Wu to once again serve as Chairman for 2016-2018, making him the first Chairman to be elected for a second term.
34th ABA General Meeting and Conference (November 2017, Mumbai, India)

The 34th ABA General Meeting and Conference was held on November 16-17, 2017 in Mumbai, India and hosted by the State Bank of India, with over 200 bankers in attendance. The Mumbai Conference carried the theme “Asia's Turn to Transform” and featured speakers who shared their thoughts on how recent economic and geopolitical developments in the international arena and the continued proliferation of new financial technologies and start-ups are expected to cause financial systems across Asia to undergo significant transformation in the year ahead. Mr. Viral Acharya, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India attended the Conference as Special Guest of Honor.

The ABA Board conferred the title of “Chairman Emeritus” to two former ABA Chairmen who have remained active in the ABA for several years after their tenure as Chairman had ended, namely, Mr. Dong-Soo Choi, former President and CEO of Chohung Bank from Korea, who served as ABA Chairman from 2004 to 2006, and Mrs. Susan Chang, former Chairman of Bank of Taiwan who served as ABA Chairman from 2008 to 2010. The Conference also served as an occasion for an MOU signing between the ABA and the Indian Banks' Association, and between the State Bank of India and the Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam (Vietcombank).
35th ABA General Meeting and Conference (November 2018, Maldives)

Held on November 15-16, 2018 and hosted by Bank of Maldives in Kurumba Resort, Maldives, the 35th ABA General Meeting and Conference carried the theme “Banking in Asia: The Next Frontier”. The two-day event featured speakers who talked on: (a) developments in the global markets that are expected to have a significant impact on the region's banking sector, and (b) how industry players can address the challenges - and take full advantage of the opportunities - presented by these developments. The Keynote Speech was delivered by Mr. Ahmed Naseer, Governor of Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA), the country's central bank.

The ABA elected members of the Board of Directors composed of 23 member-banks from 15 countries who would serve for 2018 to 2020. The newly elected Board named Mr. Jonathan Alles, Managing Director and CEO of Hatton National Bank from Sri Lanka, as Chairman for 2018-2020. Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Deputy CEO and Director of Operations at Bank of Maldives, was elected Vice Chairman. During the Gala Dinner, the ABA gave recognition to its members who have demonstrated their strong commitment to the objectives of ABA through their consistent attendance in ABA gatherings, chairmanship of the Policy Advocacy Committee, or hosting of ABA short-term visiting programs.
Planning Committee Meetings
ABA Planning Committee Meeting, 12 March 2015, Taipei, Taiwan

The 2015 ABA Planning Committee Meeting was held on March 12, 2015 at CTBC Financial Park in Taipei with CTBC Bank Ltd. as host. Presided by ABA Chairman Mr. Daniel Wu, the meeting was attended by 32 officers and members of the ABA from 6 countries and primarily discussed preparations for the 32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference to be held later that year.

Among others, the Planning Committee agreed on “Asian Banks: Growing Beyond Borders” to be the theme of the 2015 ABA Conference, and with the plenary sessions focusing on the topics: Regional Integration: Implications for Asian Banks; Managing a Multi-Cultural and Multi-Generational Customer Base; Going Digital: Pursuing Global Opportunities through Technology; and Business Strategies to Meet the Current Market Challenges. The Committee also approved the 2015 Work Program of the ABA Policy Advocacy Committee, fleshed out activities to be undertaken under the 2015-2016 ABA Work Program, and agreed to include in the program of the 2015 Conference the presentation of Lifetime Achievement Award to members who served as pioneers of the ABA.

The meeting was followed a visit to the Central Bank of the Republic of China and met with key central bank officers led by Deputy Governor Mr. Chin-Long Yang, and representatives of the Ministry of Finance.
ABA Planning Committee Meeting, April 8, 2016, Hanoi, Vietnam

The Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam (Vietcombank) hosted the 2016 ABA Planning Committee Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam on April 8, 2016. The meeting was attended by 30 representatives of 14 banks from 6 countries, including Iran, Japan, India, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The Planning Committee requested the ABA Secretariat to review the list of suggestions on Conference themes and topics received from the members, and formulate the appropriate Conference theme and topics that would adequately integrate the underlying ideas submitted by members, for further comments and subsequent approval by Committee and Vietcombank. The Committee also reviewed recent and future projects and activities of ABA, and approved the proposed Work Program of the ABA Policy Advocacy Committee for 2016.

After the meeting, members of the Planning Committee made a courtesy call on Deputy Governor Nguyen Thi Hong of State Bank of Vietnam, the country’s central bank, and then travelled to Halong Bay for the ocular inspection of the proposed Conference venue.
ABA Planning Committee Meeting, March 10, 2017, Mumbai, India

The 2017 ABA Planning Committee Meeting was held on March 10, 2017 in Mumbai, India, with the State Bank of India (SBI) as the host organization. The meeting was attended by 17 representatives of 5 banks from 5 countries, including Austria, Iran, India, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

The Committee agreed that Mumbai Conference should focus on the theme “Asia's Turn to Reform” and look at how the current economic slowdown is impacting on Asia, and what the implications are of three major developments in the world market, namely, the Brexit, the Trump Presidency, and the so-called FinTech Revolution.

After the meeting, members of the Committee visited the Indian Banks Association (IBA) and met with its key officers led by CEO Mr. V. G. Kannan. During the meeting, the two sides briefed each other on their respective activities, and agreed to sign an MOU during the November Conference. The group then proceeded to make a courtesy call on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) where they were received by RBI Executive Director Mr. B. P. Kanungo, who expressed strong support for the scheduled hosting by SBI of the ABA Conference in November that year.
ABA Planning Committee Meeting, March 10, 2018, Maldives

The 2018 ABA Planning Committee Meeting was held on March 8, 2018 at Kurumba Resort Hotel in Maldives, with Bank of Maldives as the host organization. The meeting was attended by 18 representatives of 7 banks from 6 countries, including Austria, Iran, India, Maldives, Taiwan and Vietnam.

The Committee agreed on the Conference topic to be “Banking in Asia: The New Frontier”, which they deemed to be appropriately forward looking. The Committee decided to focus on the following three topics to be addressed under the agreed theme: (a) Technology in Banking: The Next Wave; (b) Risk Management Imperatives in the New World Order; and (c) Sustainable Banking: Challenges and Opportunities.

The meeting was followed by a courtesy call on Mr. Ahmed Naseer, Governor of Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA), the central bank of the country, and thereafter, a meeting with Minister of Finance and Treasury Mr. Ahmed Munawar. Chairman Wu took the opportunity to invite the two high-level officials to attend the ABA Conference to be held in Maldives in November.
ABA Policy Advocacy 2015-2018
The Policy Advocacy Committee during its Taipei meeting on March 12, 2015 approved its Work Program for 2015 focusing on several areas. To help achieve the Work Program's objectives, the following activities were undertaken during the year:

- The following position papers were endorsed: (a) Investor Education Centre’s Experience on Improving Financial Literacy; (b) Bank Pasargad's Experience on Cyber Security; (c) “More Inclusive MSME Financing for the Banking Sector Growth and Business Sustainability in Asia.” (d) Paper on the current practices of Hatton National Bank in business process re-engineering initiatives; and (e) Report on the overall implications, challenges, and concerns among member banks of changing regulations.

- The ABA participated in the roundtable meeting of the Basel Committee's Task Force on Standardized Approaches held in Frankfurt on February 24, 2015 and presented their comments on the proposed revisions to the standardized approach for credit risk.

- Dr. Shinjiro Takagi participated in Annual Conference of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association in May in Hong Kong, where he chaired the session that discussed the ABA Informal Workout Guidelines; he also met with the bankers associations in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to explain the details of the guidelines.
The Policy Advocacy Committee during its meeting in Hanoi on April 8 approved its Work Program for 2016. To help achieve the objectives of the work program, the following activities were undertaken:

• The ABA once again accepted the invitation from the Basel Committee's Task Force on Standardized Approaches (TFSA) to participate in the roundtable meeting held in Basel, Switzerland on February 17, 2016. The roundtable provided an opportunity for market participants to further elaborate key aspects of their comments on the second consultative document on “Revisions to the Standardized Approach for Credit Risk.”

• Ms. Prudence Lin, Chairman of the ABA Policy Advocacy Committee, attended the Symposium on Asian Banking and Finance jointly organized by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Monetary Authority of Singapore on July 11-12, 2016 in San Francisco.

• Dr. Shinjiro Takagi represented the ABA in various Conferences in his efforts to promote the ABA Informal Workout Guidelines and Model Agreement.

• The Policy Advocacy Committee considered three position papers this year, namely: (a) a paper proposing cooperation among member banks in sharing information on business process re-engineering initiatives; (b) a paper proposing measures to promote institutional linkages to make MSMEs commercially bankable; (c) a paper sharing the experience of the ABA member bank from Iran - Bank Pasargard – on promoting financial literacy in Iran; and (d) a paper examining the impact of continuing changing financial regulations on financial institutions.
The ABA Policy Advocacy Committee on March 10 held its first meeting for 2017 in conjunction with the Planning Committee Meeting. During that meeting, Committee approved its Work Program for 2017 which focused on several key areas. The following activities were subsequently undertaken to achieve the objectives of the Work Program:

- The ABA Policy Advocacy Committee considered the following position papers: (a) a paper on recent activities undertaken by Hatton National Bank as part of its business process re-engineering activities aimed at achieving transformational change in the Bank; (b) a paper on Erste Group Bank's experience and practice in promoting financial literacy among its customers in Austria; and (c) a paper sharing the experience of State Bank of India in promoting lending to micro and small business enterprises in India to help achieve financial inclusion in the country as well as for future banking growth and business sustainability.

- Activities to promote the ABA Informal Workout Guidelines and Model Agreement were continued through the attendance of ABA Special Advisor Dr. Shinjiro Takagi in several forums.

- A senior officer of the Secretariat attended the “Asia Symposium: Risk and Resilience in Global Finance” jointly organized by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Monetary Authority of Singapore on May 29-30, 2017 at the MAS Building in Singapore.
The ABA Policy Advocacy Committee met on March 8, 2018 and approved its Work Program for 2018 which focused on several key areas. To achieve the objectives of the Work Program, the following activities were undertaken:

• The ABA Policy Advocacy disseminated several position papers, including: (a) a report on the project conducted by CSR Lanka with the Durham University UK on the “South/Southeast Asian Business Society Models “ focusing on sustainable SMEs; (b) the paper sharing the experience of Malayan Banking Berhad in Islamic banking; (c) the report by Hatton National Bank on the security measures set in place by the Bank to help prevent, detect or disrupt a cyber attack on its operations; and (d) the report sharing the experiences of financial institutions in South Asia and Southeast Asia in facing the cross-border challenges of AML/CFT compliance requirements.

• The ABA Secretariat conducted a survey aimed at determining member banks' interest to know more about the documents entitled “ABA Informal Workout Guidelines-Promoting Corporate Restructuring in Asia” and “Model Agreement to Promote Company Restructuring.”
ABA Training Programs 2015-2018
The ABA coordinated with member banks on the holding of short-term visiting programs aimed at providing member banks the opportunity to learn from the experience of the more advanced host banks on specific aspects of banking operations.

- The Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. and its microfinance arm RCBC Microbank, conducted the two-day Microfinance Appreciation Workshop on June 22-23 in Manila. The first day consisted of lectures and discussions on the basics of microfinance and RCBC's experience in this sector, and the second day included field visits to several microfinance clients of RCBC Microbank.

- Maybank hosted a two-day visiting program in Kuala Lumpur on November 2-3, 2015. Senior officers and experts from Maybank shared with 24 representatives from 14 member banks from 10 countries the bank's practices and experiences in risk operations management, transaction banking, wealth management, compliance, marketing, and investment banking.
• The Hatton National Bank (HNB) organized a visiting program for ABA members on May 30 – 31, 2016 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. During the two-day program, HNB shared its best practices and experience on various banking operations with 20 participants. Participants also had the opportunity to visit the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, the Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka, and the National Cheque Clearing House in Sri Lanka.

• A total of 22 representatives from ABA member banks from five countries participated in the two-day workshop on “Enterprise-Wide Risk Management” organized by the Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia (ACRAA) on July 28-29, 2016 at the Peninsula Hotel in Makati City, Philippines. The objective of the training workshop was to help the participants develop a framework of thinking when analyzing enterprise-wide risks as they translate to credit risks.

• The ABA Secretariat provided assistance to the Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance (TABF) in coordinating its meetings with the Bankers Association of the Philippines and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry during the one-week study tour organized by the TABF for Taiwanese bankers to learn about the economic and financial industry conditions in the Philippines and the business opportunities offered by the country.

• In addition, the ABA jointly organized with the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (ADFIAP) the “International Study Tour on MSME Development Programs and Policies of Taiwan” on October 30-November 3, 2017 in Taiwan.

• The ABA also invited its members to participate in the workshop on “Indicators for Effective Macroeconomic Risk Analysis” organized by the Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia on July 27-28, 2017 in Kuala Lumpur.

• Meanwhile, representatives from the ABA Secretariat participated in two Association Management Forum, namely: (a) The Association Management Course organized by the Philippine Council of Associations and Association Executives on February 16, 2017 in Makati City, Philippines; and (b) The “Great Ideas Global Association Management Conference Asia Pacific” held on March 22-24, 2017 in Grand Hyatt Seoul, South Korea.

• The ABA Secretariat on October 17 conducted a survey among members on specific training courses for which they want the support and cooperation of the ABA.
• The ABA coordinated with a number of member banks on the possibility of hosting short-term visiting programs for members in 2018. These banks included Hatton National Bank, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation, State Bank of India, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, and Malayan Banking Berhad. Only one program was eventually conducted in 2018—and this was the one hosted by Maybank on October 18-19 in Kuala Lumpur, which was attended by 26 delegates from six banks in five Asian countries.

• For the first time, the ABA conducted webinars in 2018—all in partnership with the Singapore office of Oliver Wyman. A total of three webinars focusing on risk management were conducted—the first one in February, the second one in March, and the third one in August.

• The ABA also cooperated with the Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asian organizing three training programs this year, namely: (a) The Conference on “Showcasing Asian Bond Markets: Opportunities and Risks” held in April 2018 in Bahrain; (b) The Workshop on “Bank Ratings: Methodology and Credit Rating Process and Practice” held in Taipei in June 2018; and (c) The Workshop on “Infrastructure Projects: Their Evaluation and Financing” held in September 2018 in Manila.

• The European Financial Management Association (EFMA) also invited ABA members to join the “Retail Banking Summit in Asia 2018” held on October 30-31, 2018 in Singapore. Co-hosted by DBS Group and Maybank, the two-day event focused on the key priorities and most pressing challenges faced by the banking industry in the region.
Chairman Wu recognized the need for the ABA to take a proactive approach in strengthening relationship with bankers' associations in other regions and countries in and outside the Asia-Pacific as a way of promoting ABA's name and expanding membership.

He therefore took the initiative to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a number of bankers associations outlining possible areas of cooperation between these organizations and the ABA, including the exchange of guests and participants at conferences and seminars, exchange of publications, co-sponsorship of and/or participation in each other's training programs, collaboration in research activities, and soliciting policy recommendations from them as inputs into the policy advocacy work of the ABA. Chairman Wu signed MOUs with Vietnam Banks Association, Japanese Bankers Association, and Indian Banks Association. It was also under his term that Vietcombank and State Bank of India signed an MOU to strengthen relations between the two member banks.
One of the highlights of the 32nd ABA General Meeting and Conference held on November 12-13, 2015 – the first annual gathering chaired by Mr. Daniel Wu since assuming the ABA Chairmanship the year before – was the presentation of the ABA Lifetime Achievement Awards to ABA members who have served as strong pillars of the Association over the past years.

The Award was presented to selected members in recognition of their continued long involvement in the ABA, their unwavering commitment to the objective of the Association of bringing bankers in Asia together to promote regional cooperation and to further advance the interest of the region’s banking sector, and their important contribution to the banking industry in their respective countries.

The recipients of this prestigious Award were the following: (a) Dr. Amnuay Viravan, who served as ABA Chairman from 1986 to 1988 during his term as Chairman of Bangkok Bank PCL Ltd.; (b) Dr. Mochtar Riady, who served as ABA Chairman from 1992 to 1994 during his term as Chairman of the Lippo Banking Group of Indonesia; (c) Dr. David K. P Li, Chairman and Chief Executive of The Bank of East Asia Ltd. of Hong Kong, who served as ABA Chairman from 1994 to 1996; and (d) Amb. Alfonso Yuchengco, Honorary Chairman of the Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. from the Philippines, who served as ABA Chairman from 2002 to 2004.
As an Accredited Guest Association in the annual meetings of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the ABA continued to invite its members to attend the annual gathering held by the ADB during the tenure of Chairman Wu between 2015 and 2018. The presence of ABA members gave them the opportunity not only to take part in the dialogue between leading government and private sector representatives on key development and financial issues shaping the Asia-Pacific region, but also to meet and network with other ABA members and financial experts and regulators from other countries.
In order to help promote and raise the profile and importance of the ABA as a business platform not only among its members but regionally and internationally as well, Chairman Wu recognized the advantage of using latest developments in the Information and Communications Technology to improve “connectivity” and facilitate fast and efficient interaction between and among members.

He, therefore, initiated the upgrading of the ABA website to help increase the Association's prominence within the regional and global banking community. With the new website, ABA members can now network more effectively with each others to improve how they can communicate with each other and the world at large, and to find potential partners in other Asian countries and worldwide.

In addition to the ABA website upgrade, Chairman Wu also instructed the Secretariat to set up an official ABA Facebook Page and ABA LinkedIn Page to serve as additional platform to communicate with ABA members and the public in general. These were aimed to enable members to post news materials on or promote their activities and events, and encourage interaction among members by commenting, liking, and sharing posts.

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Brief Profile of Daniel Wu

With over 30 years’ experience of developing and expanding business in Asia for international financial institutions in U.S., Hong Kong and Taiwan, Daniel Wu currently serves as President as well as Chairman and Commissioner of the Executive Committee of CTBC Financial Holding.

Prior to joining CTBC, Daniel held senior management roles with Bankers Trust, Goldman Sachs Asia and CIBC. He holds a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from the University of Rochester.
Asian Bankers Association

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