

BOARD OF ARCHITECTS MALAYSIA

(P.O. Box 12695, 50786 Kuala Lumpur)

General Circular No. 3/1982

JOINT PRACTICE WITH FOREIGN ARCHITECTS

The attention of all Architects is drawn to the increasing incidence of architects from other countries making approaches to Architects in Malaysia. This is usually either to meet the requirements of their engagement or to comply with the law.

Registered Architects should be aware that their registration with the Board of Architects confer certain entitlements but at the same time also imposes a degree of responsibility.

Hence, when approached by a foreign architect to participate on any specific project or on a long-term basis, Architects should be aware of the following :-

- (i) By agreeing to act as the Malaysian counterpart, the Malaysian Architect assumes the responsibility for all actions in connection with the project and in matters relating to professional conduct of not only himself but of his foreign associate as well.
- (ii) Under the Rules, it is an offence for any Architect to sign or otherwise certify plans that have either not been prepared by him or under his direct supervision.
- (iii) The inputs of the Malaysian Architect in any arrangement should be meaningful and not serve merely as "rubber stamping" or provide the required window-dressing.

The Board is very much concerned that there are Malaysian Architects who may be attracted to enter into joint-ventures or other forms of association with foreign firms the practice of which may be detrimental to the status and image of architects in Malaysia.

While every attempt is being made to persuade Government and other potential clients of the desirability of engaging Malaysian Architects as the prime consultant and to leave it to the discretion of the Malaysian Architect to decide whether it is necessary to enlist the help of foreign architects, it is necessary for Malaysian Architects to also respond positively to justify their prime position.

The Board would therefore appreciate the cooperation of all Malaysian Architects to immediately report to the Board of any approaches that they have received from any foreign architect or if they should be aware of any such instances. This will then enable

the Board to monitor the activities of the foreign architects and to take such action as may be appropriate.

Architects are also urged to report any instances of breaches of professional conduct by any foreign architect to enable the Board to report such breaches to their respective institutes.

Meantime, the Board has already taken action to inform the various institutes of architects overseas of the present trends and asking for their cooperation in advising their members that they must respect the Code of Professional Conduct of their host country.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Hasan bin Mohamed', written over a horizontal line.

(HASAN bin MOHAMED)

Pendaftar
5th October 1982.