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Foreword. Symposium: Emerging Land Use Law in the Pacific Rim

Stephen Day

Paula Littlewood

Dustin Klinger

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FOREWORD

SYMPOSIUM: EMERGING LAND USE LAW IN THE PACIFIC RIM

Over the next decade and beyond, the countries of the Pacific Rim will experience enormous land development pressures. Important new land use law is emerging at the national, provincial, and municipal levels. Restrictions on foreign land ownership are easing, while international investment consortiums are emerging as major participants in land development projects in Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, and Japan. The cities of these countries, along with those in China and Thailand, are defining a new scale of urban development for the twenty-first century.

The land use law developing now in the Pacific Rim could have an enormous impact on the economic and environmental landscape in the region for decades to come. Law and policy are being increasingly influenced by a growing middle class and heightened demands for clean air, water, and other environmental standards. Public involvement in the land development process is greater than ever, and growing. At the same time, new wealth is increasing the pressure to develop wilderness and agricultural lands.

All of these factors contributed to the decision by the editorial boards of the Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal to organize a conference focusing on land use issues. The articles contained in this book were first presented at a symposium held in Seattle in October 1997, entitled "Emerging Land Use Law in the Pacific Rim," the third symposium in a series of international conferences organized by the Journal.

In various ways, the writers of these articles highlight inherent conflicts between varying visions of the law and the land, including the clash of cultures and disparate concepts concerning land and ownership, land development, and the preservation of the natural environment, traditional cultural places, and the preservation of historical resources. These pressures are being felt throughout the world, but particularly in the countries of the Pacific Rim. The symposium was initiated and developed by Stephen Day, editor-in-chief of the Journal for 1996-1997. Paula Littlewood joined forces with Stephen for the symposium and then took over editorial duties on the symposium book during her tenure as editor-in-chief for 1997-1998. The

editorial duties for this book were subsequently inherited by Dustin Klinger, editor-in-chief for 1998-1999.

Invaluable assistance in identifying potential symposium participants was provided by the symposium board of advisors, made up of the following members: John Haley, University of Washington School of Law; Gary Pivo, University of Washington College of Architecture and Planning; Pitman Potter, University of British Columbia School of Law; Gerry Takano, Western Regional Director, The National Trust for Historic Preservation; Veronica Taylor, University of Melbourne Asian Law Centre; and Frank Upham, New York University School of Law. This symposium book has been produced by the 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 Journal editorial boards. Special thanks are due Adam Karp, symposium articles editor, 1997-1998; Steve King, production editor 1997-1998; Susan Ridgley and Malcolm Goeschl, symposium coordinators, 1997-1998; Kari Larson, production editor 1998-1999; and the other 1998-1999 editorial board members listed in this book.

Throughout the project, Dean Roland Hjorth of the University of Washington School of Law has provided crucial support for the symposium and for the Journal in general. Funding for the symposium and for the publication of this book has been made possible by the generous support of several organizations, including The Henry M. Jackson Foundation, the Comparative Commercial Law Institute, the University of Washington School of Law, and the Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal.

Stephen Day, Editor-in-Chief, 1996-1997

Paula Littlewood, Editor-in-Chief, 1997-1998

Dustin Klinger, Editor-in-Chief, 1998-1999