Climate Justice for Future Generations: Seeking an Advisory Opinion From the International Court of Justice

Featuring guest speaker Antonio Oposa

Tuesday, September 10, 2019
12:10 – 1:10 p.m

Columbia Law School
Jerome Greene Hall, room 101
435 West 116th Street (at Amsterdam Avenue)
New York, NY 10027

Young people around the world are coming together in New York to take legal action for future generations. Children from the most vulnerable countries of Asia and the Pacific Island States are converging for the UN Climate Summit on Sept 23, 2019. They will plead with the UN Country Ambassadors to support a youth-led UN General Assembly Resolution to seek the advice of the International Court of Justice on a simple question:

“In this climate crisis, what are the duties of States to future generations?”

Tony Oposa has had a remarkable career as a creative litigator, organizer and activist. He is well known for his legal work, especially to protect the forests and marine environments in the Philippines. In 1993, he won the landmark case Minors Oposa, where the Philippine Supreme Court held that a group of minors had the right to sue on behalf of succeeding generations because every generation has a responsibility to the next to preserve nature. He has also led some of the most daring operations against environmental crime syndicates involved in illegal logging and fishing in the Philippines.

Program is sponsored by the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Environmental Law Society and the Earth Institute