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Law Reform and Legal Education

Amendments to the International Arbitration Act 28 May 2012, 4.30pm – 6.30pm, Supreme Court Auditorium

Introduction

The latest amendments to the International Arbitration Act (and corresponding amendments to the Arbitration Act) were passed on 9 April 2012. These touch on several important aspects, including: the definition of an arbitration agreement, appeals from a tribunal's negative jurisdictional rulings, emergency arbitrators, enforcement of interim orders and awards on interest. The Singapore Academy of Law has put together a panel representing a cross-section of the arbitration community, including those who have been closely involved with these amendments, to explain and discuss these changes.

PROGRAMME

4:30pm - Registration & Tea

5.00pm - Opening Remarks

by Chairman, Mr Chan Leng Sun SC

5:05pm - Amendments to the International Arbitration Act: Overview

by Ms Valerie Thean

5:25pm - Judicial Review of Negative Jurisdictional Rulings

by Mr Abraham Vergis

**5:40pm - Emergency Arbitrators, Enforcement of Interim Orders
and Awards on Interest**

by Mr Ben Giarretta

6:00pm - Chairman's Comments

by Mr Chan Leng Sun SC

6:15pm - Q&A

6:30pm - End of Session

CHAIRPERSON



Mr Chan Leng Sun SC co-heads the Dispute Resolution practice of Baker & McKenzie. Wong & Leow. He is qualified in Malaysia, Singapore and England. Leng Sun was appointed Senior Counsel in January 2011. Apart from being counsel, Leng Sun is an arbitrator and adjudicator on the panel of leading arbitral institutions such as SIAC, SCMA, ICDR, KLRCA, CIETAC and CMAC. He also sits in ICC, LMAA as well as ad hoc arbitrations. He serves on statutory tribunals such as the Income Tax Review Board and the Maintenance of Parents

Tribunal. He is a President of the Disciplinary Tribunal, the Chairman of the Singapore Law Society ADR Committee and Vice-President of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb). Leng Sun had served as a legal officer of the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva and was a SIAC-CIAC Observer to the UNCITRAL Working Group on Arbitration. Leng Sun has published widely in international journals and is the author of the book *Singapore Law on Arbitral Awards*, published by Academy Publishing.

SPEAKERS



Ms Valerie Thean (M.A. Cantab, LLM Harvard Law School) is Director-General, Legal Group, at the Ministry of Law. She joined the Ministry in 2007 and currently oversees the Legal Policy, Legal Industry and International Legal divisions. In this context, she has worked on the International Arbitration (Amendment) Bills of 2010 and 2012. She also teaches arbitration as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore Law Faculty.



Mr Abraham Vergis is a director in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department of Drew & Napier LLC. Abraham has a diverse practice in the areas of civil, commercial and criminal litigation, with an emphasis on construction and engineering issues and commercial disputes. He also has considerable experience in arbitration work, both domestic and international. Abraham is an adjunct tutor at the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University.



Mr Ben Giarretta is the Head of Dispute Resolution in Asia for Ashurst LLP. He specialises in the resolution of disputes in the energy, construction, engineering and infrastructure sectors, and has appeared as Counsel in disputes a range of matters including oilfield development, power stations, petrochemical facilities, and telecommunications satellites. He has also been appointed as arbitrator in many disputes, and has been an Emergency Arbitrator. He was educated at Oxford University, he is a Fellow of the CI Arb and the SI Arb, and he is on the panel of arbitrators of several arbitration institutions including the SIAC.

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Practice Area: Alternative Dispute Resolution
Training Level: Update

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