

Singapore to host world-class International Arbitration Academy

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SINGAPORE - The National University of Singapore's (NUS) Centre for International Law (CIL) and the NUS Faculty of Law will host the inaugural Singapore International Arbitration Academy from November 26-December 14.

This was announced by Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law Mr K Shanmugam SC on the second day of the 21st International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA) Congress which is being held at Marina Bay Sands Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Attorney-General of Singapore, Mr Sundaresh Menon SC, who is also participating at the ICCA Congress, said: "The Academy is the culmination of the collaboration between one of the world's most respected arbitration practitioners and academics, Mr Christopher Thomas QC, who will be joining CIL this year, key personnel from CIL and other key stakeholders including Professor Michael Pryles, chairman of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre.

"I was delighted to play a part in conceptualising the Academy. In a region where arbitration is set to grow even more dramatically in the coming years, the Academy fills a gap in the training and formation of practitioners by giving them an insight into real life issues they will encounter with an emphasis on practical learning from a cross-cultural perspective."

The Singapore International Arbitration Academy is slated to become Asia's premier arbitration training programme.

Targeted at private practitioners, in-house counsel and government officials who deal with international disputes and want to develop their arbitration knowledge and skills, the Academy will combine theory, skills training, and lectures on key issues of arbitral law and practice including State to State and Investor to State arbitration.

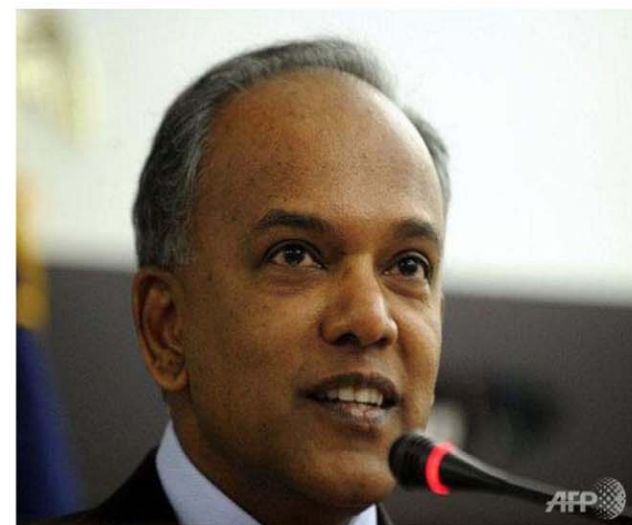
The 16-day Academy will have two tracks: (1) a Practising Counsel Track that focuses on the skills and issues relevant to counsel representing clients in an arbitral proceeding; and (2) a Government Advisor/Instructing Solicitor Track covering issues such as selection, instruction and management of hired counsel.

To ensure effective participation and skills training, the Academy will only enrol 60 participants in its first year - 24 Practice Track Counsel and 36 Government Advisors/Instructing Solicitors.

Over 40 leading practitioners, arbitrators and public officials, including the President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers, KG; the Attorney General of Singapore, Sundaresh Menon SC; and former Senior Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore, Professor S Jayakumar, will share their expertise and insights during the Academy.

On Monday evening, members of the ICCA were hosted to dinner by Singapore's President Tony Tan Keng Yam at the Istana. Dr Tan was introduced to members of the ICCA by Professor Michael Pryles, chairman of Singapore's International Arbitration Centre.

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