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Course Title: ADR Trends and Insights: Changes in the Supreme Court Practice Directions that Affects You and Your Clients

Speakers: Ramu Miyapan - Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court of Singapore

Loong Seng Onn - Executive Director, Singapore Mediation Centre

Samuel Chacko – Director, Legis Point LLC

Duration: 88 minutes

Course Description: The Supreme Court Practice Directions (Amendment No 1 of 2016) came into effect on 2 January 2016. The amendments to paragraph 35B on “Overview of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) for civil cases” now states that it is the professional duty of advocates and solicitors to advise their clients about the different ways their disputes may be resolved using an appropriate form of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). There are also potential adverse costs orders for any unreasonable refusal to engage in ADR.

Learn from our panel of experts about the new changes to the Supreme Court Practice Directions on ADR, the rationale behind them, how this impacts your clients, and your work as a lawyer. Keep up to date on the different ADR schemes available in Singapore to better advise your clients on their ADR options.

In this programme, the learners will gain a better understanding of:

- The new ADR amendments to the Supreme Court Practice Directions
- Implication for lawyers and the impact it has on their work and their clients
- Potential adverse cost orders for any unreasonable refusal to engage in ADR
- Mediation services at the Singapore Mediation Centre, the application process, timelines and appointment of mediators
- ADR schemes offered by the Law Society of Singapore

About the Speakers:



Ramu Miyapan - Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court of Singapore

Ramu Miyapan is an Assistant Registrar in the Supreme Court of Singapore. Prior to his appointment to the Judiciary, he practiced law in the United Kingdom and Singapore, before joining the Singapore Legal Service as a Deputy Public Prosecutor/State Counsel with the Attorney-General's Chambers. Mr Ramu obtained his law degree from the University of Warwick and his Masters from the University of Kyushu, Japan. He is also a member of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple. Apart from his judicial work, Mr Ramu holds the office of the Assistant Director of the Singapore Mediation Centre and is an associate mediator. He taught at the law school of the National University of Singapore and is both a Tutor at the Singapore Institute of Legal Education and a Trainer for the Part B Advocacy workshop, organised by the Law Society of Singapore.

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Loong Seng Onn - Executive Director, Singapore Mediation Centre

Seng Onn has been with the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) since its inception. He currently holds the appointment of Executive Director, SMC. He is involved in the strategic development of SMC as well as its day to day operations.

Seng Onn is on the panel of mediators of SMC as well as the Singapore International Mediation Centre. He is also a CEDR and IMI (International Mediation Institute) accredited mediator and a gazetted mediator for the Tribunal for the Maintenance of Parents. Seng Onn has mediated and resolved a great diversity of disputes, ranging from family matters to complex commercial disputes.



Samuel Chacko – Director, Legis Point LLC

Samuel Chacko heads Legis Point LLC's Dispute Resolution Practice Group.

Samuel graduated from the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth in 1991 with an LLB in the top five percentile of his class winning the Calcott Pryce Prize for Evidence. He went on to obtain an LLM from the University of Cambridge in 1993. Samuel also holds a Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and an MSc in Construction Law & Arbitration awarded jointly by King's College, London and the National University of Singapore.

When he obtained his Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration, he graduated at the top of his class and won the Course Director's Prize. When he obtained his MSc in Construction Law & Arbitration, he topped his class winning the E.C. Harris Prize and Davis, Langdon & Seah Medal in the process.

Samuel was called to the English bar in 1992 and admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1994.

Samuel has an active international arbitration practice and has been lead counsel in a number of substantial international arbitrations involving complex cross-border claims. He is a Chartered Arbitrator and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. He has also been appointed to the arbitration panels of the SIAC, the SI Arb, the KLRCA, the ADNDRC and the Law Society of Singapore. Samuel is also an accredited Adjudicator and has been appointed to the adjudication panels of the SMC and the KLRCA.

Samuel has been awarded the NITA Master Advocate designation by The National Institute for Trial Advocacy in the United States and has been invited to teach advocacy at advanced advocacy courses run by NITA in the United States and the Australian Bar Association in Australia.

Samuel is currently serving as Chairman of the Advocacy Committee and the Vice-Chairman of the ADR Committee of The Law Society of Singapore.

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