

# **REPORT ON THE UNCITRAL ACADEMY 2023**

**4 April 2024**



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**SINGAPORE  
CONVENTION  
ON MEDIATION**

On 7 August 2019, ministers and senior officials representing 70 countries, and 1,500 delegates in total, convened in Singapore to commemorate the signing of the Singapore Convention on Mediation.

46 States signed the Convention on the day it opened for signature, the highest number of first-day signatories of a UN trade convention to-date.

56 States have signed and 14 States have become Party to the Convention.

**UNCITRAL  
ACADEMY**

The UNCITRAL Academy, jointly launched in 2019 by UNCITRAL and the Ministry of Law of Singapore, promotes the development, understanding and use of **international dispute resolution** methods and instruments.

The UNCITRAL Academy has:

- **Raised awareness** of UNCITRAL instruments and ongoing work at UNCITRAL among government and industry users
- **Convened leaders** from governments and legal and business communities around the world to examine the latest trends in international dispute resolution globally
- **Provided training** in international mediation and the Singapore Convention on Mediation, including in investor-State dispute settlement

The 2023 edition of the Singapore Convention Week brought together over 4,500 participants from all over the world.

The UNCITRAL Academy is a dynamic and vibrant event, with global reach, and the 2023 edition is its 4<sup>th</sup> edition, as part of the Singapore Convention Week.

## **Introduction**

1. This report on the 2023 edition of the UNCITRAL Academy, co-organised by the Singapore Ministry of Law and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), provides a summary of the objectives, deliverables and outcomes of the event. This builds upon the groundwork laid in previous years and captures details of the continuing conversations following the 2022 edition. Testimonials from participants, recaps of related events, and key reflections are also set out below.

## **Secretariat Support**

2. The UNCITRAL Secretariat worked closely with the Singapore Ministry of Law and contributed their expertise to co-design and organise the Academy. Additionally, the Secretariat provided invaluable support to the Academy through their participation in speeches and live panel discussions on UNCITRAL's work. They also actively improved the reach and visibility of the Academy through their membership channels and industry networks.

### Updates from the UNCITRAL Academy 2023

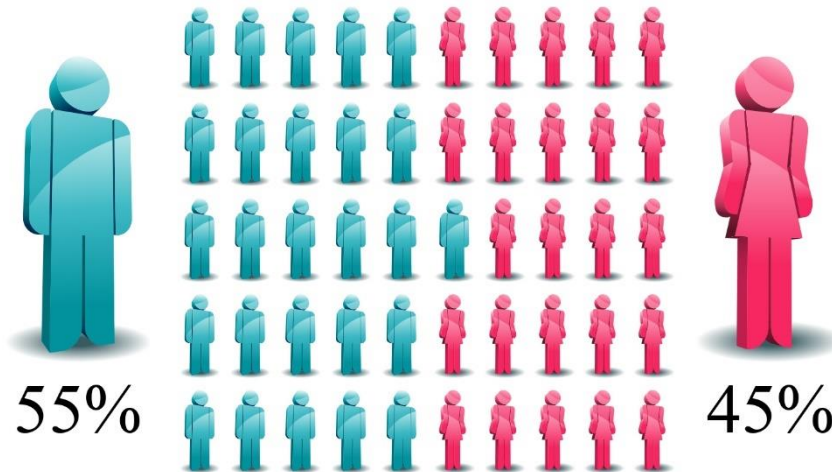
3. The UNCITRAL Academy 2023, which comprised a Conference and three Capacity-Building Workshops, was held from 29 to 31 August. It formed part of the Singapore Convention Week 2023, a week-long series of legal and dispute resolution events. The Conference and Industry Capacity-Building Workshop (Fig. 1) were held in a hybrid format, while the Government and Investor-State Dispute Settlement Workshops were fully virtual. In total, the Week brought together over 4,500 participants from all over the world, representing the legal, business and Government sectors.



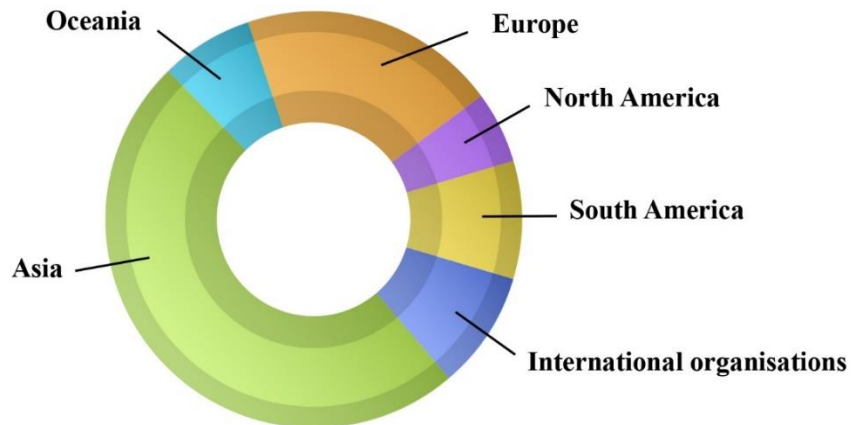
*Fig. 1*

4. The UNCITRAL Academy 2021, themed “A World in Transition”, focused on how the global pandemic had affected businesses globally and how dispute resolution had evolved accordingly through new mechanisms and technology. The UNCITRAL Academy 2022, themed “Embracing Global Change, Navigating New Possibilities”, saw the return of a full in-person audience in Singapore. It was centred on the current trends and challenges in cross-border dispute resolution amidst the quick-changing global landscape and recent breakthroughs in dispute resolution practice.
5. Building on these conversations, the UNCITRAL Academy 2023 was themed “Tomorrow’s World Today: Leading the Future of Dispute Resolution”. It showcased prominent thought leaders and focused on discussions aimed at driving meaningful change and addressing the complexities of new challenges in dispute resolution. The Academy programme featured:
  - a. Keynote addresses and remarks by senior Government and UNCITRAL officials;
  - b. A fireside chat on the future of international dispute resolution involving States;
  - c. Panel discussions on dispute resolution in the digital economy, Investor-State mediation, navigating inter-cultural needs in mediation and arbitration, and dispute resolution for carbon markets;
  - d. A friendly debate on whether robots are better arbitrators and mediators than humans; and
  - e. Three capacity-building workshops focusing on industry and Government users.

6. Dispute resolution remains a matter of global interest, with widespread relevance across industries and societies. Thus, diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility continue to be key hallmarks of the Academy, with panellists and participants hailing from around the world. The following graphics provide a snapshot of the speakers' and audience profiles for the three-day event:
- a. There was generally gender balance across all the speakers and moderators at the Academy, showcasing thought leaders and practitioners from around the world.



**Gender representation for speakers and moderators**



**Geographical breakdown of speakers and moderators**

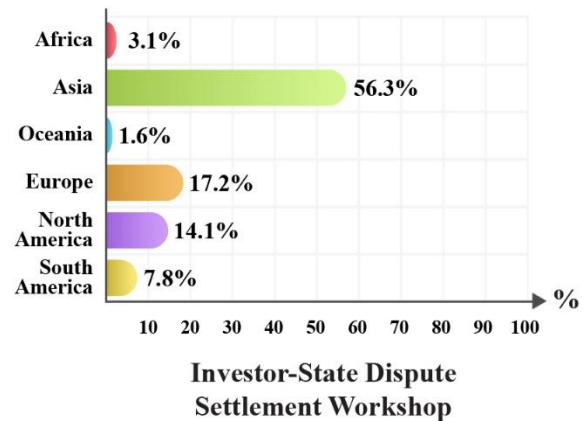
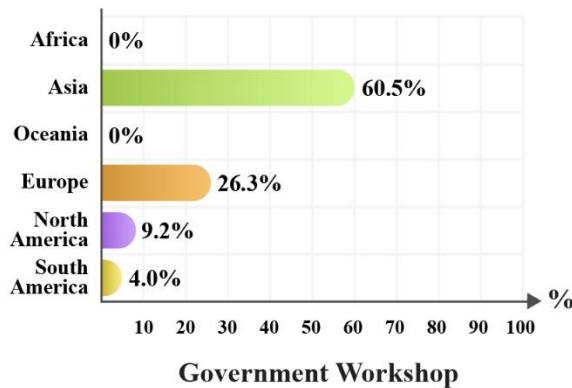
- b. Attendees for the Conference and Industry Capacity-Building Workshop were evenly split between in-person and online audiences, with comparative geographical spread. With the resumption of international travel, the UNCITRAL Academy 2023 attracted more in-person attendees (5 in 10) than the 2022 iteration (3 in 10).



**Ensuring accessibility:  
5 in 10 attendees tuned in to the UNCITRAL Academy 2023  
via the SC Week Virtual Platform**



- c. The Government and Investor-State Dispute Settlement Workshops were held fully virtually, for easier access to participants from around the world. Participants hailed from a diversity of regions in different time zones.





UNCITRAL Academy Conference and Industry Capacity-Building Workshop 2023

Welcome Address

7. Singapore's Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for Law **Mr Edwin Tong SC** welcomed participants at the start of the Academy (Fig. 2). Referencing the advancement of digital technology and increased relevance of sustainability in a post-pandemic era, he drew connections between dispute resolution and business. He highlighted the need to continually innovate in a future-forward and future-proof manner, encouraging participants to partner one another, to share ideas, and collaborate. He noted that the Singapore Convention on Mediation is the product of such collaboration and forward-thinking efforts, providing parties with a useful instrument and another viable option to resolve cross-border disputes.



Fig. 2

## Opening remarks

8. **Ms Anna Joubin-Bret**, Secretary of UNCITRAL (Fig. 3), gave the opening remarks, underscoring the need to be adaptable in the face of changes and challenges to meet the evolving needs of businesses and individuals. She acknowledged the sustained efforts and discussions to spark ideas, acquire new perspectives, and develop thought leadership. She also reflected on how the UNCITRAL Academy Conference 2022 contributed to exploratory work of the UNCITRAL Secretariat. These included discussions on climate change and the legal toolkit titled “COVID-19 and international trade law instruments” which acknowledges the usefulness of mediation in unpredictable situations and explains how other UNCITRAL text might be utilised in times of crisis. She expressed excitement about the continuing conversations on climate change and dispute resolution in the digital economy and hope for continued progress forward in the future.



*Fig. 3*

## Panel Discussion on Dispute Resolution in the Digital Economy

9. On the topic of dispute resolution in the digital economy, the first panel of the day saw alignment with UNCITRAL’s work in this area. The panellists acknowledged the untapped potential of technology, particularly artificial intelligence, within the dispute resolution context. The conversation examined specifically, the emerging possibility of issuing digital arbitral awards. The panel noted the need to balance the fundamental principles of arbitration (e.g. due process and confidentiality) with concerns of evidence, cybersecurity, equality, business viability, and efficiency.
10. The panel comprised:
  - a. **Mr Tejas Karia**, Partner and Head of Arbitration, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. India;
  - b. **Professor Pietro Ortolani**, Professor and Chair of Digital Conflict Resolution, Radboud University;
  - c. **Professor Maud Piers**, Associate Professor of Ghent University, Vice-President of Belgian Centre of Arbitration and Mediation (Cepani), and Independent Arbitrator and Dispute Resolution Consultant;
  - d. And was moderated by **Mr Takashi Takashima**, Legal Officer of UNCITRAL Secretariat.
11. Panellists discussed the reasons contributing to the enduring use of paper awards, how such behaviour is informed by the New York Convention, and observed that international instruments should adapt to evolving technology. Additionally, they emphasized the considerable time costs associated with the issuance of paper awards, especially in the international setting, suggesting that e-awards could lead to significant time savings. They also noted that no arbitral institution’s rules deal with issues arising from electronic evidence and articulated the possibility of developing international standards for electronic evidence in international arbitration proceedings.



Fig. 4

## Fireside Chat with the PCA Secretary-General on “The Future of International Dispute Settlement Involving States”

12. Next up was a fireside chat with the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), **Dr Hab Marcin Czepelak**. The chat was moderated by **Mr Lionel Yee SC**, Deputy Attorney-General, Attorney-General’s Chambers, Singapore (Fig. 5).
13. During the chat, the Secretary-General outlined, from the PCA’s perspective, the emerging trends in international dispute settlement involving States. He highlighted mediation as a viable form of dispute resolution, and the added value that the PCA could bring to the process, taking into account its institutional role amongst its members. The Secretary-General was optimistic about the future of mediation, especially as the PCA continues to partner States, such as Singapore, that share a similar vision.



Fig. 5

## Panel Discussion on Investor-State Mediation

14. On the topic of investor-State Mediation, the second panel of the day identified problems with using adversarial methods to deal with investor-State disputes and highlighted how mediation could be more suitable. The panel highlighted how mediation could better allow the public interest dimensions of such disputes to be accounted for and was also an opportunity for Governments and investors to arrive at beneficial outcomes for all parties and affected stakeholders, something that might not be possible with arbitration or litigation.
15. The panel also discussed common reservations about using mediation for investor-State disputes, such as a fear that doing so would be perceived as weakness, and a tendency of investors to escalate a dispute to arbitration or litigation too quickly. Ways to overcome these reservations were discussed, including incorporating provisions on mediation in investment treaties, and the use of arbitral procedural orders to remind parties of the availability of mediation throughout the proceedings. Looking forward, the panel canvassed the newly adopted UNCITRAL Model Treaty Provisions and Guidelines on Investor-State Mediation, and suggested ideas to further the use of mediation in Investor-State disputes.
16. The panel comprised:
  - a. **Mr Mohamed Shahdy Anwar**, S&A Lawyers, and Chair, Maldives International Arbitration Centre;
  - b. **Ms Christina G. Hioureas**, Partner, Global Co-Chair, International Litigation & Arbitration Department, and Chair, United Nations Practice Group, Foley Hoag LLP;
  - c. **Dr Judith Knieper**, Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat;
  - d. **Mr Toby Landau KC**, Barrister, Advocate and Arbitrator, Duxton Hill Chambers (Singapore Group Practice);
  - e. **Ms Frauke Nitschke**, Senior Counsel and Case Management Team Leader, ICSID;
  - f. And was moderated by **Mr George Lim SC**, Chairman, Singapore International Mediation Centre.



Fig. 6

## Panel Discussion on Navigating Inter-Cultural Needs in Mediation and Arbitration

17. The third panel of the day saw panellists discussing the relevance of cultural fluency in dispute resolution, and their own encounters with different cultures within the dispute resolution space. The panel considered what “culture” means and how it informs, affects, as well as contributes to disputes and their resolution.
18. They acknowledged that culture exists on several levels – national, professional, regional, ethnic etc. – and that each individual likely stands at several cultural intersections. The panellists also highlighted the need for practitioners to be cognisant and effective at managing these cultural differences. They also considered practical measures such as training and understanding one’s own cultural propensity to develop cultural sensitivity and identify unconscious biases.
19. The panellists also discussed cultural differences between mediation and arbitration. They shared how each mechanism is perceived through the cultural lens of their jurisdictions and the different operational nuances. Leaving the audience with words of advice, the panellists observed the dangers of reliance on cultural stereotypes in dispute resolution and suggested dispute practitioners treat cultural models as akin to prototypes to inform their practice instead.
20. The panel comprised:
  - a. **Ms Susie Abdel-Nabi**, Partner, Dispute Resolution team, Clyde & Co LLP;
  - b. **Mr John Bassie**, Global President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, and Chairman, Dispute Resolution Foundation (Jamaica);
  - c. **Dr Kun Fan**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales;
  - d. **Justice Niava Mata Tuatagaloa**, Judge, Supreme Court of Samoa;
  - e. And was moderated by **Dr Nadja Alexander**, Professor of Law at Singapore Management University and Director at Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy.



Fig. 7

## Industry Capacity-Building Workshop

21. Titled “Mediation Advocacy: From Breakdown to Breakthrough”, the Industry Capacity-Building Workshop, supported by the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC), was held as part of the afternoon programme of the UNCITRAL Academy Conference for the first time this year. With case studies and a demonstration, the Workshop discussed the emerging field of mediation advocacy.
22. Given their diverse backgrounds, the panellists provided the perspectives of clients, counsel and mediators and shared how mediation advocacy can affect the outcome of and experience with a case. The panellists also shared useful tips on how to leverage online and hybrid mediation, especially given increasing digitalisation around the world.
23. Speakers at the workshop were:
  - a. **Ms Shanti Abraham**, International Mediator and Arbitrator, Shanti Abraham & Associates
  - b. **Mr Brian Chi**, General Counsel, Kyndryl Japan;
  - c. **Mr Francis Goh**, Partner, Harry Elias Partnership LLP; Head, International Arbitration and Mediation;
  - d. And the panel was moderated by **Mr Kevin Kim**, Founding Managing Partner, Peter & Kim.



*Fig. 8*

## Panel Discussion on Dispute Resolution for Carbon Markets

24. Complementing UNCITRAL’s ongoing work on carbon markets and climate change, the fourth panel focused on the challenges for carbon markets vis-à-vis cross-border disputes. The panellists characterised carbon markets by their nascency, international nature, and political undertones. They discussed the difficulties in regulating carbon markets and its transactions, the problems arising from greenwashing litigation, how parties can be encouraged to opt for mediation over arbitration in such disputes, and the roles of Governments and corporations in carbon markets.
25. In addition to acknowledging the inherently global nature of carbon market transactions, the panel also discussed legal ownership in carbon trading, the growing awareness of carbon markets amongst disputes practitioners, and the suitability of mediation in carbon disputes. The panel cited the need for overarching guiding principles as this space develops, and the need for oversight, regulation, and structure to balance the inherent tensions of global public good against commercial interests.
26. The panel comprised:
  - a. **Mr Rajat Jariwal**, Partner, Dispute Resolution and Arbitration, Trilegal;
  - b. **Ms Jinhee Kim**, Head, Global Dispute Resolution Team, Jipyong LLC;
  - c. **Mr Mikkel Larsen**, CEO, Climate Impact Exchange;
  - d. And was moderated by **Ms Annette Magusson**, Co-founder, Climate Change Counsel.

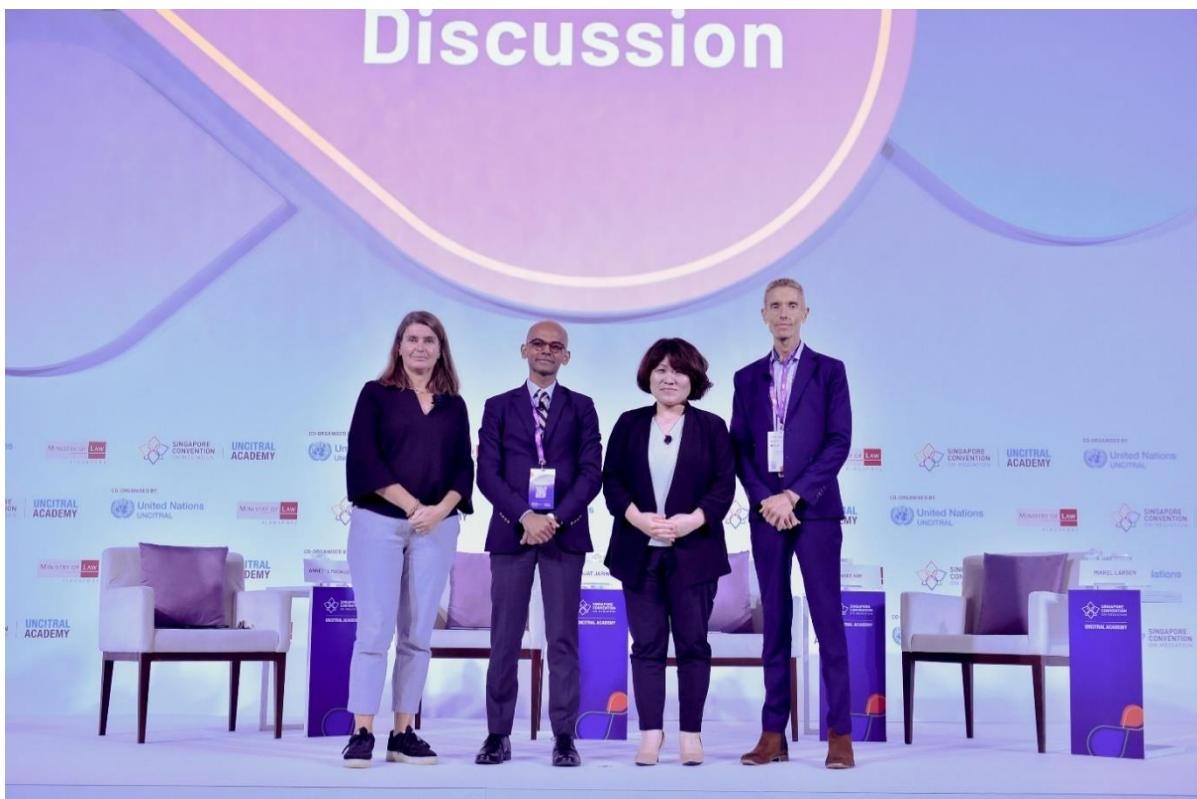


Fig. 9



## Debate

27. The last segment of the conference took the form of a lively debate this year, in the first-ever Academy face-off between two teams of senior dispute resolution practitioners. The debate motion was “Robots are better arbitrators and mediators than humans”.



*Fig. 10*

28. The teams – “Iron Giants” and “Long Live the Homo Sapiens” – pit their wits and technological knowledge against each other, taking turns to present their case for the robots and for the humans, respectively. Having heard the teams’ arguments, the debate was determined by an audience vote, with “Long Live the Homo Sapiens” being declared the winners.

29. The team that argued for the robots comprised:

- a. **Mr Jern-Fei Ng KC**, Duxton Hill Chambers (Singapore Group Practice) and Temple Chambers (Hong Kong SAR);
- b. **Ms Samantha Rowe**, Partner, International Dispute Resolution and Business Integrity Groups, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP; and
- c. **Mr Thio Shen Yi SC**, Joint Managing Partner, TSMP Law Corporation.

30. The team that argued for the humans comprised:

- a. **Ms Sheila Ahuja**, Partner, Global International Arbitration Group and Co-head of India Group, Allen & Overy LLP;
- b. **Ms Chiann Bao**, Arbitrator, Arbitration Chambers; and
- c. **Mr Jaikanth Shankar**, CEO, Davinder Singh Chambers LLC.



*Fig. 11*

31. The debate was ably moderated by **Ms Jelita Pandjaitan**, Head of Litigation, Arbitration & Investigations at Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd. She concluded the debate with thought-provoking questions on whether views on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in arbitration may differ from mediation. For instance, arbitration would benefit from the consistency that AI would offer, while mediation could be a safer platform for the use of AI, as parties would retain the final decision on whether to agree to a settlement. Ultimately, while AI and technology have the potential to make practitioners become better arbitrators and mediators, practitioners should be mindful to utilise them responsibly and ethically.



Fig. 12

## UNCITRAL Academy Government Capacity-Building Workshop

32. The Government Capacity-Building Workshop, supported by the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA), was a closed-door event. Government officials from around the world were invited to attend. The Workshop featured speakers from countries that have made recent progress on the Singapore Convention on Mediation, who shared their respective experience in signing and ratifying the Convention.
33. Attendees also heard from experts on key issues such as providing regulatory incentives to encourage lawyers to use mediation, the attitude of the courts towards mediation and the need for robust legal frameworks to facilitate the practice of mediation.



Fig. 12

34. Speakers at this workshop included:

- a. **Professor Nadja Alexander**, Professor of Law and Director, SIDRA, Singapore Management University (SMU);
- b. **Mrs Jasmine Chin-Sabado**, Director (Policy Advisory Division), Ministry of Law, Singapore;
- c. **Dr María Verónica Duarte García**, Legal Advisor, Cervieri Monsuárez;
- d. **Mr Fukuda Atsushi**, Counsellor, Civil Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Justice, Japan;
- e. **Mr Martin Fullick**, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Justice, United Kingdom;
- f. **Ms Mariam Gotsiridze**, Principal Research Fellow, SIDRA, SMU;
- g. **Dr Anna Howard**, Founder, Anna Howard Mediation; Guest Lecturer, University College London & Research Fellow (Honorary), SIDRA, SMU;
- h. **Ms Anna Joubin-Bret**, Secretary of UNCITRAL;
- i. **Mr Kawahara Takahito**, Attorney, International Legal Affairs Division, International Legal Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan;
- j. **Mr Michael Mcilwrath**, Chief Executive Officer, MDisputes; Chair, ICC Governing Body;
- k. **Dr Mark McLaughlin**, Global Visiting Assistant Professor, SIDRA, SMU;
- l. **Mr Ashique Rahman**, Partner, Fietta LLP;
- m. **Mr Shin Wooseok**, Research Associate, SIDRA, SMU; and
- n. **Ms Natascha Tunkel**, Partner, Knoetzl (Austria).

## UNCITRAL Academy Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) Capacity-Building Workshop

35. The ISDS capacity-building workshop, which was supported by the SIDRA and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), took a deep dive into the institutional and practical dimensions of Investor-State mediation. This included presentations on ICSID’s Mediation Rules 2022 and the newly adopted UNCITRAL Model Provisions and Guidelines for International Investment Disputes. The workshop also focused on dispelling some of the “myths” and practical challenges surrounding the use of investment mediation. Discussions acknowledged that mediation is increasingly used in practice, with States and other stakeholders being increasingly inclined to use it in the resolution of their disputes. Finally, panellists shared their insights and experiences through a case scenario on investment mediation.



Fig. 13

36. Speakers at the workshop included:

- a. **Professor Nadja Alexander**, Professor of Law and Director, SIDRA, SMU;
- b. **Ms Arianna Arce**, Advisor, Dispute Settlement Team, Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica;
- c. **Ms Ximena Bustamante**, Founding Partner, PACTUM Dispute Resolution Consulting;
- d. **Mr Darius Chan**, Associate Professor of Law (Practice), SMU Yong Pung How School of Law; Deputy Director, SIDRA;
- e. **Mr James Claxton**, Ombudsperson Specialist, United Nations;
- f. **Ms Mariam Gotsiridze**, Principal Research Fellow, SIDRA;
- g. **Ms Judith Knieper**, Legal Officer, UNCITRAL;
- h. **Ms Delcy Lagones De Anglim**, Founding & Executive Director, Australasian Dispute Resolution Centre;
- i. **Mr George Lim SC**, Chairman, Singapore International Mediation Centre;
- j. **Mr Bill Marsh**, International Mediator;
- k. **Dr Mark McLaughlin**, Global Visiting Assistant Professor, SMU Yong Pung How School of Law and SIDRA;
- l. **Ms May Tai**, Managing Partner, Asia, Herbert Smith Freehills;
- m. **Ms Frauke Nitschke**, Senior Counsel and Case Management Team Leader, ICSID;
- n. **Mr Luke Tang**, Director, International Legal Division, Ministry of Law, Singapore; and
- o. **Mr Francis Xavier SC**, Regional Head, Dispute Resolution Group, Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP.

### Concluding Remarks

37. The UNCITRAL Academy continues to serve as a shining beacon of the organisers' commitment to multilateralism, diversity, and support for UNCITRAL's work. It is envisaged that the next edition, scheduled for August - September 2024, will sustain the forward-thinking momentum generated through these insightful conversations and build upon the foundations laid for tomorrow's world, today.
38. More information, including videos of the UNCITRAL Academy highlights, events and panel discussions are available at <https://www.singaporeconventionweek.sg/>.

## Testimonials

**Ms Shanti Abraham, International Mediator and Arbitrator, Shanti Abraham & Associates:** [There] was a genuine buzz with [hundreds] of lawyers, dispute resolvers and corporate counsel/clients converging on the many events this week. It was so wonderful to reconnect with so many old friends and make wonderful new connections as well.

**Dr Kun Fan, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales:** Some reflections from attending various events: As Minister Edwin Tong SC noted, the Singapore Government has the vision of “build today for tomorrow”. It is committed to building Singapore as a dispute resolution hub. Arbitration is grappling with new types of disputes (renewable energy, carbon markets, cryptocurrency), which brings in challenges and opportunities. Mediation can have a more significant role to play in resolving Investor-State disputes. Geopolitics and culture impact the dispute resolution process. Don’t assume cultural stereotypes. Robots are not (yet) better than arbitrators and mediators, but AI will play a bigger role in dispute resolution, which will change the landscape of dispute resolution and legal education. We should see ADR not as alternative, but “appropriate” dispute resolution.

**Professor Maud Piers, Associate Professor, Ghent University, and Vice-President, Belgian Centre of Arbitration and Mediation (Cepani):** It was a great opportunity for me to discuss the use of AI in arbitration and emphasise the importance of all-encompassing interdisciplinary discussions within the dispute resolution community. I am eagerly looking forward to more insightful discussions in the future.

**Ms Lara Quie, Head of Business Development (Asia-Pacific), Twenty Essex:** Singapore Convention Week has been a brilliant few days of connection, community, collaboration and celebration. It gave those of us in the international dispute resolution community the opportunity to share knowledge and grow relationships. I learned a lot from the many keynotes and panel discussions. I noticed how many women speakers there were and how excellent they were. I noticed the diversity of the speakers in terms of race and culture. These factors are what makes Singapore the global hub for dispute resolution.

**Mr Thio Shen Yi SC, Joint Managing Partner, TSMP Law Corporation:** The programme is pretty eclectic. There is something for everyone but the truth is most people look forward to the networking sessions. Everybody wants to meet old friends from faraway countries because they all converge on Singapore. There is a lot for everyone because there is the future-looking crystal ball gazing conceptual topics but there are also some very practical topics.

**Mr Harald Sippel, Head of European and Northeast Asia Desk, Skrine:** Fantastic line-up as always. Speakers not only from the usual suspect countries but also from countries which are further away. Last night I met a judge from Samoa and I saw her on the stage today. This is really great because the Singapore Convention, is not just about a few countries, it is about the entire world. Ideally, a few years down the road, all the countries around the world, will have acceded to the Singapore Convention, and ratified it.

**Justice Niava Mata Tuatagaloa, Supreme Court of Samoa:** I like the panel discussions, especially the idea on the fireside chat. An informal setting, makes the people more receptive to an interactive audience. Instead of doing presentations, the panel discussions provide a more comfortable setting.



## About the Organisers

### Singapore Ministry of Law



The mission of the [Singapore Ministry of Law](#) is to advance access to justice, the rule of law, the economy and society through policy, law and services. Amongst other key roles, the Ministry oversees the policy for development, promotion and regulation of Singapore's legal sector to strengthen Singapore's position as a leading international legal services and dispute resolution hub, and promotes and protects Singapore's interests through cooperation and engagement with key international and regional organisations and bilateral partners on a range of international legal policy issues, including transnational criminal and civil justice.

### United Nations Commission on International Trade Law



The [United Nations Commission on International Trade Law](#) is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law. A legal body with universal membership specialising in commercial law reform worldwide for over 50 years, UNCITRAL's business is the modernisation and harmonisation of rules on international business.