

## **Diversity in Arbitration Week**

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For registration and more information, please contact events@aiac.world

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## ADR Online: Special An AIAC Webinar Series Diversity in Arbitration Week

## **REMOTELY PERSONAL**

A 90-minute forum organised by the Equal Representation in Arbitration (ERA) Pledge in collaboration with AIAC to meet, up close, six female arbitrators. This forum is an excellent opportunity for lawyers, institutions and end-users of arbitration to share ideas and exchange experiences on increasing gender diversity in arbitral appointments on an equal opportunity basis. The panel will highlight select issues they have experienced on their journey, both current and evolving. It will engage with participants to consider suggestions and answer questions relevant to gender diversity.



DATE

Tuesday, 14th July 2020

TIME 5:00 p.m. MYT (GMT +8)

## ADMISSION IS FREE

Presentation through Zoom Video Webinar

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**Opening Remarks** Sitpah Selvaratnam Tommy Thomas Advocates & Solicitors



Briana Young Herbert Smith Freehills



Tan Swee Im 39 Essex Chambers



Juliet Blanch Arbitration Chambers



Christine Artero The Arbitration Chambers Pte Ltd

Patricia Saiz Gonzales ESADE Law School



Olufunke Adekoya, SAN ÆLEX



Mohanadass Kanagasabai Mohanadass Partnership



Diversity in Arbitration Week

## **ROUNDTABLE ON AGE DIVERSITY** IN INTERNATIONAL **ARBITRATION: AN IMAGINED OR REAL PROBLEM?**

This panel will discuss issues to do with age diversity in international arbitration, including the real and perceived barriers faced by young practitioners in securing their first appointments as arbitrator or mediator, or in landing their opportunity to lead and conduct oral advocacy. The panel will also discuss how age and experience factor into the appointment process and the benefits of age diversity. Panellists will share their views from the perspectives of counsel, arbitrator, tribunal secretary and in-house counsel.



**Opening Remarks** Jonathan Lim Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP



Diana Rahman Asian International Arbitration Centre



Emmanuel Duncan Chua Immediate Past Regional Disputes and Investigations Lead, Downstream Function, Chevron Corporation



Dr. Michael Hwang SC Michael Hwang Chambers LLC



Isuru Devendra Latham & Watkins



Moderator

Janice Lee Harry Elias Partnership

#### DATE:

Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

### TIME:

5:00 p.m. MYT (GMT +8)

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Diversity in Arbitration Week

## PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY IN ARBITRATION – INEVITABLE OR IDEALISTIC?

A key benefit of arbitration as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism is the ability of a party to choose an arbitrator with subject matter expertise in the dispute on foot. Theoretically, this means that rather than opting for an arbitrator who has legal experience relevant to the nature of the dispute, the parties have the option of choosing a non-legally trained individual with practical or specialist expertise in the relevant subject matter. For instance, in a dispute relating to a cross-border derivatives transaction, parties may opt to choose a derivatives expert who may be an academic or an individual with derivatives trading expertise, to form part of the arbitral tribunal, as opposed to only opting for a banking & finance lawyer who possesses the necessary skills and training to act as an arbitrator. Yet, there may be a perception that arbitral tribunals are primarily composed of legal practitioners. Is there any demand for bespoke expertise in an arbitral tribunal or is there a need to cultivate demand for such by increasing the supply of bespoke specialist arbitrators? In this webinar, organised in collaboration with the CIArb Malaysia Branch, we will hear from CIArb qualified Members and Fellows of diverse professional backgrounds who will share their experience of what brought them to arbitration, what keeps them in arbitration, and the opportunities and challenges professional diversity can bring to an arbitral tribunal

## DATE: Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020



#### TIME:

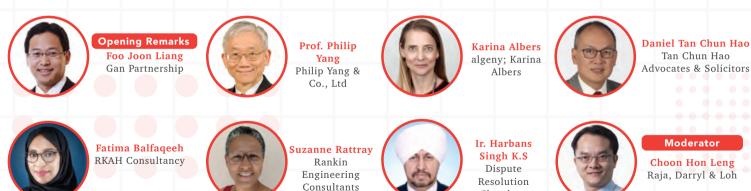
Chambers

4:00 p.m. MYT (GMT +8)

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Diversity in Arbitration Week

## GLOBALISING ARBITRATION – ENHANCING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Over the years, arbitration has become the preferred dispute resolution mechanism for cross-border disputes given not only its enforceability but also its malleable nature. One element that is extremely important to many parties is the ability to select their arbitrator. These arbitrators are meant to be distinct from judges in that the parties can choose someone with the background and experience suitable for their specific dispute. Whilst having a particular technical background or expertise within a particular area of law might be necessary, it is equally relevant to consider the cultural background that would make an arbitrator especially fit for a specific dispute. However, more often than not, arbitrators have been part of the group deemed "pale, male, and stale," In 2018, American rapper Jay-Z highlighted the lack of African-American arbitrators on the American Arbitration Association's (AAA) panel, which sparked a discussion on the importance of arbitral institutions providing parties with a panel of diverse arbitrators. This panel will discuss their experience within international arbitration, the importance of having diverse arbitrators, the responsibilities of the various stakeholders within arbitration (parties, counsel, institutions, etc.), and various initiatives aimed at enhancing racial and ethnic diversity.

DATE: Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

#### TIME:

7:00 p.m. MYT (GMT +8)

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