The Asian Mediation Association (AMA) is proud to present the 1st AMA Conference, “Mediation Diversity – Asia & Beyond”.

With the growing presence of Asia as a global centre for trade and industry, the time has come to broaden and deepen our understanding of dispute resolution cultures and practices in this part of the world. The Conference will feature cultural concepts like face in the Asian mediation framework, issues of topical interest like the role of mediation in the current economic crisis, and effective strategies for managing complex disputes in Asia and beyond.

Distinguished speakers from around the world, including Australia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States of America will explore these issues, and discuss best practices, trends and developments in dispute resolution. The Singapore Minister for Law and Second Minister for Home Affairs, Mr K Shanmugam, will be the Guest-of-Honour at the Conference.

The Singapore Mediation Centre is delighted to be the host of this very significant mediation event. We look forward to welcoming you at the Conference.

Conference Keynote Speaker
President Martti Ahtisaari, the 2008 Nobel Peace Prize Winner and former President of Finland, will be the keynote speaker for the Conference.

President Ahtisaari has played a leading role in brokering peace deals around the world. From facilitating the peace process between the government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement to his recent role as UN Special Envoy for the Kosovo Status Process, President Ahtisaari has successfully brought together conflicting parties, facilitating dialogue and setting the scene for agreement to emerge.

Background to AMA
AMA aims to promote and facilitate the use of mediation to amicably settle disputes in Asia. AMA also provides a regional dispute resolution infrastructure for conflict management and dispute resolution that will support the increasing cross-border investment and trade activities of the fast growing Asian economies. AMA is made up of member organisations involved in mediation, which are based in Asia. Presently the AMA members are the Delhi Mediation Centre, the Hong Kong Mediation Centre, the Indonesian Mediation Center, the Malaysian Mediation Centre, the Philippine Mediation Center and the Singapore Mediation Centre. The Singapore Mediation Centre also serves as the AMA Secretariat.

AMA Members
Pre-Conference Workshop (2 - 3 June 2009)  Venue: Supreme Court of Singapore

This is an intensive 2-day basic mediation workshop that offers participants an opportunity to increase their understanding of conflicts, learn the latest and most effective techniques to manage and resolve conflicts, and improve communication and interpersonal skills. Participants can expect a highly interactive programme and active engagement in role-plays and simulations.

0900 - 1700 on both days

For details and registration, please visit the Singapore Mediation Centre website at www.mediation.com.sg/training.htm

Conference Day 1 (4 June 2009)  Venue: Marina Mandarin Singapore

0930 - 1030 • Registration
1030 - 1200 • 1st AMA Conference Opening Ceremony
  • Welcome Address by Justice Andrew Ang, Judge, Supreme Court of Singapore and Chairman, Singapore Mediation Centre
  • Opening Remarks by Guest-of-Honour Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Law and Second Minister for Home Affairs, Singapore
  • Keynote Address by President Martti Ahtisaari, 2008 Nobel Peace Prize Winner and former President of Finland
1200 - 1400 • Gala Lunch
1400 - 1430 • Opening Plenary: “Cultures & Perspectives” by Mr Ong Keng Yong, Director of the Institute of Policy Studies at National University of Singapore, Former Secretary-General of ASEAN and Ambassador-At-Large
1430 - 1630 • Panel Discussion: “Mediation: The Asian Experience” chaired by Mr George Lim, Chairman, Asian Mediation Association and Board Member, Singapore Mediation Centre

Panellists from AMA Member Countries:
  - Hong Kong – Ms Sylvia Siu, JP, Chairman, Board of Governors, Hong Kong Mediation Centre
  - India – Mr Sriram Panchu, Senior Advocate and Mediator, India International Mediation Group
  - Indonesia – Mr Denaldy M. Mauna, Chairman, The Indonesian Mediation Center
  - Malaysia – Datuk Hajj Kuthubul Zaman Bukhari, Chairman, Malaysian Mediation Centre
  - Philippines – DCA Bernardo T. Pontierrada, PHILJA Chief of Office, Philippine Mediation Center
  - Singapore – Mr Loong Seng Onn, Executive Director, Singapore Mediation Centre

Conference Day 2 (5 June 2009)  Venue: Marina Mandarin Singapore

(B) Law & Mediation
B1 Court-Annexed Mediation
B2 Mediation in Arbitration
B3 Mediation Advocacy
B4 Intellectual Property Mediation & Medical Mediation
B5 A Perspective of Corporate Counsel

(C) Aspects of International Mediation
C1 Impact of Culture Part 1
C2 Impact of Culture Part 2
C3 Cross-Border Issues Part 1
C4 Cross-Border Issues Part 2
C5 Country Reports

(D) Mediation Skills & Practice
D1 Complex Issues & Difficult People Part 1
D2 Complex Issues & Difficult People Part 2
D3 Engineering Better Processes
D4 Better Mediators, Better Mediation
D5 Training & Education

Concurrent Sessions

(A) Sector-Specific Mediation
A1 Banking & Finance - Responding to the Economic Crisis Part 1
A2 Banking & Finance - Responding to the Economic Crisis Part 2
A3 Mediation in Infrastructure Projects
A4 Community Mediation Part 1
A5 Community Mediation Part 2

Time | Conference Day 2 at a Glance
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0900 - 1015 | Tea Break
1015 - 1115 | B1 Court-Annexed Mediation
1130 - 1230 | B3 Mediation Advocacy
1230 - 1330 | Lunch
1330 - 1430 | B4 Intellectual Property Mediation & Medical Mediation
1445 - 1545 | B5 A Perspective of Corporate Counsel
1545 - 1600 | Tea Break
1600 - 1700 | Closing Plenary: “The Seven Keys to the Global Future of Mediation” by Mr Michael Leathes, Executive Director, International Mediation Institute, The Hague
  • Report by Chief Rapporteur Mr Chan Wah Teck Jeffrey, S.C., Deputy Solicitor-General, Attorney-General’s Chambers, Singapore
  • Close of Conference
5 June 2009 (Friday)

Concurrent Sessions | Breakout 1

9.00am - 10.00am
A1 How Mediation Can Help Corporations Survive Recession
Chan Bing Woon, Chairman, Hong Kong Mediation Council, Hong Kong
A2 The Rapid Growth Of Islamic Financial Disputes
Idris Ali, Co-Chairman, Centre for Islamic Banking and Finance, London
A3 Resolving Banking Financial Disputes
Ng Wei Jin, Chief Executive Officer & Adjudicator, Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre Ltd, Singapore
B1 Mediation In The Halls Of Justice: Examining The Singapore Model Of Mediation Within The Subordinate Courts
Dorcas Quak, Visiting Researcher, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

B1 Mediation: Reaching Its Potential In Family Law Cases
Justo Nitha Cuesta Vitche, Deputy Court Administrator, Office of the Court Administrator, Supreme Court of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines

C1 Mediating Globally: The Impact Of Culture On Mediation
Michelle S. Riley, Esq., Columbia University, New York, USA
Camilo Azcarate, Manager, Mediation Services, The World Bank, Washington D.C., USA

C1 Do You Hear Me Clearly From Over There? (Communicating On Different Planes In Cross-Culture Mediations)
Sim Naihdja, Bni Mohamed, Associate, Commercial Litigation Practice Group, Ralph & Tann LLP, Singapore

D1 Strategies For Toxic Negotiators
Patrick Casagrande, Co-Director, Dispute Resolution Centre, Bond University, Australia

Concurrent Sessions | Breakout 2

10.15am - 11.15am
A2 Resolving Banking Financial Disputes Between Consumers And Banks: In A Diverse & Emerging Global World
Audrey Yeoh, Mediator, Banking Division, Financial Mediation Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
A3 The Rapid Growth Of Islamic Financial Dispute Resolution Within A Consequence Of The Worsening Economic Crisis
Assoc Prof Andrew White, Assoc Prof, School of Business, Singapore Management University, Singapore

B2 Use Of Mediation As Part Of The Arbitration Process
Danny McFadden, Director, Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, London, UK

Concurrent Sessions | Breakout 4

1.30pm - 2.30pm
A4 Promoting Mediation As An Alternative Dispute Resolution Process To Resolve Community & Social Disputes - A Singapore Perspective
Gloria Lim, Director, Community Mediation Centres, General Manager, Ministry Of Law's Community Mediation Unit, Deputy Director, Ministry Of Law's Industry Development Division, Singapore

A4 A Conceptual Framework Of Community Mediation Development In The PRC
Leung Tong Lit Charles, Center for Social Work Education and Research, Sun Yat-Sen (Zhong Shan) University, PRC; Hong Kong Mediation Education and Research, Sun Yat-Sen (Zhong Shan) University, PRC

Concurrent Sessions | Breakout 3

11.30am - 12.30pm
A2 Project Alliancing - Applying Advanced Conflict Management Systems To Complex Infrastructure Projects
Gregory William Rooney, Mediator, Supreme and District Court's Mediation Panels of Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia, Arbitrator and Mediator, New South Wales Workers Compensation Commissioner, Australia

B3 Role Of Lawyers In Mediation
Ian Hanger AM QC, Adjunct Professor, Australia Centre For Peace and Conflict Studies, University Of Queensland, Australia

C3 Developments In Cross-Border Mediation: The Use Of Mediation As Part Of A 'Filter' Process In Cross-Border Disputes
Anthony Connerty, Head, IDR Group, London, UK

D3 In Praise Of Joint Sessions
Geoff Sharp, Commercial Mediator & Barrister, Wellington, New Zealand

D3 Questioning Techniques In Mediation To Empower Parties To Resolve Their Own Disputes
Assoc Professor Dale Bagshaw, PhD, Director, Centre For Peace, Conflict And Mediation, Hawke Centre For Peace And Conflict Studies, University Of Queensland, Australia

Concurrent Sessions | Breakout 5

2.45pm - 3.45pm
A5 The Management Of Complex Behaviour Disputes In Mediation: A Strategic Case Management Approach
Christine Jefferys, Associate Director, Centre For Peace And Conflict Studies, The University Of Queensland, Australia

A5 Community Mediation Training In The PRC - The Way Forward For Singapore
Dr Stanley Leu Tze Chong, Head, Intellectual Property & Technology Department, Allen & Gledhill LLP, Singapore

B4 Why Mediation Is The Answer In Medical Negligence Litigation
Campbell Bridge SC, Senior Counsel, MacKerlie Byers Chambers, Sydney, Australia

C4 The EU Directive On Cross Border Mediation - A Model For Boosting The Mediation Movement In Asia?
Malene Mathies, Manager, International Chamber Of Commerce Dispute Resolution Services, France

B4 Intellectual Property Dispute Mediation - The Way Forward For Singapore
Dr Stanley Leu Tze Chong, Head, Intellectual Property & Technology Department, Allen & Gledhill LLP, Singapore
About Conference Location
Unique is the word that best describes Singapore, a dynamic city rich in contrast and colour where you will find a harmonious blend of culture, cuisine, arts and architecture. For more information and things to do and see in Singapore, please visit the Uniquely Singapore website at www.visitsingapore.com.

Pre-Conference Workshop Venue - Supreme Court of Singapore
The Supreme Court of Singapore, which consists of the Court of Appeal and the High Court, sits at the apex of Singapore’s judicial system. Located in the heart of the civic district, opposite Parliament House, the Supreme Court is a technologically-advanced courthouse with state-of-the-art, purpose-built resources which facilitate the fair and efficient administration of justice.

1st Asian Mediation Association Conference Venue - Marina Mandarin Singapore
An acclaimed 5-star luxury hotel, Marina Mandarin Singapore is the only member of The Leading Hotels of the World® in Singapore. As the official conference venue of the 1st AMA Conference, Marina Mandarin Singapore is offering special accommodation rates to conference participants.

Room Category | Room Rates
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Deluxe Room | SGD 230.00++ (room only)
Executive Deluxe | SGD 260.00++ (with one breakfast and 6 hours internet)
Premier Club Room | SGD 290.00++ (with one breakfast and 12 hours internet)

The above rates are subject to 10% service charge and 7% goods and services tax (GST) per room per night.

For more information on the hotel, please call +65 6845 1188 or visit www.meritus-hotels.com

Conference Venue & Accommodation

Organising Committee
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Justice Madan B. Lokur, Judge, Delhi High Court, Delhi Mediation Centre
Ms Sylvia Siu, JP, Chairman, Board of Governors, Hong Kong Mediation Centre
Mr Denaldy M. Mauna, Chairman, The Indonesian Mediation Center
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Ms Carol Law, Deputy Director, Singapore Mediation Centre (Secretariat)

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For the latest updates on the conference, accommodation rates and other travel information, please visit the AMA Conference website at www.asianmediationassociation.org/conference

DISCLAIMER: The Organising Committee is committed to making this conference a success. However, it reserves the right to carry out changes to the programme or any of the details published.