# 18TH LAWASIA INTERNATIONAL MOOT COMPETITION 

NATIONAL ROUNDS, MALAYSIA
18-20 AUGUST 2023
ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE


## CONTENTS




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## LAWASIA Design Philosophy

The design for this year's programme cover symbolises the changes brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic and the adaptations that we are all required to make to embrace and welcome the promises of a new dawn. Recognizing the growing significance of fostering a culture of cyber vigilance, this year's design centres on three key principles: innovation, security, and social responsibility. In the realm of technology, we believe in pushing boundaries, exploring new frontiers, and constantly evolving to meet the needs of a rapidly changing world.

Chair
THE LAWASIA MOOT • 2-3
WELCOME MESSAGE FROMCHAIR OF LAWASIA MOOT STANDING • 4-6WELCOME MESSAGE FROMPRESIDENT OF LAWASIA•7
WELCOME MESSAGE FROM
HOST UNIVERSITY• 8-9
MOOT PROBLEM 2023•10-21
CORRECTIONS \& CLARIFICATIONS
TO THE MOOT PROBLEM •22-23
OFFICIAL RULES ..... -24-33
PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES
FOR ARBITRATION • 34
COMPETITION STRUCTURE
AND SCHEDULE•35-38
PARTICIPATING TEAMS•39-41
AUTHOR(S) OF THE MOOT PROBLEM ..... 42
MOOT JUDGES • 43-72
PARTICIPATING LAW SCHOOLS•73
TROPHIES OF LAWASIA
NATIONAL ROUNDS•74
SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS•75
SPONSOR•75
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS•76
CONTACT• 77ADVERTISEMENT • 78-79AUTOGRAPH

# THE LAWASIA MOOT 

About LAWASIA

LAWASIA is an international organization of lawyer's associations, individual lawyers, judges, legal academics, and others that focus on the interests and concerns of the legal profession in the Asia Pacific region. LAWASIA facilitates its member's participation in the most dynamics economic region in the world. Since its inception in 1966, LAWASIA has built an enviable reputation among lawyers, business people and governments, both within and outside the region, as a committed, productive and genuinely representative organization.

Find out more: http://lawasia.asn.au/welcome

## About Mooting

The Moot Standing Committee acknowledges the importance of and observes that mooting has emerged as a critical component of legal education simply because it provides the skills training element for the fundamental skills necessary for a prospective lawyer. Indeed many leading law schools have either made mooting compulsory or forms an important part of the curriculum. Mooting offers a systematic training process of the essential skills of problem solving, legal analysis, drafting legal submissions and the development of public speaking. The ability to articulate one's thoughts and arguments condensing disparate, often conflicting legal authorities into succinct and persuasive arguments is arguably the single most important weaponry in the lawyer's arsenal.

Some Law Schools have yet to recognise the importance of mooting where it is considered an extracurricular activity confined to and organised by the student body. Such neglect cannot be allowed to continue if we are to raise the standards of our lawyers to meet the needs of a globalised world. We recognise that the constrains of individual Law Schools and for this reason the Committee would encourage all Law Schools not only to participate but hopes that its students would be encouraged to attend the Competition.

The competitiveness and the individualistic nature of mooting and lawyers are self evident. What is less obvious but equally important are the role of coaches and the coaching assistance rendered as the teams prepare for the written submissions and the oral competition. The coaching assistance represents further opportunities for the faculty in enhancing the educational value and overall experience to the students. Often the Moot Problem posed is in an area of the law that the students have little or no substantive knowledge in or may not have adequate background in comparative law. Obviously, students have not allowed such minor issues to dampen their interest and enthusiasm. Such handicaps have often been turned into educational forays into legal worlds hereto unknown to them thus enlarging and enriching their legal education.

The LAWASIA International Moot Competition provides this educational learning experience in an international environment. The networking of and the meeting of like-minded students across jurisdictions prepare them for a globalised world. Friendships are formed amongst students, relationships forged between participating law schools and useful contacts made by the stakeholders.

At its best, moot competitions are arenas where legal minds do battle under extreme conditions juggling between facts and the law where the best traditions of the Bar and Bench are simulated so as to impact young lives in preparation for their role in the cause of upholding the rule of law.

It is essential that law students are exposed to the concepts of the rule of law and an independent Judiciary. We quote The Hon Chief Justice Murray, AC who had this to say when addressing the National Judicial College of Australia on the 9th February, 2007, "An assurance that courts decide cases free from external influence in the form of pressure from governments or other powerful interests or favoritism of some litigants is basic. The ultimate test of such assurance is whether people believe that, in a legal contest between a citizen and a government, the judge will hold the scale of justice evenly. It is also important that people believe that judges are committed to deciding cases of all kinds, regardless of the identity of the parties, fairly and according to law."

The late Tun Suffian in his Braddel Memorial Lecture in 1982, could not have summed it up any better when he professed, "In a multi-racial and multi religious society like yours and mine, while we judges cannot help being Malay or Chinese or Indian; or being Muslim or Buddhist or Hindu or whatever, we strive not to be too identified with any particular race or religion - so that nobody reading our judgment with our name deleted could with confidence identify our race or religion, and so that the various communities, especially minority communities, are assured that we will not allow their rights to be trampled underfoot."

By involving sitting as well as retired Judges of eminence and integrity in the judging of the Competition the mooter is exposed to the names behind the personalities they only read of in law reports. In addition senior members of the Bar and general counsels from industry are also invited as judges of the Moot.

## About the 18th LAWASIA International Moot 2023

It is with great pleasure that we, the LAWASIA International Moot Secretariat welcomes you all to the 18th anniversary of the LAWASIA International Moot Competition. A decade might not be very long time in the life of an organisation. However, during this short span, we have challenged the unchallenged and have travelled to various unchartered jurisdictions to deliver the LAWASIA International Moots along with the annual LAWASIA Conference. The LAWASIA International Moot Competition continues to bring mooting into the curriculum of law schools throughout the world and to serve as a platform for friendships to be forged. It has indeed been an enjoyable journey. Over 1,100 students have taken part in the LAWASIA International Moots and our alumni come from approximately 60 law schools from 30 different jurisdictions.

Some Law Schools have yet to recognise the importance of mooting where it is considered an extracurricular activity confined to and organised by the student body. Such neglect cannot be allowed to continue if we are to raise the standards of our lawyers to meet the needs of a globalised world. We recognise that the constrains of individual Law Schools and for this reason the Committee would encourage all Law Schools not only to participate but hopes that its students would be encouraged to attend the Competition.

## OUR PHILOSOPHY

## CHAIR

LAWASIA MOOT STANDING COMMITTEE


MEET, SHARE + LEARN

We meet to uphold the time honoured values and principles of humanity and celebrate the sharing of knowledge and ideas, and of learning whilst embracing the diversities of the world we live in, believing that man's greatest moment is a moment in time of warm embrace and acceptance for his fellow human being.

Legal jurists have since the time of the second century formulated theories to explain, understand and sometimes to interpret and supplement the body of man's knowledge in relation to his view of the world. The Roman, Gaius articulated the "law of nations" as a law that is "common to all men". In 1625, Hugo Grotius further developed the "law common to all men" to include men of other faiths, the Muslims, Hindus, Jews and Chinese. Jeremy Bentham wrote the "Principles of International Law" in 1789 describing the foreigner oriented law. Immanuel Kant the great thinker and philosopher's concept of a republic linked to human rights, the right of nations and cosmopolitan law was instructive and even more so relevant today. The concept can be seen as a forerunner of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, sharing with it the idea that some rights have a universal value no matter what one's political, social, cultural or religious leanings are.

The idea of an interdependent world re-emerged out of the ashes of destruction and devastation of the two World Wars in the Twentieth Century. With global interdependence gradually replacing the ideological and political struggles, Philip C Jessup in 1956 noted and recognized that the governance of human affairs could not be artificially confined and restrained by artificial boundaries of political states. He had conceptualized a new framework in the study of inter-state relationships which he termed "transnational law". It was to include all rules, norms or customs which regulates actions or events of all actors, relationships between states, relationships between state and nonstate actors, public and private international law, of domestic and international law dichotomy that transcends national frontiers. It embraced a wider and more comprehensive world view of global human interaction, of business, and commercial; of constitutional, administrative, and political affairs; of litigation and negotiation; and of human rights, public interest and civil rights.

In the last fifty or so years saw the creation of various permanent and semi permanent international tribunals created by international treaties or by international agencies of world bodies to adjudicate and settle the increasing conflict between the various actors brought about by the ever increasing human interaction across national borders. Parallel to this development was the establishment of international and regional arbitral centers which catered to the private commercial disputes of business. This rapid interdependency expedited by technological advances gave birth to an era which we now termed as "Globalization" which had and continues to significantly change the nature of these challenges. Even as such advancement and optimization of global networks be they financial markets or global supply chains create opportunity it is equably susceptible to crises.

In 1960, Sirimavo Bandaranaike became the world's first woman Prime Minister in an unprecedented Sri Lankan election which was made all the more incredulous being a male dominated society. Not long thereafter, Neil Armstrong becomes the first man to walk on the moon in 1969 bearing testimony to the final frontier. The fall of Saigon in 1975 marked the end of the Vietnam War. Hong Kong reverted back to China in 1997 after 156 years under British control. 1989 saw one of the greatest pro-democracy rallies in Tianan Men Square which shocked the world at large. Following that, Nelson Mandela, after serving 27 long years behind bars was finally released in 1990 and became the first black President of South Africa. Apollo 13 was turned from the certainty of tragic human disaster by human values deeply rooted into the human mindset that tells us what is important. The mission was no longer about success. It was about something far more important: it was about caring for our fellow human beings. "Failure is not an option," Gene Kranz, lead flight director for Mission Control told his ground crew at Houston. The Berlin Wall falls in 1990 after separating Germany for more than a quarter of a century. In 1995 Microsoft released the Windows 95 operating system, Martina Hingis at 15 years 282 days became the youngest person in history to win at Wimbledon the following year. iMac is unveiled by Apple in 1998. In the same year the U.S. Embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya are bombed killing 224 people and Exxon acquires Mobil for US $\$ 73.7$ billion creating the largest company on planet Earth! The terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre takes place on September, 11th, 2001. The Asian Tsunami strikes on Boxing Day 2004 after a undersea earthquake measuring 9.3 on the Richter Scale. In 2009, a black man is elected to the highest office in arguably the world's only super power, unimaginable a generation ago. And we are now in the midst of the worst global financial and economic crisis since the Great Depression. Each and every event affects another human soul. In all its forms of human endeavors throughout history, achievements and challenges bring out the best and the worst of the human condition. The management of human interaction so crucial in a civilized world is made all the more important as the world becomes increasing closer.

The LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee recognizes the dependency of peoples and nations in an increasing complex and challenging global environment. Upholding the rule of law, equality and justice, equal opportunity and access for all, the environment, genocide, cultural and racial superiority, bigotry, dictatorships even benevolent ones and terrorism are some of challenges confronting us. We recognise that the law and civil institutions of democracy together with institutions of dispute resolution alone are not the answers to man's problems. A new generation of men and women sworn to uphold the cause of justice with character, faith, integrity and fortitude is the best hope we have. So we hope, without being naive that the world we live in will change as we choose to embrace change itself so that we might see change in the world. Gandhi so eloquently put it, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

The competition shall therefore not be limited to any particular area of the law or a specific international dispute resolution forum or mechanism but may be changed from year to year mirroring current global concerns. Similarly the forum shall accordingly reflect the selected area of law. The competition is not just about winning but of fulfilling one's potential. Of a voyage of self discovery, building bridges and forging relationships with every tongue and tribe remembering that we have been created equal.

We celebrate the global citizen whose common heritage, shared values and universal legacy that makes us human are intertwined like a cord of three strands that is not easily broken. We share in a common hope and of a common dream that man shall overcome every adversity and challenge against impossible odds with unyielding faith in our improbable quest to sow the seeds of a better tomorrow through legal education and the law. It is an opportunity for all of us who are bound together by a common and shared interest in the law to do the right thing for a future generation, for in them lies the seeds of our collective destiny.

Ours is the audacity to believe.

## Raphael Tay

Chair
LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee

## WELCOME MESSAGE <br> CHIEF JUSTICE OF MALAYSIA



There are many skills or qualities that makes a good lawyer, the most essential would be advocacy skill. Advocacy is an essential and a powerful tool for lawyers as they are often called upon to advocate for their clients in courts, arbitration proceedings, negotiations or other legal settings. Advocacy is about persuading a judge to agree with the lawyer's point of argument. This should always begin by a lawyer communicating effectively with the judge setting out an argument that is clear such that the judge understands the issues. And this must necessarily be preceded by a thorough research and preparation of the oral arguments.

A great lawyer is not someone that wins all cases - rather someone that steadfastly upholds the rule of law. Thus, a great lawyer must act with honesty, integrity and humility at all times. They must be willing to admit to the loopholes in their case and demonstrate consistency in their arguments.

Mooting is an excellent way for law students to develop these skills that are vital for success in the legal profession. It requires students to research complex legal issues, present persuasive arguments, and think on their feet. This helps to prepare them for the rigors of legal practice, where they will be required to adhere to strict rules of procedure and etiquette. The LAWASIA International Mooting Competition is a valuable opportunity for law students to learn about the importance of the rule of law, professional integrity, and advocacy in general.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Organizing Committee for their hard work in putting together the 18th LAWASIA Mooting Competition 2023. I understand that this competition will take place in an arbitration setting with complex interplay between various international issues. I am pleased to see that the Malaysian Judiciary continues to support and acknowledge the importance of arbitration as an alternative to litigation.

It is my honor to welcome all of the participants to this year's LAWASIA Mooting Competition. I wish you all the best, and I am confident that the victorious team will represent our country with dignity and grace. May all of you have a wonderful and rewarding experience.

Thank You

## WELCOME MESSAGE <br> ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE



Dear participants, coaches, judges and fellow legal enthusiasts from near and far,
What a long way we have come to witness and be a part of the LAWASIA International Moot Competition ("the Moot"), which is now in its 18th edition. The Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) is delighted to support this important event.

The Moot stands as a testament to the legal fraternity's continuous pursuit of excellence, through means of collaboration and knowledge-sharing. It is refreshing to see my learned brothers and sisters actively seek out opportunities to quench their thirst for knowledge. The eagerness in itself is highly admirable.

It is undeniable that the law has had a pivotal role in shaping societies. The importance of legal education and advocacy cannot be overstated as we navigate the ever-changing landscape of conflict and dispute resolution. This year's Moot promises a window into the above by taking us on a thrilling journey through intense debates and captivating arguments on artisanal food and the transportation of goods.

The Moot has over the years proven to be a stepping stone for aspiring legal professionals to showcase their remarkable skills and talent on a global scale. I am positive that the participants will benefit from the valuable feedback that will be shared by the esteemed judges in honing the art of advocacy, critical thinking, and legal analysis. These elements are integral to ensure that the participants leave the Moot with reinforced confidence in the law, and more importantly, in their potential.

Moot competitions are a great way to acquire essential skills that are necessary for lawyers. In this regard, I encourage all parties involved to use this platform to foster the spirit of camaraderie by building lasting relationships with one another. All the hard work, dedication and resilience displayed throughout the Moot would be meaningless without a support system to stimulate our intellectual growth together. After all, we are privileged to be in the presence of peers from diverse legal backgrounds which allows for cultural exchange, discourse, and fellowship.

On behalf of the AIAC, I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Organising Committee for having us support this prestigious event. May the Moot be a memorable and transformative experience for all. I wish you the best of luck and I look forward to witnessing your brilliance unfold.

## Datuk Sundra Rajoo

Director of The Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)

## MOOT PROBLEM 2023

## THE ONIONRING SOFTWARE

## The Republic of Coltana

1. The Republic of Coltana ("Coltana") is a small but prosperous nation located on the coast of the Indian Ocean. Coltana is known around the world for its strong cultural and historical heritage. It houses various ancient temples, majestic forts and beautiful palaces that provide a glimpse into the country's rich past. In fact, there are many locations throughout Coltana that have been recognised as UNESCO World Heritage sites. This includes its capital city, Legolas which is home to the remnants of the Arkadian civilisation which is one of the earliest civilisations in history. Over the years, Coltana has leveraged its strong cultural heritage and beautiful natural landscapes to become a global leader in tourism, making its tourism industry the main contributor to its economy.
2. Aside from tourism, Coltana's economy is also supported by its agriculture, energy, and shipping industry. As of 2022, Coltana has a GDP of USD505 billion. Coltana is also known as a modern-day "pantheon" as it is home to some of the leading scholars, intellectuals, and experts in science, economics, literature, and law. The source of attraction of these geniuses is Coltana's heavy investment in education and research as well as its world-class universities and financial institutions which helped to produce a highly skilled workforce for Coltana. Historically, Coltana is a former British colony which explains its adoption of the British common law in its legal system.

## The Majestic Kingdom of Radostan

3. The Majestic Kingdom of Radostan ("Radostan") is a diverse and vibrant country located in the heart of South Asia. It is home to a population of approximately 150 million people, making it one of the most populous nations in Asia. The country covers an area of around 475,000 square kilometres, ranging from tropical rainforests in the east to mountainous terrain in the north. Radostan is known in modern culture as the "Wakanda" of Asia after the discovery in the early 90s of various technologically advanced ancient cities which have been buried underneath its capital city, Aragorn. The Radostanian explorers also discovered numerous ancient technology such as automata robots, advanced weapons, analogue computers, and steampunk vehicles.
4. In the past, Radostan had successfully resisted all forms of invasion, occupation and colonisation earning the nickname "Unshaken Land of Asia". Radostan remains a constitutional monarchy that adopts the British common law system which can be attributed to Radostan's strong bilateral trade relations with the British Empire which began circa 1888. Radostan has a rapidly growing economy which is diverse and driven predominantly by its tech sector. As of 2022, Radostan has a GDP of around USD 1.5 trillion and houses some of the leading tech and internet companies in the world making it the global leader in the field of technology and innovation.

## The Battle of Borbana

5. Before the start of World War II (WWII), Coltana existed as a divided nation, with separate rulers governing its eastern and western territories. The eastern regions were under the control of Matic Gilgamesh, while his younger sister Stefka Gilgamesh held sway over the western territories. Despite being siblings, the two rulers held vastly different political beliefs, with Matic leaning towards right-wing ideologies and Stefka gravitating towards left-wing ideologies. As a result of their opposing views, the two could not come to a mutual understanding and often have disagreements and conflicts. Their contrasting political views often resulted in clashes, with the siblings regularly engaging in heated public debates over the direction and future of Coltana. Both factions sought to settle the longstanding conflict over the future of Coltana through violent means, using WWII as an opportunity to engage in battles that would ultimately determine the direction of the nation.
6. During WWII, there were numerous violent confrontations between the two factions, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of civilians and military personnel. The conflict reached its climax during the Battle of Borbana on February 2, 1944, where both sides fought fiercely at the border of western and eastern Coltana, resulting in the loss of thousands of lives. During this battle, King Churai of Radostan had provided military and financial support to the Matic-led eastern front, which further aggravated the relationship between Matic and Stefka and caused Stefka's rage and frustration to boil over. In a vengeful act of retaliation, Stefka ordered the bombing of the Glass Palace, an ancient structure located in the heart of Radostan's capital. The palace which was significantly damaged contained a treasure trove of ancient Radostanian manuscripts, maps, and other invaluable documents that shed light on the country's rich history and culture. Political commentators noted that this event further exacerbated the already tense political climate in the region and the repercussions of the bombing would be felt for years to come.

## A Novel Direction

7. Despite Matic's external support, the Stefka-led western front emerged victorious, forcing Matic to surrender control of the eastern region. Consequently, the whole of Coltana fell under the rule of Stefka. As for Matic, he was charged with war crimes and sentenced to death by the House of Gilgamesh. After the end of WWII, Stefka abolished the monarchy system in Coltana thereby establishing Coltana as a unified Republic. Stefka later formed the Democratic Progressive Party ("DPP") and ordered for a general election to be held. In a surprise move, former Matic loyalists formed the Order of the Black Hand ("OBH"), a rightwing nationalist political party dedicated to upholding the political ideologies of their former leader. In the general election, DPP secured majority seats in the Coltana parliament and Stefka was elected President. Despite losing, the OBH party also won a large number of seats, establishing itself as a significant political force and opposition in the country.
8. During the presidential inauguration ceremony, hundreds of scholars in Coltana marched in a protest demanding that President Stefka apologise and rectify the destruction caused to the Glass Palace calling it a "devastating cultural and intellectual destruction". On the same day, King Churai threatened to submit a complaint to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and invited Coltana to refer the destruction of the Glass Palace to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) as he is confident of getting a ruling in favour of Radostan. The western allies of Radostan also made similar calls and remarks against President Stefka. Sensing a potential political mileage, the leaders of OBH also took to the streets to condemn the conduct
of President Stefka. The solidarity shown by the leaders of OBH received widespread support from Radostani leaders. One senior member of the Radostani administration remarked that 'there are still many friends in Coltana'.
9. Eventually, President Stefka succumbed to the great international pressure and visited Radostan to make peace and offered a public apology. In exchange for the damage caused, the two nations signed the Coltana-Radostan Memorandum of Understanding (CRMOU) whereby Coltana is to provide, among others, assistance in rebuilding the Glass Palace as well as offering "intellectual collaboration" by connecting King Churai's administration with some of the brightest minds in Coltana. In return, Radostan is to invest and sell arms and weapons to Coltana. Shortly after the CRMOU was signed, President Stefka passed away and her young mentee, Loli Lalan rose to power.

## The Birth of Olaf

10. The CRMOU proved to be an important instrument as it has led to a myriad of collaborations between Coltana and Radostan benefiting both nations in the process. In 2005, Radostan became the global leader in technology and began a series of research and development (RnD) in artificial intelligence (AI) as well as advanced arms and weapon technology. This initiative was spearheaded by none other than Prime Minister Kenchana Yodwicha - a young and brilliant engineer with a double degree in law and engineering who had made a name for himself in the arms industry before joining politics. The Yodwicha-led government invested billions for the purposes of this initiative and within the span of 10 years, Radostan was able to produce various autonomous weapons systems (AWS) and emerged as the leading exporter of high-tech arms and weapons.
11. As part of his visionary plans for the country, Prime Minister Yodwicha further launched Project Olaf in 2015 to create the world's first super-intelligent and independent AI lawyer and judge. Olaf represents Yodwicha's plans to advance legal systems and improve access to justice. The project was a massive undertaking that required significant amount of time, resources, and expertise to bring to fruition. To ensure the success of Project Olaf, Prime Minister Yodwicha invited President Lalan of Coltana to participate in the project through the CRMOU. The collaboration with Coltana was a smart move, as it allowed Radostan to tap into the knowledge and expertise of some of the world's top legal scholars, lawyers, and judges from Coltana. The delegation from Coltana assisted in many different stages of structuring Olaf including designing the architecture of the AI system, collecting, and analysing vast amounts of data as well as providing legal training to Olaf. Machine learning was a critical component of the project, as it allowed Olaf to continuously learn and improve over time, becoming more and more intelligent and efficient at handling and solving legal issues.
12. In July 2020, Project Olaf was completed, and Olaf went into full operation and quickly emerged as the most sought-after independent provider of legal services and legal advice. Olaf was dubbed as a "trustworthy robot" by various international media and was engaged to represent various private and governmental entities to argue on a diverse range of legal disputes. Olaf had also on numerous occasions acted as counsel or arbitrator in complex international and domestic arbitrations. In fact, due to their participation in this successful project, Coltana's Ministry of Technology had stated that there are plans in Coltana to recognise Olaf as a superintelligent human person fixated to an advanced robotic body. At all material times, Olaf was under the ownership and management of Oracle Corporation ("Oracle Corp"), a private entity
in Radostan. Coltana was granted access but on a limited basis to the said software to allow its tech scholars to train, study and carry out research on Olaf.
13. However, Olaf's capabilities were not limited to the courtroom. In a stunning display of its selflearning abilities, Olaf had taken to publishing alerts and legal insights on its own website and social media accounts, including Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok. At first, the world was amazed by Olaf's insights and perspectives on topics such as law, finance, and politics. But soon, the international media began to take notice of the Al's "seemingly unusual behaviour". Some of Olaf's publications and postings were deemed "overly supportive and defensive" of Radostan's domestic and international conduct and policies, sparking a heated debate across the globe about whether Olaf is in fact independent or influenced by Radostan.
14. In response, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Oracle Corp, Jimmy Neutrain denies what he calls "unsubstantiated allegations" and maintained that Olaf is independent in its views. Neutrain had explained in one of his interviews that "Olaf saying nice things about Radostan does not automatically make it pro-Radostan. He has, in other instances complimented other policies introduced by other nations". This was however rebuked by a news portal, Radostan Today that "is it just mere coincidence that the other countries referred to by Neutrain are all allies to Radostan? The public could appreciate a little more transparency from Radostan".

## The Return of Dr Sirius Black

15. In December 2020, OBH held its annual general assembly. Thousands of supporters and members of OBH flocked to the Continental Hotel in Legolas upon hearing that Dr Sirius Black, the illegitimate son of Matic Gilgamesh will be contesting for the Presidential post in OBH. Dr Black was not always a political figure. In fact, before he joined OBH, he had a long history in the world of mercenaries. Born into a family with military background, he was trained in combat and warfare from a young age. After completing his formal education and obtaining his PhD in software engineering, he began working as a mercenary, travelling to various conflict zones across the world and taking on dangerous missions thereby earning a reputation as a skilled and ruthless fighter. A local newspaper, The Gorgons had previously reported that Dr Black's presence in the political scene in Coltana may be detrimental to DPP's long-standing rule over the nation. This is especially since Dr Black has garnered a strong influence over the younger generation through the making of short videos and reels on TikTok and Instagram.
16. After a day-long voting process, Dr Black was elected as the 4th President of OBH. After his victory was announced, he proceeded to host a press conference - 'Friends, Coltans, countrymen, my loyal followers. Lend me your ears as I come before you today promising to bring Coltana back to its glory days. The general election is coming in 2 years'time. All support from here, from around and from across will be crucial. We will do whatever it takes to shake the present administration. Be it today or tomorrow, the Black Hand shall rise?.
17. As soon as he concludes his speech, thousands of supporters, and members of OBH rallied through the streets where they caused several acts of violence. The police and riot control forces had to be deployed to maintain peace and order. It was further reported that vehicles parked near the vicinity of government buildings and quarters were torched with Molotov cocktails resulting in substantial damage throughout the city overnight. The next day, President Lalan released a statement condemning Dr Black's speech as being seditious,
irresponsible, and done to incite hatred towards the government. He further stressed that actions will be taken to pre-empt and curb any form of violence and malicious conspiracy to injure the government.

## The Sapura Bay Bombings

18. Amidst the escalating tensions between OBH and the ruling party DPP, President Lalan's warning fell on deaf ears. In the following months after Dr Black's election, the situation intensified, with the OBH resorting to small-scale sporadic disturbances. Reports of their members and supporters gathering in groups throughout the major cities in Coltana between May to August 2021 painted a picture of a volatile and unstable environment where violence could erupt at any moment. OBH members were seen organizing rallies and protests across the country, demanding change, and the overthrow of the current government. Meanwhile, the DPP government responded with increased police presence and crackdowns on any perceived threat to their rule.
19. Somewhere in August 2021, Dr Black posted a short clip on his Instagram account showing off his new tattoo which reads, 'sī vīs pācem, parā bellum' which means "if you want peace, prepare for war". Dr Black's action caused a huge debate in Coltana's parliament. Several members of parliament from the DPP and the Labour Party labelled Dr Black and OBH as "terrorists in the making" and requested that the government take immediate action to ensure the safety of Coltana and its citizens. As a result of the huge uproar, Dr Black was arrested and charged under Coltana's Security Offences Act 1970. Coltana's Attorney General then issued a statement stating that Dr Black will be detained at a maximum-security prison in Sapura Bay, 20 kilometres north of Legolas. However, the statement did not specify the duration for which Dr Black would remain in custody.
20. On 15.9.2021 the entire country was shocked by a devastating explosion that occurred during the Annual Sapura Bay Marathon. According to Sapura's Chief Police, the streets were filled with spectators cheering on the runners when two homemade bombs detonated, killing 24 people and injuring hundreds more. The bombers could not be identified as their bodies and clothes perished due to the impact of the explosion. A few hours after the bombing took place, Coltana's government websites were hacked. The perpetrators of the cyber-attacks left a black-and-white image of Wilfred Owen, a war poet accompanied by the Latin phrase "dulce et decorum est pro patria morr' in white. Despite the authorities' efforts, the hackers remained elusive, and it took several weeks before the government was able to restore normalcy to their online services.
21. The Sapura Bay Bombings and the cyber-attacks on Coltana drew the ire of pro-government supporters who see the 2 incidents as a major failure on the part of the government to protect its citizens. Olaf also commented that the incident could have been easily avoided if the government of Coltana had invested properly in counter-terrorism measures and devices. The bombings in Sapura Bay caused significant damage to the local infrastructure and resulted in the loss of lives. Similarly, the cyber-attacks on Coltana were a major blow to the nation's security and economy. The attacks targeted key infrastructure and financial institutions, causing widespread disruption and panic. The government's response was widely criticized as inadequate and ineffective, with many accusing them of being unprepared and slow to react. Following the public's uproar, President Lalan appeared on live television condemning the two incidents and informed that reports from authorities suggested a strong possibility that the Sapura Bay Bombings and cyber-attacks on Coltana were linked to the OBH party. President Lalan reassured the public that the government was taking the matter seriously and vowed to bring those responsible to justice.

## The Coltana-Radostan Counter-Terrorism Agreement

22. A few days after the incident, President Lalan together with Coltana's Minister of Defense and Coltana's special intelligence and security Chief, Dolores Umbridge attended a high-level security meeting with Prime Minister Yodwicha and his delegation. The CEO of Ini-Tech Inc, Anuwat Kittisak was among the attendees present. During the meeting, the group discussed the recent terrorist attack and cyber-attack on Coltana and brainstormed possible solutions to prevent such incidents from happening in the future. Dolores Umbridge pointed out that the attacks could occur again anytime and that preventing any such attacks is of utmost priority. She stressed that "this is especially necessary as terrorism is a threat to national security and that we cannot face another backlash from the public considering the general election is happening this year".
23. At this point, Anuwat, proposed to introduce Ini-Tech Inc's newest invention, the OnionRing, an anti-terrorism software which he claimed could identify and neutralize potential cyber-attacks and terrorist threats. The proposal was met with interest and enthusiasm from the Coltana Delegation albeit the extravagant financial commitment that will ensue. The OnionRing is designed to operate in stealth mode and can also delete its own traces from the device. Anuwat describes the OnionRing software as a "cyber intelligence solution that enables governments to remotely and covertly extract valuable intelligence from a variety of devices, including smartphones, tablets and computers". He advised that it would be better to include government-affiliated companies under the supervision of OnionRing to broaden its coverage as well as increase its effectiveness.
24. Due to the urgency and considering the general elections will be held soon, doing a trial run of the software was not contemplated. Upon obtaining their respective cabinet approval, on 31.9.2021 a government-to-government agreement called the Coltana-Radostan Counter Terrorism Agreement (CCTA) was signed between Coltana and Radostan. The CCTA emphasizes the need for cooperation between the two countries to combat terrorism and other transnational threats. According to the bilateral agreement between Radostan and Coltana, Radostan's subsidiary Ini-Tech Inc, which is under the control of its Ministry of Defense will provide services to Coltana directly. As part of this agreement, Ini-Tech Inc is responsible for designing, developing, selling, delivering, deploying, operating, and maintaining the OnionRing software to the government of Coltana.
25. Some of the essential clauses in the CCTA are as follows:

### 25.1. Article 1 - General Obligations

(i) The Parties agree to abide by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations (UN Charter), the Arms Trade Treaty 2013 (ATT), International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism 1999, and the customary and conventional international laws that govern friendly relations among states.
(ii) The Parties commit to upholding and being bound by all relevant principles of human rights under international law including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

### 25.2. Article 4 - Payment Obligations

(i) Coltana agrees to pay Radostan directly or through intermediaries, a total sum of USD 25 million for each quarter of the year, for a total of four quarters per year, starting on the first day of each quarter.
(ii) Coltana shall make the payment in bitcoin. The bitcoin transfer shall be made to Radostan's designated wallet address or to the designated wallet address of Radostan's intermediary.
(iii) Coltana acknowledges and agrees that there shall be no substitute to this agreed payment arrangement. Coltana shall not seek to alter or modify the payment terms set forth in this clause without the prior written consent of Radostan.
(iv) Late Payment: In the event that Coltana fails to make any of the payments due under this clause, Coltana shall be deemed to be in default, and Radostan shall be entitled to pursue all available remedies under law or equity, including but not limited to interest on any unpaid amounts and the right to terminate any agreement between the parties.

### 25.3. Article 8 - Dispute Resolution

(i) Any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement including any question regarding its existence, validity or termination shall be referred to and finally resolved by arbitration administered by the Asian International Arbitration Centre in accordance with the Asian International Arbitration Centre Arbitration Rules 2021 (AIAC Rules 2021).
(ii) The arbitration award shall be final and binding upon the parties, and judgment thereon may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Notwithstanding any termination or expiration of this Agreement, this arbitration clause shall survive and remain in full force and effect.
(iii) The seat of arbitration shall be Bangalore, India.

### 25.4. Article 9 - Establishment of Arbitral Tribunal

(i) An arbitral tribunal requested pursuant to Article 8 shall be established in accordance with this Article.
(ii) Unless otherwise agreed by Parties, the arbitral tribunal shall be constituted as a panel of 3 arbitrators and the appointment should be in accordance with Rule 9.5 of the AIAC Rules 2021.
(iii) The arbitrator shall:
(a) be chosen strictly on the basis of objectivity, reliability, and sound judgement;
(b) be independent of, and not be affiliated with or take instructions from, either Party;
(c) not have dealt with the matter in any capacity; and
(d) disclose to the Parties, information which may give rise to justifiable doubts as to their independence or impartiality.

### 25.5. Article $\mathbf{1 0}$ - Governing Law

(i) The governing law of this Agreement and any other agreement made pursuant to this Agreement shall be Indian law;
(ii) The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969 (VCLT) may apply to determine the appropriate interpretation of the provisions in this Agreement.

## The OnionRing's Success

26. Upon the signing of the CCTA, the team from Ini-Tech Inc travelled to Legolas to install and integrate the OnionRing software into the government's computer, data, and internet system. Government-linked companies were also invited to participate in the project. The entire process took about 2-3 weeks and was supervised by Coltana's special intelligence and security agents. On 14.10.2021, the OnionRing installation was completed, and the software commenced full operation. On 15.10.2021, the OnionRing was unveiled at a ceremony in Legolas. Anuwat gave a short presentation during the event, highlighting that the OnionRing is a highly sophisticated cyber-surveillance machinery designed to detect and prevent crimes such as terrorist attacks and cyber-attacks. He further explained that OnionRing is equipped with smart surveillance technology and emphasized that all information and data collected are kept confidential and can only be accessed by the government of Coltana through appropriate procedures.
27. At the same event, President Lalan informed members of the media that OnionRing will also have access to all closed-circuit television (CCTVs) installed by the government throughout the country. President Lalan explained that the purpose is to enable OnionRing to continuously track the movements of any person identified as a suspected terrorist. A few of the audiences raised concerns whether the OnionRing could be an instrument used by the government to breach the privacy of its citizens as it is akin to being "monitored every day and everywhere". Despite the concerns, in the following months after the OnionRing's launch, the software proved to be highly successful in detecting and preventing criminal activities in Coltana. Reports from the government's security and intelligence department indicated that the OnionRing was able to identify and prevent several cyber-attacks and terrorist plots, contributing significantly to the country's overall security.

## The General Elections

28. On 13.11.2021, after months of trial, the High Court of Coltana acquitted Dr Black from all charges levelled against him on the basis of lack of evidence. The High Court also ordered that Dr Black be compensated by the government for wrongful detention as his detention was longer than permitted under the law. His acquittal meant that he could run as a president nominee for the upcoming general elections in December 2021. Upon "instructions from the higher-up", Coltana's Public Prosecutor immediately filed an appeal against the said decision. An international independent news media, TheMiddle had reported that Dr Black's acquittal and the findings of the High Court could significantly impact the results of the general elections.
29. On 16.12.2021, the general elections were held and shockingly, the DPP party nearly lost the elections. It was their biggest defeat in history, but they still managed to retain enough seats to form a simple majority government. As a result, the DPP government suffered a major revenue shortfall and struggled to pass budgets in Parliament. There were many speculations surrounding the results of the general elections. Local and international political analysts observed that a huge number of votes swayed towards OBH. Olaf in an article published took the view that the result was due to DPP's poor performance over the past couple of years. Olaf's views on its Twitter were widely which did not sit well with President Lalan's administration. It was further reported that one of the key reasons could be OBH's approach in using simple infographics which saw an increase in the number of visitors and viewership on OBH's official website and social media accounts.
30. A few weeks after, a former employee of Ini-Tech released a one-page statement on his personal Twitter account. In his statement the former employee who was a Data Analyst in Ini-Tech alleged that OnionRing had gained access to the personal data of thousands of electorates in Coltana through Ini-Tech's database. The data included information such as names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. It was also stated that OnionRing had used this data to promote and direct advertisements and recommendations supportive of the OBH party to the voters in Coltana. This led to advertisements to highlight the OBH party's accomplishments which were paid and generated by OBH themselves to appear frequently on devices and social media of members of the public to discredit the DPP party.
31. The revelation of this scandal caused outrage among the people of Coltana and sparked a nationwide debate on data privacy and the ethics of using personal data for political gain. The OBH party denied any involvement in the scandal and claimed that they had no knowledge of OnionRing's actions. Ini-Tech also produced a public statement vehemently denying the "completely dishonest and malicious allegations". Ini-Tech further disclosed that the rogue employee was facing disciplinary actions for alleged breach of Ini-Tech's respectful workplace policy and few other allegations of sexual misconduct. The rogue employee has since fled Radostan to Bangalore, India. President Lalan's administration stated that a fullscale investigation has been commenced to investigate the issue concerning the OnionRing. He also warned that in the event there is a finding that Coltana's internal affairs have been meddled and interfered with, Coltana will not hesitate to initiate appropriate legal action against OBH, Radostan and Ini-Tech.

## The Bitcoin Robbery

32. As investigations were ongoing on the OnionRing scandal, on 2.2.2022, Coltana's Bitcoin Reserves which were kept and stored by the Coltana National Bank (CNB) went missing overnight. That was the only Bitcoin reserve that Coltana has in its possession, and it contains Bitcoin in the approximate valuation of USD 300 million all of which were completely stolen. Upon investigation by the authorities, it was reported the Coltana's Bitcoin reserves were stolen by a group of highly intelligent hackers whose identity and trace had been completely removed.
33. As soon as the initial report was released, international media began reporting widely about the incident calling it the "Biggest Modern-Day Robbery". During a press conference, President Lalan was asked whether the said robbery would affect Coltana's ability to continue procuring the services of the OnionRing. President Lalan expressed confidence that Coltana would be able to find other means to finance the software. As he left the stage, President Lalan was
heard saying "you better solve this problem" to Dolores Umbridge. The ability of Coltana to finance the OnionRing became a hot topic of discussion in both Coltana and Radostan. Anuwat joined the ongoing debate by sharing his view on Instagram Live where he said that Coltana should continue procuring the OnionRing software and suggested that parties can amend the clauses in the CCTA to change its financing method.

## The Ulavu Files

34. In the following week, Coltana initiated negotiations pursuant to Article 4(iii) of CCTA with Radostan and Ini-Tech. Both parties discussed at length on the financing method for the OnionRing. During the discussion, Coltona also raised the issue on the alleged hacking by Ini-Tech involving OBH. This was however brushed off by Radostan and Ini-Tech. Radostan proceeded to inform that it is prepared to amend the terms of payment to ensure that OnionRing's full terms of service of 5 years will be completed. President Lalan informed that Coltana will consider the amendment to the payment method once they have obtained cabinet's approval. President Lalan did not disclose the objections from the earlier cabinet meeting due to the current budget constraint.
35. As negotiations were still ongoing, the Department of Justice of the United States of Kola Lumpo (DOJ) announced on 7.3.2022 that Anuwat has been arrested in their territory following the issuance of a warrant of arrest by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for an alleged commission of, cyber war crimes in Ulavu.
36. According to the Ulavu Files which were declassified by the DOJ, Ulavu became a ruthless war-torn state after a successful coup led by the former military commander Dua Lupa. Dua Lupa went on to become the country's prime minister and is known to be an associate of Anuwat. On the pretext of being seen as democratic, Dua Lupa called for general elections to be held every four years and would end up winning by a supermajority each time. This was rumoured to be made possible due to the existence of a software which shares very similar features to OnionRing.
37. In the past, reports were leaked by the Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (CCRP) that the Ulavu Intelligence Bureau had purchased a set of hardware that matches the description of the equipment used to run OnionRing software. The said purchase was expressly given the green light by the government of Radostan. Despite the reports, the Home Minister of Ulavu had denied the allegations and stated that the reports were not conclusive and rested on a mere conjecture. The DOJ report further confirmed the very similar features of the technology deployed by Ulavu to that of OnionRing and suggested possible investigations into the Coltana 2021 general election.
38. The Ulavu Files also stated that the software was used to identify and target journalists, activists, and opposition parties. The software was also reported to be incorporated in various AWS that were purchased by Ulavu from Radostan. The AWS enhanced with the said software was then used in the October 10 armed conflict between the Ulavu forces and anti-establishment forces in 2019 to identify, target and direct the killing of members of the anti-establishment forces. The Supreme Court of Ulavu initiated independent inquiry into the allegations and confirmed that the devices of several members of the opposition were hacked but could not confirm the source of the software as all traces had been removed. The Supreme Court also noted that the Ulavu government refused to cooperate throughout the inquiry. Due to the close relationship between Anuwat and Dua Lupa and his frequent visits
to Ulavu, Anuwat was arrested as the key programmer of the OnionRing on the grounds of supporting cyber war crimes. Radostan and Ini-Tech had vehemently denied the Ulavu Files and called for the return of Anuwat.
39. Anuwat's arrest was marred with various speculations as a day prior to his arrest, he informed members of the media that the OnionRing had detected significant amount of bitcoin expenditure, transaction and/or movement within Coltana involving the bank accounts of senior DPP politicians. He stated that "hacking incident" was nothing but a façade created to cover up a major corruption scandal occasioned by the incompetence of President's Lalan's administration. As he arrived at the ICC, he was reported to have shouted towards members of the media that he was captured by an ally of Coltana and will reveal everything and let the court bring justice to him. Coltana responded by saying that Anuwat's statement is false and in any event is illegal as data obtained from the OnionRing protected by confidentiality and can only be accessed by Coltana's officials.

## The Crisis

40. A day after the Ulavu Files went public, President Lalan issued a statement stating that it will cease all negotiations with Radostan to amend Article 4(iii) of the CCTA. He further declared that Coltana's obligation to make payment for the services under the CCTA has ceased due to its illegality. President Lalan however informed that Coltana's investigation on the alleged interference in its 2021 general election, could not be revealed for confidentiality reasons. Despite not disclosing the investigation findings, Coltana will proceed to terminate the services of Ini-Tech but will retain the OnionRing citing the need for further investigation. Radostan has objected to the termination by Coltana and requested immediate payment owing to Radostan immediately.

## Initiation of AIAC Proceedings

41. President Lalan has refused to make payment and subsequently invoked Article 8 of the CCTA to initiate arbitration proceedings against Radostan. Coltana had paid the security deposits and the necessary fees under the AIAC Rules 2021 to the AIAC.
42. In a surprise move, Radostan nominated Olaf as the Respondent-appointed arbitrator. Olaf and the Claimant-appointed arbitrator then proceeded to appoint the presiding arbitrator. As soon as the Arbitral Panel was constituted, Coltana issued a notice under Rule 11 read together with Rules 10 and 12 of the AIAC Rules 2021 to request the removal of Olaf as a member of the Arbitral Panel on the basis that existing circumstances indicates that Olaf could not determine the present case with full regard to the rule on independence and impartiality. Olaf responded by way of an email the following day highlighting that it had declared there is not conflict for it to act as it is an AI that "has no emotions or feeling towards anyone but programmed to decide cases purely on law and facts, an advantage that human arbitrators do not possess". Radostan also issued a letter objecting to Coltana's request stating that the complexity of the present dispute and voluminous nature of the documents to be perused, Olaf is the best fit to sit as an arbitrator.
43. At the same time, Radostan had requested for a stay of the AIAC proceedings as Anuwat, who is a key witness to the current proceedings will be testifying at the ICC on 10.10.2022 regarding the Ulavu Scandal. Radostan claimed that since the termination involves the allegation of wrongdoing committed by Ini-Tech, Anuwat's presence will be necessary in the

AIAC proceedings. Coltana objected to the stay on the basis that the documents available are sufficient for the determination of the issues at hand and that the outcome of the decision or trial at the ICC has no effect on present arbitration.
44. Radostan also alleged that the termination was not done in good faith as Coltana was facing serious financial issues due to its own negligence and incompetence which paralysed its ability to finance the services under the CCTA. Further, Coltana's continuous use and possession of the OnionRing software would contravene its own request for termination of the CCTA. For the purposes of this problem, Radostan is a monist state. Radostan is also not a state party to the Rome Statute. On the other hand, Coltana is a dualist state and a party to the Rome Statute.

## The OnionRing Dispute

45. The Arbitral Panel constituted at the AIAC pursuant to Article 9 of the CCTA and the AIAC Rules 2021 requested for the parties to attend a preliminary meeting. At the said preliminary meeting, the parties agreed for a full hearing to be done where they will be presenting arguments on the following issues:
I. Whether Olaf, an Al-powered intelligent lawyer can be removed as the arbitrator for lack of impartiality;
II. Whether the Arbitral Tribunal should stay the present proceedings until the conclusion of Anuwat's trial at the International Criminal Court;
III. Whether the CCTA is void; and
IV. In the event, issue III is decided in the negative, whether the termination of the CCTA by Coltana is valid.

## CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO THE MOOT PROBLEM

## CORRECTIONS

1. In paragraph 29, at the second last sentence, it should be read as: '...Olaf's views on its Twitter were widely circulated and shared which did not sit well with President Lalan's administration.'

## CLARIFICATIONS

1. What was Radostan or Prime Minister Yodwicha's involvement in the creation of Olaf?

Please refer to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Moot Problem.
2. At paragraph 11, does the training data used to train Olaf contain data from diverse sources?

The training data consists of materials accessible and retrieved via the Internet. Olaf has also been trained by the delegation from Coltana to filter websites and unreliable sources. This is to ensure that Olaf functions accurately and independently of unverified information.
3. At paragraph 11, how was the delegation from Coltana chosen? Do they have any affiliations with the Coltana government?

The delegates from Coltana were chosen based on their experience and expertise. One of the delegates representing Coltana was its Solicitor General II, Shakuntala Vidhana Devi, who has represented Coltana in numerous international arbitrations.
4. At paragraph 12, who owns Oracle Corporation?

Oracle Corporation is a private entity in Radostan. Prime Minister Yodwicha is one of the Independent Non-Executive Directors of Oracle Corporation.
5. At paragraph 13, was Olaf initially trained to publish alerts and legal insights?

Olaf was initially scheduled to post legal updates once every quarter of a year. As Olaf advances and showcases its self-learning abilities, Olaf had taken to publishing alerts and legal insights. For ease of reference, Olaf has also published answers to the legal queries posed by internet users as part of its Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).
6. At paragraph 13, what specific conduct and policy of Radostan was Olaf supportive or defensive of?

Olaf was supportive of numerous policies implemented by Radostan. To name a few, Olaf complimented the Radostan government for introducing a 3-day weekend policy for its civil servants; promoting a work life balance lifestyle; and imposing a nationwide respectful workplace policy in all private and public sectors.

## 7. At paragraph 29, did the DPP lose the elections?

The DPP did not lose the elections. In past elections, the DPP have always secured two-thirds majority. However, in the 2021 elections, for the first time, the DPP failed to secure two-thirds majority and had merely retained enough seats to form a simple majority government.
8. At paragraph 24, does the CCTA provide for the indefinite use of the OnionRing?

The CCTA does not provide for the indefinite use of the OnionRing. It is a subscription-based service that will expire in 2024. Parties however may elect to extend/renew the contract on mutual agreement.
9. At paragraph 34, it states that "Coltana also raised the issue on the alleged hacking by Ini-Tech involving OBH". Does the alleged hacking refer to the alleged statement made by the former employee of Ini-Tech at paragraph 30 ?

Yes.
10. Is the Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (CCRP) credible and reliable in their reporting?

The CCRP which is based in Denmark comprises of independent investigative journalists and media personnel.
11. Can we confirm that Anuwat was indeed the key programmer of the OnionRing?

Please refer to paragraphs 22, 23, 26 and 38 of the Moot Problem.
12. What is the current stage of Anuwat's proceeding at the International Criminal Court (ICC)?

The proceeding at the ICC is currently at the trial chambers.
13. Were Radostan or Coltana parties in any of the arbitrations where Olaf acted as an arbitrator?

Olaf has never arbitrated any matter involving both Radostan and Coltana at the same time. However, Olaf has acted as one of the mediators in a dispute between two investment holding companies in Coltana.
14. What relief is Coltana actually claiming from Radostan in these proceedings?

For parties to argue.

## OFFICIAL RULES

## 1. Organisation

The LAWASIA International Moot Competition ("Competition") is held in conjunction with the annual LAWASIA Conference. It will be organised by the LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee ("Moot Committee").

## 2. Language

The language of the Competition is English and interpreters will not be available. However, judges will be mindful of the difficulties faced by mooters arguing in a language other than their own.

## 3. Membership and Eligibility of Teams

3.1 Each team shall consist of a minimum of two members and a maximum of three members, each of whom:
(a) is pursuing an undergraduate law degree or a bar qualifying course or its equivalent, or
(b) is undertaking a first graduate degree in a legal field (not including Ph.D., S.JD and its equivalent unless express prior approval from the Competition Administrator has been obtained); and
(c) is enrolled at a law school in the country that he or she represents as a full time or part-time student as at the date of the deadline of registration of the team for the national rounds; and
(d) has not been admitted as an advocate and solicitor, barrister, attorney, legal practitioner or equivalent in their respective jurisdiction.
3.2 Members of each team must be students from the same law school.
3.3 The names of the members of each team shall be given to the Moot Committee on the date of registration.
3.4 Each team will be given a team number upon payment of registration fees.

## 4. Number of Participating Teams

The Moot Committee will decide on the maximum number of participating teams each year as well as the maximum number of teams that represents one particular institution.

## 5. Assistance

5.1 Teams may not have any outside assistance in the preparation or presentation of their cases other than general guidance on the issues involved and research sources.

### 5.2 Each team shall have the maximum of one registered coach. Coaches accompanying the teams to the competition shall be a member of the staff of the law school.

## 6. The Moot Problem

6.1 The moot problem shall involve issues of international or LAWASIA interest. It must be concerned solely with a point or points of law to be decided by the Moot Committee.
6.2 The moot problem will be announced at an appointed date and the same problem will be used throughout the Competition.
6.3 Any ambiguities will be sent to the Moot Committee. The Moot Committee may then resolve the ambiguities at its absolute discretion. Clarifications will be communicated to the participating teams.
6.4 Teams are expected to prepare arguments for both the Claimant and the Respondent.

## 7. The Competition Prizes

7.1 The Moot Committee has the absolute discretion to decide whether to award the prizes available in the competition.
7.2 The Best Mooter shall be decided by the Moot Committee taking into consideration the total individual points in the general rounds as well as comments from the judges on the performance of the mooters.
7.3 The team in the opinion of the Moot Committee that best exhibits the LAWASIA spirit and values of fellowship, scholarship, and amity will be awarded The Spirit of LAWASIA (Malaysia National Rounds) Trophy.
7.4 The winning team in the final of the Oral Rounds of the Competition will be awarded the LAWASIA Malaysian Bar Challenge Trophy.

## 8. Judging the Competition

8.1 Each match in the moot rounds shall be held before a panel of judges appointed by the Moot Committee. The Moot Committee has the absolute discretion to make the selection and allocation of judges for the competition.
8.2 Each panel of judges shall consist of three judges. The Moot Committee reserves the right to have two member panels if for whatever reasons a three-member panel cannot be constituted. The Moot Committee also reserves the right to have more than three judges sitting in a panel during the finals of the Moot Competition.
8.3 The presiding judge shall be the most senior judge, or as decided by the Moot Committee.
8.4 Each judge shall complete an individual marking sheet for all participants in a moot.

## 9. Persons Eligible to Judge

9.1 The Moot Committee shall determine the persons who are eligible to serve as judges in the Competition.
9.2 Undergraduate students may not act as judges. Postgraduate students may be eligible to serve as judges but they must not be directly affiliated with any participating Team in the Moot Competition at which they are to judge.
9.3 Judges who are affiliated with a participating law school in the Competition either personally or professionally, may not act as a judge on a panel of any round involving teams from that law school. However, the Competition Administrator has discretion to approve such a judge affiliated with a participating law school if, in his or her opinion it would not risk impartiality nor jeopardise impropriety.

## 10. Moot Oral Rounds

### 10.1. General Rules in Moot Oral Rounds

### 10.1.1 Oral Rounds and Matches

In the competition, there will be the Preliminary Rounds, the Semi-final Rounds and the Final Round. In each round, each team will moot against another team - this will be called a match. The committee will announce in the Competition Structure the number of matches that will take place in each round.

### 10.1.2 Team members

(a) In any given oral round, each team (comprising two members) is allowed 45 minutes for the oral submission. This is apportioned accordingly to:

- first mooter - 20 minutes
- second mooter - 20 minutes
- rebuttal or surrebuttal - 5 minutes.
(b)Judges have discretion to permit time extensions (on their own volition or upon request).
(c) At each oral round, one additional team member may sit at the counsel table with the two mooters as counsel so long as he or she is a registered team member. The team member acting as counsel need not necessarily be the same team member in each round.


### 10.1.3 Attire during the Oral Rounds

Unless otherwise instructed by the Moot Committee, team members must attend the oral rounds in business attire, i.e. dark suits with tie for men and dark suits with skirt or trousers for ladies.

### 10.2 Oral Submission

### 10.2.1 Order of Oral Submission

(a) The order of the oral submission in each moot round of the Competition is:

- Claimant Mooter 1
- Claimant Mooter 2
- Respondent Mooter 1
- Respondent Mooter 2
- Rebuttal (Claimant Mooter 1 or 2)
- Surrebuttal (Respondent Mooter 1 or 2).
(b) The judges have full discretion to permit variation to the order of pleadings.


### 10.2.2 Scope of Rebuttal and Surrebuttal

The Claimant's rebuttal is limited to the scope of the Respondent's oral submission. The Respondent's surrebuttal is limited to the scope of the Claimant's rebuttal, unless the Claimant has waived rebuttal, in which case there shall be no surrebuttal.

### 10.3 Failure to attend an Oral Round

(a) If a team does not appear for a scheduled match in an oral round, the moot shall proceed ex parte. The team that failed to appear forfeits all the round's total points. In such instances, the Moot Committee shall at its absolute discretion decide on the appropriate scoring system taking into consideration the moot competition structure and to ensure that all teams are judged fairly on their performance.
(b) The team which presents its oral submission shall be given scores by the judges to the degree possible as if the opposing team had been in attendance and presenting its arguments.
(c) The Competition Administrator may, at his or her absolute discretion, schedule an exparte proceeding for the absent team if time permits.

### 10.4 Communications During Competition

Only oral communications are permitted during the oral rounds. Other than the oral submissions, there shall be no other forms of communication to any judge and this includes but are not limited to any form of documents whether in writing or otherwise, pictures, charts, diagrams as well any video or audio recordings.

### 10.4.1 Communication between Counsel and Judges During Moot Rounds

A mooter may communicate with the judges, and the judges may communicate with that mooter, during the mooter's allotted speaking time.

### 10.4.2 Communication and Activity at Counsel Table During Moot Rounds

(a) Moot communication at the counsel table during oral rounds must be minimised so as to avoid distractions i.e. noise, outbursts, or other improper conduct. All communication at the counsel table shall be in writing only.
(b) However, a mooter may orally consult with his teammates only with the permission of the judges during his allotted speaking time.

### 10.4.3 Inappropriate Communication During Oral Rounds

Team members at the counsel table shall not communicate either orally or in writing with spectators or other team members not present at the counsel table.

### 10.5 Spectators

All oral rounds are open to the public. Teams may be requested to limit the number of spectators in a courtroom during the oral rounds. Priority will be given to coaches, advisors, or other spectators affiliated with the teams taking part in that oral round.

### 10.6 Audio and Videotaping

(a) No audio or videotaping of a moot round is permitted without the advance permission of the Competition Administrator.
(b) The Moot Committee reserves all rights to the audio and videotaping, or any other form of audio or visual reproduction, of any moot round or part thereof.
(c) All participating teams are deemed to have consented to the taping and broadcasting of that moot round.

### 10.7 Use of Mobile Devices, Computers and Laptops

During any oral round, mooters who are submitting and team members seated at counsel table may not use laptops, computers, tablets, mobile phones or any other computing device. Teams are responsible to ensure strict compliance with this rule. If there is a violation the Competition Administrator must be informed immediately during or after the moot round has ended. The Competition Administrator has discretion to impose a penalty on teams that violate this rule.

### 10.8 Registrar

In each match, there will be one registrar present in the moot court who will inter alia make the necessary announcements during the match and keeping the time for the mooters.
11. Scoring

### 11.1 Basis for Scores

(a) Teams shall be judged on the quality of their overall performances, which includes the merits of the case.
(b) Notwithstanding the scoring system hereinafter set out, the Moot Committee shall in its absolute discretion vary the scoring system as appropriate taking into consideration the moot competition structure. Such variation in the scoring system shall be announced to the participating teams on or before the commencement of the competition.

### 11.2 Judging the Oral Rounds

The Moot Committee shall decide on the judges for the oral rounds. A panel of three judges shall score each mooter in a match at each moot round on a scale of 50 to 100 points.

### 11.3 Raw Scores for the Oral Rounds

(a) Raw Scores are the points awarded to the mooters by the judges.
(b) In each match, a Team's Raw Score is the sum of the points of the three (3) judges for each of its two (2) mooters.
(c) A Team's Total Raw Score in a particular round is the sum of the Team's Raw Scores in that round.
(d) The calculation of Raw Scores shall be subject to the deduction of Penalty points under the provisions of Rule 12.

### 11.4 Round Points for the Oral Rounds

(a) In each match, a total of up to six (6) Round Points may be awarded based on a comparison of combined moot argument scores.
(b) The Total Round Points for a team in a particular round will be the sum of the Rounds Points obtained by that team in that round.
(c) The Rounds Points are awarded a team in the following manner:-

- The sum of each judge's Raw Score for the Claimant Mooter 1 and Claimant Mooter 2 (combined mooters Raw Scores is compared to the sum of the judge's Raw Scores for Respondent Mooter 1 and Respondent Mooter 2.
- For each judge, the Team with the higher combined mooter Raw Scores is awarded two (2) Round Points. If in any such comparison, the two Teams' scores are equal, each Team is awarded one (1) Round Point.


### 11.5 Two Judge Panels

If only two judges score a given Moot match, the Competition Administrator shall create a third score by averaging the scores of the two judges.

### 11.6 Determination of Winners and Rankings

### 11.6.1 Determining the Winner of a Match

(a) In any given match, the team receiving the greater number of six (6) available Round Points wins the match. If the two teams have equal number of Rounds Points, the team with the higher Team Raw Scores wins the match. If the two teams have an equal number of Round Points and an equal Team Raw Score, the match is a draw.
(b) The winning team will not necessarily be the team for which judgment may be given on the law.

### 11.6.2 Round Rankings

(a) Teams shall be ranked in their respective groups (where applicable) by the number of wins in a particular round, from highest to lowest.
(b) If two or more Teams have the same number of wins, the team having the higher Total Rounds Points from that round shall be ranked higher.
(c) If two or more teams have the same number of wins and the same Total Round Points, the team with the higher Total Raw Scores from that round shall be ranked higher.
(d) The scoring and round ranking system prescribed herein applies to all rounds.

### 11.6.3 Tie-Breaking Procedure

If two or more teams are tied after application of Rule 11.6.2, and the outcome of the determination does not affect (a) any team's entry into the subsequent round, or (b) the pairing of any teams in the subsequent round of the Moot Competition, the teams shall be ranked equally. If, however, further determination is necessary (under either (a) or (b) above), the rankings shall be accomplished as follows:
(a) If only two teams are tied and if the tied teams have faced each other in the Preliminary Rounds, the winner of that match shall be ranked higher.
(b) If only two teams are tied and the teams have not faced each other in earlier Rounds, and time permits, the Administrator may schedule a match between the two teams, with the team with the lower Team number acting for the Claimant. The match shall be conducted according to the scoring Rules for Preliminary Rounds. The winner of the match shall be ranked higher.

If neither of these methods breaks the tie, the Competition Administrator shall determine the method for breaking the tie.

### 11.7 Reporting of Results

After the conclusion of the Competition, the following shall be made available in soft copies for each Team participating in the Competition:
(a) a copy of individual moot judge's scoresheets and Penalties, if any, with attendant comments, if any, from Preliminary Rounds of the Competition;
(b) a copy of the Overall Rankings of the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition, with the Total accumulated Win-Loss records, Overall Raw Scores, and Overall Round Points;
(c) a copy of the Mooter Rankings from the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition;
(e) a summary of the Advance Rounds of the Competition.

## 12. Penalties

### 12.1 Oral Round Penalties

The Competition Administrator shall impose an oral round penalty at his or her discretion, if necessary, after consultation with the judges, registrars, teams and spectators.

### 12.2 Complaint Procedure

(a) If a team believes that an infraction of the Rules has occurred during an oral round, the team may notify the Registrar in writing within five (5) minutes of the conclusion of that oral round. If there is no registrar, teams must approach the Competition Administrator with complaints.
(b) Written notification shall clearly describe the violation and the parties involved in the violation.
(c) The team shall not directly approach the judges regarding a violation of these Rules When possible, the matter should be raised with the registrar outside the attention of the judges.
(d) Failure by any team to follow the procedures described in this paragraph shall result in a waiver of the team's complaint.
(e) If one or more judges believe an infraction has occurred during an oral round, he or she shall notify the registrar orally or in writing within five (5) minutes of the completion of the moot round. When possible, the matter should be raised with the registrar outside the attention of the other judges.

### 12.3 Penalty Deduction

Penalty deduction may be made only by the Competition Administrator. Judges are prohibited from deducting penalty points from the scores and must score the moot round as if no violation occurred.

### 12.4 Activity Subject to Moot-Round Penalties

Penalties may be assessed for violations during a moot round by reference to rule 10 above. The Administrator shall deduct the Penalty amount from each judge's combined score (the sum of the judge's score for Mooter 1 and Mooter 2) prior to determining the Moot Round Points. Alternatively, the Administrator may in his discretion deduct the Penalty amount only from a particular Mooter.

### 12.5 Discretionary Penalties

In addition to the Penalties that may be deducted under Rule 12.4 above, the Competition Administrator may assess up to fifteen (15) points Penalties for other violations of the letter or spirit of these Rules. The size of the Penalty shall correspond to the degree of the violation in the judgment of the Competition Administrator. Discretionary Penalties shall be imposed only by the Competition Administrator. Such violations may include:
(a) poor sportsmanship;
(b) submitting numerous frivolous complaints against other teams;
(c) engaging in inappropriate behaviour at the counsel table during the moot rounds;
(d) displaying obvious disregard for the procedures or requirements outlined in the Rules.

### 12.6 Notice and Appeals

(a) The Competition Administrator shall notify teams of his or her decision regarding imposition of any penalty as soon as possible.
(b) The Competition Administrator shall, where it is practicable to do so, set a reasonable time limit by which either team may appeal the decision.
(c) Upon submission of an appeal, the Competition Administrator shall consult with the Moot Committee in determining the appeal. The Moot Committee's decision on all appeals is final.

### 12.7 De Minimis Rule

The Competition Administrator may waive or lessen the penalty for a de minimis rule violation.

## 13. Progression into subsequent Rounds

### 13.1 Progression from the Preliminary Rounds

Progression from the Preliminary Rounds will be determined based on the ranking of the teams according to rule 11.6 above. The number of teams progressing will be determined based on the number of participating teams and it shall be announced to the participating teams before the commencement of the competition.

### 13.2 Progression into the Final Round

The top two ranking teams from the Semi-final Rounds will progress into the Final Round.

### 13.3 Progression into the International Rounds

(a) The team that wins the Final Round will be the Champion Team while the other finalist team will be the 1st Runner-Up Team. The 2nd Runner-Up Team and the 3rd RunnerUp Team will be determined from the rankings in the Semi-final Rounds.
(b) The Champion Team will represent Malaysia in the LAWASIA International Moot Competition held in the same year.
(c) In the event the Moot Committee decides that there will be 2 teams that will represent Malaysia in the LAWASIA International Moot Competition:-
(i) the 1st Runner-Up Team (the other team of the Final Round) will be the second team to represent Malaysia in the International Rounds. Provided the 1st Runner-Up Team is from a different institution to that of the Champion Team.
(ii) In the event that the 1st Runner-Up Team is from the same institution to that of the Champion Team, the 2nd Runner-Up will then be the second team to represent Malaysia in the International Rounds.
(iii) In the event that both 1st Runner-Up and 2nd Runner-up Teams are from the same institution to that of the Champion Team, the 3rd Runner-Up will then be the second team to represent Malaysia in the International Rounds.
(d) The teams progressing into the International Rounds must be represented by the same members of mooters who participated in the National Rounds.

## 14. Power to Enact Measures

The Competition Administrator may in consultation with the Moot Committee, establish such other measures to maintain the orderly manner of the Competition or to remedy shortfalls in the Competition. Such alterations shall not violate the spirit of these Rules in the best interests of the Competition.

## 15. Interpretation of Rules

The Competition Administrator in consultation with the Moot Committee shall be the final arbiter in the interpretation of these rules.

## PROCEDURAL RULES FOR ARBITRATION

As the moot competition is an Arbitration moot competition, the LAWASIA Moot Competition Committee would like to replicate as much as is possible, the real-life atmosphere of arbitration so as to ensure that participating teams gain the most from this experience. However, as this is also a competition, a compromise has to be reached between the procedures normally observed in an arbitration proceeding and the rules of a moot competition. The LAWASIA Moot Competition Committee has therefore issued the Procedural Rules in addition to the Official Rules of the LAWASIA International Moot Competition ('Official Rules'). Competing teams are therefore expected to read and observe both the Official Rules as well as the following Procedural Rules:

## 1. Order of proceedings

The order of proceedings shall be as set out in the Official Rules, i.e. Claimant Mooter 1 (20 minutes), Claimant Mooter 2 (20 minutes), Respondent Mooter 1 (20 minutes), Respondent Mooter 2 (20 minutes), Rebuttal (5 minutes), followed by the Surrebuttal (5 minutes).

## 2. Proper address

The Arbitrators shall be addressed as Mr or Madam Arbitrator and the Chair of the panel shall be addressed as Mr or Madam Chairman. Collectively, the panel should be addressed as the Arbitral Panel. Alternatively, arbitrators may be addressed by their family names such as "Mr Young, Ms Doi, Dr Lee, Professor Jones or Sir/Madam".

It is inappropriate to use honorific titles for the panel e.g. "This Honourable Tribunal" or for individual arbitrators e.g. "Judge, Your Honour, Your Excellency".

## 3. Bundles of authorities

In accordance with the Official Rules, Teams shall not submit any other documents or bundles of authorities to the Arbitrators during the proceedings.

## 4. Start/End of Proceedings

The Registrar will announce the start of proceedings and the Registrar will aid the Arbitrators to keep to the time allowed. At the close of submissions, the room will be cleared to enable the Arbitrators to deliberate (alternatively, the Arbitrators may leave the room and proceed to the deliberation room). Mooters may return to the room when the Arbitrators have completed their deliberations. The Arbitrators will deliver their comments on the performance of the teams but will not disclose the marks awarded.

## COMPETITION STRUCTURE AND SCHEDULE

## 18TH LAWASIA INTERNATIONAL MOOT COMPETITION - NATIONAL ROUNDS <br> AUGUST 2023 <br> KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Registration/Opening Ceremony : Friday, 18 August 2023<br>Moot Competition/Award Ceremony : Saturday, 19 August to Sunday, 20 August 2023

## Team No. \& Institution

| M2301 | Advance Tertiary College (ATC) |
| :--- | :--- |
| M2302 | Brickfields Asia College (BAC) |
| M2303 | Brickfields Asia College (BAC) |
| M2304 | International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) |
| M2305 | International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) |
| M2306 | Multimedia University (MMU) |
| M2307 | Taylor's University (TU) |
| M2308 | Taylor's University (TU) |
| M2309 | Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) |
| M2310 | Universiti Malaya (UM) |
| M2311 | Universiti Malaya (UM) |
| M2312 | Universiti Teknology MARA Shah Alam (UiTM) |
| M2313 | Universiti Teknology MARA Shah Alam (UiTM) |
| M2314 | Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) |
| M2315 | Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) |
| M2316 | Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) |
|  |  |

FRIDAY, 18 AUGUST 2023
Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## OPENING

 CEREMONY
## Time <br> Events <br> 04:00pm Registration

| Opening Remarks by Raphael Tay, Chair |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 04:30pm | Presentation of the Moot Problem by Rosli Dahlan Saravana |
| Partnership, Author of the Moot Problem |  |
|  | Presentation of Rules by Lai Mun Onn, Moot Administrator |

PRELIMINARY ROUND

|  | Moot Room and Events |  |  |  |  | C-Claimant; R-Respondent |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Time | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 08:00am } \\ -\quad \\ 10: 00 \mathrm{am} \end{gathered}$ | M2303 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2313 <br> (R) | M2308 <br> (C) v. M2312 (R) | M2311 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2307 <br> (R) | M2309 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2304 <br> (R) | M2316 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2310 <br> (R) | M2302 <br> (C) v. M2315 (R) | M2301 <br> (C) v. M2305 (R) | M2306 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2314 <br> (R) |
| $\begin{gathered} 10.00 \mathrm{am} \\ 10.30 \mathrm{am} \end{gathered}$ | Break |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} 10: 30 \mathrm{am} \\ - \\ 12: 30 \mathrm{pm} \end{gathered}$ | M2314 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2303 <br> (R) | M2313 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2308 <br> (R) | M2312 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2311 <br> R) | M2307 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2309 <br> (R) | M2304 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2316 <br> (R) | M2310 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2302 <br> (R) | M2315 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2301 <br> (R) | M2305 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2306 <br> (R) |
| $\begin{gathered} 12: 30 \mathrm{pm} \\ \overline{-} \\ 02: 00 \mathrm{pm} \end{gathered}$ | Lunch Break |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 02:00pm } \\ - \\ 04: 00 \mathrm{pm} \end{gathered}$ | M2303 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2316 <br> (R) | M2313 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2310 <br> (R) | M2308 <br> (C) <br> v. M2302 (R) | M2312 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2315 <br> (R) | M2311 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2301 <br> (R) | M2307 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2305 <br> (R) | M2309 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2306 <br> (R) | M2304 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2314 <br> (R) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 04:00pm } \\ & 04: \overline{30} \mathrm{pm} \end{aligned}$ | Break |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 04:30pm } \\ - \\ 06: 30 \mathrm{pm} \end{gathered}$ | M2316 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2307 <br> (R) | M2310 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2309 <br> (R) | M2302 <br> (C) <br> v. M2304 (R) | M2315 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2303 <br> (R) | M2301 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2313 <br> (R) | M2305 <br> (C) <br> v. M2308 (R) | M2306 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2312 <br> (R) | M2314 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> M2311 <br> (R) |

## SEMI-FINAL ROUND

|  | Moot Room and Events |  | C-Claimant; R-Respondent |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Time | A | B | C | D |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 08:00am } \\ - \\ 10: 00 \mathrm{am} \end{gathered}$ | Team ranked 01 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 08 <br> (R) | Team ranked 02 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 07 <br> (R) | Team ranked 03 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 06 <br> (R) | Team ranked 04 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 05 <br> (R) |
| $\begin{gathered} 10.00 \mathrm{am} \\ -\quad \\ 10.30 \mathrm{am} \end{gathered}$ | Break |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} 10: 30 \mathrm{am} \\ - \\ 12: 30 \mathrm{pm} \end{gathered}$ | Team ranked 08 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 04 <br> (R) | Team ranked 07 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 03 <br> (R) | Team ranked 06 <br> (C) v. Team ranked 02 (R) | Team ranked 05 <br> (C) <br> v. <br> Team ranked 01 <br> (R) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 12:30 pm } \\ & \text { 02:00 pm } \end{aligned}$ | Lunch Break |  |  |  |

SUNDAY, 20 AUGUST 2023
Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
FINAL ROUND

| Time | Moot Room and Events | C-Claimant; $R$-Respondent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 02:00pm <br> - <br> $04: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ | Team mooting as Claimant (C) |  |
| V. | Team mooting as Respondent (R) |  |

## MOOT ROUND MATCH GUIDELINES

## Determining the winner of a match

In any given match, the Team receiving the greater number of Round Points wins the match. If the two Teams have equal number of Rounds Points, the Team with the higher Team Raw Scores wins the match. If the two Teams have an equal number of Round Points and an equal Team Raw Score, the match is a draw.

## Determining the team progressing into the next round

## Preliminary Round to Semi-Final Round:

The top 8 teams, which is determined by the number of wins, from Preliminary Round will proceed to Semi-Final Round. Teams will be ranked from 1 to 8 based on number of wins (in descending order).

In the case of a tie, the team with the higher accumulated Total Round Points in Preliminary Round will be ranked higher. In the case that the tie is not broken, the Team with the higher Total Raw Score from the rounds shall be ranked higher. *

## Semi-Final Round to Final Round:

The top 2 teams, which is determined by the number of wins, from Semi-Final Round will proceed to Final Round. Teams will be ranked from 1 to 2 based on number of wins (in descending order).

In the case of a tie, the team with the higher accumulated Total Round Points in Competition Round III will be ranked higher. In the case that the tie is not broken, the Team with the higher Total Raw Score from the rounds shall be ranked higher. *

The team ranked higher will be given a choice to moot either as Claimant or Respondent in the Final Round.

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## PARTICIPATING TEAMS

| No | University/College | Team Members |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Advance Tertiary College <br> (ATC) | Team (M2301) <br> Tan Qian Hui - LLB Year 2 <br> Kee Kay Khai - LLB Year 1 <br> Choo Kah Chun - LLB Year 2 <br> Chin Zeyang (Coach) |
| 2 | Brickfields Asia College <br> (BAC) | Team (M2302) <br> Guek Yee Issac Yun - LLB Year 2 <br> Kavvithanjeele A/P A. Thiagarajah - LLB Year 3 <br> Chai Jia Yang - LLB Year 2 <br> Amiza Ahmad Murad (Coach) |
| 3 | Team (M2303) <br> International Islamic <br> University Malaysia (IIUM) | Team (M2304) <br> Amalia Suleiman Rouslan Djamoukhanov - LLB Year 3 <br> Siti Nazatul Nadia Binti Mohd Ridzuan - LLB Year 2 <br> Amirthaa Suntharalingam - LLB Year 3 <br> Amiza Ahmad Murad (Coach) |
| 4 | Muhammad Asyraf Hakimi bin Zaid - LLB Year 4 <br> Adilah binti Abdul Wahap - LLB Year 3 |  |
| (MMU) | Tesyia Naveen - LLB Year 2 <br> Eizlan Farhan Bin Nakhrowi (Coach) |  |

## PARTICIPATING TEAMS (continues)

| No | University/College | Team Members |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | Taylor's University (TU) | Team (M2307) <br> Ivy Liew Xin Yi - LLB Year 1 <br> Lee Mann Heyy - LLB Year 1 <br> Harcharan Singh A/L Ujagar Singh (Coach) <br> Team (M2308) |
| 6 | Universiti Kebangsaan <br> Malaysia (UKM) <br> Chia Yee Wen - LLB Year 2 <br> Chia Rong En - LLB Year 2 <br> Sharon Wong Ang Sing - LLB Year 2 <br> Harcharan Singh A/L Ujagar Singh (Coach) |  |
| 7 | Universiti Malaya (UM) | Team (M2309) <br> Andrew Tan Jie Lun - LLB Year 2 <br> Tan Zi Yi - LLB Year 2 <br> Sarah Anisa Vincent - LLB Year 2 <br> Dr Nabeel Mahdi Althabhawi (Coach) |

## PARTICIPATING TEAMS (continues)

| No | University/College | Team Members |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | Universiti Teknology MARA Shah Alam (UiTM) | Team (M2312) <br> Nur Sakina Huda Binti Jazman Azi- LLB Year 3 Nur Atiqah Binti Azrein - LLB Year 3 Nurul Athirah Bt Hairol Nizal - LLB Year 3 Prof Dr Irwin Ooi Ui Joo (Coach) <br> Team (M2313) <br> Izzati Syahirah Binti Zainudin - LLB Year 2 Iman Nabeeha Binti Ahmad Sabri - LLB Year 1 Fatihah Soraya Binti Sofian - LLB Year 1 Prof Dr Irwin Ooi Ui Joo (Coach) |
| 9 | Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) | Team (M2314) <br> Umasrri A/P B. Ravandran - LLB Year 1 <br> Ethen Chang Yin Teck - LLB Year 1 <br> Muhammad Zharif 'Aqlan bin Muhammad Zaki - LLB Year <br> Murshamshul Kamariah Binti Musa (Coach) |
| 10 | Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) | ```Team (M2315) Noraishah Humaira Kamaruddin - LLB Year 4 Nur Lutfiah Batrisyia Muhammed Ali - LLB Year 1 Nurafrina Safiah Mohd Radzi - LLB Year 3 Fareed Mohd Hassan (Coach) Team (M2316) Siti Sarah Aqilah Lokman - LLB Year 4 Ainil Wahyun Azdha - LLB Year 1 Siti Khadijah Azman - LLB Year 2 Fareed Mohd Hassan (Coach)``` |

## AUTHOR(S) OF THE MOOT PROBLEM

## Amiratu AI Amirat Garbaa, Associate

Al is a practising lawyer in Messrs. Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership specialising in land disputes, public, regulatory, administrative and constitutional law matters. Throughout Al's study at the University of Malaya, she was immersed in the mooting scene where she represented her alma matter in both local and international mooting competitions. Her earlier enthusiasm in mooting was the catalyst to jumpstart her later career as a litigator. She is adorned with a number of accolades from the mooting community, showing her profound adeptness as an advocate in the Court of law. AI previously joined the 2018 LAWASIA Moot Competition where her team won First Runner Up and she bagged the Mah Weng Kwai Challenge Trophy for Best Mooter award. Her team later championed the 2019 National Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition and represented Malaysia in the International Rounds. Besides actively competing, Al's passion for mooting is illustrated through the several mooting competitions she has judged and also during her tenure as a moot coach at the Cyber Law Moot Court Competition in 2019 where her team emerged victorious.

Her passion and interest in the development of the laws are evident through her scholarly writings which have been published in the Malayan Law Journal (MLJ), the Law Review and other legal journals. AI also co-authored the Moot Problem for the 17th LAWASIA International Moot Competition in 2022.

## Thenesh Anbalagan, Associate

Thenesh Anbalagan is a lawyer in Messrs Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership. He has appeared at all levels of court with a focus on corporate and commercial disputes, and constitutional and arbitration matters.

Prior to joining RDS Partnership, Thenesh graduated top of his class from The National University of Malaysia (UKM) with a Bachelor of Laws with Honours (Distinction) and is the recipient of the coveted Tun Abdul Razak Award conferred in recognition of his outstanding academic and cocurricular achievements. Thenesh is also a Tunku Scholar, having been granted the prestigious Tunku Abdul Rahman Scholarship by Tunku Abdul Rahman Foundation (YTAR) to pursue his undergraduate studies.

Apart from that, Thenesh has a highly accomplished mooting background. In 2021, Thenesh captained Team UKM in their debut season at the international rounds of the prestigious Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2021 where his team was awarded the Hardy C. Dillard Best Combined Memorial Award by ranking 25 out of 570 teams and the Best Overall Responded Side Award by ranking 14 out of 570 teams globally. Thenesh was recognised with the Top 100 Best Individual Oralists Award. In 2022, he co-authored the moot problem for the 17th LAWASIA International Moot Competition. In 2023, Thenesh took on the role of a coach for Team UKM at the international rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The team achieved three international awards, including the Hardy C. Dillard Best Combined Memorial Award, securing an impressive 4th place ranking worldwide.

Notably, Thenesh is the founder of the UKM Moot Club, which aims to support and empower fellow mooters at UKM to excel in the mooting arena. With his extensive experience and influence in the mooting community, Thenesh remains dedicated to nurturing and inspiring aspiring mooters to reach new heights in their own mooting journeys. Recently, he has been admitted to Harvard University to pursue his Master of Laws (LLM) and will be attending as a King's Scholar having received the prestigious Yang di-Pertuan Agong Scholarship (BYDPA).

## MOOT JUDGES

## Chief Judge of Sabah and Sarawak

## Yang Amat Arif Tan Sri Dato’ Abdul Rahman bin Sebli

The Right Honourable Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Rahman bin Sebli, is a prominent Malaysian legal figure. He completed his Bachelor of Laws (Hons.) from the University of Malaya in 1983 and joined the Judicial and Legal Service of Malaysia in December 1983. Throughout his career, YAA Tan Sri held several notable positions in various capacities within the Judicial and Legal Departments of the Government of Malaysia. These roles included serving as Deputy Public Prosecutor in several states, Senior Federal Counsel at the Sarawak State Attorney-General's Chambers, Sessions Court Judge in Kota Kinabalu and Miri, Legal Advisor to the State of Pahang, and Director of Legal Division at the Royal Malaysian Customs Department. On 15 September 2008, YAA Tan Sri was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner and later, on 9 August 2010, he was elevated to the position of a Judge of the High Court of Malaya. YAA Tan Sri served in the High Courts of Sabah and Sarawak at Kota Kinabalu and the High Court of Malaya at Shah Alam and Johor Bahru before his elevation to the Court of Appeal on 12 September 2014. YAA Tan Sri was appointed as a Judge of the Federal Court on 8 August 2019 and on 17 January 2023, YAA Tan Sri was honoured with the position of Chief Judge of Sabah and Sarawak.

## Federal Court Judges

## Yang Arif Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan

Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan read law at the University of Leeds, UK and graduated with a LLB (Hons) degree. She has been admitted to Lincoln's Inn as a Barrister-at-law. In 1993 she obtained her Master of Laws degree from the University of Western Australia. Prior to her elevation to the High Court of Malaya where she sat in the New Commercial Court, her Ladyship served in various capacities at the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia. These include as Federal Counsel, Senior Federal Counsel, Senior Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman, Legal Advisor to the State of Negeri Sembilan, Deputy Head of Civil Division and Commissioner of Law Revision and Law Reform. Justice Lim was the first judge of the Construction Court in Kuala Lumpur until her Ladyship's elevation to the Court of Appeal. She is now a Judge of the Federal Court of Malaysia.

## Court of Appeal Judges

## Yang Arif Dato' Lee Swee Seng

Yang Arif Dato' Lee Swee Seng graduated with Bachelor of Law (Hons) from University of Malaya and obtained Master of Law from the same university. He also obtained an MBA from University of Southern Cross, Australia. He was appointed a Judicial Commissioner of the High Court of Malaya on 31.5.2010. He was called to the Malaysian Bar in February 1985 and was in active legal practice until May 2010. He has earned the Distinguished Toastmaster Award and was also a Trademarks and Patent Agent and a Notary Public before his appointment to the Bench. He was also a visiting fellow of Taylor University Law School, a part-time lecturer with UM Law Faculty for the LLM Masters Programme; a Bar Council member for 2010 before his ceasing practice at the Bar. Dato' Lee was elevated to be a Judge of the High Court of Malaya in February 2014 and was Judge of the Construction High Court from 2016 until August 2019 when he was elevated to the Court of Appeal. Dato' Lee is also the General Editor of the "Law and Practice of Family Law in Malaysia" by Sweet \& Maxwell, 2019.

## Yang Arif Datuk Vazeer Alam bin Mydin Meera

Justice Datuk Vazeer Alam Mydin Meera is a Judge of the Court of Appeal, Malaysia, and concurrently an Adjunct Professor at Monash University, Malaysia. He is a Fellow of Aberystwyth University, Wales and also of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute, based in Canada. Justice Vazeer is a graduate of the National University of Singapore [BA in Philosophy, Political Science and Economics], University of Wales, Aberystwyth [Bachelor of Laws (Hons)] and International Islamic University Malaysia [Master of Comparative Laws]. He attended University of Malaya for the Certificate in Legal Practice. He was in private law practice for some 20 years before appointment to the High Court Bench in May 2010. Whilst in legal practice Justice Vazeer held various leadership positions in the Malaysia Bar, both at state and national levels. Justice Vazeer is also an advocacy trainer affiliated with the International Advocacy Training Council based in Hong Kong. He regularly teaches with the faculty of trainers at advocacy training courses conducted both in and outside Malaysia.

## Yang Arif Dato' Gunalan a/l Muniandy

Yang Arif read law at the University of Malaya and obtained his Bachelor of Laws Degree LLB (Hons) in 1981. Yang Arif's professional field is Civil and Criminal Law and extensive field experience in the High Court and subordinate courts procedures and trials. Yang Arif started his legal career in the Judicial and Legal Services on 2.5.1981 as a Magistrate in the Kuala Lumpur Magistrate Court. In January 1982 until July 1984, he was appointed as a Magistrate in Temerloh Magistrate Court, Pahang. Since August 1984 until July 1987, Yang Arif held positions as a Senior Assistant Registrar and later as a Deputy Registrar of the Kuala Lumpur High Court and at the Malaysian Supreme Court since July 1987 until February 1989. In February 1989, Yang Arif was appointed as a Sessions Court Judge of Alor Setar, February 1992, as a Sessions Court Judge of Melaka, October 1995, as a Sessions Court Judge of Tawau, Sabah, June 1996 as Sessions Court Judge of George Town, Pulau Pinang, Mei 2003 as a Sessions Court Judge of Klang, Selangor and since 4 February 2008 until 10.5.2010 as a Senior Sessions Court Judge of Shah Alam and was also appointed as a Director of the Selangor Courts. Yang Arif was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner of the Johor Bahru High Court since 10 May 2010 until December 2014. Since Jan 2015, he has been serving as a Judicial Commissioner in the Shah Alam High Court until he was elevated as a High Court judge. Yang Arif was elevated to the Court of Appeal in March 2023.

## High Court Judges

## Yang Arif Dato' Wan Ahmad Farid bin Wan Salleh

Justice Wan Ahmad Farid has the distinction of the only Malaysian so far, to have been a member of the three branches of the government. He was a member of the Dewan Negara (2005) and a Deputy Minister (2008) before he joined the Bench in 2015. He is now a judge of the High Court of Malaya. Justice Wan Farid was admitted to the Malaysian Bar on 6.9.1987. Prior to his elevation to the Bench, Justice Wan Farid was practising in Terengganu and Kuala Lumpur. Justice Wan Farid has participated in judging a number of moot and debate competitions including the Lawasia Moot Competition, the Phillip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition and the Lincoln's Inn Alumni Association of Malaysia-Selangor Bar e-Moot Competition.

## Yang Arif Dato’ Mohd Radzi bin Harun

Yang Arif Dato' Mohd Radzi graduated with LLB (Hons) from UIA Malaysia in 1989, and LLM from University of Nottingham in 2004. He joined the Judicial and Legal Service in 1989 with first posting as a Magistrate at the Teluk Intan Magistrate's Court, Perak and thereon, served in numerous postings including as Legal Advisor to various government ministries and agencies, and as Deputy Public Prosecutor and Senior Federal Counsel at the AG's Chambers. His main area of practise is advisory with focus on international law and specialization in international organisations and
international human rights. He has represented Malaysia at numerous bilateral, regional and international negotiations and meetings, including at the UN, OIC and ASEAN. Yang Arif was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner on 30 March 2018 and elevated as a High Court Judge on 25 March 2020.

## Yang Arif Tuan Ong Chee Kwan

Yang Arif Tuan Ong Chee Kwan is a Judge at the High Court of Malaya. Prior to joining the judiciary, he was the Joint Managing Partner of Messrs Christopher \& Lee Ong ("CLO"). The firm, formed in 2013, was a merger of 3 firms - Messrs Lee Ong \& Kandiah, Messrs Christopher Lee \& Partners and Messrs Kamilah \& Chong. CLO is a member of the Rajah \& Tann Asia network of law firms. Tuan Ong Chee Kwan graduated from the National University of Singapore ("NUS") with Honours in 1988. He obtained his Masters of Law from NUS in 1992 before returning to Malaysia. He worked in Messrs Drew \& Napier, Singapore from 1988 to 1992. He had over 30 years of experience in commercial and shipping litigation practice and had acted as an arbitrator in arbitration proceedings in Malaysia and Singapore.

## Yang Arif Tuan Nadzarin Bin Wok Nordin

Yang Arif Nadzarin Bin Wok Nordin is currently a High Court Judge at the Kuala Lumpur High Court and was a former practising Advocate \& Solicitor for over 30 years. He is also a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London, a Certified Mediator, a Fellow of the Malaysian Society of Adjudicators and a former member of the Disciplinary Committee Advocates \& Solicitors Disciplinary Board, a Notary Public and a President of Strata Management Tribunal before his appointment to the bench.

## Yang Arif Tuan Atan Mustaffa Yussof Ahmad

Yang Arif Tuan Atan Mustaffa Yussof Ahmad was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner High Court of Malaya at Kuala Lumpur on 28 November 2019 and was elevated as a High Court Judge on 27 April 2022. He graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Bristol and was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1995. His area of practice was commercial and employment law. While at the Bar, he served as a Committee Member of the KL Bar Committee and was an Advocacy Trainer. Tuan Atan Mustaffa has assisted in judging a number of university mooting and debate competitions including the Novice Arbitration Mooting Competition, KL Bar - Lincoln's Inn Alumni Moot Court Competition and the Lawasia Moot Competition.

## Yang Arif Puan Liza Chan

Yang Arif Puan Liza Chan is a Judge in the Commercial Division of the Kuala Lumpur High Court. She was a practicing lawyer for 38 years handling trial and appellate work involving banking, commercial, corporate, construction, land, arbitration and family matters before being appointed to the bench.

## Yang Arif Tuan Wan Muhammad Amin Bin Wan

Yang Arif Tuan Wan Muhammad Amin bin Wan Yahya was appointed as Judicial Commissioner of the High Court of Malaya on 10th July 2020 and thereafter as Judge of the High Court Judge of Malaya on 17.1.2023. He currently presides over the NCC 3 Court in the Commercial Division of the High Court in Kuala Lumpur. He read law at the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom where he graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the said University. Tuan Amin was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1998 and practiced in, amongst others, the area of commercial, corporate, employment, land and administrative law. He has conducted lectures and courses at the Judicial and Legal Services Institute (ILKAP) as well as a talk at the Attorney General's Chambers (Civil Division). Tuan Amin served on the University of Liverpool's Law School \& Social Justice Advisory Board in United Kingdom prior to his appointment as Judicial Commissioner.

## Yang Arif Puan Norliza Binti Othman

Yang Arif Puan Norliza Binti Othman graduated from University Malaya in 1992. She was in the Judicial and Legal Service for 29 years before her appointment as a Judicial Commissioner on 1.4.2021. Prior to the appointment, she served as a Magistrate in Kuala Lumpur Magistrate Court, Senior Assistant Registrar of the Kuala Lumpur High Court (Civil Division), Deputy Registrar (Execution, Civil and Commercial Division) Kuala Lumpur High Court, Sessions Court Judge (Sessions Court Kuala Lumpur) and Registrar of the Court Of Appeal Malaysia. She was one of the Judges for Malaysian National Round of The Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Competition 2023 held in UKM Bangi.

## Yang Arif Dr. John Lee Kien How @ Mohd Johan Lee

Yang Arif Dr Johan graduated with LLB (Hons) and thereafter obtained a Master of Comparative Laws degree both of which from International Islamic University Malaysia. He also obtained an MA in Economics for Competition Law from King's Collage London and a Ph.D in Business and Commercial Law from Monash University Australia. Prior to his elevation, he was an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, High Court of Sabah \& Sarawak, the Shariah Court and the Supreme Court of Brunei. Up till his elevation, he lectured part-time in a few local law schools. He also occasionally conducted in-house trainings to various banking institutions, governmental and semi-governmental institutions worldwide. In 2006, he was a visiting scholar to the Asian Law Centre of the University of Washington. He was a consultant to few governmental agencies as well as few government-funded banks. He is also a certified and qualified arbitrator and mediator. In April, 2021, YA was appointed a Judicial Commissioner and is currently presiding in Mahkamah Tinggi Civil 6 at the High Court in Kuala Lumpur. An international mooter during his student years, upon his graduation, he has couched few moot teams and organized numerous local and international moot competitions.

## Judicial Commissioners

## Yang Arif Tuan Su Tiang Joo

Justice Su Tiang Joo was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner on 1.9.2020 and is currently serving in the High Court in Malaya at Kuala Lumpur. After graduating with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from Manchester Polytechnic and being admitted as a Barrister of Gray's Inn, he was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1984. Prior to his appointment to the Bench, he practised as an Advocate \& Solicitor for 36 years mainly in the area of Civil Litigation. Whilst at the Bar, he volunteered much of his time to the professional development of the legal profession including reviewing the Legal Profession Act 1976 and the Legal Profession (Practice and Etiquette) Rules 1978. He was a board member of the Advocates and Solicitors Disciplinary Board. He is the present President of The Malaysian Chapter of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn and has assisted in judging a number of mooting competitions organised by Lawasia.

## Yang Arif Tuan Azlan Bin Sulaiman

Yang Arif Tuan Azlan Bin Sulaiman was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner of the High Court of Malaya on 4 February 2022. He currently presides over the Intellectual Property Court of the Commercial Division of the High Court in Kuala Lumpur. He read law at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom where he graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons). Tuan Azlan was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1990 and practiced for 30 years in, amongst others, the area of commercial, corporate, and civil litigation and arbitration, appearing in all levels of the Courts.

## Retired Judges

## Dato' George Varughese

Dato' George Varughese read law and graduated with LL. B (Hons) from Manchester Metropolitan University in 1988 and was called to the Bar of England \& Wales after having obtained the Degree of an Utter Barrister from the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1990. In 1991, he was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya. Dato' George also obtained his Masters in Law (LL.M) from University of Malaya, and later became a Member of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MMIA) and a Sports Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (C.I.Arb). He is also empanelled on the Asian International Arbitration Centre's (AIAC) Panel of Arbitrators, AIAC's Panel of Adjudicators and AIAC's Panel of Mediators. Years of dedication to the legal profession and to the Bar Council saw Dato' George rise to helm the Malaysian Bar as President from 2017 until 2019. During this time, he also served as a member of the Advocates and Solicitors Disciplinary Board (ASDB) and Legal Profession Qualifying Board (LPQB). Dato' George also served as the Chairman of the Ad-Hoc Disciplinary Committee, PIAM (2013-2019), a member of Technical Committee, Service Export Fund, MATRADE (2017-2019), a member of Taylor's Law School Legal Profession Advisory Panel (2017-2019) and member of Editorial Advisory Board of Sessions and Magistrate's Cases (SMC) (2017-2019). In 2019, Dato' George was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner, and in which office he served at the High Court of Malaya in Penang until 2021. Thereafter, in 2022, Dato' George returned to practice as a Consultant in Messrs George Varughese.

## Dato' Fredrick Indran X.A. Nicholas

Dato' Fredrick Indran X.A. Nicholas has served the Industrial Court of Malaysia as a Chairman from November 2006 to February 2017, at its various divisions in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Perak and Penang. He then served as a High Court Judge in the Civil Division of the superior courts of the Republic of Fiji, for a time in 2017. He then returned, with effect from January 2018, to serve once again as a Chairman of a divisional court of the Industrial Court of Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur. In November 2019, Dato' Fredrick was appointed to the position of Judicial Commissioner; and was posted to serve at the Civil Division of the High Court of Malaya at Johor Bahru with effect from December 2019 until November 2021. From 1986 to 1991, Dato' Fredrick was in the Judicial and Legal Service of Malaysia; where he served as a Magistrate in Negeri Sembilan and then as Deputy Public Prosecutor in Kelantan, followed by being appointed as Head of Prosecution for Malacca. He then practiced as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya from 1991 to 2006 in Ipoh, Perak and in Kuala Lumpur. While in private legal practice, he had occasion to serve as the Chairman of the Perak Bar; and was a member of the Malaysian Bar Council from 2004 to 2006. Dato' Fredrick was called to the Malaysian Bar as an Advocate \& Solicitor in 1986; was awarded the Certificate in Legal Practice by the Malaysian Qualifying Board in 1985, prior to which he graduated with an LL. B (Hons) from the University of London, England in 1984.

## Officers from the Attorney General's Chambers

## Dato’ Umar Saifuddin Jaafar

Dato' Umar Saifuddin Jaafar is currently Head of Research Division at the Attorney General's Chambers, Putrajaya. He started his career in the Judicial and Legal Service in 1989 as a Magistrate in Ipoh, Perak after graduating with LLB. (Hons.) from the International Islamic University, Malaysia in the same year. He also obtained LLM. (Prosecution) from the University of Wollongong, Australia in 2009. He has served in various capacities, namely Senior Assistant Registrar (Penang High Court), Deputy Public Prosecutor (State of Penang), Senior Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman (Drafting Division), Senior Federal Counsel (International Affairs Division), Deputy Chairman of Customs Appeal Tribunal (Royal Customs Malaysia), Head of Prosecution Unit (State of Johor), Director of Legal \& Prosecution Division (Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, MACC), Director-

General at Judicial \& Legal Training Institute, ILKAP and Insolvency Department. Between 2019 and 2023, he served as Deputy Head of Appellate \& Trial Division and Head of International Affairs Division prior to holding the current post.

## Khairunnizam Muhamad Ideres

Khairunnizam Muhamad Ideres is presently a Senior Federal Counsel in the International Affairs Division at the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia. He has experience serving as a Senior Legal Officer in the Ministry of Finance, Federal Land Commissioner's Office, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change and Senior Deputy Public Prosecutor in Sabah, Malaysia. Moreover, he was part of the Malaysia Negotiators‘ Team for the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement(TPPA) negotiation in environment chapter. Academically, he graduated in 2004, with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi Mara(UiTM). He did his master's law degree in Intellectual Property at the same university. He is currently enrolled as a fourth-year PhD candidate at University of Malaya, Malaysia. He was offered by the government service scholarship to further his studies to the PhD level in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice. Throughout his PhD studies starting at the end of 2019 until now he has successfully presented his papers, partially taken from his thesis, at several local and international conferences such as The European Conference on Arts \& Humanities (ECAH2022) at Birkbeck, University of London and published one article (Web of Science).

## Noordini Mohd Azahar

Ms Noordini is a Senior Federal Counsel in the International Affairs Division, Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia. She joined the Judicial and Legal Service in 2008 and was assigned as a Federal Counsel at the Malaysia Department of Insolvency from 2008 to 2013. She was later posted to the International Affairs Division under the Multilateral International Trade, International Arbitration and Dispute Unit since 2013 until present. As a Senior Federal Counsel and legal advisor to the Government of Malaysia, she represents Malaysia in various international meetings and negotiations on free trade agreement which Malaysia is a party to. She has participated in bilateral and regional free trade agreement negotiations, including the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, the Malaysia - Turkey Free Trade Agreement, and the current Upgrade of ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement. She serves as a delegate to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law representing Malaysia in Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) and Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement). Ms Noordini also advises relevant ministries on matters relating to international trade law, international investment law and international arbitration dispute. Ms Noordini read law at the University Technology Mara of Malaysia. She obtained Master of Laws in Commercial and Corporate Law from Queen Mary University of London through a scholarship awarded by the Public Service Department of Malaysia.

## Farah Nurul Ayu Izany

Farah Nurul Ayu graduated from the Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam (UiTM) in 2006, with a degree in Law with Honours (LLB. Hons). In 2007, she obtained a Post Graduate in Syariah and Practices from UiTM. In 2014, she was awarded Diploma in Translation (Legal Modul). Subsequently, she did her Master of Laws (LLM) at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in 2018. She started her career as a legal officer on 7 December 2006. Since then, she had been seconded to various ministries such as the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the Ministry of Health, the Public Private Partnership Unit, Prime Minister's Department and she was posted to the Special Task Force on Public Service Matters under the Advisory Division, Attorney General's Chambers (AGC). In 14 April 2014, she was attached as a Senior Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman of the Drafting Division, AGC, However, in September 2016, she pursued her LLM at UKM. After completed her LLM, she re-joined the Drafting Division, AGC, in May 2018 until 14 April 2021. However, on 15 April 2021 she was promoted and transferred to the International Affairs Division, AGC as a Senior Federal Counsel, and currently attached to the Border, Territorial and Maritime Matters Unit.

## Fadhli Ab Wahab

Fadhli Ab Wahab graduated with Bachelor of Legal Studies (Hons) in 2008 and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) in 2009 from the MARA University Of Technology. He is currently attached as a Senior Federal Counsel to the International Criminal Matters Unit, International Affairs Division, Attorney General's Chambers from April 2023. Prior to in this, Encik Fadhli bin Ab Wahab served as a Deputy Public Prosecutor for the Commercial Crimes Unit, Prosecution Division in 2009. He then served in the Prosecution Unit of the Perak Legal Advisor's Office from 2010 to 2020. He was then transferred to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission from 2020 to 2022. During his time as a Deputy Public Prosecutor, he had prosecuted various criminal cases such as cyber-crime, sexual crimes, dangerous drugs offences, environmental offences, human trafficking as well as cases relating to corruption and misuse of power offences, criminal breach of trust and others commercial crimes cases. Currently, he is involved in subject matters pertaining of international criminal law, such as non-proliferation and disarmament, terrorism, and human trafficking.

## Suhaily binti Samsudin

Suhaily is presently a Senior Federal Counsel in the International Affairs Division at the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Chambers, she held several notable positions in various capacities. She was a senior assistant registrar, magistrate and deputy registrar. In 2019, she was the director of Malaysian Department of Insolvency. She has also been in legal practice.

## Laila Muhamad Bostamam

Laila Muhamad Bostamam graduated from the Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Shah Alam with Honours, Second Class Upper, in Bachelor of Laws (LL.B (H) in 2006. Prior to that, she obtained a Diploma in Public Administration from UiTM Sungai Petani in 2001. In 2011, she had the opportunity to study International Nuclear Law at the prestigious International School of Nuclear Law (ISNL), University of Montpellier 1, France, sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). She successfully obtained a Diploma in International Nuclear Law in 2012. In the subsequent year, she also received a Diploma in Translation (Legal Modul) from Institut Terjemahan \& Buku Malaysia. She continued her education and earned a Master of Laws degree from Cardiff University in 2015, improving her legal expertise. Her professional career commenced on 15 January 2007, as a legal officer for the Government of Malaysia and she was soon seconded to the Legal Unit of the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation as Federal Counsel from January 17, 2007. Subsequently, she held the position of Senior Federal Counsel in the Advisory Division of the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) from 15 February 2013 to 14 June 2021. In the Advisory Division, she worked in two units: Privatization and Contract Management Unit until June 14, 2016, and Information Technology and Finance Unit until June 14, 2021. On 15 June 2021, she was promoted and transferred to the International Affairs Division of the AGC as a Senior Federal Counsel and presently, she is attached to the Bilateral and ASEAN Trade, and International Finance Unit.

## Members of the Bar

## Abu Daud Abd Rahim

Abu Daud was called to to the Malaysian Bar and admitted to the roll of Advocates and Solicitors in 2004 after obtaining his double degree in Bachelor of Law LL.B (Hons) and Bachelor of Laws (Shariah) (First Class) from the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). He joined Messrs Azmi \& Associates in 2003 and was elated to become a Partner in 2011. Since then, he has been heading one of the Litigation and Arbitration Practice Group at the Firm, working on various nature of cases in vast areas of law. Abu Daud is also an adjudicator under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act (CIPAA) 2012. In his practice journey, Abu Daud has equipped himself with advocacy skills valuable to court proceedings as well as out-of-Court settlements. An avid learner, he embraces the Firm's philosophy of continuous progress by supervising the most numbers of litigation practitioners at the Firm.


#### Abstract

Abdul Rahim Sinwan Abdul Rahim Sinwan is an Advocate \& Solicitor of High Court of Malaya since 1991. He too has been a lecturer at the International Islamic University from 1991 to 1994. He holds a Masters in Comparative Laws and is an accredited Mediator from Australia. He is a civil litigator and had his cases in the Law Journals. He had represented the Bar Council against delinquent Solicitors.


## Azlan bin Abd Ro'ni

Azlan bin Abd Ro'ni hails from Penang and he obtained his law LL.B (Hons) degree from Universiti Teknologi MARA. Azlan served his pupillage at Messrs. Zaid Ibrahim \& Co under the tutelage of Ms Peh Lee Kheng and he was called to the Bar in 2008 at the Kuala Lumpur High Court. Azlan has served in Petroliam Nasional Berhad (Petronas) as Legal Counsel as well as in Malaysian Airlines System (MAS) as Senior Legal Counsel. He is currently the Managing Partner of Messrs. Roni \& Co, a firm that practices civil matters and criminal defense advocacy, appellate matters, conveyancing, and Syariah practice. He also teaches in Universiti Teknologi MARA on the arts of Civil Trial and Advocacy. Azlan lives by 3 maxims: "The most important thing for a judge is -(written) judgment."- Lord Patrick Devlin, "A victorious army wins its victory before seeking battle, an army destined for defeat fights in the hopes of winning." Sun Tzu. Chapter IV, and Measure twice, cut once. Azlan plays basketball in his free time.


#### Abstract

Alvin Tang Alvin was called to the English Bar as a Barrister, Lincoln's Inn in 1998 and the Malaysian Bar in 1999. Alvin was formerly a partner in Messrs Shook Lin \& Bok and joined Messrs Bodipalar Ponnudurai De Silva in late 2017. Alvin has represented clients in trials and appeals in all the superior courts and as counsel in both domestic and international arbitrations, as well as advocate and solicitors' disciplinary proceedings. Alvin's forte is in litigating complex contentious disputes in corporate and commercial matters, with an emphasis on shareholder disputes and boardroom tussles, both in the context of listed entities as well as private companies and family disputes. Away from the office, Alvin offers his services to train lawyers in litigation and advocacy through the Bar Council's Advocacy Training Course and also contributes articles on Malaysian developments of company and commercial law in international legal publications.


## Andrew Heng

Andrew is a Senior Partner at ZMM and leads the Construction \& Energy team. He provides both litigation and advisory services to clients in the construction, infrastructure, renewable energy, environmental, banking and insurance, property development as well as manufacturing industries. Andrew represents clients across a spectrum of construction disputes in arbitrations, adjudications and courts, including applications pursuant to the Arbitration Act 2005 and Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012, restraining demands on performance bonds and construction related tortious claims (professional negligence, occupiers' liability, nuisance and trespass). Andrew's experience includes handling disputes arising from construction of airport, highway, rails infrastructure, waste to energy plant, large scale solar plant, solid waste treatment plant, waste water treatment plant and electrical transmission towers. Andrew also advised both international and local clients on compliance of regulatory requirements by the Construction Industry Development Board. Andrew is also an accredited Adjudicator and Mediator empanelled with the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC).

## Andrew Teh

Andrew is a barrister-at-law from Gray's Inn, England and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1992. He is currently a partner and Head of Litigation at Wong Lu Peen \& Tunku Alina, a KL-based law firm. Andrew's principal practice area is in civil litigation, with an emphasis in banking and insurance law. Andrew was Deputy Chairman of the Court Liaison Sub-Committee of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee from 2007-2008 and prior to that, had served in the sub-committee for legal aid for
several terms. He is a member of the Insolvency Practitioners Association of Malaysia. Andrew has been serving as a judge in the Strata Management Tribunal since July 2018. He was most recently reported in the Federal Court decisions of Dubon Berhad v Wisma Cosway Managment Corporation [2020] 4 MLJ 288 and See Leong Chye v United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Bhd [2021] MLJU 739.

## Annou Xavier

Annou Xavier graduated from the London University and was admitted to the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1996. He was later called to the Malaysian Bar in 1997. Since then, he has been an active practitioner in a wide variety of commercial and civil disputes and litigation with many of his cases being reported in the Malayan Law Journal, Current law Journal (cljlaw.com) and All Malaysia Reports. He has conducted many seminars at the State Bars on topics relating to Digital Evidence and Citizenship. Annou has also been involved in some high profile human rights and constitutional law cases on Statelessness and religious freedom which have constantly being highlighted in the media sphere.

## Bahari Yeow

With over 20 years of experience in the fields of intellectual property law and general litigation, Bahari heads the Intellectual Property and Technology, Media \& Telecommunications practice of Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS). He has been ranked as a leading Tier 1 intellectual property lawyer in Malaysia by legal 500, where he was acknowledged as "undoubtedly very knowledgeable in his field of practice - his commitment, passion and enthusiasm are commendable". Chambers Asia Pacific ranked Bahari as a Ranked Lawyer and described him as "often engaged by leading global and domestic brands on trade mark infringement cases", noted for his expertise in all types of IP litigation", "particularly hands-on and very conversant with IP matters in Malaysia," and "customer-centric approach and adaptability to economic changes". Asia Business Law Journal lists Bahari as one of Malaysia's Top 100 Lawyers in 2021 and acknowledges his expertise in Litigation, Intellectual Property, Licensing \& Franchising, Technology, Media and Telecommunications and E-commerce, Fintech, Blockchain \& Cryptos. His approachable but solution driven personality won him the Commended External Counsel of the Year by In-House Community. Bahari is a qualified patent, trade mark and industrial design agent. He also sits as a Panellist at the Asian International Arbitration Centre (Domain Name Dispute Resolution). He served as a member of the Group Standing Committee for Copyright (2015-2018) of the Asian Patent Attorney Association (APAA) Malaysia.

## B Balakumar Balasundram

B Balakumar Balasundram graduated from University of Keele with Bachelors of Social Science in Law and Economics in 1988 and thereafter obtained the Certificate in Legal Practice in 1989. He chambered with Messrs. Choong Yik Son \& Robiha for 3 months and completed the remaining period with Messrs. Azim, Ong \& Krishnan. He was called to the Malaysian Bar in September 1990. Balakumar's area of practice encompasses but is not limited to advisory and litigation relating to both life and general insurance, reinsurance, Takaful Law and medico-legal practice. He is also a member of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA), the Malaysian Insurance Institute (MII) and the Medico-Legal Society of Malaysia.

## Cheah Poh Gek

Poh Gek is an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1985. She is the senior partner of Messrs Cheah Poh Gek \& Associates, a Selangor-based law firm. Her principal practice area is in conveyancing, with an emphasis in family matters. Poh Gek served as the Head of the Conveyancing Sub-Committee at the Selangor Bar from 1996-2004 and as a member on the Conveyancing Sub-Committee of the Malaysian Bar for many years. She obtained her Certificate of Mediation from LEADR (Australia) in 2001 and is registered as Mediator with the Malaysian Bar. She is also an Associate Member of The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, U.K.

## Chen Yun Jin

Yun Jin is an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 2015. He is a senior associate of Messrs LAW Partnership with principal practice area is in Dispute Resolution and Intellectual Property, with an emphasis in enforcement of IP rights. He has coordinated and executed several criminal raids and enforcement exercises with the authorities for trademark infringement and copyright matters and has assisted in regional anticounterfeiting programs. Yun Jin has advised on various internet infringement matters involving the illegal dissemination of copyrighted contents and the sale of counterfeit goods online. He has also assisted a multinational conglomerate in the enforcement of its trademark and copyright rights against multiple infringers both online and offline. In the field of dispute resolution, he has assisted in the execution of a court order against former employees of an information technology solution company for, amongst others, conspiracy, unlawful interference with trade, and breach of employment contract. He assisted a leading international offshore oilfield service provider in pursuing a civil claim for breach of fiduciary duties, fraud, and negligence of its former directors. He has handled court proceedings including injunctions, summary judgment, striking out applications, windingup petitions, garnishee proceedings, and security for costs involving multinational companies. In addition, he has garnered ample experience in handling mediation and arbitration. Yun Jin has also acted as court appointed supervising solicitors in enforcement of Anton Piller Orders.

## Chew Phye Keat

Phye Keat has been practising law since March 1987. He is a graduate of the law faculty of University of Malaya with an LLB (Hons) and an LLM degree from the same university and is currently the Managing Partner and Head of Corporate and Commercial in the law firm Raja, Darryl \& Loh in Kuala Lumpur. Phye Keat has handled a broad spectrum of corporate and commercial transactions including joint ventures, manufacturing, telecommunications, computer contracts and information technology, licensing, franchising, foreign investment, immigration, sale of goods, construction, privatisation, infrastructure (including the first light rail transit project in Malaysia, STAR) and labour/ employment. His current focused practice areas are in competition/anti-trust law, anti-corruption law, commercialisation of intellectual property and legal aspects of ESG (Environmental, Social \& Governance) compliance. Phye Keat has been listed as a Leading Individual by The Asia Pacific Legal 500 for 2017-2022 and as a top-ranked Band 1 Leading Individual for Competition/Antitrust by Chambers Asia Pacific for 2015, 2016, 2019-2022. AsiaLaw Profiles named him as a Marketleading Lawyer for the years 2012, 2013, 2017-2019, as a Distinguished Practitioner for Competition/ Antitrust and Corporate \& M/A in its 2020 edition and as an Elite Practitioner for Competition/ Antitrust in its 2021 and 2022 editions. He has been included in "The A List - Malaysia's Top 100 Lawyers 2021" by Asia Business Law journal.

## Chong Phow Yew

Chong was called to the Bar on 13/8/1988. He has been in active practice handling mainly civil and commercial litigation. He is married with 3 daughters. He holds an external honours degree in law from the University of London and a 2nd Upper Honours in the Certificate in Legal Practice and is presently the senior partner in the firm of Kamaruzaman Arif, Amran\& Chong in Shah Alam.

## Chu Ai Li

Chu Ai Li is a partner of Azman Davidson \& Co., and has more than 20 years' experience as a lawyer. Her core practice areas are construction law, arbitration and adjudication. She is on the panel of arbitrators as well as the panel of adjudicators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre.

## Colin Andrew Pereira

Colin Andrew Pereira is a partner in the firm of Goh Wong Pereira, which was established in 2001. Colin himself has been in practices for over 30 years. He specializes in commercial disputes with an emphasis on shareholders and corporate disputes. In this respect, he has represented both,
minority and majority shareholders in company disputes. Colin has also given numerous seminars in this area. Additionally, he has considerable experience in matters relating to personal and corporate insolvency, capital reduction and other applications under the Companies Act 2016. He has appeared in all level of courts in Malaysia and has conducted numerous trials in the High Court of Malaya as well as appeals in the Court of Appeal and Federal Court. He has also appeared in both domestic and international arbitrations. Colin is a graduate of the University of Bristol and was admitted to the English Bar, as a member of the Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn in 1992. He was subsequently admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1993 and thereafter to the Singapore Bar in 1997. He also holds a Diploma in International Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and is a Fellow of the said Institute.

## Conrad Francis Lopez

Conrad Francis Lopez graduated from Oxford Brookes University, England with Honours in 2005. Upon completing the Certificate of Legal Practice, Malaysia he was admitted as an Advocate \& Solicitor of Malaya in 2007. Conrad commenced practice in the Dispute Resolution Department of a reputable firm, specialising in Banking and Insolvency laws. During this time, he acted and advised on matters relating to banker-customer relationship, borrowers' obligations, Islamic banking, banking fraud and forgery, liquidation, receivership and personal insolvency matters. In the course of practice he has also advised local and international companies on various areas of civil and commercial disputes ranging from contractual disputes, regulatory and statutory compliance matters, judicial review, defamation, and professional negligence claims. Conrad has been involved in heavily contentious matters that have been litigated at various levels of the Malaysian Court hierarchy.

## Daniel Tan Chun Hao

Daniel is the proprietor of the law firm Messrs TAN CHUN HAO. He holds dual qualifications in both civil engineering and law, and is a practising lawyer. He was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1993. Daniel has over 25 years experience in the provision of contractual advice to local and international contractors and owners in the engineering and construction industries. He has been principally involved in arbitrations / dispute resolution, contract management and advisory services on a wide spectrum of projects. He acts as advocate in arbitrations. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and both panel arbitrator and accredited mediator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre, and accredited mediator with the Construction Industry Development Board, Malaysia.

## David Dev Peter

David is a partner at Messrs Jerald Gomez \& Associates. Having graduated from the University of Leicester, England; he was called to the Bar in 1995 and later completed his LLM at the University of London. David has been in active practice since 1996, except for the 3 years he served as corporate counsel in public-listed Landmarks Berhad, where he handled legal work in sectors such as medical care, property development, commercial property management and hotel management. His current practice areas are litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution. David's firm, Messrs Jerald Gomez \& Associates, has carved out a niche for itself as a firm that accomplishes bespoke and comprehensive solutions for legal predicaments faced by their clientele. David is a member of the Advocates \& Solicitors Disciplinary Board, and he serves on the Malaysian Bar's Trade in Legal Services Committee and the Finance Committee. David is a certified Adjudicator under CIPAA 2012 and a member of the Malaysia Society of Adjudicators.

## Dato' Hj. Kamaruzaman bin Muhammad Arif

Dato' Hj. Kamaruzaman bin Muhammad Arif graduated from the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom with Bachelor of Laws (Hons) in 1997 and passed his certificate of Legal Practice (CLP) examination in 1998. Dato' Haji Kamaruzaman started his legal career in a reputable firm in Petaling

Jaya as a legal assistant before joining two local authorities as the Head of Legal Department and took charge in various civil suits, prosecutions, legal advice, drafting and amending by-laws. He had been invited by various agencies and an active speaker on local government laws including UiTM, Polis DiRaja Malaysia, Kastam DiRaja Malaysia, Persatuan Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan ("MALA"), Majlis Perbandaran Kota Bahru, Majlis Perbandaran Alor Gajah and Pusat Latihan Penguatkuasaan Negeri Selangor. In 2003, Dato' Haji Kamaruzaman joined Malaysia Airlines (MAS) as a Counsel where he gained expertise in corporate and commercial laws, privatizations and outsourcing of services. He had worked together with a leading legal firm in Sydney for a mega IT outsourcing project. In 2005, the state of Selangor appointed Dato' Hj. Kamaruzaman to be a Consultant in drafting the unified by-laws for all local authorities in Selangor. He managed to complete this task successfully and over 27 standardised by-laws have been introduced in Selangor. Dato' Kamaruzaman also authored two books pertaining to enforcement in Selangor local authorities, copies which were circulated to all Selangor local authorities. Dato' Hj. Kamaruzaman holds knowledge and experience in various of legal areas covering diverse matters and his pursuit for legal knowledge and expertise never ends and continued throughout his entire legal career and practice. He holds excellent records in civil litigation, delivering legal solutions on disputes in major joint venture projects, administrative laws, corporate banking and conveyancing.

## Dato' Dr. Abd Shukor Ahmad

Dato' Shukor is a Partner and Head of Dispute Resolution at Shukor Baljit \& Partners. He read law at the University of Malaya and went on to obtain Bachelor's as well as Master's degree from that University. He was admitted to the High Court of Malaya in 1997. Whilst his practice primarily involves civil and commercial dispute resolutions he is also adept at corporate exercises of mergers, acquisition, financing and securitization. He has appeared regularly at the Superior Courts. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MIArb), the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ) as well as the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR). He is also a qualified Mediator and Adjudicator. He has appeared as counsel in domestic as well as international arbitrations. He has also been appointed as sole arbitrator in ad hoc and institutional arbitrations. He secured his degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from the International Islamic University in 2013. He has also published articles in scholarly journals and has authored texts entitled "Legal Aspects of Hire Purchase" -2nd Edition in 2019 and "Habeas Corpus in Malaysia" in 2021. He has been regularly invited to judge the International Humanitarian Law Moot and Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competitions as well as other mediation and arbitration competitions.

## Dato' Sunil Abraham

Dato' Sunil Abraham is a partner at Cecil Abraham \& Partners based in Kuala Lumpur. He specialises in Corporate and Commercial, Banking and Securities, Media, Public and Administrative as well as Environmental Law disputes. He has significant advocacy experience before the Federal Court, Court of Appeal and High Court in Malaysia as well as before arbitral tribunals. He also sits regularly as arbitrator in domestic and international disputes. He has been recognised as a leading individual by Chambers \& Partners Asia Pacific, Legal 500 Asia Pacific, Who’s Who Legal, Benchmark Litigation, Asia Law Profile and Global Arbitration Review in the area of dispute resolution. In 2016, he was named by Asian Legal Business in the Top 40 Under 40 Practitioners in Asia.

## Darren Lai

Darren Lai graduated with an LL.B (Hons) degree from University of Tasmania in 2005. He obtained his Certificate of Legal Practice in 2008 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in November 2009. He was admitted as a Partner of Richard Wee Chambers on 1st July 2021. His area of practice is in corporate and commercial dispute resolution. He has appeared and acted in a wide range of disputes in all levels of Court in Malaysia and in arbitration, amongst
others shareholders disputes, commercial terms deadlocks, liquidation, tenancy disputes as well as defamation and libel matters. Apart from his work in dispute resolution, Darren has also advised his clients on various corporate regulatory complinace and with his keen interest in environmental law, recently advised on the Environmental, Social \& Governance ("ESG") framework. Darren is also a certified mediator.

## Farah Shuhadah Razali

Farah Shuhadah Razali was admitted as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2008 and has been in active legal practice since then. Farah has experience in a wide range of commercial litigation including companies or corporate disputes involving shareholders and directors, winding-up disputes, contractual disputes and tortious claims. Whilst her area of special interest is defamation as well as public and administrative law, Farah also regularly renders advise and act for both local and international clients in matters involving land and tenancy, probate and administrative disputes and various debt recovery, insolvency and restructuring matters. Farah has appeared as co-counsel and counsel at all tiers of the Malaysian Courts and played a key role in many noteworthy cases in Malaysia which are reported in the law journals. Apart from Court appearances, Farah also has been involved in commercial arbitration.

## Gabriel Daniel

Gabriel Daniel is a graduate of University of Malaya and an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya. He joined the legal fraternity and has been serving in various capacities for the past 27 years. Gabriel Daniel is currently a Senior Partner in a leading law firm in Kuala Lumpur and has wide experience in various areas including construction law, commercial and company disputes, insolvency practice, administrative law, arbitration and contractual disputes. He has appeared in several landmark cases in Malaysia relating to land, company and administrative law issues. Additionally, Gabriel Daniel regularly advises on corporate and commercial issues to both domestic and international clients.

## Gan Khong Aik

Gan Khong Aik graduated from the University of Malaya and is a partner of Gan Partnership. Khong Aik is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), United Kingdom, who sits on the panel of arbitrators and mediators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre. He is also a mediator with the Malaysian Mediation Centre. Throughout his practice since 1995, Khong Aik often acts as Counsel and represents directors, shareholders and companies in a wide range of high value corporate dispute focusing on corporate governance and commercial disputes including property disputes, company restructuring \& liquidation, insolvency, employment and industrial relations disputes with particular reference to restrictive covenants, protection of trade secrets and confidential information as well as defamation at all tiers of the Malaysian Courts and arbitration.

## Gregory Das

Gregory Das is a Partner at Messrs Cyrus Das Advocates \& Solicitors. His practice has a particular emphasis in public and administrative law, employment law, corporate and commercial litigation and litigation related to property development. Gregory is the author of "The Law and Practice of Judicial Review in Malaysia", which is the first practitioner's text exclusively on the law of judicial review in Malaysia. Gregory is also a former Vice - President of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators. Gregory read law at the University of Bristol and graduated with an LL.B. (Hons) degree in 2010. He was called to the Bar of England and Wales by the Inner Temple in 2011. He was thereafter called to the Malaysian Bar in 2012.

## Ho Kok Yew

Kok Yew is in his 18th year of private litigation practice. He is the principal of his namesake law firm, which he established in September 2018. He handles various aspects of contentious disputes covering multiple disciplines in civil, commercial and corporate litigation. He believes his firm of lawyers contribute towards creating an exception to the myth that lawyers who fight in court are hostile and unapproachable. Kok Yew champions the need for his lawyers to have strong interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence - which is always vital if you need the client to agree to your fee structure. Kok Yew also actively engages in corporate practice, bringing together the advantage of prior hands-on experience in the corporate sector during his years as Head of Group Corporate Affairs in a public listed company from 2006 to 2010 (but for these valuable years, he would have been in his 22nd year of private practice). Quite the self-opinionated narcissist, he believes he has seen enough badly drafted contracts that become the subject matter of disputes in court, and that ultimately, it takes a litigator to spot the fine print in a commercial contract.

## Hj Aznul Affendi Bin Hasan Basri

Hj Aznul Affendi Bin Hasan Basri is a partner in Messrs Aznul \& Co (Advocates \& Solicitors), a boutique legal firm established in 1996. He has MA (Law) from the University of Cambridge and is a member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn (1991). Upon his return, he served with the Attorney General's Chambers, Malaysia as an Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman where he was involved in the drafting of many statutes including amendments to the Federal Constitution and in the process he mastered the finer points of drafting and statutory interpretation. He also represented Malaysia at a legal workshop in 1992 on the United Nations Convention on Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. He left government service to join a leading legal firm in Kuala Lumpur and was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1994. In 1996, he set up his own firm, Messrs Aznul \& Co where he was involved in drafting a number of legislation on the construction industry and participated in the process of reconstruction and rebuilding of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. His current legal practice includes commercial and corporate law, regulatory compliance, competition law and data protection. He has advised on the drafting of legislation relating to the palm oil industry, ports, personal data protection, fish marketing industry, Fisherman's Associations, competition laws, biofuel, and water where he deployed his expertise on statutory interpretation to good effect. He was involved in the patent aspect of the mapping of genome for palm oil and drafted the bye-laws for a major co-operative society. Aznul established the legal mechanism for a wakaf structure and was also involved in the restructuring of a major zakat organisation and the proposed introduction of cooperative banking laws in Malaysia. He advised on the cross-border corporate winding-up of a foreign branch of a Malaysian entity in India and the proposed establishment of a halal factory in China. He participated in the proposed incorporation of a statutory body established pursuant to a State Enactment. In 2002, Aznul was offered an Associate Professorship in Law at a public university but chose to continue pursuing his legal practice in the private sector. In his spare time (as well as discharging his Firm's corporate social responsibilities), he lectures in his areas of expertise at public and private universities. He is a co-author of the law book Statutory Interpretation in Malaysia published by Thomson Reuters Sweet Maxwell.

## Idza Hajar Ahmad Idzam

Idza graduated with an LL.B (Hons) from the UiTM and is currently practicing with Zul Rafique \& Partners. Idza's area of practice includes defamation \& media, corporate \& commercial litigation, public \& administrative law, clubs \& unincorporated associations, land and general property, law regarding land acquisitions, banking law and arbitrations. Idza regularly appears in High Court and the Appellate Courts. Idza is a Recommended Lawyer in the Legal500 2019 Asia Pacific for Dispute Resolution and has also been named Future Star by Benchmark Litigation Asia Pacific 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. She has was named as Outstanding Lawyer 2020 for Client Service Excellence by Asialaw is one of ALB's Malaysia Rising Stars of 2022.

## Irwin Lo

Irwin Lo is a barrister of Middle Temple, United Kingdom in 2004 and was admitted to practice in Malaysia as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2006. His passion is in the practice of dispute resolution, which includes counselling clients on their legal conflicts and issues, strategising on the best possible resolution of a legal dispute, and advocating his clients' case in court. His litigation skills and competence have continued to result in engagements as counsel for trial and appellate court work at all tiers of the Malaysian Courts from a diverse range of clientele from the corporate world as well as individuals. His specialisation is in contractual, construction, corporate and commercial litigation; with his most interesting cases involving matters relating to shareholders' dispute, breach of directors' duties, and construction defects. As a complement to his litigation background, Irwin is also regularly tasked by his corporate clients to provide non-litigious corporate commercial advice. At present, Irwin is engaged as a long-term external legal advisor for several companies. Prior to setting up Lo Chambers, Irwin was a partner in a law firm overseeing the litigation department and acts as legal advisor for several listed companies in Malaysia. Irwin is a member of the Young Practitioners Group of Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) and is also a licensed Adjudicator under the panel of the AIAC for construction disputes under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 (CIPAA) and a licensed Mediator under the panel of the Malaysian Mediation Centre (MMC).

## Jamie Wong

Jamie has been engaged in active practice for over 14 years with a focus in corporate and commercial litigation. She founded Messrs Jamie Wong in 2014. Her clientele ranges from private individuals to public listed entities based locally and abroad. Upon completing the Bar Vocational Course at BPP Law School, London, Jamie was called to the English Bar by the Middle Temple in 2007. Before commencing her pupillage in the chambers of Ranjit Singh, she worked at international law firms, Simmons \& Simmons, Hong Kong and Zaid Ibrahim \& Co, Malaysia. Jamie believes that besides mastering various legal skills, lawyers are expected to constantly develop their interpersonal skills. The law slants more towards the arts and humanities rather than hard sciences, and applying it would require aspiring lawyers to demonstrate proficiency beyond their textbooks. Jamie has been engaged as both counsel and solicitor on separate occasions in the High Court and Appellate jurisdiction. She also leads a team of abled associates to conduct a wide range of litigation matters including those involved in alternative dispute resolutions. Through the sophisticated and dynamic culture of the Firm, Messrs Jamie Wong has gained recognition among its peers as well as in the legal sphere.

## Janet Chai

Janet's practice is in commercial, energy, construction and engineering disputes, and has been an accredited adjudicator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre since 2014. Janet graduated from University of Sheffield, England with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) in 2003, was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2004 and admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2006. Janet commenced practice in Chooi \& Company where she has been a partner of since 2013.

## Jennifer Chandran

Jennifer Chandran chambered and commenced her practice of law at the firm of Messrs Allen \& Gledhill before forming Vaasan Chan \& Chandran in 1999 together with the other 2 partners. Jennifer Chandran was invited to lecture at the ATC College of Law and from 1990 to 1993 she lectured hundreds of students on Land Law, Family Law and the English Legal System. She handles the firms litigation and Probate matters. She has appeared in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Federal Court in Malaysia. She has from time to time, at the invitation of Rockwills Trust presented lectures to their professional will writers on Malaysian probate procedures and laws and
has also administrated estates of substantial size and value involving local and foreign assets. After years of litigation practice, Jennifer Chandran now also heads our conveyancing practice. Her clients include local and foreign developers. She also provides advisory and consulting service in respect of setting up medical projects in Malaysia.

## Jeffrey John

Jeffrey is a Barrister-at-Law of England and Wales of Lincoln's Inn. He was admitted to the Malaysian Bar on 1st August 1997 and has been in active practice since that time until 2008 when he left for employment to Negara Brunei Darussalam and was called as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the Supreme Court in Negara Brunei Darussalam and remained in active practice there until 2012. Thereafter he returned to Malaysia and commenced private practiced from 2013 till 2014. He obtained a diploma in International Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators UK. In 2015 he was appointed as the Head of Legal in a corporation dealing with Property Development and Railway Projects until March 2017. Since then he has started his own solo practice. Jeffrey practice areas include Civil Litigation, Criminal Litigation with a particular emphasis on General Civil Litigation, Corporate Litigation and Defamation Actions. He also prepares corporate and commercial Agreements and serves as a Panel member on the Disciplinary Committee of the Advocates \& Solicitors Disciplinary Board and also contributes his time and is a member of the Law Reform Committee and Civil Law Committee of the Bar Council.

## Jimmy Liew

Jimmy Liew was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in August 2001. He was admitted as a Partner of Shearn Delamore \& Co in January 2010. His area of practice is in corporate and commercial dispute resolution. He is also involved in disputes involving fraud and forgery, probate and administration, landlord and tenant, and is experienced in liquidation and insolvency matters. administration matters.

## Kamraj Nayagam

Kamraj read English Literature and Law at Trinity College, Cambridge, before being admitted to the Bar of England and Wales at Lincolns Inn, and has been in practice since 1996. Prior to joining MKP as a Partner on 1st January 2016, Kamraj was a Partner of two other large Kuala Lumpur-based corporate/commercial law firms for several years. Kamraj's areas of practice covers arbitration \& alternative dispute resolution, construction \& engineering contracts and corporate \& commercial disputes. Kamraj possesses a wealth of experience both in terms of drafting and negotiating construction contracts and dispute resolution, in relation to which he has been involved in numerous litigation and arbitration matters in various courts and arbitral forum. Kamraj has been engaged in numerous corporate commercial arbitrations and disputes involving many multinational and public listed companies.

## Karen Ng Gek Suan

Karen Ng Gek Suan is a Partner of Karen, Mak and Partners. She is a Building \& Construction lawyer based in Kuala Lumpur. She regularly advises on building and construction contracts and represents clients in all tiers of Courts, Arbitrations, Adjudications and Royal Commission of Enquiry proceedings. Karen is also an Arbitrator, Adjudicator and Mediator, empanelled with the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) and Malaysia Mediation Centre. She is also the Past Deputy President of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrator (MIARB) (2017-2019); the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Young Arbitration and ADR Forum Representative for South Asia (current); and a Panel Member of AIAC Academy of Tutors.

## Karen Wilfred

Karen Wilfred holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of London and a Master of Laws degree in International Dispute Resolution from Queen Mary University of London. She was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1996 and has since been in active legal practice, involved mainly in the areas of civil and commercial dispute resolution. She is presently the principal owner of the firm of Messrs Wilfred.

## K Senthil Vaasan

K Senthil Vaasan commenced his practice of law at the firm of Messrs. Allen \& Gledhill. He is presently a partner at the firm of Messrs. Vaasan Chan \& Chandran in Kuala Lumpur. He has over 20 years of legal practice experience in corporate/commercial law and advises on a variety of corporate and commercial law issues from general corporate advisory on everyday issues faced by corporations to specific corporate exercises. He has also advised several companies on data protection laws and processes in Malaysia.

## Lavinia Kumaraendran

Lavinia Kumaraendran was admitted as a Barrister-at-Law (Lincoln's Inn) in October 2003 and to the Malaysian Bar as an advocate in 2005. She holds a Masters Degree in Commercial Law. Lavinia is a passionate litigator and only ever has been in active dispute resolution practice in the fields of general civil and commercial litigation. Her interest and specialization focuses on corporate litigation, particularly shareholders' disputes, breach of directors' duties and liabilities and contentious insolvency claims. She only very recently set up her own practice in partnership under the style and name of Lavania \& Balan Chambers where the vibrant Team of eight (8) advocates focus on Litigation and Construction Arbitration. Having considerable experience acting for a broad range of clients in various industries, including public listed companies, liquidators, receivers and managers, she frequently appears as solicitor and counsel in all tiers of the Courts in Malaysia. Lavinia is also an Advocacy Trainer with the Advocacy Training Committee of the Malaysian Bar where she often trains young lawyers in various jurisdictions including Singapore, Mumbai and South Africa. Lavinia enjoys training the Art of Advocacy where she emphasizes and conveys the importance of staying true and leveraging on your own personality while putting forward a strong argument in Court.

## Lim Tuck Sun

Tuck Sun graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from University of London (External) in 1995 and was called to the Degree of Utter Barrister of The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1996. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1997. Tuck Sun's primary focus is in the area of commercial and corporate litigation and arbitration. He advises clients on shareholders' disputes and company law related issues, including cross-border disputes. He also advises on competition law, defamation law, IT-related contracts, and telecommunications matters, and handles related litigation. Tuck Sun is also empanelled as an arbitrator with the Singapore International Arbitration Centre and the Asian International Arbitration Centre.

## Lim Zhi Jian

Jian advises on protection, management and monetisation of IP rights for his clients which include Fortune 500 companies, public listed companies, government linked companies and tech start-ups. He has carved a name for handling complex and contentious litigation matters with a specialisation in intellectual property (IP) law. Jian is recognised as a Recognised Practitioner by Chambers Asia Pacific and ranked as a Next Generation Lawyer by Legal 500. He is also named as an Up and Coming Lawyer by Chambers Asia Pacific and Future Star by Benchmark Litigation. He also has the distinction of being one of 2 Malaysians listed in ALB's 40 under 40, and 1 of the 15 lawyers named as a Malaysia Rising Star in 2021 by Asian Legal Business. Jian is a panellist for AIAC and ADNDRC, and sits on the ICC Malaysia Intellectual Property Committee.

## Logan Sabapathy

Logan Sabapathy was admitted to the English Bar in 1985 and the Malayan Bar in 1986. He is also a member of the Singapore Law Society. He has been in active practice in West Malaysia since 1986 involving himself primarily in commercial and corporate related (including securities laws) litigation and arbitration. He practices under the name and style of Messrs Logan Sabapathy \& Co., a firm based in Kuala Lumpur.

## Mahadevan Sekaran

Mahadevan Sekaran is a Partner in Conflict Resolution Department in Jayadeep, Hari \& Jamil. He specialises in Insurance and Takaful litigation, particularly in complex, high magnitude claims at trial and all appellate levels. He is emplaced on the panel of many General Insurance and Takaful Insurance companies. He is also appointed as lead counsel by clients, to assist their panel solicitors when they are faced with complicated legal matters or as the situation arises. Additionally, he has numerous dismissals and reported cases to his credit. He is also actively involved in mediation process and is responsible for negotiating settlements on behalf of insurance companies with the claimants. He is also a Member in Malaysian Insurance Institute, Life Member Medico-Legal Society of Malaysia and Member of Malaysian Association of Risk and Insurance Management.

## Mak Hon Pan

Mak is a Partner of Messrs. Karen, Mak \& Partners. His primary areas of practice include construction law and arbitration. He advises on both contentious and non-contentious matters and has represented a broad range of clients in all stages of adjudication, arbitration and court proceedings. Mak is also the Vice President and Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators, a qualified adjudicator and arbitrator empanelled with the Asian International Arbitration Centre and a Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Outside of practice, Mak writes regularly and has contributed to the Asian International Arbitration Centre 2019 Standard Form of Building Contracts Manual (2021), Construction Adjudication Reports of Malaysia by Sweet \& Maxwell and the Master Builders Journal by Master Builders Association Malaysia.

## Michael C M Soo

Michael is currently the Managing Partner and is head of the IP and IT department of Shook Lin \& Bok, one of the oldest and largest law firms in Malaysia. He obtained his LLB (Hons) from the University of London and is a Barrister-at-Law of Gray's Inn, England and Wales, and an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya and Supreme Court of Singapore. He is also a registered trade mark agent, patent agent, and industrial design agent. He was a past president of the Malaysia Intellectual Property Association (MIPA), and was the immediate past President of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) (2012-2018), Malaysia Country Group, and has been a councilor of APAA for many years. He is currently a member of ExCom/AdCom of APAA Headquarters based in Japan. He was a member of the Copyright Law Review Ad-hoc Committee, under the Attorney General's Chambers, Malaysia, and is a member of the IP Committee, and was the deputy chair of Trade in Legal Services Committee ("TILS") of the Bar Council of Malaysia. He practises exclusively in all areas of IP law, with emphasis on enforcement and civil litigation, for over 35 years. He has appeared as lead counsel or co-counsel in a number of infringement and/or passing-off actions before the High Court, Court of Appeal and Federal Court (formerly known as the Supreme Court). He is a panelist of domain name dispute resolution administered by Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration and has adjudicated on domain name dispute cases. He is active in several international professional organizations including International Trademark Association (INTA), APAA and Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA). He is currently the co-chair of IP Committee of IPBA. He was a former chair of INTA, Asia Pacific Sub-Committee on Geographical Indications and was chair of INTA Enforcement Sub-Committee on Geographical Indications. He has presented papers on intellectual property law in domestic, regional and international seminars and conferences including IPBA, Commonwealth Law Association Annual Conference and World

Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). He lectured on copyright and design law for the Patent Agent Examination since its inception in 1997, and on intellectual property law at the Institute of Judicial and Legal Training (ILKAP), of the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia. He regularly contributes articles and updates in IP publications. He was named one of the leading individuals under category of intellectual property by Legal 500 Asia Pacific; Asia IP Law; Leading Trade Mark Practitioners by Euromoney; PLC Lawyers and Chambers Asia respectively several times.

## Michelle C.Y. Loi

Michelle Loi Choi Yoke was called to the High Court of Malaya in 2004 and specialises in IP and TMT. She is also a patent, industrial design and trademark agent as well as an AIAC's panellist for domain name disputes. Michelle represents clients in all areas of IP litigation and is often involved in precedent-setting cases in the Federal Court. Her experience in IP litigation gives her added insight when it comes to advising her clients on other areas of her practice including trademark prosecution, IP/TMT advisories/agreements, and enforcement. Michelle also advises on domain name disputes, gaming and personal data protection. Michelle has also co-authored various Malaysian chapters on franchises. Michelle is the Past President of the Licensing Executives Society Malaysia (LESM). She is also a trainer in the Advocacy Training Course organised by the Bar Council. She also actively serves in both the IP AND technology, Cyber and Privacy Law Committees of the Bar Council.

## Mohd Izral Khairy

Izral is a partner of Izral Partnership. Izral's main areas of practice are in insolvency and receivership, debt restructuring and schemes of arrangement, commercial fraud, defamation and infrastructure projects. He has acted on various contentious matters concerning the insolvency of public and private companies.

## Nahendran Navaratnam

Nahendran is Senior Partner at Navaratnam Chambers. He is a graduate of Monash University, Australia and holds both a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws. Nahendran practices as a disputes lawyer and an arbitrator. He focuses on commercial disputes. He is recognised in several leading legal directories as a leading individual for dispute resolution in the region.

## Nagarajah Muttiah

Nagarajah Muttiah is a Partner with Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS). He has vast experience in shipping litigation and maritime insurance. He is also actively involved in other practice areas such as aviation, building and construction as well as general \& civil litigation. Nagarajah was called to the English Bar in 1979 and the Malaysian Bar in 1980 and has been active in practice for more than 40 years. He has appeared and acted in numerous landmark cases of importance. Nagarajah was the former President of the Malaysian Maritime Law Association and former member of the International Pacific Bar Association where he had presented a number of papers over the years.

## Olivia Loh Yuet Ling

Olivia is one of the founding partners of Gananathan Loh. Olivia obtained her law degree (LLB Hons) from Wolverhampton University, UK and was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in February 2000. She has been in active practice for over 20 years. Olivia practices mainly commercial and construction law. She has worked extensively in matters involving construction arbitration (both local and international), construction adjudication, liquidation and insolvency and corporate disputes. Aside from dispute resolution matters, Olivia is also involved in corporate advisory, drafting and negotiating of construction contracts for local and international clients. Olivia is also one of the panel adjudicators with the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration.

## Raja Kumar Raja Kandan

Raja Kumar is a partner in Azman Davidson \& Co in the Arbitration and Dispute Resolution practice making regular appearances in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Federal Court as well as in the Arbitration and Adjudication circuits both locally and internationally. His area of practice includes specialising in Arbitration, Adjudication and Building Construction as well as in other areas including Insurance and/or General Litigation. He is presently a Certified Adjudicator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), member of the Bar Council's Arbitration and Construction Law Committee, Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), Treasure of CIArb Malaysia and a Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution.

## Raphael Kok Chi Ren

Raphael is a dispute resolution lawyer practising in Lim Chee Wee Partnership. His core practice encompasses shareholder disputes, international arbitration, and asset recovery. He specialises in multi-fora litigation and regularly assists senior counsel from England, Australia, and Singapore. He is well-versed with public and private international law. Since admittance to the Malaysian Bar in 2009, Raphael has amassed a diverse blend of experiences in private practice, corporate inhouse, and academic research. In 2014, he was awarded the Best Malaysian In-House Lawyer of the Year by ASEAN Legal Business during his role as Asia-Pacific regional counsel of Shell. Raphael's scholarly writings on the law and practice of dispute resolution are regularly published in prominent international journals: International and Comparative Law Quarterly (Cambridge University Press), ICSID Review - Foreign Investment Law Journal (Oxford University Press), and Arbitration International (Oxford University Press). In 2022, he co-authored the book on 'Interlocutory Applications in Malaysia' (Sweet \& Maxwell). His article on corruption in investment treaty arbitration was awarded the winner of the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022 and published in AIAC Alternative Dispute Resolution Journal. Raphael has served as a judge and arbitrator in various international moot competitions: Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot, Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, Price Media Law Moot Court Competition, and LAWASIA International Moot Competition. He believes that excellence in advocacy is nurtured through experience in adversity.

## Ravi Nekoo

Ravi Nekoo was admitted to the High Court of Malaya in 1995. He completed his Bachelor of Laws degree from University of London (External) in 1992. He went on to do his Masters in Law degree at University Malaya in 2001 and then Masters in Criminal Justice also at University Malaya in 2003. Ravi Nekoo was also admitted as Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 2004, the Supreme Court of South Australia and High Court of Australia in 2007. He has been in practice for 28 years and has been a litigator throughout his practice appearing at all levels of the court in Malaysia. He is also authored books on Civil Procedure, Land Law and co-authored a book on Professional Practice. He has also taught Civil Procedure for students sitting for the CLP for many years.

## Ravindra Kumar

Ravindra obtained his degree of Bachelor of Laws with Honours from the University of London in 1985 and the Certificate of Legal Practice issued by the Malaysian Qualifying Board in 1986. He was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1987 and thereafter practised in Kuala Lumpur. Ravindra is a recognised practitioner in the area of Employment and Industrial Relations with practice experience since 1987. Ravindra's clientele comprises multinational and Malaysian companies from various industries such as oil and gas, oleochemical, aerospace, pharmaceutical, healthcare/medical, education, information technology, financial services, hospitality, automotive, fast-moving consumer goods and manufacturing. Ravindra served as the Chairman of Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee for 2007/2008 and 2008/2009, during which period he was also a member of the Malaysian Bar Council. He was also the Chairman of the

Bar Council's Industrial Court Practice Committee for 2008/2009. Ravindra is a member of the Disciplinary Committee Panel appointed by the Advocates and Solicitors' Disciplinary Board under the the Legal Profession Act 1976. He is the current President of the Malaysian Society for Labour and Social Security Law.

## Ravindran Shanmuganathan

Ravindran, having been called to the Malaysian Bar in 2000, is currently a partner at Sreenevasan Young, a commercial and corporate litigation set of chambers in Kuala Lumpur. He has been involved in many public interest litigation including acting for a defendant in a suit brought by the Government of Malaysia against the Steering Committee members of Bersih 3.0 and acting for the Malaysian Bar in its judicial review application against the Attorney-General. Ravindran contributes a chapter in Bullen \& Leake \& Jacob's Malaysian Precedents of Pleading.

## Richard Wee

Richard graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of London in 1996, completed the Certificate in Legal Practice in 1998 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1999. Richard has been an active practitioner and he is the Chairperson of the Professional Standards \& Development Committee (PSDC) of the Bar Council, regulating \& managing the CPD Scheme of the Malaysian Bar.

## Rubini Murugesan

Rubini is a Partner at Messrs. Christopher \& Lee Ong. She pursued her LLB degree at University Malaya and was called to the Malaysian Bar in April 2004. She is part of the litigation team at Messrs. Christopher \& Lee Ong and her experience covers a broad spectrum of cases with a special emphasis on arbitration and employment disputes. Rubini is an accredited adjudicator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre and also a member of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators.

## Salim Bashir Bhaskaran

Salim Bashir Bhaskaran is the Immediate Past President of the Malaysian Bar for the 2020/2021, an Adjunct Professor UiTM (Law Faculty) 2021, former Chairman of Selangor Bar 2015-2017. He was formerly the representative to the Bar Council (Selangor) for the terms 2014-2015, 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, Chairman of Selangor Bar in 2015 to 2017 and Deputy Chairman of the Criminal Law Committee of Bar Council from 2014/2015. He was also Co-Chairman of the Common Bar Course of the Bar Council 2019/2020, Co-Chairman of the Criminal Law Committee of the Bar Council from 2016/2020, Co-Chairman for AD Hoc Committee on Quality and Standards of the Bar Council from 2019/2020 and Co-Chairman for Reform of the Legal Sector of the Bar Council from 2019/2020. Salim was also a former member of Advocate and Solicitors Disciplinary Board and a former member of the Board of the Legal Profession Qualifying Board. Salim is an Evaluator and Panel for new entrance Law Schools in Malaysia, a part-time law lecturer in UITM Shah Alam and he frequently undertakes lectureship in both local and international area in the field of Criminal Law. Salim has also involved in many Notable Cases in all levels of Courts and recently conducted the infamous case of 'Kim Jong Nam' KLIA Murder.

## Datin Savithiri Ganesan

Datin Savithiri Ganesan graduated from the University of London with a LL.B. (Hons) and was called to the English Bar as a Utter Barrister of Lincoln's Inn. As an Advocate \& Solicitor, she has been in active practice since April 1991 and is the sole proprietor in the firm of Messrs Savi Ganesan \& Co. with more than thirty years of experience handling civil, commercial and corporate litigation acting for companies, financial institutions and government bodies. She later graduated with a LL.M. degree from University of Malaya and went on to pursue a Post Graduate Diploma
in International Commercial Arbitration from Queen Mary College, London and graduated with a merit. Datin Savithiri is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London and also a Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternate Dispute Resolution Centre. Datin Savithiri is on the AIAC Panel of Arbitrators and arbitrates domestic disputes and also acts as Counsel. She complements her practice with her many appointments as a Chairperson in tribunals, disciplinary committees and a number of other regulatory bodies and also advises the clients on legal issues. Datin Savithiri has actively been involved as an Arbitrator in the many Moot Competitions organized by AIAC, Lawasia International, FDI International Arbitrations and Universities both local and international expanding more than 15 years.

## S. Nadarajah

Dr. Nadarajah (Advocate \& Solicitor) brings hands-on construction industry and engineering knowledge to legal practice, from his former Mechanical Engineering career. He sees commercial and practical risks and business drivers associated with engineering projects and leverages this to deliver solutions to complex issues. At SIEMENS he developed a novel wastewater treatment. At NCR he wrote fresh 4 th generation programming language software. As a consultant, he oversaw the planning, design, construction and delivery of Mechanical Engineering Building Services, including for the largest building in Malaysia (Berjaya Times Square) - besides dealing with the complexities of a huge building, he helped project manage its construction through the 1998 Asian Financial crisis challenges, together with extensive value engineering. He advises clients from procurement and structuring to negotiating and drafting contracts - and he was involved in preparing suites of works contracts (for infrastructure works, including for one of the largest projects in Malaysia, the KL "MRT"; tenders for Power Plants; etc.), IT and commercial agreements. He appears as counsel in dispute resolution matters (in litigation, arbitration and adjudication), as an Arbitrator (sole and presiding) and an Adjudicator (in construction disputes). He has also delivered a final and binding Expert Determination for AIAC's first such appointment (for an ad hoc matter).

## Samuel Tan

Samuel joined Messrs Shook Lin \& Bok in August 2006 as a pupil. He was admitted as an associate in August 2007 and subsequently became a partner of the firm in January 2016. Samuel's area of practice is in civil and commercial litigation. He represents financial institutions and corporations in claims involving fraud, negligence, conspiracy and breach of fiduciary and/or statutory duties. He also represents and acts in disputes pertaining to company law and strata management. Samuel also represents financial institutions in banking and finance litigation (conventional and Islamic) which includes recovery work and the enforcement of securities, receivership, corporate insolvency, bankruptcy, contractual and land disputes.

## Sangeet Kaur Deo

Sangeet Kaur Deo is a skilled litigator, based in Messrs Karpal Singh \& Co. She was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in January 2005. With almost two decades of experience practising law and regularly appearing as lead counsel in trials and appellate matters, Sangeet's experience in Court spans over a wide range of practice areas, including civil and criminal litigation, commercial litigation and dispute resolution, family law, defamation, trusts, and matters relating to human rights, public interest and more. Sangeet is also a keen advocate for the abolition of the death penalty, drug policy reforms and prison reforms.

## S. Saravana Kumar

Saravana is a Partner with Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS). He has appeared in benchmark litigations with a sizeable volume of wins in tax disputes. Praised for his ability to "think outside the box" and "innovative approach" in interpreting the law, Chambers Asia Pacific acknowledged Saravana for being "dynamic, efficient and helpful" in addition to commenting that
clients have remarked, "His tax knowledge is very in-depth, and he is fast at responding". He has been named as one of the top 100 lawyers in Malaysia by Asia Business Law Journal a number of times. Saravana was formerly an Adjunct Professor with Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) and chairs the Taxation\& Customs Committee of LAWASIA. He is also a member of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee, where he chairs the Professional Development Committee.

## Selva Balan Sinnan

Selva graduated with LLB (Hons) from London University of London in 1992 and obtained Certificate in Legal Practice (CLP) in 1996. He has been a member of the Malaysian Bar and the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee since 1997 a member of the Malaysian Bar and the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee since 1997. He lectured students (A- Level and LLB Program) on Constitutional Law, Law of Contract, Law of Tort and Evidence and also Civil Procedure lectures and tutorials for the students pursuing the Certificate in Legal Practice (CLP). Selva is a litigation partner at Azman Joseph \& Associates. He manages a portfolio of corporate and individual clients, deals with all aspects of litigation matters, reviews and drafts contracts, conducts general civil and criminal litigations up to appellate stage (Court of Appeal and Federal Court) and deals with matters relating to Industrial Relations at the Industrial Court.

## Shamala Devi Balasundaram

Shamala graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree from the Australian National University in 2002, obtained a Certificate of Legal Practice in 2003, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court in Malaya in 2004. Shamala is a partner of Chooi \& Company where she practices in the field of dispute resolution, specialising in corporate and commercial litigation and arbitration. She is currently an advocacy trainer with the Bar Council's Advocacy Training Committee.

## Sharmini Navaratnam

Sharmini Navaratnam is a barrister of the Honourable Society of Middle Temple and an Advocates \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya. She has extensive civil litigation experience both as a trial and appellate lawyer spanning over 30 years with several years at M/s. Rashid \& Lee and currently practices at M/s. Siva Dharma \& Associates. Her practice primarily revolves around the area of clinical negligence and insurance law. She has handled disputes relating to banking, landlord and tenant and industrial relations. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a member of the first panel of arbitrators at the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration and a certified mediator of the Bar Council. She has handled numerous professional and ethical complaints before the Bar Council of Malaysia and the Malaysian Medical Council.

## Sri Sarguna Raj

Sri heads the Intellectual Property, Sports and Gaming laws practice of Christopher \& Lee Ong. Sri's main area of practice is intellectual property in relation to both contentious and non-contentious work. He assists and represents clients concerning disputes at all levels relating to patents, copyright, privacy and trade secrets, trade mark, passing off, industrial designs, advertising and domain name and various aspects of enforcement of intellectual property rights. Over the years, he has represented many multinational companies from diverse sectors in litigation and in managing and implementing anti-piracy and anti-counterfeiting programmes for them. Sri continues to be named and ranked in leading legal directories: Asia Pacific Legal 500, Chambers Asia-Pacific, Managing Intellectual Property and Benchmark Litigation. He also received the accolade of "Top 40 Under 40" legal professionals in Asia in 2017 by Asian Legal Business.

## Srimurugan Alagan

Mr. Srimurugan Alagan is a senior lawyer and a litigator who is passionate about law. He had authored numerous books and journals which have been cited extensively by judges in Malaysia. He also teaches in public as well as in private universities. Srimurugan obtained his LLB from the University of Wolverhampton UK, and Masters in International Law from the University of London with merit.

## Steven Thiruneelakandan

Steven Thiruneelakandan (Steven Thiru) graduated in 1990 from the University of Leicester (LL.B. (Hons)). He was admitted to the English Bar at Middle Temple in 1991 and the High Court of Malaya as an Advocate and Solicitor in 1992. He also holds a Masters in Laws degree from the University of Malaya. He is currently the Managing Partner of Messrs Steven Thiru \& Sudhar Partnership. Steven Thiru is a Past President of the Malaysian Bar (2015-2017). He is currently one of the Vice Presidents of the LAWASIA and Exco member of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association. Steven Thiru was the Chairman of the Kuala Lumpur Continuing Legal Education Committee and later the Chairman of the Professional Standards and Development Committee of the Bar Council. He also chaired the Bar Council's Ad-Hoc Committee on the Common Bar Course (CBC), which drafted the Bar Council's CBC scheme and presented it to the Legal Qualifying Board.

## Suganthi Singam

Suganthi is a Partner in Messrs Shearn Delamore \& Co specialising in employment and immigration in both contentious and non-contentious matters. She is engaged in trial and appellate advocacy at all levels of the Malaysian courts. Suganthi graduated from the University of Manchester in 1994 and after her admission to the Malaysian Bar in 1996, she went on to pursue her Masters of Law from the University of Malaya whilst practising in Messrs Shearn Delamore \& Co. For newly incorporated companies and foreign investments in Malaysia, she advises on the drafting of employment agreements, policies and handbooks as well as the entry requirements for ex patriates and corresponding legal requirements. She also trains employers to manage misconduct issues and poor performance in employees, advises on issues relating to employee stock option schemes, share awards, prepares panel members for domestic inquiries and trains personnel on how to conduct domestic inquiries. For corporate acquisitions and mergers, Suganthi provides strategic guidance in dealing with the employment and related immigration issues that arise. She provides legal counsel in relation to business acquisitions, employment permits, long term social visit passes entry requirements, reorganisations, voluntary and mutual separation schemes, harmonisation of employment terms and retention of key management. In relation to workplace risk management and safety, she provides legal advice on occupational health and safety issues as well as sexual harassment policies and procedures. She also handles trade union recognition.

## Tan Sixin

Sixin is a LLB (Hons) graduate from the University of the West of England, Bristol and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 29.11.2007. She is currently a Partner of Messrs Azim, TunkuFarik\& Wong, Kuala Lumpur. Her area of practice is General Insurance and Takaful, Reinsurance and Re-Takaful Dispute Resolution. She is a member of LAWASIA and the International Bar Association (IBA), as well as a graduate member of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (MAICSA). She is passionate about her practice and this has translated into numerous invitations to speak at events specially designed for insurance companies and law students. More recently, she authored the 2016 updates for the Malaysian Precedents and Forms (General Insurance and Takaful Chapters) and the 2017 and 2020 updates for Halsbury's Laws of Malaysia (General Insurance Chapters except marine insurance) in collaboration with LexisNexis Malaysia.

## Tai Foong Lam

Tai Foong Lam graduated from the Queen Mary and Westfield College of the University of London with an LLB (Hons) degree in 1992. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1993 and called to the Malaysian Bar in 1995. Foong Lam's main area of practice is intellectual property and is a recognized IP practitioner specialising in information technology (IT) and telecommunications. His clients in the field of telecommunications include many of the telecommunications companies in Malaysia. Since 2011 Legal 500 Asia Pacific recognised Foong Lam as one of the leading individuals in IT and Telecoms practice. Since 2013 Chambers Asia Pacific has ranked Foong Lam as one of Malaysian intellectual property litigator with special focus on information technology (IT) and telecommunications. Foong Lam has a wide-ranging experience in negotiating and drafting commercial agreements relating to intellectual property, telecommunications networks and services, information technology, outsourcing, e-commerce, e-banking, telecommunications, contract manufacturing, technology transfer, research and development, merchandising, franchising, licensing, provision of services, contract manufacture and distribution rights. Foong Lam also works with corporate lawyers on corporate transactions involving intellectual property rights. In addition, Foong Lam has an active practice in IP litigation and enforcement of IP rights. He has been involved in several IP litigation cases which have been reported in Malaysian law journals. Foong Lam has been very active within the IP fraternity in Malaysia. At the international level, Foong Lam has been a member of the Bar Council IP Committee for many years, and is also the past president of the Malaysian chapter of the International Association for Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), the world's leading non-governmental organization for research and formulation of policies and laws relating to the protection of intellectual property.

## Teoh Alvare

Teoh Alvare is a partner in the Employment \& Industrial Relations and Litigation practice groups of Zul Rafique \& Partners. She regularly appears in the Industrial Court and has advised local and international companies in carrying out investigation and disciplinary action in relation to employees' misconduct, conducting domestic inquiry as well as the handling of disputes relating to dismissal / constructive dismissal. She also drafts terms and conditions in employee handbooks, consultant's agreement and employment contracts. In addition to this, Alvare also has experience in conducting legal forensic investigation, labour due diligence, corporate restructuring affecting employees, voluntary separation scheme (VSS) and retrenchment. Alvare has appeared as cocounsel and counsel in both the Industrial Court and High Court for judicial review proceedings relating to Industrial Court awards and appeals relating to the decisions of the Labour Court, as well as appeals at the Appellate Courts.

## Tharminder Singh

Tharminder graduated from the University of Wolverhampton prior to being admitted as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1998. Prior to co-founding Izral Partnership in 2008 with Mohd Izral Khairy \& Wong Guo Bin, Tharminder had been with Messrs. Logan Sabapathy \& Co. where he was appointed as a partner in 2007. His clientele include various high profile individuals and leading corporations, for whom he regulates act in relation to various types of both contentious \& non-contentious matters. Besides court matters, Tharminder is also experienced in alternative dispute resolution. Tharminder also holds a Certificate in Adjudication from Asian International Arbitration Centre (formerly known as the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration). Besides having acted as an Adjudicator in a number of construction adjudication matters, Tharminder has also regularly acted as counsel for a prominent local developer in adjudication proceedings under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act, 2012. Outside of work, Tharminder is also an advocacy trainer with the Malaysian Bar, regularly training young practitioners to improve their courtroom advocacy skills.

## Thayananthan Baskaran

Thayananthan Baskaran is a partner with Baskaran, Kuala Lumpur, and an associate member of Crown Office Chambers, London. Thaya's primary area of practice is construction law. He drafts various building and engineering contracts, advises on disputes arising from such contracts and appears as counsel to resolve these disputes. Thaya also sits as an adjudicator, arbitrator, and mediator. Thaya was appointed as an adjudicator in the fifteenth statutory adjudication registered in Malaysia and now regularly sits as an adjudicator. Thaya is on the panel of several international arbitration centres and has been appointed as arbitrator in a variety of commercial disputes. Thaya also sits as a mediator in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Thaya is the author of Arbitration in Malaysia: A Commentary on the Malaysian Arbitration Act (Wolters Kluwer 2019). Thaya was the Chair of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Malaysia Branch (2017-19) and the President of the Society of Construction Law Malaysia (2016-17). Thaya has been ranked by Who's Who Legal Arbitration (2018-2023) and included in the Legal 500 Arbitration Private Practice Powerlist: South East Asia Region (2022-2023).

## Vatsala Ratnasabapathy

Vatsala is a senior partner at Zain \& Co., which is a member of Dentons, a global legal practice. She joined the firm in 1996 and was admitted as a partner in 2003. Vatsala is also a recipient of the UK Government's Chevening Award, on which she obtained an LL.M. from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences in 1999. Vatsala heads the firm's Construction, Engineering and Arbitration practice. She specialises in construction and infrastructure disputes and has been described as an "energy and construction arbitration expert" with "excellent industry knowledge" by The Legal 500. She has been appointed to represent clients in both local and international arbitrations and is a Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators and a member of the Bar Council's Arbitration and Construction Law Committee. She has extensive experience as lead counsel at various levels of the courts in Malaysia, including the Court of Appeal and Federal Court. In the recent Asialaw Awards 2021, Vatsala was awarded "Lawyer of the Year: Malaysia" (joint winner) for Client Service Excellence, due to being "best in class for their legal and industry expertise in terms of their innovative approaches, management of complex situations and the positive impact of their advice". Besides being an accomplished lawyer, Vatsala is also a firm believer in giving back to the profession. To this end, she has consistently participated in educating, training and mentoring young and aspiring lawyers.

## V. Vijaykumar

V. Vijaykumar graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) in 1984 at the University of London, United Kingdom and was called to the Bar of England \& Wales in 1985 as an Utter Barrister of the Honourable Society of Middle Temple, London. He was later admitted as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1986. He is currently one of the firm's Senior Litigation Partners. His principal area of practice is in banking and commercial litigation including disputes in capital markets, receiverships, insolvency, scheme of arrangements and arbitration. He has advised and acted as Counsel for the Ministry of Finance's government debt agencies, such as Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Berhad (between 1998 to 2008) and Prokhas Sdn Bhd (2008 until presently). He has also acted as Counsel in several arbitration matters involving some GLC clients. Other professional activities in which he is involved, include :- presently sitting as a member of the Disciplinary Committee, under the purview of the Malaysian "Advocates \& Solicitors Disciplinary Board", namely to investigate and hear complaints made against members of the Malaysian Legal Profession, and acts as Chairman of the Committee on a permanent basis; Life member of the Malaysia chapter of the Middle Temple alumni.

## Wendy Lee

Wendy was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 2009. She has been practising as an advocate and solicitor with Shook Lin \& Bok since 2009 and was made a partner of the firm in 2017. Wendy's main area of practice is in intellectual property law and information technology. Her practice includes advisory and prosecution of trade marks, patents and industrial designs and she manages portfolios for both local and international clients. In addition to that, she has extensive experience in handling trade mark opposition proceedings for marks spanning across multiple industries and some experience in conducting IP due diligence, reviewing of IP agreements, contracts and other IP related legal documents. She is actively involved in intellectual property litigation and frequently appears before the High Court for intellectual property disputes. She has also appeared in the Court of Appeal and Federal Court in several intellectual property cases. Wendy is also a member of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) and the Malaysian Intellectual Property Association (MIPA).

## Wong Hin Loong

Hin Loong was admitted as an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2000. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb) and the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MIArb). He has more than 23 years' experience as counsel in litigation and arbitration proceedings. His area of practice primarily revolves around construction law, civil and commercial disputes. He was formerly a partner for 15 years in a mid-sized wellknown legal firm in Kuala Lumpur which specialises in civil litigation, construction arbitration and adjudication. He was the co-head of the dispute resolution team. In 2021, he established his own firm, HL Wong, Soh \& Co. with another partner, Ms Soh Jing Han. He is currently empanelled as an arbitrator and adjudicator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre ("AIAC").

## Wong Wye Wah

Wong Wye Wah is a partner at Navaratnam Chambers. Wye Wah's practice covers a broad spectre of commercial litigation and arbitration and other dispute resolution work. She is especially familiar with energy and financing disputes, judicial review and appeals. She also handles libel and competition work. She is the author of the Accounting for Lawyers Handbook, written for the Bar Council and also co-author of A Practical Manual for Legal Secretaries and Paralegals.

## Delphine Ranee Dawson

Delphine graduated from University of London in 1990. She obtained her Master's degree in Law at the University of Malaya in 1998. She heads the Dispute Resolution and Corporate Conveyancing department of Messrs George Varughese. She is an accredited Adjudicator, Sports Arbitrator and Mediator. Delphine also holds a Diploma in International Arbitration. She has handled various civil litigation portfolios including insurance claims and industrial accident matters and various other civil matters. She concomitantly handles property practice documentation in relation to corporate acquisition and disposal of commercial and residential properties. The last decade has seen her concentrate on arbitration and dispute resolution related matters.

## Alex De Siva

Alex was called and admitted to the English Bar as a Barrister, Middle Temple in 1991, the Malaysian Bar in 1993 and the Singapore Bar in 2001. Alex worked in England for a year before returning home to begin his legal career. He spent his early years in legal practice as a junior to the former Chief Justice, Tun Zaki Tun Azmi at Rashid \& Lee, assisting with landmark constitutional and administrative law cases. At his next post at Skrine \& Co. Alex worked closely with Mr. Tommy Thomas, the former Attorney General, in mainly corporate, company and shareholder related disputes. He is an accomplished legal practitioner who has mastered his craft under the guidance of prominent personalities such as the former Chief Justice, Tun Zaki Tun Azmi and the former

Attorney General, Mr Tommy Thomas. Well known amongst legal circles as a tenacious litigator who never quits, Alex has served individual clients from all walks of life as well as corporations and trade unions. Other lawyers have sought him out as Lead Counsel in appeal cases. Alex has appeared in the Industrial Court, High Court, Court of Appeal and the Federal Court. In a legal career spanning a quarter of a century, Alex has amassed extensive experience and expertise over many areas of civil litigation including corporate/company/shareholder disputes, defamation, commercial, banking, constitutional, administrative, industrial and trade union law. Many of the cases he has argued and won have resulted in landmark developments in Malaysian law and have been reported in law journals. Alex helms the Industrial Relations/Employment department in the firm and recently won a landmark decision in the Federal Court related to fixed term contracts and rights of foreigners to full time employment in Malaysia. Alex is a a qualified mediator with the Malaysian Mediation Centre. Alex is also an active trainer with the Bar Council's Advocacy Training Course training lawyers hone their litigation skills. He has trained in various parts of Malaysia, South Africa, Hong Kong and Singapore.

## Hoi Jack S'ng

Jack is presently a partner at Lee Hishammuddin Allen \& Gledhill. He has a diverse and interesting litigation practice including banker's liability, insolvency and restructuring, civil and commercial disputes, regulatory offences, defamation, and competition and anti-trust. He also often acts for the Bar Council and the Advocates and Solicitors Disciplinary Board in disciplinary matters concerning lawyers. Jack is a member of the Insolvency Practitioners Association of Malaysia. He is a contributor for a number of practitioner guides including Law and Practice of Construction Law in Malaysia, in which he contributed to the chapter on construction insolvency. Jack graduated from UWE, Bristol. He is a barrister-at-law from Lincoln's Inn and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 2006.

## Dinesh Nandrajog

Dinesh Nandrajog completed his LLB (Hons) at University of Reading, England in 2010 and was admitted to the Bar of England \& Wales at the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London in 2011. He was then called to the Malaysian Bar on 22nd October 2012. He regularly appears at all levels of the courts in Malaysia and in alternative dispute resolution centres. His areas of practice include specialisation in the laws relating to Contract, Company, Construction, Debt Recovery, Employment and Insolvency matters. In serving the profession, Dinesh has held the post of CoDeputy Chair for the Kuala Lumpur Bar Young Lawyers Committee in the year 2014/2015, Secretary for the Selangor Bar Civil Practice Committee in the year 2018/2019 and Chair for the Selangor Bar Social, Charity \& Welfare Committee in the year 2021/2022. He has also held the position of Assistant Secretary / Head of Publications for the Lincoln's Inn Alumni Association of Malaysia since 2013. He has co-authored several legal publications such as Thomson Reuters "Malaysian Litigation Series: Disclosure", 1st Edition (2022), "Janab's Key To Construction Law, Adjudication, Mediation, Domestic And International Arbitration, Practice And Procedure", 1st Edition (2021) and the Company Winding-Up Chapter of "Janab's Series To Law, Practice and Legal Remedies", 5th Edition (2018). Dinesh is also a Certified Adjudicator, having obtained the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)'s Certificate in Adjudication in 2019. He is a member of AIAC's Panel of Adjudicators.

## Asian International Arbitration Centre

## Datuk Sundra Rajoo

Datuk Sundra Rajoo is the current Director of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) and President of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR). He is a Certified International ADR Practitioner (AIADR) and Chartered Arbitrator. He played an active role in transforming the AIAC into a sought-after arbitration centre in the Asian region where the AIAC's caseload grew massively from a mere 22 arbitration cases in 2010 to an accumulative total of 2761 arbitration, adjudication and mediation cases in 2019. He was also the past President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2016) and past Chairman of the Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre (ADNDRC). He has a number of tertiary degrees in law, architecture and town planning with Hon LLD. He is the Founding President of the Sports Law Association of Malaysia, Founding President of the Society of Construction Law, Malaysia and the Malaysian Society of Adjudicators; and Past President of the Asia Pacific Regional Arbitration Grouping (APRAG). Datuk Sundra is an Advocate \& Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, Registered Professional Architect, Registered Town Planner, and Fellow of the Royal Institution of Surveyors. He has had over 310 appointments in international and domestic arbitrations across numerous international arbitral institutions. He was an Adjunct Professor, Law Faculty of University of Malaya, past Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Built Environment, University of Technology and the Law Faculty, National University of Malaysia. He was a pioneer member in the Monetary Penalty Review Committee set up under the Malaysian Financial Services Act 2013 for two terms. Datuk Sundra is a former Deputy Chairman of the Adjudicatory Chamber of the Ethics Committee by the FIFA Council. Datuk Sundra has authored, co-authored and edited Law, Practice and Procedure of Arbitration, 2nd Ed, 2016, Lexis Nexis (LN); Arbitration in Malaysia: A Practical Guide, 2016, (S\&M); Construction Law in Malaysia, 2012, S\&M; The Malaysian Arbitration Act 2005 (Amended 2011) - An Annotation, 2013, LN; The PAM 2006 Form, 2010, LN; The Arbitration Act 2005 - UNCITRAL Model Law as Applied in Malaysia, 2007, S\&M; The Malaysian Standard Form of Building Contract (The PAM 1998 Form), 1999, Malayan Law Journal. In 2015, he was conferred an Honorary Doctorate in Laws from the Leeds Beckett University, UK. He recently published the Law, Practice and Procedure of Arbitration in India (Thomson Reuters) and Standard Form of Building Contracts Compared (LexisNexis).

## Heather Yee

Ms. Heather Yee is the Assistant Director of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC). She is the first female global lead and youngest Head of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) Secretariat, headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Ms. Heather Yee is admitted to the Malaysian Bar as advocate and solicitor with several years of practising experience in commercial dispute resolution and litigation prior to joining AIADR. She holds Master of Laws with Distinction from the University of Malaya and was the recipient of the St Michael Brother Visitor's Award being the Best STPM Student of the year and Best Student in Business Studies. She was also the recipient of the Temasek Foundation Leadership Enrichment and Regional Networking Award by the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Temasek Foundation Singapore. Ms. Heather is an IMI accredited mediator and was conferred the Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb). She regularly advises on alternative dispute resolution matters including mediation, adjudication, expert determination, ad hoc arbitration, institutional arbitration, and acts as tribunal secretary in domestic and international arbitration. She is also frequently invited to judge in international moot competitions and to speak in international events, forums and conferences on topics relating to dispute resolution and dispute settlement. She is also an editor in the recent book publication 'Standard Form of Building Contracts Compared' published by LexisNexis.

## Jazmín Sapienza

Jazmín Sapienza is an International Case Counsel at the Asian International Arbitration Centre, where she manages international and domestic arbitrations and adjudications. Prior to her role at the AIAC, she worked as an Associate at the Corporate and Commercial Law department at Altra Legal (Paraguay), where she gathered experience as assistant counsel for arbitrations and advised leading banking, finance and investment institutions in South America. She has also assisted arbitrators in doing legal and jurisprudential research in preparation for cases and publications. As a corporate law counsel, her professional practice focused mainly in advising local and international clients on corporate structure matters, due diligence processes and public tenders' submissions. She advised on various contractual and regulatory matters including issues of financial instruments, retirement funds, maquila companies and import-export schemes. She is a qualified lawyer in Paraguay, graduated with an honorable mention from the National University of Asuncion and received her LLM in International Trade and Investment Law from the University of Amsterdam.

## PARTICIPATING LAW SCHOOLS



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA


UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA


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## TROPHIES OF LAWASIA MALAYSIA NATIONAL ROUNDS

THE LAWASIA MALAYSIAN BAR CHALLENGE TROPHY

The LAWASIA Malaysian Bar Challenge Trophy projects the support of the Malaysian Bar Council in its efforts to promote mooting among law students. The Malaysian Bar Council has further endorsed the LAWASIA International Moot Competition (Malaysian National Rounds) as the national level Moot Competition as part of its commitment to encourage law students to learn fundamental skills such as public speaking and the ability to articulate one's thoughts and arguments which is a skill not often taught in the academic classroom.

## THE MAH WENG KWAI CHALLENGE TROPHY FOR BEST MOOTER

The Best Mooter trophy is named after Mr Mah Weng Kwai, a past President of LAWASIA in recognition of his commitment to mooting and raising the standards of the LAWASIA International Moot competition to what you have witnessed at this Conference.
The ability to articulate one's thoughts and arguments condensing disparate, conflicting legal authorities into succinct and persuasive arguments in a professional, gracious, persuasive, and congenial demeanor is a very important qualities of lawyer.
The Best Mooter Trophy is awarded to the mooter whom best demonstrates the above qualities. In reaching at its decision, the Committee not only took the scores of the individual mooters into account but also the views and comments made by the Moot Judges.

## THE SPIRIT OF LAWASIA

We meet to uphold the time honored values and principles of humanity and celebrate the sharing of knowledge and ideas, and of learning whilst embracing the diversities of the world we live in, believing that man's greatest moment is moment and time of warm embrace and acceptance for his fellow human being.

A new generation of men and women sworn to uphold the cause of justice with character, faith, integrity and fortitude is the best hope we have. So we hope without being naïve that the world we live in will change as we choose to embrace change itself.

The Spirit of LAWASIA is awarded to the team that best reflects the ideals, values, virtues of fair play, camaraderie, magnanimity and generosity in a competition environment.

## ORGANISER

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## SUPPORTING ORGANISATION



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## SPONSORS



We extend our sincerest gratitude to all who have sponsored the 18th LAWASIA International Moot Competition (Malaysia National Rounds), including those who prefer to remain anonymous.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Chair of the LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee wishes to acknowledge the help and support as a Member of the LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee and the invaluable assistances of the following:-
the following institutions and individuals :-
(1) Yang Amat Arif Tun Tengku Maimun binti Tuan Mat, Chief Justice of Malaysia
(2) Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Idrus Bin Harun, Attorney General of Malaysia
(3) Karen Cheah Yee Lynn, President Malaysian Bar
(4) Datuk Sundra Rajoo, Director of the Asian International Arbitration Centre
(5) Staff members of the Asian International Arbitration Centre
(6) Student Volunteers from various University and College
the following Author of the Moot Problem for Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership ("RDS"):-
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the following members of the Moot Secretariat:-
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And the generous support of our sponsors and the Moot Judges for sharing with us and the participants their knowledge, experience and most of all their time.

Thank you.

## Raphael Tay

Chair
LAWASIA Moot Standing Committee

## CONTACT

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If you have queries, please contact us at lawasiamoots@gmail.com


QR code to www.lawasiamoot.org

LAWASIA International Moot Competition



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## ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE

## EMBRACING INNOVATION

## SHAPING EXCELLENCE

## ABOUT AIAC

The Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) was established under the auspices of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) in 1978. The AIAC has a proven track record of more than 40 years of excellence for the provision of world-class institutional support as a neutral and independent venue for the conduct of domestic and international arbitration and other alternative dispute resolution (ADR) proceedings. Over the last 20 years, the AIAC has actively developed and expanded its products and services for arbitration, adjudication, mediation, and domain name dispute resolution. Known for its efficiency and affordability of its services and facilities amongst users, the AIAC continuously improves its products in order to meet the changing needs of disputing parties.


DATUK SUNDRA RAJOO DIRECTOR OF THE AIAC

## AIAC PRODUCTS

- AIAC Arbitration Rules 2021
- AIAC i-Arbitration Rules 2021
- AIAC Adjuducation Rules and Procedure
- AIAC Mediation Rules 2018
- AIAC's Guide to Domain Name Dispute Resolution
- Standard Form of Building Contract (SFC)
- Main Contract (With Quantities)
- Main Contract (Without Quantities)
- Standard Sub Contract
- Minor Work Contract
- Design Build Contract
- Design Build Sub Contract
- Standard Forms - Sofware Development Contract


HISTORICAL CASE REGISTR


## OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

A combination of modern innovation and classic heritage, the AIAC is situated in one of Malaysia's most iconic and recently-designated heritage buildings, Bangunan Sulaiman. The AIAC provides a variety of virtual and hybrid hearing solutions where the parties, arbitral tribunals, representatives, experts, witnesses or observers can attend via video conference, from anywhere in the world. Apart from its virtual capabilities, the AIAC also caters to a variety of set-ups for physical and hybrid hearings as well as external corporate events. The AIAC has one of the largest hearing venues internationally and is able to provide these state-of-the-art facilities and services at competitive market rates.


## MEET, SHARE + LEARN

 www.lawasiamoot.org
[^0]:    * In the event, at any round, the methods of breaking the tie is unsuccessful, the Competition Administrator shall determine the next best method to breaking the tie.

