

SCMA PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR: THE FUTURE OF ARBITRATION REFORM IN ENGLAND, AND A COMPARISON WITH SINGAPORE'S APPROACH

10 JANUARY 2024 (WED)

2.00PM - 5.00PM

ALLEN & GLEDHILL LLP



ONE MARINA BOULEVARD
#28-00
SINGAPORE 018989

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NO REGISTRATION FEE

There are only 80 seats in the physical venue.
Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

Moderator



Daniel Liang

Partner
Maritime & Aviation Practice
Allen & Gledhill LLP



**Christopher
Smith KC**

Barrister
Essex Court Chambers



Chan Wei Jian

Barrister
Essex Court Chambers



Public CPD Points: 1.5
Practice Area: Alternative Dispute Resolution
Training Level: General

Significant reforms to the legislation governing arbitration in England and Wales are underway.

On 6 September 2023, the Law Commission of England and Wales published its "Review of the Arbitration Act 1996", setting out its final recommendations for reforms to the Arbitration Act 1996. The proposed reform was announced during the King's Speech on 7 November 2023 and is likely receive Royal Assent in early or mid-2024, and come into effect shortly thereafter.

In this seminar we will discuss the following key changes expected to be introduced by the Bill, including:

- The default rule for determining the governing law for the arbitration agreement in the absence of party choice
- The express power to make an award on a summary basis
- Clarification of the court's powers in support of arbitral proceedings, in particular to make orders against third parties
- Codification of an arbitrator's common law duty to disclose any circumstances which might reasonably give rise to justifiable doubts as to their impartiality
- The revised framework for challenges to arbitral awards based on an alleged lack of jurisdiction
- Court powers in support of emergency arbitrations
- Extension of arbitrators' immunity for resignation and for the costs of applications for their removal
- Comparing these key changes against the equivalent provisions under Singapore law

Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points are reminded that they must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For this activity, this includes signing in on arrival and signing out at the conclusion of the activity in the manner required by the organiser, and not being absent from the entire activity for more than 15 minutes. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy will not be able to obtain CPD Points for attending the activity. Please refer to <http://www.sileCPDcentre.sg> for more information.

Programme

2.00pm: Registration

2.30pm: Opening Address

2.40pm: Presentation & Discussion

4.10pm: Q&A

4.20pm: Closing Address

4.30pm: Networking Tea

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SPEAKERS' INFORMATION:



Daniel Liang
moderator

Daniel is an international trade and shipping lawyer specialising in dispute resolution and contentious work. He regularly acts for shipowners, charters, commodity traders, financiers and insurers.

Daniel's practice covers all aspects of the international trade and shipping sectors, including charterparties, bills of lading, shipbuilding, ship repair, ship sale, marine insurance, sale of goods, trade finance, credit insurance. He has extensive experience in dealing with cross-border disputes, insolvencies and situations spanning Africa, the Middle East, Central America, South Asia, South-east Asia, North-east Asia and Oceania.

In addition to Singapore Court litigation, Daniel has experience conducting arbitrations under the London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), The Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA) and The Palm Oil Refiners Association of Malaysia (PORAM) rules.



**Christopher
Smith KC**

Chris Smith's practice covers all aspects of domestic and international commercial work, with particular emphasis on wet and dry shipping, professional negligence and related areas such as arbitration and marine and non marine insurance and reinsurance. Chris' practice involves advisory work, mediation, arbitration in England and Wales and other jurisdictions including Singapore, Hong Kong and South Africa, and litigation in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and all divisions of the High Court.

Chris is described by the leading legal directories as "Always superb. He has a razor-sharp mind," "an unflappable barrister who has a rigorous mind and a very good reputation."

Chris is one of the editors of Scrutton on Charterparties and Bills of Lading. As well as acting as Counsel Chris also accepts appointments as arbitrator and is a member of the SCMA panel and a supporting member of the LMAA.



Chan Wei Jian

Wei Jian is counsel at Essex Court Chambers. He has extensive experience of acting in and advising on shipping related disputes, regularly appearing as sole counsel and acting as part of a team. He also has considerable experience of dealing with arbitration-related Court applications in shipping disputes before both English Courts and international arbitration tribunals.

Wei Jian is very well-regarded as an advocate, having appeared as sole counsel before the English High Court and County Court, as well as in arbitration proceedings. He has appeared as an advocate in arbitration proceedings across a wide array of legal areas including a number of LMAA Arbitrations.

Wei Jian is a native speaker of both English and Mandarin Chinese. He has experience of conducting arbitration hearings in both languages, including making oral submissions, cross-examining witnesses and drafting submissions.

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