

2024 UNCITRAL

Asia Pacific Day in Viet Nam

UNCITRAL'S MODEL LAW AND INSTRUMENTS



1.30 PM – 4.00 PM
20 Dec 2024 (Friday)



Virtual event
on Zoom Platform



Language
English

This webinar is open to all &
free to **attend with registration**



Scan QR Code or
access the below link
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for more details and register

SPEAKERS



Mr. **NGUYEN MANH DZUNG**

Director at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC,
Deputy Director at Vietnam Institute for
International Arbitration Research and
Training (VIART) – a division of VIAC



Ms. **ATHITA KOMINDR**

Head of the UNCITRAL
Regional Centre for Asia and
the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP)



Mr. **JAE SUNG LEE**

Senior Legal Officer at International
Trade Law Division, United Nations
Office of Legal Affairs



Assoc. Prof. Dr. **TRAN VIET DZUNG**

Vice Rector at Ho Chi Minh City
University of Law,
VIAC's Listed Arbitrator



Ms. **LAI THI VAN ANH**

Deputy Director General,
Department of International Law,
Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam



Dr. **NGUYEN THI HOA**

Lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City
University of Law, Member of
the Standing Committee at
Vietnam Society of Construction Law

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Arbitration of the United
Nations Commission on
International Trade Law
(UNCITRAL)

2. Viet Nam's considerations
on the UNCITRAL's Model
Law on International
Commercial Arbitration

3. UNCITRAL Work on the
Investor-State Dispute
Settlement Mechanism
(ISDS) reform

2024 UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day in Viet Nam

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The **UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Days** ("AP Days") series is one of the flagship events of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific ("RCAP") to promote understanding and application of UNCITRAL standards in the Asia-Pacific region. This annual event brings together representatives from various countries, including policymakers, legal experts, academics and students, to discuss important developments in international arbitration and related fields. AP Days will be a forum for in-depth discussions on the benefits of the UNCITRAL Model Law and the vision for applying the Model Law, especially the modernisation of arbitration law.

Aiming to provide legal practitioners and students with a comprehensive understanding of international arbitration standards and reform implications, UNCITRAL RCAP, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam (MOFA), Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC), and the Ho Chi Minh City University of Law (HCMC ULAW) co-organizes the **2024 UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day in Viet Nam**, with the theme "**UNCITRAL's Model Law & Instruments**". This event will be organized as a webinar consisting of three sessions designed to address both general and Viet Nam – specific aspects of the UNCITRAL framework, the details are as follows:

Timeframe (PM)	Content
1.30 – 1.45	Opening remarks
1.45 – 2.15	<p>Session 01: Overview of the Legal Framework on Arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)</p> <p>(An introduction to UNCITRAL's role in standardizing international trade law, with a focus on the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration.)</p> <p>Ms. Athita Komindr – Head of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP)</p>
2.15 – 3.00	<p>Session 02: Vietnam's considerations on the UNCITRAL's Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration</p> <p>(UNCITRAL Model Law in the Vietnamese context, examining the potential alignment of the Vietnamese Law on Commercial Arbitration with UNCITRAL standards.)</p> <p>Mr. Jae Sung Lee – Senior Legal Officer at International Trade Law Division, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs</p> <p>Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoa – Lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law, Member of the Standing Committee at Vietnam Society of Construction Law</p> <p>Moderated by Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung – Director at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC, Deputy Director at Vietnam Institute for International Arbitration Research and Training (VIART) – a division of VIAC</p>
3.00 – 3.30	<p>Session 03: Overview of the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Mechanism (ISDS) – Identifying challenges and reform proposals from UNCITRAL</p> <p>(UNCITRAL's ongoing efforts to address Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) issues, which are of growing interest globally and particularly relevant for investment-intensive economies like Viet Nam.)</p> <p>Mr. Jae Sung Lee – Senior Legal Officer at International Trade Law Division, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs</p> <p>Ms. Lai Thi Van Anh – Deputy Director General, Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam</p> <p>Moderated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tran Viet Dzung – Vice Rector at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law, VIAC's Listed Arbitrator</p>
3.30 – 4.00	Q&A
4.00	Closing

SPEAKER

INTRODUCTION



Mr. **NGUYEN MANH DZUNG**

Director at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC, Deputy Director at Vietnam Institute for International Arbitration Research and Training (VIART) – a division of VIAC

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung is the founding chairman of Dzungsr & Associates LLC, with over 30 years of experience in the field of international commercial dispute resolution. He is currently an independent arbitrator at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC. Mr. Dzung was directly involved in drafting and editing the 2010 Commercial Arbitration Law, Decree 22/CP on Commercial Mediation, as well as the 2015 Civil Procedure Code regarding the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards and the recognition of out-of-court mediation agreements. These efforts helped create the legal framework for the development of arbitration and commercial mediation in Viet Nam. He is currently an arbitrator at VIAC (Viet Nam), KCAB International (South Korea), HIAC and SHAC (China), and HKIAC (Hong Kong). Attorney Nguyen Manh Dzung adjudicates disputes related to consultancy contracts, services, supply, agency, distribution, international sales of goods, loan contracts, lease contracts, joint venture agreements, business cooperation agreements, maritime cargo transport contracts, ship charter contracts, maritime insurance contracts, mergers and acquisitions (M&A), and more. He also serves as a guest lecturer on Arbitration and Mediation and is invited as an expert researcher by international organizations to enhance the capacity of judicial bodies in Viet Nam. He has been a speaker at various academic forums.



Ms. **ATHITA KOMINDR**

Director Head of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP)

Athita is Head of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP), managing technical assistance and capacity building programming available to over 50 States in Asia and the Pacific in key areas of commercial law, including dispute resolution, MSMEs, international contract practices, sale of goods, electronic commerce, transport, insolvency, international payments, secured transactions, and procurement. In that capacity, she coordinates with Governments and international and regional organizations with respect to trade law reform activities aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Athita has over two decades of experience in the fields of international trade and economic law, arbitration, multilateral dispute resolution, and the rule of law and development. Prior to joining the United Nations, Athita mainly advised and worked with numerous Thai agencies, including the Thailand Institute of Justice, the Thai Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Thailand Arbitration Center where she managed the Arbitration and Legal Affairs Divisions. She also worked for the Thai Ministry of Commerce in Bangkok (2002–2005) and Geneva (2005–2010), representing Thailand in bilateral, regional, and multilateral trade negotiations, WTO dispute settlement, and treaty drafting. Admitted to the New York Bar since 2002, Athita has experience in both common and civil law traditions in the public and private sectors, and holds degrees from Harvard College, Georgetown University Law Center, and Harvard Law School.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. **TRAN VIET DZUNG**

Vice Rector of Ho Chi Minh City University of Law
VIAC's Listed Arbitrator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tran Viet Dzung is currently the Vice Rector of Ho Chi Minh City University of Law (HCMUL). He also teaches LLM Programmes of the University of West England, Jean Moulin University Law School, Montesquieu University of Bordeaux, Chulalongkorn University; visiting professor for the Graduate Institute of International Studies (IHEI) of Panthéon-Assas University Paris; member of Editorial Board of the Kutafin Law Review (KuLAWR) and Vietnamese Journal of Legal Sciences (VJLS). He worked as senior research fellow of Tallinn Technology University (2018–2022). His academic focus spans international investment, international trade, M&A, ISDS, investment and sustainable development, technology and law. Mr. Dzung combines academic knowledge with practical experience as an international lawyer. He practiced law in Singapore for nearly 7 years at top-tier firms, including WongPartnership and KhattarWong. He is the founder of and currently senior consultant of DL & Partners. Mr. Dzung experience covers foreign investment, commercial transactions, employment, international trade, renewable energy and construction for both dispute settlement and transaction work. He wrote and published many articles and books in the area of international trade, international investment, international competition, international arbitration, law and technology.

SPEAKER

INTRODUCTION



Mr. **JAE SUNG LEE**

Senior Legal Officer at International Trade Law Division
United Nations Office of Legal Affairs

Jae Sung Lee is a senior legal officer at the International Trade Law Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, which functions as the substantive secretariat for UNCITRAL. He currently functions as the secretary of Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform and has served as secretary of working groups on dispute settlement, secured transactions and electronic commerce.

Before joining the United Nations in 2007, Jae Sung served in the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Jae Sung is a graduate of Seoul National University College of Law, holds LL.M. degrees from Seoul National University Graduate School of International Studies and NYU School of Law as well as a Ph.D. in Law from Seoul National University.



Ms. **LAI THI VAN ANH**

Deputy Director General of the Department of International Law,
Ministry of Justice, VIAC's Listed Arbitrator

With more than 20 years of experience in law development at the Ministry of Justice, Ms. Van Anh has directly participated in drafting and appraising many legal documents related to investment and trade: the Law on Investment in the form of public-private partnerships; Law on Foreign Trade Management; Law on Bidding, etc. In the area of international integration, Ms. Van Anh has participated in negotiation numerous international treaties in investment, economic and trade; particularly Comprehensive Progressive Tran Pacific Partnership Agreement (CPTPP); Viet Nam – EU Free Trade Agreement; Viet Nam – EU Investment Protection Agreement; Viet Nam – UK Free Trade Agreement ... Regarding foreign investments, Ms. Van Anh has participated in establishment of numerous foreign investment projects; handling difficulties of foreign investors; participating in negotiation of investment contracts such as BOT contracts on Power Plants (BOT contracts, Government Guarantee and Undertaking; granting Legal Opinion on BOT project documents ...). In the field of dispute settlement, Ms. Van Anh currently leads a specialized team in the Ministry of Justice representing the Government, Government Agencies in Investor – State disputes and has directly involved in a number of complicated cases. In addition, Ms. Van Anh is currently assigned to represent Viet Nam in Working Group II on Dispute Resolution and Working Group 3 on on ISDS Reforms of the UN Commission on International Trade Law.



Dr. **NGUYEN THI HOA**

Lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law,
Member of the Standing Committee, Vietnam Society of Construction Law (SCLVN)

Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoa has been a lecturer at international law faculty of Ho Chi Minh city University of law in Vietnam since September 2019, where she researches and teaches in English as well as French the subjects related to notably international business law, international commercial arbitration law, international commercial contract negotiation and drafting skill and laws regarding application of digital technology. In addition, since April 2022, she has been also a reviewer for the Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction (indexed on Scopus – 1st quartile in 2020–2024) of the American Society of Civil Engineering. Currently, she is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Society of Construction Law in Viet Nam. Before becoming a lecturer, she worked as a legal adviser for the Department of Justice of Ho Chi Minh City in Viet Nam (from 2010–August 2019) and her job involved advising on public-private partnership contracts, construction law, investment law, international dispute resolution, promotion of commercial arbitration, recognition and enforcement of decisions of foreign authorities, etc. In December 2018, she finished her PhD thesis with honours at Panthéon-Assas Paris II University in France on the topic of 'Dispute resolution procedures in the international construction sector under FIDIC forms of contracts'. From September to December 2018, she had worked as an intern in a construction law firm in Paris. Furthermore, in 2023, Dr. Hoa was also invited to act as an expert for dispute referred to the Singapore International Arbitration Center (SIAC).