



Mohan Pillay
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Nationality - Singaporean

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Biography

Mohan is the Founding Partner of Singapore Joint Law Venture, Pinsent Masons MPillay LLP. He is jointly qualified in Singapore, and England & Wales, with some 35 years' experience in international arbitration, commercial litigation and advisory work, particularly in construction and engineering projects.

Mohan has advised clients on complex disputes over projects in Singapore, China, Malaysia, Maldives, Indonesia, India and Vietnam, involving infrastructure, airport, building construction, power plants, and oil and gas production facilities, under ICC, UNCITRAL, SIAC and other arbitration rules. He has appeared as Lead Counsel, both before arbitration tribunals, as well as the High Court and Court of Appeal in Singapore.

He is a Chartered Arbitrator, and has been appointed sole and presiding Arbitrator in domestic and international matters. He has also appeared as Lead Counsel in the Singapore High Court, Court of Appeal, and arbitrations. He was in the first batch of Senior Specialists in Building and Construction Law accredited by the Singapore Academy of Law (SAL) in 2018.

His past appointments include President & Hon Treasurer Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SI Arb), Co-Chair of the Dispute Resolution & Arbitration Committee & Chair of the International Construction Projects Committee, Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA) and Chairman of the Society of Construction Law (Singapore). His teaching appointments include Adj. Assoc. Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (2003 - 2011) and Visiting Professor, Centre of Construction Law & Dispute Resolution, King's College London (2005 – 2011).

Mohan was a member of the Working Group under the Singapore Ministry of Law that developed the 2018 Singapore Infrastructure Dispute-Management Protocol. The Protocol helps parties involved in mega infrastructure projects manage disputes and minimise the risks of time and cost overruns. Designed for infrastructure projects in excess of S\$500m, the Protocol builds on the concept of a standing Disputes Board, with a wide range of options including mediation, non-binding opinions and binding determinations.

Mohan is the General Editor of the Singapore Arbitration Journal, a twice yearly publication of SI Arb launched in 2019, co-published with the Singapore Academy of Law. He is a contributing chapter author to "*Arbitration in Singapore: A Practical Guide*", (Sweet & Maxwell, 2014), and "*Commercial Litigation in Singapore*" (Sweet & Maxwell, 2015). He is (together with Toh Chen Han) co-author of "*The SICC Handbook – A Guide to the Rules and Procedures of the Singapore International Commercial Court*" (Sweet & Maxwell, 2016). He is also one of the chapter authors for the Singapore Academy of Law Annual Review of Singapore Cases' chapter on building and construction law.

Mohan is regularly ranked as a leading practitioner in legal publications. He was rated the only Band 1 lawyer for construction in Singapore, by Chambers Asia Pacific Guide (2015). He is rated a **Band 1 lawyer for construction in Singapore** in the Chambers Asia Pacific Guide. Mohan is also listed as a **Leading Individual for International Arbitration** in Singapore by *Legal 500 Asia Pacific*, and has been recognised as a **Thought Leader for both Construction & Arbitration** by *Who's Who Legal*.

Legal Directory Rankings

- Chambers and Partners, Asia Pacific – Band 1 Lawyer for Construction, Singapore (2015 – 2023)

"Mohan is very commercially aware. His knowledge of the construction industry is deep and his ability to identify and recognise commercial issues and appreciate commercial reality is admirable." - Chambers Asia-Pacific 2023 guide

- Legal 500 Asia Pacific – Leading Individual for Construction (2017 – 2022) and International Arbitration (2017 – 2019)
- Who's Who Legal 2023 – Global Elite Thought Leader-Construction & Global Leader-Arbitration
- Who's Who Legal 2022 – Global Thought Leader-Construction, Global Leader-Construction & National Leader, S.E.Asia-Arbitration
- Who's Who Legal 2021 – Leader-Arbitration & Leader-Construction, Southeast Asia Guide 2021
- Who's Who Legal 2019-2020 – Thought Leader, Construction, Global Guide
- Who's Who Legal 2018-2020– Global Leader, Construction, Global Guide

Education

- 1994, University of London – Masters of Law in Commercial and Corporate Law (Merit)
- 1985, National University of Singapore – Bachelor of Laws (Second Class Upper Honours)

Qualification year and jurisdiction

- 1997 – England & Wales
- 1986 – Singapore

Career History (most recent position held)

- 2022 onwards – Founding Partner, Pinsent Masons MPillay LLP
- 2010 to 2022 – Pinsent Masons MPillay LLP, Partner and Head of Office
- 2006 to present – MPillay, Senior Partner
- 1994 to 2006 – Wong Partnership
- 1986 to 1994 – Drew & Napier

Arbitral appointments include:

- Joint appointment by the parties as Presiding Arbitral Tribunal in an ICC arbitration, with an English QC and Australian co-arbitrators, on a US\$80m dispute between the Indonesian subsidiary of major American EPC contractor and an Indonesian mine owner involving a US\$100m EPC contract related to coal mining operations – Singapore seat, Indonesian Law
- ICC appointment as Presiding Arbitrator, with Hong Kong and Australia co-Arbitrators, in a ~US\$50m dispute between an Employer and the main contractor arising out of a D&B contract for an iron ore plant – Singapore seat, Fijian law
- ICC appointment as Presiding Arbitrator, with Singapore and Thai co-Arbitrators on a dispute between a Thai Employer and a group of Chinese contractors relating to the construction of a biomass firing power plant in Thailand – Singapore seat, English law
- SIAC appointment as Presiding Arbitrator, with Singapore and Malaysian co-arbitrators, on a dispute between an international EPC Contractor and a Malaysian oil & gas services provider involving works on the relocation, modification and commissioning of a wellhead platform in Malaysia - Singapore seat, Malaysian law
- ICC appointment as Presiding Arbitrator with retired Indian Supreme Court Judge and Nepalese Senior Civil Engineer as co-arbitrators on a dispute between an international JV contractor & a Government agency regarding the design & installation of a 400 KV power transmission line on the Indian subcontinent - Paris seat, Nepalese law
- Joint appointment as Presiding Arbitrator by Singapore & Malaysian co-arbitrators under the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) Fast Track Rules on a substantial Malaysian construction project dispute with total claims exceeding MR1 billion - Kuala Lumpur seat, Malaysian law,