*Press release from The P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation*

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# P.R.I.M.E. Finance Holds First Asia Conference

# P.R.I.M.E. Finance (the Hague-based Panel of Recognised International Market Experts in Finance) held its first Asia conference in Singapore on 5 October 2023. It was the first in-person event following a virtual event in December 2020.

# Mr Edwin Tong SC, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law, gave a keynote speech focusing on Singapore’s approach to the navigation of geopolitical tensions and the importance of rules-based multilateralism. Minister Tong also addressed the role of key frameworks utilised to tackle global financial distress.

# The conference featured a diverse range of topics, including discussions on economic and market forces that might disrupt transactions and lead to disputes; the potential for regional and global geo-political tensions to disrupt markets; the uncertain outlook for crypto as an important financial asset; the innovative approach to arbitration; and the impact of developments in insolvency.

# Robert Pickel, Chair of the P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation, commented: “After delays to our plans to hold a conference in the region due to the pandemic, and the success of our virtual Asia conference in 2020, we were thrilled to finally be in-person in Singapore. We place huge importance on Asia - with its dynamic and growing financial markets and dispute resolution centres - for furthering the mission of P.R.I.M.E. Finance. One-fifth of our Panel of Experts, from eleven jurisdictions, currently represent the region. Many supported P.R.I.M.E. Finance by speaking at and attending the conference.”

# Rick Grove, Secretary and board member of the P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation, commented: “While this is the first P.R.I.M.E. Finance conference in Asia, it is far from its first in-person activity in the region. During the past decade, we have held numerous meetings with financial institutions and law firms in this region to introduce P.R.I.M.E. Finance to them. P.R.I.M.E. Finance has also conducted judicial capacity building sessions for judges in Beijing, Hong Kong, Melbourne, Shanghai, Singapore, Taipei and Tokyo, aimed at increasing the familiarity of judges with financial market products and contracts. It was wonderful to be in Singapore to cement these long-standing connections and relationships.”

# For more details of topics and speakers, please see the programme attached.

# Thank you to our sponsors for their support: Conference host Clifford Chance, Allen & Gledhill LLP, Allen & Overy, D2LT, Droit and Rutter Associates.

# About P.R.I.M.E. Finance

# P.R.I.M.E. Finance is based in The Hague and was established to help resolve disputes concerning complex financial transactions. The organisation has the support of key international regulatory bodies and is complementary to the on-going financial market regulatory reform process.

# The Permanent Court of Arbitration is the world’s oldest arbitral institution, with over a century of experience in administering complex international proceedings. P.R.I.M.E. Finance joined forces with the PCA in 2015, combining the subject matter expertise of P.R.I.M.E. Finance’s Panel of Experts with the PCA’s administrative efficiency. While the filing address for notices of arbitration is with the PCA at its Peace Palace headquarters in The Hague, arbitrations may take place anywhere in the world, and may be facilitated by the PCA's host country agreements with a number of its Contracting Parties. As a result, parties to complex financial transactions have improved access to arbitration and mediation to resolve their disputes.

# Contact for the Media

# For more information about P.R.I.M.E. Finance, please refer to the website: [www.primefinancedisputes.org](http://www.primefinancedisputes.org). For further information about this press release, please contact the Head of Secretariat Camilla Macpherson on +31 70 302 4159, or at [secretary@primefinancedisputes.org](mailto:secretary@primefinancedisputes.org).