Strengthening Partnerships

## THIRD MEETING OF THE STANDING INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF COMMERCIAL COURTS

## Singapore Takes Over Hosting Duties

he Supreme Court hosted the third meeting of the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (SIFoCC) on 11 and 12 March 2021.

SIFoCC, which was established in 2017, brings together commercial courts from around the world, and is aligned with global efforts to support the rule of law as well as promote best practices in commercial dispute resolution. It was first mooted by Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, the former Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales. This led to the inaugural SIFoCC meeting in London in May 2017. The second SIFoCC meeting was hosted by the United States of America and took place in September 2018 in New York.

Our People

Access To Justice

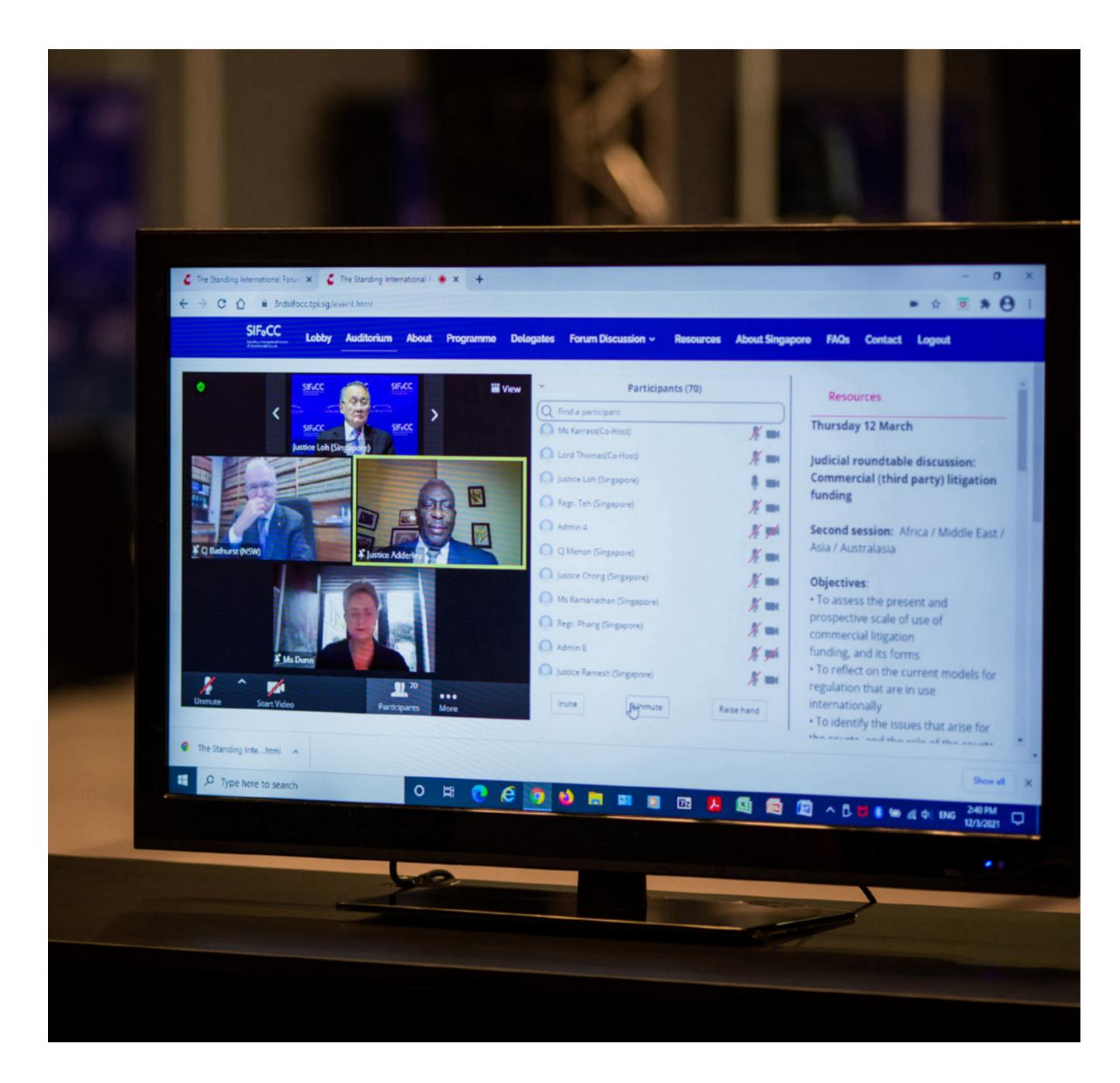
Therapeutic Justice

**Trust & Confidence** 

Developing Our Capability

Connecting With The Community





While Singapore delegates including Justice Quentin Loh (left),
President of the Singapore International Commercial Court,
convened at the Supreme Court in compliance with safe management
measures, others joined remotely from around the world (above).

## **Affirming the Importance of Cooperation**

The third SIFoCC meeting, which was initially scheduled to take place in Singapore in March 2020, was conducted virtually for the first time with Chief Justices, Judges and senior judicial representatives participating remotely from around the world. Minister Indranee Rajah SC delivered the opening remarks, while Minister Edwin Tong SC spoke



Chief Justice Menon said it was a "privilege" to host the occasion and referred to the SIFoCC as an "invaluable" forum.

about third-party litigation funding. Other topics that were discussed included the use of technology and artificial intelligence, how to best meet the needs of court users, and the future role of the world's commercial courts.

Pre-recorded contributions and materials from guest speakers were made available on an online platform, which was jointly developed by the Supreme Court team and the SIFoCC Secretariat. The platform also featured a chat-style forum that allowed meeting participants to share ideas and experiences on topics concerning arbitration, cross-border insolvency and technological developments in member courts.

The event was a success with over 35 jurisdictions represented at the most senior level.

Australia will host the fourth SIFoCC meeting, which is scheduled to take place in Sydney in October 2022.



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