



ALVIN YEO, Senior Counsel

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QUALIFICATIONS

King's College London, University of London (LL.B.,
Hons.)
Gray's Inn (Barrister-at-Law)

ADMISSIONS

Singapore Bar
English Bar

PROFILE

Alvin YEO, Senior Counsel, is the Chairman & Senior Partner of WongPartnership LLP. He was appointed Senior Counsel of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 2000 at the age of 37, the youngest ever to be so appointed. His main areas of practice are litigation and arbitration in banking, corporate/commercial and infrastructure disputes.

Alvin graduated from King's College London, University of London, and was admitted to the English Bar (Gray's Inn) in 1987 and the Singapore Bar in 1988.

Alvin is a member of the Court of the SIAC, the ICC Commission and a fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution, the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and the Singapore Institute of Directors, and a former member of the LCIA Court and the IBA Arbitration Committee. He is also on the panel of arbitrators in the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board, the South China International Economic Trade Arbitration Commission, and the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators' Panel for Sports in Singapore. Alvin has served on various public committees which undertook comprehensive reviews of the legal services sector. He is a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal chairman panel of both the Singapore Medical Council and the Supreme Court, the Appeals Advisory Panel of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, as well as the Governing Board of the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore.

Alvin served from 2006 to 2015 as an elected Member of Parliament, during which period he was appointed at various times as Deputy Chairman and then Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Home Affairs & Law. He is also an independent director on the boards of various public listed companies in Singapore.

Relevant Experience:

Matters of significance in which Alvin has been involved in include the following:

- Successfully defending an ICSID claim brought against the Independent State of Papua New Guinea for expropriation of the shares in a mining company with more than \$1.5 billion in assets – WongPartnership was the first Singapore law firm as sole counsel on record in an ICSID arbitration.
- Securing a ground-breaking victory for foreign investors against Laos PDR related to investment treaty claims valued at over US\$800 million arising from the misappropriation of gaming investments.
- Acting for investors against the Kingdom of Lesotho's application to set aside an investment treaty award finding the State liable for denial of justice.
- Acting for the former Bayerische Hypo-und Vereinsbank in legal proceedings against Asia Pacific Breweries in relation to the largest corporate fraud in Singapore's history.
- Acting for Société Générale in defending a claim brought by Jurong Shipyard for US\$200 million which represented the largest derivatives claim in Singapore's history.
- Acting for a major global bank in defending a claim for US\$282 million, the largest ever private banking suit in Singapore, brought by a Taiwanese tycoon, which involved allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation and breaches of duty.

Related Practices

- India
- International Arbitration
- Senior Counsel
- Special Situations Advisory

Publications & Legal Updates:

- Getting The Deal Through - Investment Treaty Arbitration 2021 - Singapore Chapter
- The Investment Treaty Arbitration Review: Objections of Manifest Lack of Legal Merit of Claims: Arbitration Rule 41(5) Chapter (5th edition)
- Wolters Kluwer - The Future of Investment Treaty Arbitration in the EU

- The Legal 500 & The In-House Lawyer Hot Topic – Singapore: International Arbitration (4th edition)
- The Asia-Pacific Arbitration Review 2020 - Singapore Chapter
- Chambers Global Practice Guide - Anti-Corruption Singapore 2019
- Global Arbitration Review: The Guide To Advocacy 2018 - 3rd Edition
- Neate and Godfrey – Bank Confidentiality (1 – 6th editions) – Chapter on Singapore

Awards & Accolades:

In 2017, Alvin was honoured with the "Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession" Award from *Chambers Asia-Pacific* in recognition of exceptional work in his field, his continued contribution to the Asian legal arena and for having had a significant and lasting impact on his market, as well as being an outstanding lawyer in his own areas of practice. He has also been listed as "Lawyer of the Year" for Arbitration and Mediation in Singapore by *Best Lawyers Lawyers* and in *Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific Awards 2019*, and was acknowledged as one of the world's top 30 Commercial Arbitration practitioners by *Expert Guides: Best of the Best*. Alvin is also listed in "Thought Leaders Global Elite" for Litigation and "Thought Leaders" for Litigation and Arbitration in *Who's Who Legal*.

Chambers Global describes Alvin as "the most impressive, as an advocate, out of all the Singapore firms" and "simply outstanding as an international counsel". *Chambers Asia-Pacific* lauds Alvin for providing "leadership on SIAC and ICC proceedings" and is "an excellent strategist as well as a first-rate litigator" who is "deeply impressive and [an] extremely capable individual". *The Legal 500* affirms that his "wisdom and powers of persuasion are phenomenal" and that he is "one of the best in a court room". *Who's Who Legal: Arbitration* recognises Alvin as "a leading light in the market who possesses strong arbitration credentials and experience".