



THE MALAYSIAN JUDICIARY

PRESS STATEMENT

THE COUNCIL OF ASEAN CHIEF JUSTICES (CACJ) RETREAT 2023

The Malaysian Judiciary recently hosted the CACJ Retreat which was attended by all the ASEAN Chief Justice and Heads of Delegation. This retreat, agreed upon last year and set to be held every decade, offered a unique platform for strategic planning and unrestricted dialogue.

The CACJ Retreat began with a Commemoration Ceremony on 19th October 2023 to mark the CACJ's 10th Anniversary. This ceremony, held in the iconic Palace of Justice in Putrajaya, witnessed the launch of the Compilation of the Model Rule on Service of Civil Processes and the Model Rule on the Taking of Evidence for Foreign Proceedings in Civil or Commercial Matters. Additionally, the compilation of the Governance Framework on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the ASEAN Judiciaries (AI Governance Framework) was also inaugurated. These pivotal instruments were the fruits of laborious work undertaken by both the CACJ Working Group on Facilitating Service of Civil Processes within ASEAN and CACJ Working Group on Case Management and Court Technology which is helmed by Malaysia. The momentous ceremony was further enhanced with the Plumeria tree planting ceremony by the Right Honourable Tun Tengku Maimun binti Tuan Mat, the Chief Justice of Malaysia and Chair of the CACJ, and the Honourable Sundaresh Menon, the Chief Justice of Singapore who is also one of the founding members of the CACJ. In reverence of a remarkable decade, the CACJ 10th Anniversary special commemorative stamp collection was also unveiled.

The second part of the CACJ Retreat took place on 20th October 2023 where the ASEAN Chief Justices congregated in a more intimate and informal setting. The second part of the Retreat presented the ASEAN Chief Justices with a valuable occasion to assess the CACJ's triumphs and tribulations in a comprehensive manner, and to ponder on how the CACJ can stay pertinent and reactive to imminent developments and tribulations. Five key areas were the centre of focus in the second part of the Retreat, namely, Capacity Building, the ASEAN Judiciaries Portal,

Judicial and Court Excellence, Cooperation Frameworks within ASEAN, and Outreach and External Relations.

The culmination of the CACJ Retreat was the Gala Dinner which was concurrently held in conjunction with the 14th ASEAN Law Association (ALA) General Assembly, ASEAN Law Conference and 44th ALA Governing Council Meeting.

The Chief Justices and the Heads of Delegation who attended the CACJ Retreat can be found at Annex A. For photographs of the CACJ Retreat on 19-20th October 2023, please refer to Annex B.

Thank you.

**Office of the Chief Registrar
Federal Court of Malaysia
Palace of Justice
Putrajaya**

Date: 22 October 2023

CACJ RETREAT 2023
19th-20th October 2023

Chief Justices and Heads of Delegation in Attendance

- (a) The Right Honourable Tun Tengku Maimun binti Tuan Mat
Chief Justice of Malaysia and Chair of CACJ
- (b) The Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam
- (c) H.E. You Ottara
Vice-President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Cambodia
- (d) The Honourable Prof. Dr. Muhammad Syarifuddin, SH. MH
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia
- (e) H.E. Khoun Phasouk
Vice President of the People's Supreme Court of Lao PDR
- (f) The Honourable U Thar Htay
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union of Myanmar
- (g) The Honourable Alexander G. Gesmundo
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines
- (h) The Honourable Sundaresh Menon
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Singapore
- (i) The Honourable Anocha Chevitsophon
President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Thailand
- (j) H.E. Nguyen Tri Tue
Standing Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court of the Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam



ASEAN Chief Justices holding the special commemorative stamp collection featuring iconic apex courthouses of each ASEAN member state, curated by the Malaysian Judiciary as significant memorabilia to mark a decade of the CACJ at the 10th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony held on 19th October 2023 at Palace of Justice, Putrajaya.

From left to right — H.E. Nguyen Tri Tue (Standing Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam); The Hon. Anocha Chevitsophon (President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Thailand); The Hon. Sundaresh Menon (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Singapore); The Hon. Alexander G. Gesmundo (Chief Justice of the Philippines); The Hon. U Thar Htay (Chief Justice of the Union of Myanmar); The Right Hon. Tun Tengku Maimun binti Tuan Mat (Chief Justice of Malaysia and Chair of CACJ); H.E. Khoun Phasouk (Vice President of the People's Supreme Court of Lao PDR); The Hon. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Syarifuddin (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia); H.E. Justice You Ottara (Vice-President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Cambodia); and The Hon. Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon (Chief Justice of Brunei Darussalam).



Chief Justices of ASEAN Member States at the CACJ Retreat on 20th October 2023 held at Shangri-La Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

From left to right — H.E. Nguyen Tri Tue (Standing Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam); H.E. Khoun Phasouk (Vice President of the People's Supreme Court of Lao PDR); The Hon. Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam); The Hon. Alexander G. Gesmundo (Chief Justice of the Philippines); The Hon. Sundaresh Menon (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Singapore); The Right Hon. Tun Tengku Maimun binti Tuan Mat (Chief Justice of Malaysia and Chair of CACJ); The Hon. Anocha Chevitsophon (President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Thailand); The Hon. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Syarifuddin (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia); H.E. Justice You Ottara (Vice-President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Cambodia); and The Hon. U Thar Htay (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union of Myanmar).