

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

**YB DATUK LIEW VUI KEONG**  
**MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT (LAW)**

**ON MALAYSIA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS  
RESULTING FROM MEDIATION (THE SINGAPORE CONVENTION)**

The Honourable Minister Shanmugam,

Invited guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Malaysia is very honoured to be here at this iconic event better known as the **Singapore Convention**. I would like to congratulate Singapore for taking the lead in hosting and organizing the signing ceremony of the **United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation**.
2. Malaysia looks at the signing of this convention as a leap forward for our country. The existence of cross border enforceability is seen as a strong point for alternative dispute resolution particularly in countries that are parties to this convention and this indirectly increase confidence amongst investors to Malaysia.
3. With more trade, disputes will be inevitable. However, having a quick and cost-effective solution that allows for business continuity to resolve their matters, is likely to be welcomed together with the means to ensure that final mediated agreements can be enforced.

4. Just as the New York Convention provided a framework for the recognition of arbitral awards, contributing to the popularity of arbitration, the Singapore Convention can do the same for international mediation.
5. States Parties to the Singapore Convention must enforce an international mediated commercial settlement and allow a party to invoke such settlement upon the competent authority being supplied the signed settlement and evidence that it resulted from mediation.
6. This, I believe will increase opportunities for FDI and also provide opportunities for smaller traders to seek resolutions for their disputes using a more economical dispute resolution model which aims to reduce the time and cost of dispute resolution and to effect enforcement if required.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. Needless to say, the signing and ratification of the Singapore Convention will signify an important milestone in the development of alternative dispute resolutions (ADR), especially mediation in Malaysia. There are benefits and advantages of ratifying the Convention and one may even venture to say that they far outweigh the implications that may arise. I believe that this is a step forward for Malaysia as we look towards a new era under the new Pakatan Harapan government.

8. Once again, allow me to commend Singapore for this wonderful event and I wish all of you here, a fruitful day ahead.

Thank you.

**Datuk Liew Vui Keong**

Honourable Minister in the Prime Minister's Department  
(Law and Parliamentary Affairs)

7 August 2019

Putrajaya