

1ST ASIAN MEDIATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE:

Theme: Mediation Diversity - Asia and Beyond

4th & 5th June 2009, Singapore

Hosted by: Singapore Mediation Centre

Call for Papers

The Asian Mediation Association (AMA) is a membership body currently comprising Delhi Mediation Centre, Hong Kong Mediation Centre, the Indonesian Mediation Center, Malaysian Mediation Centre, Philippine Mediation Center and Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC). SMC will be hosting AMA's 1st conference in Singapore on 4th and 5th June 2009.

AMA hopes that the 1st AMA Conference will be the most significant mediation conference of its kind in Asia. In this regard, AMA has secured the participation of one of the world's most renowned peace-makers, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, the 2008 Nobel Peace Prize winner, as the key-note speaker. Mr Ahtisaari is also Chairman of the Board of the Crisis Management Initiative, a Helsinki-based non-profit organisation that promotes crisis management and conflict resolution (<http://www.cmi.fi/>).

The modern mediation movement is said to have begun sometime in the 70s and has since grown from strength to strength. Mediation now permeates many diverse areas in which human interaction has led to differences, be it in commerce, in communities or even across national boundaries. The goal of the conference is to boost the mediation movement, particularly in Asia, by providing a forum for the exchange of the latest ideas and developments in mediation in different jurisdictions. The conference will also provide for valuable networking opportunities for representatives of mediation organisations, users, experts, mediators and other members of the dispute resolution community. AMA believes that the conference will provide an important springboard for the ongoing process of developing and promoting mediation, especially in Asia. The conference will cover, but is not limited, to the following topics:

- Developments in different mediation sectors/programmes e.g. court, community, trade, industry-specific, work-place etc.
- Developments in cross-border mediation
- Developments in mediation theories, models, practices and techniques
- Developments in conflict resolution training and conflict prevention
- Cultural considerations in mediation
- Development of competency and ethical standards for mediators
- Designing and improving mediation systems/infrastructure
- Capacity building in conflict management and prevention
- Online mediation

Call for Papers

AMA welcomes academics, scholars, researchers, practitioners and other interested individuals and organisations to present papers on any of the topics mentioned above. The papers should cover mediation-related ideas, theories, practice or experience in your country that may be useful to developing mediation in other countries. Papers should ideally provide practical lessons which will advance the field or practice of mediation. AMA intends to produce a publication of the conference proceedings.

- A prize of US\$ 500 will be awarded to the best original paper as judged by AMA.
- Papers selected for publication in the conference proceedings may not necessarily be selected for presentation at the conference.
- Attendance at the conference is not a prerequisite to making a submission in response to this call for papers.
- All decisions made by AMA on presentation and/or publication of papers shall be final.

Submission Guidelines

An abstract should be submitted to the AMA Secretariat. Please provide:

- i) title of the paper and an abstract of not more than 500 words;
- ii) curriculum vitae of the author(s); and
- iii) contact particulars of the author(s) (email addresses preferred)

Please submit your abstract by softcopy (Microsoft Word) or hardcopy to the following address:

enquiries@mediation.com.sg or

AMA Secretariat
c/o Singapore Mediation Centre
1 Supreme Court Lane, Level 4
Singapore 178879

Tel: (65) 6332 4366

Fax: (65) 63335085

Deadlines

Submission of abstract by: 15 January 2009
(Deadline extended to 31 January 2009)

Submission of full paper by: 31 March 2009 (only for accepted abstracts)

Background to AMA

The Asian Mediation Association (AMA) is made up of member organisations involved in mediation, which are based in Asia. Presently the AMA members are: Delhi Mediation, Centre, Hong Kong Mediation Centre, the Indonesian Mediation Center, Malaysian Mediation Centre, Philippine Mediation Center and Singapore Mediation Centre. The Singapore Mediation Centre also serves as the AMA Secretariat.

AMA aims to promote and facilitate the use of mediation to amicably settle disputes in Asia. AMA will facilitate the sharing of resources, best practices, experience and local knowledge. This will be done through joint promotional events, conferences and research and development projects. AMA will also provide a regional dispute resolution infrastructure for conflict management and dispute resolution that will support the increasing cross-border investment and trade activities of the fast growing Asian economies.