

**WORKS ON MAXWELL CHAMBERS SUITES COMPLETED
AFTER TWO YEARS OF RESTORATION**

**Dispute resolution complex to house 11 international institutions,
20 disputes chambers and practices from 11 countries**

1. The Singapore Ministry of Law announced today that it has completed the refurbishment of the conserved building at 28 Maxwell Road, renamed Maxwell Chambers Suites. The restored building will be given a new lease of life as a dispute resolution complex to meet growing demand for dispute resolution services in Asia and further boost Singapore's position as an international dispute resolution hub. Maxwell Chambers Suites will open on 8 August 2019.
2. Maxwell Chambers Suites is expected to house at least 11 international institutions and 20 disputes chambers and practices from 11 countries, the Singapore Ministry of Law revealed this in a media preview of the newly refurbished building ahead of its grand opening. Amongst the 11 international institutions, five will also have their case management offices here. Maxwell Chambers Suites will have the highest concentration of case management offices anywhere in the world and will see more high-value cross-border disputes managed in and out of Singapore. (The list of 11 international institutions which will hub their activities in Singapore is at [Annex A](#). The list of 11 countries which the international institutions and disputes chambers and practices hail from is at [Annex B](#).)
3. Singapore is today a leading centre for cross-border dispute resolution.
 - a. For arbitration, in 2018, Singapore was ranked the top arbitration seat in the Asia-Pacific, and the third in the world, after London and Paris. Singapore was also ranked within the top four in all regions of the world except Latin America, including Europe, North America, Africa and Middle East. Singapore was the only Asia-Pacific jurisdiction to be ranked within top four outside the Asia-Pacific. (The ranking of arbitration seats across regions is at [Annex C](#).)
 - b. For mediation, in December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a new international treaty on mediation, and agreed for it to be named after Singapore. The Singapore Convention on Mediation will be signed in Singapore on 7 August 2019.
4. The opening of Maxwell Chambers Suites will expand capacity at Maxwell Chambers to support Singapore's rising position as an international dispute resolution hub. Senior Minister of State for Law and Health Edwin Tong said,

“Singapore is fast becoming one of the leading dispute resolution hubs in the world. Last year, we were ranked No. 1 arbitration seat in the Asia-Pacific, and No. 3 in the world, after London and Paris. This year, the new UN Convention on Mediation will be named after Singapore and we will host the signing on 7 August. The opening of Maxwell Chambers Suites on 8 August will be a further boost to Singapore’s international standing.”

Heritage Restored in 90-year old Building

5. The refurbishment of the 90-year old building, formerly the old Traffic Police headquarters, took two years and cost S\$25 million. The refurbishment committee was led by Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Law, Han Kok Juan and the works were directed by Singapore architect Mok Wei Wei and heritage conservation expert Ho Weng Hin.
6. Heritage restoration featured strongly in the refurbishment works:
 - a. The façade has been restored to a white hue, reinstating the neutral tones used when the building served as the Traffic Police headquarters.
 - b. Façade elements such as architectural mouldings, canopy hoods, timber door, windows and metal grille have been restored to its original design and serviceable condition.
 - c. Previously damaged beyond use, historic cast-iron rainwater downpipes have been painstakingly repaired or re-cast to its original profile and replaced latter-day mild-steel downpipes. They are now in serviceable condition.
 - d. The interior plan of the building has been largely kept similar to its historic layout whilst adapted to new uses. Characteristic interior elements such as vents and doors have been retained and restored.
 - e. Four courtyards in the 161m long building have been reinstated to their original open-to-sky configuration. Roofs which were not part of the original building but added later, for example to house the Red Dot Design Museum, have been removed. The courtyards have been beautifully landscaped for public enjoyment, each offering a different look and feel.
 - f. The restored building will be beautifully lit at night to highlight its unique architectural features and historical value.
 - g. A new overhead link bridge has been constructed connecting Maxwell Chambers and Maxwell Chambers Suites, offering spectacular views of old and new Singapore.
7. Constructed in 1928, 28 Maxwell Road was designed by Frank Dorrington Ward, the Government Architect of the Straits Settlements Public Works Department, when Singapore was a British colony. The building was first used as barracks for the Police Force, with the Traffic Police occupying only a small office on the

ground floor. From the 1930s to 1999, it was used solely as the Traffic Police headquarters. At one time, the building housed Singapore's first Driving Test Centre, before the Queenstown Driving Centre opened in 1968. The building was gazetted as a Conserved Building by the Urban Redevelopment Authority in 2007. The building was last used as the Red Dot (Traffic) Building and housed the Red Dot Design Museum till 2017. (The history of 28 Maxwell Road is at Annex D.)

8. The building's architectural style mirrors colonial style buildings in Singapore at that time. This style was popularly used in government and public buildings, such as the Old Hill Street Police Station (1930) and Pearl's Hill Police Barracks (1929). 28 Maxwell Road featured a white exterior, iconic rusticated plasterwork, timber-louvered windows, open-to-sky courtyards, as well as verandas that were naturally ventilated and flooded with natural light. It was also outfitted with a rainwater management system of cast-iron rainwater downpipes from Walter MacFarlane & Co. Ltd of Glasgow, Scotland – a key exporter of cast-ironwork to the colonies at the time.
9. Maxwell Chambers is the world's first integrated dispute resolution complex housing both best-in-class hearing facilities and top international dispute resolution institutions. Since its establishment in 2010, Maxwell Chambers has quickly become one of the most preferred hearing facilities in the world. The new Maxwell Chambers Suites will add 120,000 square feet of floor space, allowing Maxwell Chambers to triple its current size. Maxwell Chambers Suites will officially open on 8 August 2019.

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Media Contact

Elisa Lur,
Senior Executive, Corporate Communications Division
Email: Elisa_LUR@mlaw.gov.sg
DID: 6332 8828

Annex A

International Institutions at Maxwell Chambers Suites

1. American Arbitration Association, International Centre for Dispute Resolution (AAA-ICDR)
2. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Singapore (CIArb Singapore)
3. International Chamber of Commerce Academy (ICC Academy)
4. International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration (ICC-ICA)*
5. International Chamber of Commerce, Regional Office (ICC Asia)
6. INSOL International - International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals (INSOL)
7. Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA)
8. Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)*
9. Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC)*
10. Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)*
11. World Intellectual Property Organisation Arbitration and Mediation Center (WIPO AMC)*

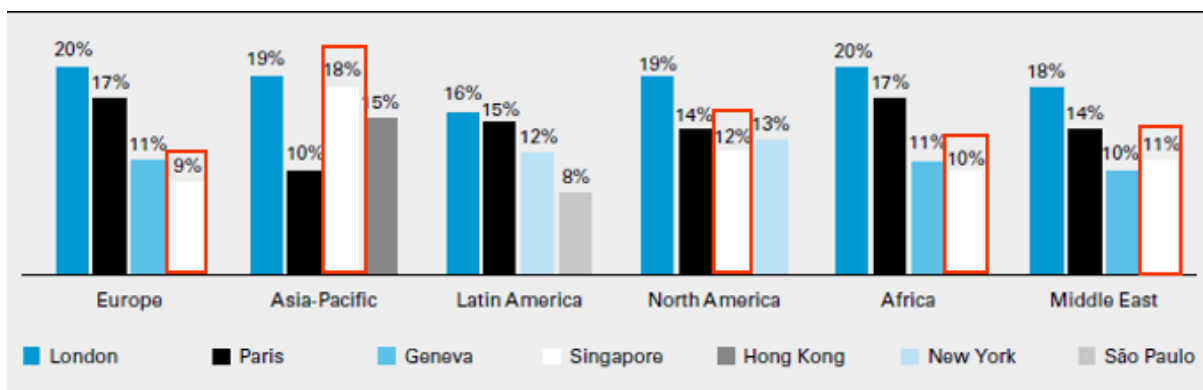
*Also has case management office in Singapore

**Countries with international institutions, disputes chambers and practices
at Maxwell Chambers Suites**

1. Australia
2. Belgium
3. France
4. India
5. New Zealand
6. Singapore
7. South Korea
8. Switzerland
9. The Netherlands
10. United Kingdom
11. United States

Ranking of arbitration seats across regions

1. Singapore was ranked the top arbitration seat in the Asia-Pacific, and the third in the world, after London and Paris.
2. Singapore was ranked within top four in all regions of the world except Latin America, including Europe, North America, Africa and Middle East. Singapore was the only Asia-Pacific jurisdiction to be ranked within top four outside the Asia-Pacific.



Source: 2018 International Arbitration Survey, Queen Mary University of London and White & Case LLP

History of 28 Maxwell Road

1928 to 1930s:	Barracks of the Police Force (with small office on the ground floor used by the Traffic Police)
1930s to 1999:	Traffic Police headquarters (housed Singapore's first Driving Test Centre before Queenstown Driving Centre opened in 1968)
2005 to 2017:	Housed Red Dot Design Museum; named Red Dot (Traffic) Building
2019 -:	Maxwell Chambers Suites