

Michael Lee

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Languages: French (proficient)



Overview

Michael is an experienced international commercial arbitrator practising principally from Singapore and London.

Before joining the English Bar he was a solicitor and a partner in a major international law firm, Norton Rose, where he managed the Paris office and the firm's international arbitration group. Michael has over 30 years' experience of practising commercial litigation in the English High Court and international arbitration, as well as coordinating and overseeing overseas litigation.

Michael has a wide-ranging practice as an international arbitrator. He has served as a member of the tribunal in over 150 international arbitrations administered under the rules of various international arbitration institutions. These have included the SIAC, HKIAC, ICC, LCIA, ICSID and AAA as well as ad hoc arbitrations and those under UNCITRAL rules.

Arbitrations in which he has been appointed have included disputes in the fields of energy supply, oil and gas, agency, joint ventures, expropriation and engineering, as well as finance and banking, involving a variety of national laws and jurisdictions. Michael is on the panel of international arbitrators of the AAA, SIAC, HKIAC, Beijing Arbitration Commission, Asian International Arbitration Centre (formerly Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration) and Indian Council of Arbitration.

Michael is also a Centre for Dispute Resolution (CEDR) accredited mediator.

Publications

- 'Singapore' in K Nairn and P Heneghan (eds), *Arbitration World* (5th edn, Sweet & Maxwell 2015) (co-author).
- *Obtaining Evidence in Another Jurisdiction in Business Disputes* (Graham & Trotman 1993) (co-author).

Panel memberships

- AAA
- Asian International Arbitration Centre
- Beijing Arbitration Commission
- HKIAC
- Indian Council of Arbitration
- SIAC
- KCAB International
- Thailand Arbitration Center

Professional memberships

- CIArb: Fellow
- ICC Court of International Arbitration: former UK Member
- Singapore Institute of Arbitrators: Fellow

Example cases and appointments

- Production sharing agreement (ad hoc – chairman – Singapore seat).
- Mining contract (LCIA rules – chairman – London seat).
- Engineering procurement contract (Philippines CICC rules – party appointment – Singapore seat).
- Pipeline construction contract, Africa (ICC rules – president – Toronto seat).
- Satellite transmission contract (party appointment – UNCITRAL rules – Hong Kong seat).
- Joint venture agreement for the provision of gaming facilities in South East Asia (SIAC rules – chairman – Singapore seat).
- Tax dispute in relation to intra city transport contract (SIAC rules – party appointment – Singapore seat).
- Telecommunications contract (Caribbean International Centre for Dispute Resolution rules – sole arbitrator – Barbados seat).
- Agreement between Malaysian and Singapore companies for provision of technology for banking systems (ICC – sole arbitrator – Singapore seat).

Recommendations

Depth of knowledge and experience, extremely congenial. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2025](#)

Michael Lee is a very experienced arbitrator. He's got a very good sense of where the merits lie in a case. I've got very good regard for Michael. [Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024](#)

He is very good and knows his facts very well. [Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024](#)

He has a firm grip on handling an arbitration. An excellent chairman. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2022](#)

We are very happy with him and always feel that we have a good run with him. [Chambers Asia Pacific 2022](#)

One of the leading names in arbitration, and has had a particular impact in Asia. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2021](#)

Deeply experienced as an arbitrator, he is sensitive to the cultural nuances and challenges that can arise in cross border transactions. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2020](#)

Highly recommended, particularly for Asia-related arbitrations [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2018](#)

He has great charm and an ability to manage the disputing parties tactfully and effectively. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2017](#)