

Ministry of Justice hosts the 12th Asia-Pacific ADR Conference

- A global gathering of experts in international arbitration on the topic of ISDS, sharing the latest trend in the new business paradigm and discussing developmental directions

□ From November 1 to November 2, MOJ will host an international conference on alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") and investor-state dispute settlement ("ISDS") in collaboration with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL"), the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC"), and Korean Commercial Arbitration Board ("KCAB").

* Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Mediation, arbitration, and other neutral processes to resolve disputes without a trial

□ On November 1, different arbitral institutions will share their various efforts to address the new business paradigm in endemic, under the theme of "Endemic and the New Digital Age: New Crossroads Ahead for Arbitral Institutions."

○ This year's conference, which is taking place in person after three years in virtual modality, will gather around 250 experts in international arbitration and officials of governments and international organizations, including Secretary Anna Joubin-Bret of UNCITRAL and Secretary-General Meg Kinnear of ICSID.

□ During the Special Session held by MOJ and UNCITRAL on November 2, there will be discussions on the directional development of recently drafted international norms and systems under the topic of ISDS reform.

- As ISDS cases are increasing each year, the demands for institutional reform are growing, along with criticisms over the procedures, such as the possibility of threatening policy space of governments, excessive costs, etc.
- This year's sessions will address various institutional improvement solutions, such as the use of mediation during ISDS procedures, the ensurance of procedural fairness through the establishment of a code of conduct for adjudicators, the provision of legal support for developing countries, etc.
- During the opening remarks for the 12th Asia-Pacific ADR Conference, Minister Han Dong Hoon introduced MOJ's recent achievements, such as the new establishment of an international legal affairs bureau to strengthen Korea's capabilities to respond to ISDS, and confirmed MOJ's efforts to turn the Asia-Pacific region, including Korea, to become the world's center in the field of ADR.
- MOJ will continue to strive to ensure that Korea takes the lead of the global standards in the fields of ADR and ISDS. ▣

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