

Australia Signs the Singapore Convention on Mediation on 10 September 2021

Following submissions made by the Australian Disputes Centre in conjunction with members of the Council for Australian Dispute Resolution (CADR) to the Federal Attorney-General earlier this year in support of the signing of the *United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation* ('Singapore Convention on Mediation'), Australia has become the latest country to sign the Singapore Convention on Mediation.

On 10 September 2021, Australia joined a list of 52 countries who have so far signed the Convention.¹

Afghanistan	Guinea-Bissau	Philippines
Armenia	Haiti	Qatar
Australia	Honduras	Samoa
Belarus	India	Saudi Arabia
Belize	Iran	Serbia
Brazil	Israel	Sierra Leone
Brunei	Jamaica	Singapore
Chad	Jordan	South Korea
Chile	Kazakhstan	Sri Lanka
China	Laos	Timor Leste
Republic of Congo	Malaysia	Turkey
Democratic Republic of Congo	Maldives	Uganda
Ecuador	Mauritius	Ukraine
Kingdom of Eswatini	Montenegro	United States of America
Fiji	Nigeria	Uruguay
Gabon	North Macedonia	Venezuela
Georgia	Palau	
Grenada	Paraguay	

Following the signing, Australia's dualist model requires the Singapore Convention on Mediation to be separately enacted into domestic legislation before it can take effect.

The Singapore Convention on Mediation will be tabled in both Houses of Parliament for scrutiny by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties. The legislative changes which are required to implement the Convention into domestic law must pass through both Houses of Parliament before arrangements are made for entry into force.²

Once the Convention enters into force, it will provide Australia with a uniform framework for the recognition and enforcement of mediated settlement agreements in cross-border disputes.

Click through to the United Nations Treaty Collections [HERE](#).

¹ <https://www.singaporeconvention.org/jurisdictions>

² <https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/treaties/treaty-making-process>