

PRESS RELEASE

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**MALAYSIA USHERS IN A NEW ADR ERA
WITH THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE AIAC SUITE OF RULES 2026**

Kuala Lumpur, 9 October 2025 — The Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) today inaugurated the seventh edition of the Asia ADR Week, themed “*Kairos: Seizing the ADR Moment*,” marking a historic milestone with the official launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026.

The five-day Conference, held from 7th to 11th October 2025 at the AIAC Auditorium, Kuala Lumpur, brings together over 80 eminent speakers and ADR thought-leaders from across the globe to engage in dialogues on the future of alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The Opening Ceremony was officiated by YAB Dato’ Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, Malaysia), accompanied by YB Dato’ Sri Alexander Nanta Linggi (Minister of Works), YB Dato’ Sri Azalina Othman Said (Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department (Law and Institutional Reform)) and YBhg. Tan Sri Mohd Dusuki bin Mokhtar (Chairman of the AIAC Board of Directors and Attorney General of Malaysia).

This Ceremony was followed by the official launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 – a culmination of resolute commitment from various contributors, in the presence of YAB Dato’ Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, YB Dato’ Sri Alexander Nanta Linggi (*Minister of Works*), YB Dato’ Sri Azalina Othman Said, YBhg. Tan Sri Mohd Dusuki bin Mokhtar, YBhg. Datuk Zamri bin Misman (*Director-General, Legal Affairs Division of the Prime Minister’s Department*) and leaders of the AIAC.

In his welcoming remarks, YBhg. Tan Sri Mohd Dusuki reflected on the AIAC’s 47-year legacy and its continuing transformation as the region’s leading arbitration centre.

“This year’s theme, *Kairos*, reminds us to seize the momentum in ADR at that opportune moment,” he said. “The establishment of the inaugural AIAC Court of Arbitration through today’s official launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 represents a defining step forward — one that aligns with Malaysia’s legislative reforms and reaffirms the AIAC’s commitment to excellence and independence.”

He further emphasised the AIAC's nationwide outreach through its *Road to Kairos* initiative, the Associated Events and regional collaborations, adding that the Centre is "on the right track towards achieving self-sustenance and driving ADR into every region, every community and every sector."

In the Executive Address, YAB Dato' Sri Fadillah Yusof commended the AIAC's contributions to Malaysia's legal landscape and reaffirmed the Government's commitment to advancing ADR as a national priority.

"Alternative dispute resolution plays an instrumental role in supporting Malaysia's transformation and strengthening our legal ecosystem," he said. "The launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 demonstrates Malaysia's commitment to modernising dispute resolution and creating a trusted, rule-based environment that can drive economic growth, investment and sustainable development."

In her special remarks, YB Dato' Sri Azalina Othman Said applauded the official launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 as a landmark in Malaysia's institutional reform journey.

"Today marks a historic milestone in our reform journey," she said. "The new Rules embody visionary objectives, expert insights, and global best practices that set the trajectory of our ADR journey. With the establishment of the AIAC Court of Arbitration, we are defining a new benchmark that will inspire continuous innovation and excellence."

Reaffirming the Government's support, YB Dato' Sri Azalina underscored Malaysia's commitment to positioning the AIAC as a dominant and preferred arbitral institution worldwide, adding that "there is no reason why Malaysia, more so as ASEAN Chair 2025, should not aspire to lead in this regional pursuit."

This year's Asia ADR Week builds upon the momentum of institutional reform that began in 2024, advancing the fundamental tenets of good governance, transparency, independence and impartiality for an enhanced confidence towards the AIAC. The AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 encompasses new frameworks for arbitration, mediation, adjudication, Islamic arbitration, sports arbitration and domain name dispute resolution, reflecting the Centre's forward-looking approach to serving global users.

Over the course of five days, the Conference features more than 16 sessions, exploring diverse themes such as technology in dispute resolution, energy transition, construction arbitration, Islamic mediation, e-sports and the evolving dynamics of

cross-border dispute mechanisms. Day 5, traditionally celebrated as the Construction Day, continues to spotlight Malaysia's leadership as the adjudication authority under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 (CIPAA).

As Malaysia approaches the 50th golden jubilee of the AIAC's establishment under the auspices of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), the launch of the AIAC Suite of Rules 2026 signifies both continuity and transformation, bridging the Centre's heritage with its visionary strategies and global ambitions.

"The time is ripe and the opportunity is ours to seize," concluded YB Dato' Sri Azalina. "Let us seize it together — to empower institutions, elevate standards and shape a future where Malaysia and ASEAN stand as the champions of just, efficient and inclusive dispute resolution."

For media enquiries, please contact:

AIAC Communications Team

communications@aiac.world

www.aiac.world