

## News Release

### **Total disputed sums mediated at Singapore Mediation Centre crosses \$2.7 billion in 2017 – the highest ever in the centre’s history**

**Singapore, 16 January 2018** – Last year, the total quantum of disputed sums that came under mediation at the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) was a record high of over \$2.7 billion.

SMC’s caseload has also been growing year by year with increased acceptance of mediation as a more affordable, flexible and accessible dispute resolution option versus pursuing legal action in court. In 2017, 538 matters were filed for mediation at SMC, an 8% increase from 2016. 465 of these matters were eventually mediated, an increase of 15% from the previous year.

Most of the matters mediated are commercial in nature, with construction and company/shareholder disputes being the most common. “Our latest statistics show an ever increasing confidence that mediation can be effective in resolving high value commercial cases. SMC has over 20 years of experience and expertise in providing mediation services and we hope to build on that experience to become a trusted partner for businesses in resolving high value, complex matters,” said Loong Seng Onn, Executive Director of SMC.

End

### **About the Singapore Mediation Centre**

Established in 1997, the SMC pioneered the use of mediation as the mainstream mechanism for dispute resolution, as well as training in negotiation and conflict management. Today, SMC offers a suite of alternative dispute resolution services which brings clarity and objectivity to complex situations. These services include mediation, neutral evaluation, collaborative family practice and domain name dispute resolution. Through our panel of professional mediators with legal and industry expertise, SMC is well-placed to manage difficult negotiations and unlock standstills for businesses by providing cost-effective and timely solutions. At SMC, our vision is to help all businesses fully appreciate the value of mediation as a strategic risk-management tool that they can count on in commercial dealings.



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\* Firms named on SMC's Mediation Advocacy Power List 2017, which seeks to recognise law firms that have most advanced the use of mediation as a dispute resolution tool. SMC's full Mediation Advocacy Power List 2017 can be found at <http://www.mediation.com.sg/news-and-views/listing-2/>.