

## Maxwell Chambers and Maxwell Chambers Suites

1. Maxwell Chambers was set up in 2010 as the world's first integrated dispute resolution complex, housing both purpose-built hearing facilities for arbitration and mediation as well as offices for dispute resolution institutions, chambers and firms.
2. Maxwell Chambers is today's one of the world's most preferred hearing facilities and sought-after office address for dispute resolution service providers. To meet growing demand, the Singapore Ministry of Law (MinLaw) has refurbished Maxwell Chambers Suites to support the expansion of Maxwell Chambers. This is expected to help boost Singapore's position as an international dispute resolution hub.
3. Maxwell Chambers Suites will add 120,000 square feet of space to Maxwell Chambers and triple its current size. It will officially open on 8 August 2019.
4. Maxwell Chambers Suites will house at least 11 international institutions and 20 disputes chambers and practices from 11 countries. Amongst the 11 international institutions, five have their case management offices here. Maxwell Chambers Suites has the highest concentration of case management offices anywhere in the world and will see more high-value cross-border disputes managed in and out of Singapore.

(The list of 11 international institutions which will hub their activities in Singapore is at **Annex A**. The list of 11 countries which the international institutions and disputes chambers and practices hail from is at **Annex B**.)

5. The conserved building which Maxwell Chambers Suites now occupies was designed by Frank Dorrington Ward, the Government Architect of the Straits Settlements Public Works Department, when Singapore was a British colony, and was constructed in 1928. The building was first used as barracks for the Police Force, and from the 1930s to 1999, it was used solely as the Traffic Police headquarters.
6. At one time, the building also housed Singapore's first Driving Test Centre. The building was gazetted as a Conserved Building by the Urban Redevelopment Authority in 2007.
7. The refurbishment of Maxwell Chambers Suites started in May 2017. It took two years to complete and cost S\$25 million.
8. Heritage restoration featured strongly in the refurbishment works:
  - a. The façade has been restored to an off-white hue, reinstating the neutral tones used when the building served as the Traffic Police headquarters.

- b. Façade elements such as architectural mouldings, canopy hoods, timber door, windows and metal grille have been restored to its original design and in serviceable condition.
  - c. Previously damaged beyond use, historic cast-iron rainwater goods have been painstakingly repaired or re-casted to its original profile and replaced latter-day mild-steel downpipes. They are now in serviceable condition.
  - d. The interior plan of the building has been largely kept largely similar to its historic layout whilst adapting to new uses. Characteristic interior elements such as vents and doors have been retained and restored.
  - e. Four courtyards in the 161m long building have been reinstated to their original open-to-sky configuration. The courtyards have been beautifully landscaped for public enjoyment, each offering a different look and feel.
  - f. The restored building will be beautifully lit at night to highlight its unique architectural features and historical value.
9. At the same time, the refurbishment works also introduced new architectural features to better serve the building's new function as modern premium offices for an international dispute resolution complex. These include:
- a. Two new annex blocks that will add 6,700 square feet of office space to meet growing demand from international dispute resolution institutions, arbitration chambers and law firms;
  - b. A new corridor-block to widen the currently narrow corridor;
  - c. Works to the floor levels and washrooms to allow handicap access; and
  - d. A new link-bridge to provide seamless connection between Maxwell Chambers Suites and Maxwell Chambers.
10. These new features are stylistically distinguished from the historic building, to allow the heritage significance of the building to take precedence.

**International Institutions at Maxwell Chambers Suites**

1. Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)\*
2. Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC)\*
3. Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA)
4. International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration (ICC-ICA)\*
5. Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)\*
6. American Arbitration Association, International Centre for Dispute Resolution (AAA-ICDR)
7. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Singapore (CIArb Singapore)
8. International Chamber of Commerce Academy (ICC Academy)
9. International Chamber of Commerce, Regional Office (ICC Asia)
10. International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professions (INSOL)
11. World Intellectual Property Organisation Arbitration and Mediation Centre (WIPO AMC)\*

\*Will also have case management office

**Countries with international institutions, disputes chambers and practices  
at Maxwell Chambers Suites**

1. Australia
2. Belgium
3. France
4. India
5. New Zealand
6. Singapore
7. South Korea
8. Switzerland
9. The Netherlands
10. United Kingdom
11. United States