

**PRESS RELEASE****PCA CASE N° 2023-40****ZEPH INVESTMENTS PTE. LTD. V. THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

THE HAGUE, 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

Hearing on Preliminary Objections – Public Access

A hearing in the arbitration commenced by Zeph Investments Pte. Ltd. (Singapore) against the Commonwealth of Australia under the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Area will be held from **16 September 2024** to **18 September 2024** (CEST) in the Administrative Council Chamber at the seat of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (“PCA”), at the Peace Palace, The Hague, the Netherlands. The hearing will address the preliminary objections raised by the Commonwealth of Australia.

Further to paragraph 2 of Annex I to the Tribunal’s Procedural Order No. 3, and paragraphs 31-34 of the Tribunal’s Procedural Order No. 5, there shall be a public webcast of the Hearing on Preliminary Objections.

Members of the public wishing to access the webcast of the Hearing on Preliminary Objections must complete the annexed declaration and submit the declaration to the PCA by no later than **12 September 2024**, by e-mail to livestream@pca-cpa.org.

Confirmation of attendance will be communicated by e-mail on 13 September 2024. Only those members of the public who have received advance confirmation from the PCA will be granted access to the webcast.

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The Tribunal in the proceedings is composed of Professor Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler (presiding arbitrator), Mr. William Kirtley and Professor Donald McRae. Mr. Lukas Montoya acts as the Secretary of the Tribunal. By agreement of the Parties, the PCA acts as the registry for the proceedings.

Further information about the proceedings is available on the PCA Case Repository (<https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/309/>). Transcripts of the Hearing on Preliminary Objections will be made available on the Case Repository following the Hearing, subject to the redaction of Protected Information.

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The **Permanent Court of Arbitration** is an intergovernmental organization established by the 1899 Hague Convention on the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The PCA has 123 Contracting Parties. Headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands, the PCA facilitates arbitration, conciliation, fact-finding, and other dispute resolution proceedings among various combinations of States, State entities, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties. The PCA’s International Bureau is currently administering 6 inter-state arbitrations, 1 other inter-state proceeding, 98 arbitrations arising under bilateral or multilateral investment treaties or national investment laws, 100 cases arising under contracts involving a State or other public entity, and 5 other proceedings. More information about the PCA can be found at www.pca-cpa.org.

Contact: Permanent Court of Arbitration

E-mail: bureau@pca-cpa.org

**ANNEX**

**PCA CASE N° 2023-40
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**Hearing Webcast Registration Form and Declaration
16 September 2024 to 18 September 2024**

In registering for access to view the live stream in this matter, I declare that:

- (i) I will not use the webcast feed for any improper purpose;**
- (ii) I will not record the webcast, nor make it available online or otherwise; and**
- (iii) I will not permit any other person to access or otherwise view the webcast feed.**

First Name	
Last Name	
Date of Birth	
Nationality	
Address	
Telephone Number	
E-mail Address	
Name of Media Organisation <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Position <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Type of Media <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Signed:	
Date:	

Completed Registration Forms must be submitted via e-mail to livestream@pca-cpa.org by no later than 12 September 2024.