Most intellectual property (IP) rights are granted on a national basis even though the basis for granting them arises out of international treaties. Most IP disputes involve cross-border transactions with distribution in numerous countries. Litigation in the country of origin is often not practical. Multi-centre litigation is unattractive, since that can lead to conflicting decisions, enforcement problems, cost and delay.

Is there a better solution?

Justice Simon Thorley QC was appointed as an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court in January 2015. He studied Jurisprudence at Oxford University from 1968 to 1971 and received the degree of MA (Hons). He was called to the Bar of England and Wales by the Honourable Society of The Inner Temple in 1972 and began practice at the Intellectual Property Bar. He took silk in 1989.

Justice Thorley has more than 40 years of experience in Intellectual Property and related law matters. He was a leading practitioner in that field until he ceased practice in 2014. He was Deputy High Court Judge in England and Wales and was also Deputy Chairperson of the Copyright Tribunal in the UK for eight years. He was a co-editor of the 13th to 15th editions of *Terrell on the Law of Patents*, the standard reference work on UK patent law. Justice Thorley served as Treasurer of the Inner Temple in 2013.

About the Judicial Studies Programme (JSP): The JSP organises capacity-building workshops, seminars and other forums where judges can discuss problems facing Judiciaries today (especially in the Asia Pacific) and exchange views on how those problems might best be resolved in a cost-effective and timely manner and in the interests of justice. The JSP also organises public seminars (such as the Young Scholars Series) on topics of current interest relating to the work of judges, lawyers and others in the dispute resolution field.

*The seminar is open to all without charge. Light refreshment will be served.*