

**Joan Janssen**  
**2Director-General, Ministry of Law (Singapore)**



Joan commenced her legal career as a litigator at the Singapore Bar in 1989 after graduating from the National University of Singapore. She obtained a masters degree from Cambridge University on a Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship in 1992, and returned home to serve as a Justices' Law Clerk. This was followed by a shift to corporate and banking law with a leading Singapore law firm, and in 1995, she moved to London to practise English law at a magic circle firm. She spent the next 18 years practising in international firms in London, and then in the ASEAN region, before re-joining the Singapore Legal Service in March 2013, to work at the Ministry of Law (MinLaw).

Prior to joining MinLaw as co-head of the Legal Group and head of the Policy Advisory Division, Joan was a partner at a global law firm. Her work at MinLaw currently entails working on the legal aspects of policy formulation and implementation as well as law reform. She was a member of the team behind the establishment of the Singapore International Commercial Court.