



HICAC 2025 – HO CHI MINH CITY INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION ARBITRATION CONFERENCE

> Raising the Bar:

Enhancing Quality in Dispute Resolution for Vietnam's Construction Projects
– Bridging International Expertise with Domestic Practice



10th & 11th
APRIL 2025



REX HOTEL SAIGON

141 Nguyen Hue, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

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& registration





2025 HO CHI MINH CITY
INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION
ARBITRATION CONFERENCE

> **Raising the Bar:**

Enhancing Quality in Dispute Resolution for Vietnam's Construction Projects
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INTRODUCTION

Building on the success of the 2024 event, the Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC) and the Society of Construction Law – Viet Nam (SCLVN) co-organize the **Ho Chi Minh City International Construction Arbitration Conference – HICAC 2025**. This year's Conference main theme is “Raising the Bar: Enhancing Quality in Dispute Resolution for Vietnam's Construction Projects – Bridging International Expertise with Domestic Practice”.

HICAC 2025 aims to bring together professionals from the construction industry, legal experts, arbitrators, and academics to discuss the latest trends, practices, and developments in construction arbitration. Vietnam is witnessing significant growth in both construction activities and the demand for quality and efficient construction dispute resolution. This conference, featuring diverse domestic and international perspectives, will provide valuable insights into legal regulations and practical applications, helping businesses in navigating dispute resolution. In addition to informative panel discussions, the conference will provide networking opportunities to foster collaboration and promote the best practices among international delegates and enterprises. The conference will also be a timely platform to contribute to legal reform, particularly the Law on Construction and the Law on Commercial Arbitration, facilitating business activities and streamlining the dispute resolution process.



05

Content sections



39

Domestic
& Foreign Expert



06

Sideline events



150+

In-person
Participants



10+

Partners

MAIN EVENT

Time

Day 01

8.30 AM – 5.00 PM

10th April 2025
(Thursday)

Day 02

8.30 AM – 12.00 PM

11th April 2025
(Friday)

Venue

REX HOTEL SAIGON,
141 Nguyen Hue, Ben Nghe ward,
District 1, HCMC, Vietnam

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

1

SCLVN

Society of Construction Law – Vietnam

Hội Pháp luật Xây dựng Việt Nam



SCLVN is a socio-professional organization, voluntarily established by Vietnamese citizens and organizations operating in the field of construction law.

Purpose: support each other to improve knowledge and qualifications, information exchange on construction law, contribute to create the stable and sustainable environment for construction activities in Vietnam and the country's socio-economic development.

SCLVN is operating under the administrative management of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the sector management of the Ministry of Construction and other related Ministries and government agencies on the activities of the Society in accordance with laws and regulations.

Individual members: Engineers, Architects, Lawyers, legal expert, Quantity Surveyor, commercial expert and other experts who are Vietnamese citizens operating in fields related to construction law.

Organizational members: Vietnamese organizations established in accordance with Vietnamese law, operating in the field of construction and construction law.

2

VIAC

Vietnam International Arbitration Centre

Trung tâm Trọng tài Quốc tế Việt Nam



Vietnam International Arbitration Center (in Vietnamese: Trung tâm Trọng tài Quốc tế Việt Nam, abbreviation: VIAC) was established under Decision No. 204/TTg dated 22 April 1993 of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on basis of the merger of the Foreign Trade Arbitration Council (established in 1963) and the Maritime Arbitration Council (established in 1964). Since the Ordinance on Commercial Arbitration 2003, then replaced by Law on Commercial Arbitration 2010 and up to present, under the applicable Charter, VIAC is an independent organization – a legal entity. Arbitral Awards rendered by Arbitral Tribunals at VIAC are final and enforceable within Vietnam and in over 170 countries and territories that are State members of the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (The New York Convention 1958).

As the leading Vietnamese arbitration & mediation institution with international credibility and, VIAC has administered thousands of domestic and international disputes in various fields of commerce, such as sale of goods, logistics, insurance, construction, finance and banking, joint venture projects, energy, infrastructure, etc. with involvement of businesses coming from almost all provinces in Vietnam. VIAC is also the only arbitration institution in Vietnam known to handle international disputes with participation of disputing parties from many countries and territories that are important trade and investment partners of Vietnam. Throughout three decades of its operation, VIAC has been spreading its wing as a reputable international mediation and arbitration institution in Vietnam, gaining trust and becoming the destination for both domestic and international business communities.

EVENT TIMELINE

Morning section

Afternoon section

Evening

08-09/04

Tuesday
& Wednesday

Training course on Construction Contract

Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel, 17
Ton Duc Thang Street, District 1, HCMC

Training course on Construction Contract (cont.)

Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel, 17
Ton Duc Thang Street, District 1, HCMC

09/04

Wednesday

Workshop on The Effective Conduct of a Construction Arbitration – Tools and Tips for Counsel

Novotel Saigon Centre Hotel, No.167 Hai
Ba Trung Street, District 3, HCMC

Workshop on Effective Cost Management Techniques for Construction Disputes at SIAC

Conference Hall room (10th floor), Vien
Dong Hotel, 275A Pham Ngu Lao, District
1, HCMC

Asian Construction & ADR Roundtable 2025

Sunflower Ballroom (1st floor – Executive
Wing, Rex Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue,
District 1, HCMC

10/04

Thursday

GENERAL SESSION - Enhancing Quality in Dispute resolution for Vietnam's Construction projects

Lotus Ballroom (1st floor – Executive
Wing, Rex Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue,
District 1, HCMC

SESSION A – Current Trends in ADR for Construction Projects

Lotus A (1st floor – Executive Wing, Rex
Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue, District 1, HCMC

SESSION B – Disputes arising from Construction Projects in Vietnam – Identifying Key challenges and Proposing solutions to Enhance the Quality of Dispute Resolution

Lotus B (1st floor – Executive Wing, Rex
Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue, District 1, HCMC

GALA DINNER

(for Speakers,
Sponsors,
Delegates and
Paid Guests)

11/04

Friday

SESSION C – Dispute Avoidance for Construction Projects

Lotus A (1st floor – Executive Wing, Rex
Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue, District 1, HCMC

SESSION D – Role of Experts and Evaluation of Damages in Construction Arbitration

Lotus B (1st floor – Executive Wing, Rex
Hotel), 141 Nguyen Hue, District 1, HCMC

Workshop on Practices and Experiences in Resolving Construction Disputes by Arbitration at VIAC

VIAC HCMC Branch, 171 Vo Thi Sau,
District 3, HCMC

Workshop on Urban Railway Development and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Real Estate Projects

LNT&PARTNERS, level 21, Bitexco Financial
Tower, No 2 Hai Trieu, District 1, HCMC

12/04

Saturday

Networking event: Ho Chi Minh City tour

(for Speakers, Sponsors, Delegates and
Paid Guests)

SPEAKERS

Dr. HAMISH LAL

Partner
Hamish Lal Partners,
Immediate-Past Chairman
Society of Construction Law
and The Adjudication Society



Mr. VU ANH DUONG

Permanent Vice President cum
General Secretary
Vietnam International Arbitration
Centre (VIAC)



Mr. ELLIOTT GEISINGER

Partner
Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd
(Switzerland)



Mr. GERARD P. MONAGHAN

Chartered Engineer,
Chartered Arbitrator,
Accredited Mediator
FIEI, FCI Arb



Mr. HO CHIEN MIEN

Co-Head
Allen & Gledhill's Construction &
Engineering Practice



Ms. NGUYEN THI THANH MINH

Special Counsel and Head of Dispute
Resolution Practice
ACSV Legal



Ms. LYNETTE CHEW

Partner at CMS
(Singapore)



Mr. KAILASH DABEESINGH

Arbitrator
KD Arbitration Chambers



Ms. SINYEE ONG

Legal Director
HFW



Ms. HOANG TRAN THUY DUONG

Deputy Counsel
Singapore International Arbitration
Centre (SIAC)



Mr. PHAM DUONG HOANG PHUC

Arbitral Assistant
ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC



Mr. MAXIMILIAN D. BENZ

Quantum Expert
SJA (Singapore)



Ms. DUONG THI THU HA

Managing Partner
CDR Counsels



Mr. NGUYEN THANH LONG

Chairman cum Managing Director
VinaQS,
FIDIC Certified Trainer/
Contract Manager



SPEAKERS

Ms. THANG NGUYEN

Managing Partner
VN Counsel



Mr. NGUYEN BAC THUY

Head of Economics and Construction
Contracts
Department of Construction Economics -
Ministry of Construction



Mr. NGUYEN NGOC MINH

Partner
Dzungst & Associates



Mr. NGUYEN CONG PHU

Former Judge – Deputy Chief
Justice
Economic Court, Ho Chi Minh City
People's Court,
Partner
LNT & Partners



Mr. VU VAN VINH

Director of the Project Management
Board for Metro Line 2
Management Authority for Urban
Railways Ho Chi Minh City (MAUR)



Ms. VU THI HANG

Deputy Head of the Secretariat,
Member of the Scientific Council
Vietnam International Arbitration
Center (VIAC)



Ms. VU THUY DIEM

Senior Legal Counsel
Shift Energy Japan & Shire Oak
International (Singapore) Pte Ltd



Ms. NGUYEN THI HOA

Lecturer
Ho Chi Minh City
University of Law (ULAW)



Mr. DUONG QUOC THANH

Managing Partner
ALV Lawyers



Mr. VU LE BANG

Partner, HCMC Office Co-
Representative
Branch of Nishimura & Asahi (Vietnam)
Law Firm in Ho Chi Minh City



Ms. LIU SIYU

Partner
DeHeng Law Offices



Mr. CHAMNAN PICHEDPAN

Advisor
Construction Lawyers Society
Member
Thai Dispute Board Institute
Construction Arbitration Centre (Asia-
Pacific)



Mr. KURNIADHI WIDJOJO

Civil Engineer, Lecturer, Mediator
and Fellow
Institute of Dispute Board for
Construction



Ms. TONG THI THU THAO

FIDIC Certified Contract Manager



SPEAKERS

Mr. AJIT KUMAR MISHRA

Executive Director
Dedicated Freight Corridor
Corporation of India Limited



Ms. ASEL EL HOUSAN

Founder and the Managing Director
AEH UK Limited



Ms. DAO LINH CHI

Arbitral Assistant
ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC



Mr. BUI TRUONG MINH LOC

Contract Manager
SOL E&C,
Standing Committee Member
SCLVN



Mr. JOHNNY TAN CHENG HYE

Independent Expert
Arbitrator/Mediator



Mr. VIVEK MALVIYA

Director, Claims and Contracts
MASIN



Ms. KUA LAY THENG

Partner
WongPartnership LLP



Mr. TRAN PHAM HOANG TUNG

Senior Associate
CNC Counsel



Mr. AKSHAY KISHORE

Partner
Bird & Bird LLP
(Singapore)



Mr. RAMASUBRAMANIAN

Lead consultant – Construction
Arbitration
ADROIT Claims and ADR Consultants



Mr. YASIR G. KADHIM

Director
Secretariat Consulting



TENTATIVE

AGENDA

GENERAL SESSION

Raising the Bar: Enhancing Quality in Dispute Resolution for Vietnam's Construction Projects

8.30 AM – 12.00 PM, 10 April 2025 (Thu)

Lotus Ballroom, Rex Hotel Saigon

Duration	Content
08.30 – 09.00 AM	Opening speech Representative from Society of Construction Law – Vietnam (SCLVN) Representative from Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)
09.00 – 09.30 AM	KEYNOTE SPEECH: A Spectrum of Dispute Resolution Choices : What does Strategic Thinking Inform? Dr. Hamish Lal – Partner, Hamish Lal Partners, Immediate-Past Chairman of the Society of Construction Law and of The Adjudication Society
Session P1: Enhancing Quality in Construction Arbitration: Experiences from International Practitioners	
09.30 – 09.50 AM	Enhancing Quality in Construction Arbitration: Experiences and Expectations of a Repeat User Mr. Elliott Geisinger – Partner, Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd
09.50 – 10.10 AM	Tea-break
10.10 – 10.30 AM	Dispute Avoidance – Is it realistic? Mr. Gerard P. Monaghan – Chartered Engineer; Chartered Arbitrator; Accredited Mediator, FIEI, FCIArb
10.30 – 10.50 AM	Enhancing Expert Evidence in Modern Arbitration Mr. Ho Chien Mien – Co-Head of the Allen & Gledhill's Construction & Engineering Practice
Session P2 – Roundtable Discussion: Raising the Bar in Dispute Resolutions for Construction Projects in Vietnam	
10.50 – 12.00 PM	Moderator Mr. Vu Anh Duong – Permanent Vice President cum General Secretary, Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)
	Dr. Hamish Lal – Partner, Hamish Lal Partners, Immediate-Past Chairman of the Society of Construction Law and of The Adjudication Society
	Mr. Elliott Geisinger – Partner, Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd
	Mr. Gerard P. Monaghan – Chartered Engineer; Chartered Arbitrator; Accredited Mediator, FIEI, FCIArb
	Panelists Mr. Ho Chien Mien – Co-Head of the Allen & Gledhill's Construction & Engineering Practice
12.00 PM	End of General Session
12.00 – 1.30 PM	Lunch time

TENTATIVE AGENDA

SECTION A *(held concurrently with Section B)*

**Current Trends in ADR
for Construction Projects**

1.30 – 5.00 PM, 10 April 2025 (Thu)
Lotus A Meeting Room, Rex Hotel Saigon

DURATION (PM)	CONTENT
Session A1 – Current Trends in ADR for Construction Projects	
1.30 – 3.00	<p>The applicability of third-party funding in cross-border construction dispute settlement Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Minh – Special Counsel and Head of Dispute Resolution Practice of ACSV Legal</p>
	<p>The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Dispute Resolution Ms. Lynette Chew – Partner at CMS (Singapore)</p>
	<p>Changing trends in Dispute resolution: The challenge of the 21st century Dispute board – A more focus form of Dispute prevention and resolution Mr. Kailash Dabeesingh – Arbitrator at KD Arbitration Chambers</p>
	<p>Panel Discussion Moderator: Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Minh – Special Counsel and Head of Dispute Resolution Practice of ACSV Legal</p>
3.00 – 3.30	Tea-break
Session A2 – Alternative Dispute Resolutions for Construction- International Experiences	
3.30 – 5.00	<p>Options for Early Resolution of Disputes in Construction Arbitration Proceedings Ms. Sinyee Ong – Legal Director at HFW</p>
	<p>Case Management Practices from Institutional Perspective - Promoting Efficiency in Construction Arbitration Ms. Hoang Tran Thuy Duong – Deputy Counsel, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)</p>
	<p>The Enforcement of Expert Determination in Construction Disputes: What happens if an Expert goes wrong? Perspectives from Vietnam, the United Kingdom, & Austria Mr. Pham Duong Hoang Phuc – Arbitral Assistant at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC</p>
	<p>Enhancing Project Integrity and Dispute Resolution Through Early Expert Engagement and Institutional Accountability Mr. Maximilian Benz – Quantum Expert, SJA (Singapore)</p>
5.00	<p>Panel Discussion Moderator: Ms. Duong Thi Thu Ha – Managing Partner, CDR Counsels</p>
	End of Section A

TENTATIVE AGENDA

SECTION B *(held concurrently with Section A)*

Disputes arising from Construction Projects in Vietnam – Identifying Key challenges and Proposing solutions to Enhance the Quality of Dispute Resolution

1.30 – 5.00 PM, 10 April 2025 (Thu)
Lotus B Meeting Room, Rex Hotel Saigon

DURATION (PM)	CONTENT
1.30 – 1.45	Opening remark
Session B1 – Dispute Resolutions in Construction & Infrastructure Projects	
1.45 – 2.15	<p>Dispute Resolution in Construction and Infrastructure Projects – Specific Legal Issues and Considerations in Selecting Dispute Resolution Methods</p> <p>Mr. Nguyen Bac Thuy – Head of Economics and Construction Contracts – Department of Construction Economics – Ministry of Construction</p>
	<p>Legal Risk Management & Dispute Prevention in Construction & Infrastructure Projects</p> <p>Mr. Vu Van Vinh – Director of the Project Management Board for Metro Line 2 – Management Authority for Urban Railways Ho Chi Minh City (MAUR)</p>
2.15 – 3.15	<p>Challenges in Resolving Disputes Arising from Construction and Infrastructure Projects</p> <p>Mr. Nguyen Thanh Long – Chairman cum Managing Director at VinaQS, FIDIC Certified Trainer / Contract Manager</p>
	<p>Key Considerations in Resolving Disputes in Construction and Infrastructure Projects</p> <p>Ms. Thang Nguyen – Managing Partner at VN Counsel</p>
	<p>Moderator: Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Minh – Partner at Dzungst & Associates</p>
3.15 – 3.30	Tea-break
Session B2 – Resolving dispute arising from Commercial Real Estates Projects	
	<p>Disputes in Commercial Real Estate Projects: Emerging Trends and Key Legal Considerations</p> <p>Mr. Nguyen Cong Phu – Former Judge – Deputy Chief Justice of Economic Court, Ho Chi Minh City People's Court, Partner at LNT & Partners</p>
3.30 – 5.00	<p>Considerations in Resolving Dispute arising from Commercial Real Estates Projects – Insights from the Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)</p> <p>Ms. Vu Thi Hang – Senior Counsel cum Deputy Director of the Secretariat, Member of Science Council, Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)</p>
	<p>Key Considerations in Resolving Disputes Arising from Commercial Real Estate Projects – A Lawyer's Perspective</p> <p>Ms. Vu Thuy Diem – Senior Leglal Counsel (Regional), Shift Energy Japan & Shire Oak International (Singapore) Pte Ltd</p>
	<p>Moderator: Mr. Duong Quoc Thanh – Managing Partner at ALV Lawyers</p>
5.00	End of Section B

TENTATIVE AGENDA

SECTION C (held concurrently with Section D)
Dispute Avoidance for Construction Projects
8.30 am – 12.00 pm, 11 April 2025 (Fri)
Lotus A Meeting Room, Rex Hotel Saigon

Duration (AM)	Content
Session C1 – FIDIC contract & Dispute Resolutions	
8.30 – 10.00	ADR under FIDIC forms of contract in the context of Vietnamese Law Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoa – Lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law
	Localizing FIDIC Dispute Resolution Mechanism in China's Construction Contracts: Experiences and Challenges Ms. Liu Siyu – Partner at DeHeng Law Offices
	Multi-tier Dispute Resolution under FIDIC Contracts Ms. Asel El Housan – Founder and the Managing Director of AEH UK Limited
	Bridging the Gap in Construction Dispute Procedures Between FIDIC Standard Contracts and Vietnamese Law Mr. Vu Le Bang – Partner & HCMC Office Co-Representative at Branch of Nishimura & Asahi (Vietnam) Law Firm in Ho Chi Minh City
	Panel Discussion Moderator: Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoa – Lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law
10.00 – 10.30	Tea-break
Session C2 – Lesson Learned from Dispute Board (DB) Applications	
10.30 – 12.00 PM	Evaluating the Efficacy of DAB and DAAB as Dispute Resolution in infrastructure projects in India: Practical Implementation or Mere Stepping Step before Arbitration? Mr. Ajit Kumar Mishra – Executive Director, Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited
	Avoiding construction disputes in Thailand Mr. Chamnan Pichedpan – Advisor at Construction Lawyers Society and member of Thai Dispute Board institute as well as Construction Arbitration Centre (Asia-Pacific)
	Bridging Conflicts: The Role of Dispute Boards in Indonesia's Legal System Mr. Kurniadhi Widjojo – Civil Engineer, Lecturer, Mediator and Fellow of the Institute of Dispute Board for Construction
	Panel Discussion Moderator: Ms. Tong Thi Thu Thao – FIDIC Certified Contract Manager
12.00 PM	End of Section C

TENTATIVE AGENDA

SECTION D *(held concurrently with Section C)*

Role of Experts and Evaluation of Damages in Construction Arbitration

8.30 am – 12.00 pm, 11 April 2025 (Fri)

Lotus B Meeting Room, Rex Hotel Saigon

Duration (AM)	Content
8.30 – 10.00	Session D1 – Role of Experts in Construction Arbitration
	Expert evidence in Vietnam-seated construction arbitrations: a comparative and procedural analysis Ms. Dao Linh Chi – <i>Arbitral Assistant at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC</i>
	Enhancing Expert Evidence in International Construction Arbitrations Ms. Kua Lay Theng – <i>Partner at WongPartnership</i>
	Expert Evidence in Arbitration: Avoiding Ships Passing in the Night Mr. Johnny Tan Cheng Hye – <i>Independent Expert, Arbitrator/Mediator</i>
	The Expert's Journey: From Fact-Finding to Decision-Making Mr. Vivek Malviya – <i>Director, Claims & Contracts – Masin</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Panel Discussion Moderator: Mr. Bui Truong Minh Loc – <i>Contract Manager at SOL E&C, Standing Committee Member of SCLVN</i>
	Tea-break
10.30 – 12.00 PM	Session D2 – Delays and Damages in Construction Arbitration
	A Critical examination of Liquidated damages: Do the Challenges to their Application justify reform? Mr. Yasir G. Kadhim – <i>Director at Secretariat Consulting</i>
	Concurrent delays in the Construction Arbitration and Judicial purview Mr. Ramasubramanian – <i>Lead consultant – Construction Arbitration, ADROIT Claims and ADR Consultants</i>
	Delay, Disruption and Pacing – a Singapore and English law perspective Mr. Akshay Kishore – <i>Partner at Bird & Bird LLP</i>
12.00 PM	Panel Discussion Moderator: Mr. Tran Pham Hoang Tung – <i>Senior Associate, CNC Counsel</i>
	End of Section D

REGISTRATION GUIDELINE

TICKET FOR INTERNATIONAL GUESTS

Ticket price

Conference Ticket

Early Bird (till 30th March 2025)

160 USD

Conference Ticket

Standard (from 01st April 2025)

200 USD

Gala Dinner Ticket

(10th April 2025 evening)

40 USD

Training course Ticket

Early Bird (till 30th March 2025)

450 USD

Training course Ticket

Standard (from 01st April 2025)

500 USD

Networking Tour

(12th April 2025)

60 USD

PURCHASE TICKET OPTIONS

Purchase ticket(s) via bank transfer

01

You can purchase your ticket(s) by making a bank transfer to the SCLVN account.

Bank account: **20200618 (USD)**

Account holder name:

Society of Construction Law – Viet Nam

Bank name: Asia Commercial joint Stock Bank

Swift Code: ASCBVNVX

*Note: Please ensure that the full ticket price is transferred to the bank account above. After completing the transfer, kindly email the bank transfer receipt along with Ticket type, Guest's information (Name/Company/Email/Phone No.) to event@scl.org.vn.

Purchase ticket(s) via bank transfer

02

Purchase ticket(s) via Paypal on Eventbrite

To purchase your ticket(s), please visit the following link:

<https://bit.ly/eventbrite-hicac-2025>



*Note: The ticket price does not include additional fees charged by Eventbrite.

Scan the QR code for Eventbrite registration



HICAC 2024



VIACAC 2025

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CONTACT INFORMATION

For detailed information and registration support, please contact:

SOCIETY OF CONSTRUCTION LAW – VIETNAM

+84 283 535 0400

event@scl.org.vn

VIETNAM INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE

+84 243 574 4001

info@viac.org.vn



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