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**Synopsis**

Law enforcement and criminal prosecution are grappling with an increasing number of cases where the evidence of criminal activity is located across multiple jurisdictions. As mutual legal assistance in criminal matters is the long-standing channel for the obtaining of such evidence for use in domestic proceedings, Singapore's Central Authority has witnessed a significant increase in the number of mutual legal assistance requests it has had to make, and to process. It is timely for government agencies to assess whether the traditional modalities of mutual legal assistance can effectively deal with the increased and increasing volume and complexity of requests, as well as the demands for speed and efficiency in the obtaining of evidence across borders.

This presentation examines areas where improvements can be made to the mutual legal assistance regime, whether in terms of processes, the use of technology, or mutual legal assistance treaties.