



The ArbitralWomen board at the 2026 AGM in Paris

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It is Election Time!

It's Election Time for the ArbitralWomen Board! ArbitralWomen warmly encourages eligible Members from across the globe to stand for election and contribute to the work of our organisation!

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President's Column



As we prepared this issue of the *ArbitralWomen Newsletter*, I found myself reflecting on something that continues to shape careers across our profession in ways both visible and invisible: the importance of **champions and **sponsors**.**

Talent matters. Hard work matters. Technical excellence matters. But many opportunities in our field, whether promotions, tribunal appointments, leadership roles, speaking, client exposure, or speaking engagements, also depend on who is willing to advocate for you when you are not in the room.

For years, conversations around advancement focused heavily on mentorship. Mentorship is important and deeply valuable. Advice, guidance, and shared experience can profoundly shape a person's confidence and development. Our *#GiveToGain – Micro-Mentor Moments* campaign for International Women's Day, featured in this issue, reflects exactly that spirit. Sometimes one conversation, one piece of advice, or one expression of confidence can leave a lasting impact.

But women also want sponsors and champions. We want people willing to say our names in rooms where we are not present. People willing to recommend us for promotions, leadership positions, tribunals, and speaking engagements. People willing to use their credibility to help create opportunities for others. Some of the best sponsors and champions I have had in my career have been men. I want to take this opportunity to thank you, because my journey may have looked very different without your guidance, courage, and belief in me.

Research consistently shows that people tend to sponsor and elevate those who look like them or follow familiar paths. Studies have found that women are often well mentored but comparatively under-sponsored, even though sponsorship is far more closely tied to advancement into leadership positions. This is not unique to arbitration, but it is something arbitration must continue confronting honestly.

Recently, many colleagues have drawn attention to the recurring presence of homogeneous conference panels. The concern is not simply optics. It is what these recurring patterns unintentionally signal about expertise, authority, and whose voices are perceived as shaping our field. It is something I dare say many of us believed would no longer occur with the same frequency in this day and age.

Of course, panel composition is not always straightforward. Last-minute changes, cancellations, availability issues, language requirements, and other considerations can all affect the final makeup of a panel or tribunal. In many instances, there is every genuine intention to ensure both gender diversity and broader diversity of perspectives.

And yet, despite those intentions, we continue to see panels revert to more uniform compositions, often because diversity and inclusion were not considered early enough or deliberately enough throughout the process. We revert to what is easiest.

At ArbitralWomen, we remain deliberate in how we engage with and support events. **Gender parity** is not an afterthought for us; it is part of our

framework. We strongly believe that arbitration and dispute resolution benefit from broader representation, broader perspectives, and broader visibility. Importantly, this is not about tokenism, nor is it about excluding anyone. Excellence exists across our profession. The objective is to ensure that opportunities reflect the depth and diversity of talent that already exists within it.

This is also where allies matter.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg once said: *“I ask no favour for my sex. All I ask of our brethren is that they take their feet off our necks.”* Her words continue to resonate because progress has never been achieved by women alone. Real and lasting change requires allies, companies, institutions, conference organisers, law firms, clients, experts, and practitioners willing to examine patterns that have long been treated as inevitable.

ArbitralWomen itself was once considered the pathfinder. The rebels. A group of women insisting that this profession could and should look different.

And candidly, from what I have seen lately, particularly the increasing return of homogeneous panels and speaking lineups in our field, it feels as though we, together with our sister organisations committed to leadership and inclusion, may once again need to be the rebels.

This issue of our newsletter reflects the richness of talent, leadership, and engagement across our global community. From Riyadh International Disputes Week, to *Africa in the Moot* in Nairobi, to our members’ continued contributions at UNCITRAL Working Groups and beyond, ArbitralWomen Members con-

tinue to shape important conversations across international dispute resolution.

As you read this issue, I encourage you to reflect not only on your own career journey, but also on whose journey you may be able to influence next.

Whose work can you amplify? Whom can you recommend? Who can you bring into the conversation? Who can you sponsor?

Because lasting change in this profession will not happen solely through organisations like ours. It will happen because individuals make deliberate decisions, consistently and thoughtfully, to create space for others to succeed.

And that is exactly the kind of community ArbitralWomen continues to build.

As we look ahead to the next chapter of ArbitralWomen, I am also reminded that our organisation continues to evolve because members continue stepping forward to shape it. The two-year term of the current ArbitralWomen Board ends on 30 June 2026, and ArbitralWomen will shortly invite nominations from eligible Members to stand for election to the Board for the upcoming 2026–2028 term. Eligible ArbitralWomen Members are those who have remained in good standing continuously, without interruption, for at least one year as of the date of the call, i.e. 18 May 2026 (“Eligible Members”). We very much look forward to seeing members continue contributing to the future of this organisation. Stay tuned!

With gratitude,
Rebeca Mosquera
President, ArbitralWomen



*I ask no favour for my sex.
All I ask of our brethren is
that they take their feet off
our necks.*

— Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Women Leaders in Arbitration

Dr Inka Hanefeld

Dr Inka Hanefeld sat down for a candid conversation about the milestones, mentors and motivations that have defined her distinguished career in international arbitration with YAWP Steering Committee Member **Nicole Grohmann**, who is part of Inka's team at HANEFELD in Hamburg.

As the founder of Germany's first dedicated dispute resolution boutique firm, Inka is highly regarded as both counsel and arbitrator in the international arbitration community, with particular expertise in international trade, industrial plant and machine building, energy, post-M&A and investor-state disputes. Her expertise has been recognised in various international rank-



ings. From 2013 to 2019, she was nominated by the Federal Republic of Germany for the ICSID list of arbitrators. From 2015 to 2020, she served as a Member of the London Court of International Arbitration ("LCIA"), and from 2015 to 2021 as Vice-President of the International Court of Arbitration ("ICC").

Before establishing HANEFELD in 2005, Inka worked in the dispute resolution department of a leading international law firm for seven years, across offices in Vienna, New York, Frankfurt and Hamburg. She

holds an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from New York University School of Law.

Could you tell us about your professional journey and how you started your career — and what you would highlight as the key steps that shaped it?

Looking back at the key steps that shaped my career, one early formative moment was my six-month elective clerkship at a United Nations organisation in Vienna as part of the practical training that is required in Germany in the period between law school and full qualification as a lawyer. Working for an international organisation had always been a long-held dream of mine.

My supervisor there, a senior UN legal director, gave me a decisive piece of advice: he told me not to stay, but to first gain experience as a lawyer in a leading international law firm. I took that advice to heart and subsequently joined Freshfields, where I was placed into the international arbitration department. This was an area of practice that was completely new to me. I was thrown in at the deep end, but it turned out to be exactly the right fit for me.

At Freshfields, I received over seven years of excellent training and mentorship. Additionally, I pursued an LL.M. in International Legal Studies at New York University and took the NY Bar Exam, fulfilling another two long-held personal dreams of mine.

At the age of thirty-five, I ultimately decided to start my own private practice as an arbitration lawyer — another key step that I have never regretted and still enjoy today.

What was the main reason you decided to found Germany's first dispute resolution boutique, and what advice would you give to someone considering taking a similar step?

After seven years of highly interesting work and training in a major law firm, I felt that the time was right, both on a personal and on a professional level, to take that accumulated knowledge and experience and put it to use in a smaller, more personal "boutique"-like setting.

My advice to anyone who is considering taking a similar step would be: do not wait too long. Be bold and see the opportunities rather than the risks. Of course, it is naturally easier to be bold if you find yourself at a point in life where you do not carry significant personal obligations that would require a double safety net. Ideally, it should be a time of personal freedom and flexibility, without the added pressure of needing to produce quick results. And you need to be patient. A strong business idea needs adequate room to grow and develop, and turning it into a fully working and sustainable practice inevitably takes time.

My advice to anyone who is considering taking a similar step would be: do not wait too long. Be bold and see the opportunities rather than the risks.

Besides your client work, you were nominated by the Federal Republic of Germany for the ICSID list of arbitrators, you were a Member of the LCIA, and you served as Vice-President of the ICC, alongside several teaching engagements. How important is it, in your view, to take on roles outside your daily practice? And how did you manage to do that alongside a heavy workload?

I consider these kinds of roles to be a truly central and important part of one's overall professional profile as an international arbitration practitioner. The experience that these roles give you — personally, internationally, and in terms of substantive knowledge and understanding — is invaluable. Through these roles, you come to understand what our profession really needs, and I would very strongly encourage anyone who gets the chance and the opportunity to take on such roles to do so without any hesitation.

At the ICC Court, for instance, I found it deeply enriching and truly eye-opening to encounter the sheer variety of cases and arbitrators across nearly every sector imaginable, giving you a very clear and tangible sense of just how varied and multifaceted the demands on practitioners in this field truly are. As an arbitrator and annulment committee member in ICSID cases, I had the valuable chance and privilege to work alongside arbitrators from very different professional backgrounds and from all corners of the world, and to observe and appreciate how they each approach the role.

These kinds of experiences are absolutely essential, because it is only through them that you can truly and fully understand what is expected of an international arbitration lawyer at the highest level.

As to how I manage these roles alongside a demanding caseload: I approach every such role with the very same rigour and seriousness as I would approach a case. I focus on whatever is most important at any given point in time, bringing to it the same level of care and dedication that I bring to my legal work. In that sense, less is more. It is far better to take on fewer, selective tasks and roles and to manage each of them with real and genuine dedication, rather than risking falling below your own professional standards. And at some point, it is also important to hand over your roles to others, give younger talents the chance to excel, and make yourself available for new opportunities.

Peers describe you as a luminary who works incredibly meticulously on her cases. Is that meticulousness something that came naturally, or is it a discipline that can be cultivated?

I think it is very much a mix of what you naturally bring to the profession and how the profession, in turn, shapes you over time. Both of these elements matter equally in my view.

My natural drive is the thorough and in-depth preparation of cases, especially complex ones, working through them systematically until every single layer has been examined and all arguments have been tested from multiple different angles.

The best and most meaningful professional relationships are those where people want to lift each other up. I have been very lucky and grateful to experience that throughout my career in many different ways, including still learning from my colleagues within our firm.

And the process of spending that kind of time and effort on a case has lasting and cumulative effects. Over time, the more deeply and thoroughly you engage with each individual case, the easier it progressively becomes to grasp what a subsequent case is really about at its core and to find a solution that genuinely and properly takes into account the specific particularities and nuances of that case.

Have you had a mentor who guided or inspired you, and in what way did that shape your career?

I have been fortunate to meet truly outstanding mentors and supportive individuals throughout my career who have each, in their own individual and unique way, guided and inspired me. From my very first supervisors at Freshfields to the many other colleagues I have had the privilege and the pleasure of working with over the years, each one of them has left their mark on me.

That said, for me personally, mentoring has never been limited to just one single relationship. Every collaboration with experienced and knowledgeable colleagues from different jurisdictions around the world is in itself a form of mentoring. You learn all the time and continuously from observing how others tackle problems, how they run proceedings, and how they carry themselves professionally in various situations. In this regard, I really value most the spirit of sharing experiences and genuinely helping each other.

The best and most meaningful professional relationships are those where people want to lift each other up. I have been very lucky and grateful to experience that throughout my career in many different ways, including still learning from my colleagues within our firm.

ArbitralWomen was founded in 1993. Since the launch of diversity initiatives in arbitration, what progress have you seen?

The progress that has been made in terms of diversity in international arbitration has been truly immense, and it is precisely because of this progress that I continue to actively support such initiatives, which I find to be very rewarding both on a personal and on a professional level.

It is remarkable and encouraging to see how many women — in both the sheer number and the outstanding quality of their work — have stepped forward to assume leading and prominent roles in arbitration. This is especially clear

and visible on the international stage, where women from a variety of regions of the world are making very important and meaningful contributions to the field.

That said, there is of course always more that we can and should do to further support and sustain this progress going forward.

From the initiatives and formats available to female practitioners today, which would you recommend and why?

In my view, mentoring programmes are among the very best and most effective options available today. When they are well organised, they provide a great and valuable space for mutual support and exchange, both in group settings and in one-on-one conversations. I have seen first-hand, on many occasions, how much people genuinely benefit from these programmes.

You act both as counsel and as arbitrator. From that dual perspective, do you feel the picture for women at the counsel table and in the arbitrator's chair has improved, and what practical steps would you recommend to women looking to advance in both roles?

From my own personal experience as both counsel and arbitrator, I can say that things have clearly and noticeably improved in both of these areas.

For both roles, I can only encourage confidence and courage. Step forward, be visible, and actively go after opportunities, because in the end, it is ultimately the quality of the impression that you leave on others that opens doors and creates new opportunities.

I would also say: stay curious at all times. Curiosity and the willingness to learn are what keep you continuously growing throughout your career. Keep up with the latest developments and trends in the field and make it a real priority to stay on top of things, because this is what ultimately gives you authority.

Lastly, and very importantly, make the most of working together as a team. In our firm, we very often work in tandems or larger teams, and I find that this approach works very well indeed. It lets each individual person demonstrate their particular strengths while at the same time complementing what the other person brings to the table. Treat differences not as obstacles but rather as valuable assets to be embraced. Unity and sharing ultimately strengthen everyone involved.

If you were starting your legal career again today, what would you tell your younger self?

If I could go back in time and speak to my younger self, I would recommend not to let self-doubt slow you down unnecessarily or hold you back — but be gentle with yourself. Wanting to do things well is, of course, a very good and essential drive. It pushes you to keep consistently high standards. But when that healthy drive turns into too much worry, it is important to notice it and ultimately let it go.

What would you say is the highlight of your career so far?

There have been many memorable moments throughout my career, but two in particular stand out when I look back and reflect.

The first is my work at the ICC Court, especially as Vice-President. That particular role gave me truly great and valuable insights into the world of international arbitration: the wide variety and diversity of cases, the exceptional quality of the people involved, and the significant responsibility of helping to shape dispute resolution at the highest level. It was a privilege to be a member of the ICC Court, one that I took very seriously.

The second highlight that stands out is my work as arbitrator in ICSID cases. Investment arbitration adds a unique dimension to the overall professional experience. The factual and legal complexity of the cases, the public interest that is at stake, and the wide variety of perspectives that one encounters in these proceedings make it a very special area of practice.

Looking ahead, what is on your professional horizon — and what would you encourage the next generation of female arbitration practitioners to put on theirs?

Looking ahead, I am very grateful for and proud of the great team that we have been able to build at HANEFELD over the years. Together with my valued colleagues, we currently focus on building what we call “HANEFELD Next Generation”, carrying forward the spirit and the values that define us as a firm and as a team, while taking on future opportunities and challenges head-on. It is very much a collective team effort that involves each and every person in our firm, and I am genuinely excited about where it will take us, continuing to grow and evolve and staying ahead of developments.

To the next generation of women in arbitration, I would recommend trusting deeply in your individual strengths, abilities, and legal interests, for those are ultimately what will distinguish you in this field. Look ahead to where things are going and put yourselves at the very front of these developments.

Coming to the last question: After a week of managing offices in Hamburg and Paris and presiding over billion-dollar disputes, how do you truly switch off?

Switching off is something that I had to consciously learn over time, but I now see and fully appreciate how important it really is for one's overall well-being and effectiveness in the long run. Regular sport, for instance, plays an important role in my weekly routine. But what I value most is the time that I spend with my son, family and friends.

More broadly, I find renewal and restoration in faith, travel, arts, and giving myself moments of quiet thought and reflection. And I love being together with people who have a good sense of humour and gratefulness. Luckily, one finds many such people in our arbitration community.

UNCITRAL Working Group III Report

Investor - State Dispute Settlement Reform

New York, 12-16 January 2026



The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group III, held its 53rd Session, employing an in-person format in New York. The live-stream was also available in all 6 official UN languages but did not allow for interventions and was for viewing and listening only.

In attendance were the following member States of the Working Group: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

States that are not members of the Commission, along with international governmental organisations, attended the session as observers and took part in the discussions. Invited international non-governmental organisations also participated as observers, sharing the perspectives of their organisations on topics where they could contribute expertise, experience, or concerns to support the deliberations. The Working Group had before it the following documents:

- i. annotated provisional agenda (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.258);
- ii. Draft Provisions on procedural and cross-cutting issues and annotations thereto (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.253, A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.254 and A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.262); and
- iii. draft guidelines on the calculation of damages and compensation in investor-State dispute settlement (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.255).

In addition, the following documents were made available:

- i. submission from the Governments of Viet Nam and Nigeria (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.261, in English); and
- ii. summary of the ninth intersessional meeting on ISDS reform submitted by the Government of Chile (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.263, in English and Spanish).

During its provision-by-provision deliberations, the UNCITRAL Working Group III considered a series of Draft Provisions addressing key aspects of Investor-State dispute settlement reform. These discussions covered Draft Provision 9 on the allocation of costs and Draft Provision 10 on counterclaims, followed by consideration of the form and implementation of the Draft Provisions. The Working Group further examined Draft Provision 11 on the consolidation and coordination of arbitrations, together with

Draft Provision 11bis specifically addressing consolidation. Additional deliberations focused on Draft Provision 12 concerning third-party funding, Draft Provision 22 on submissions by a non-disputing Treaty Party, and Draft Provision 13 on amicable settlement. The discussions concluded with an exchange of views on the way forward for advancing the reform process.

The overview below focuses on Draft Provisions 9 and 12, respectively on the allocation of costs and third-party funding, which received particular attention during the discussions. For more information, please refer to UNCITRAL’s website at the [Working Group III webpage](#).

A. Allocation of Costs and Related Issues

The discussions regarding allocation of costs began with a shared understanding among the delegates: Who pays for an arbitration — and under what circumstances — can significantly affect access to justice and the overall fairness of the process. Delegates therefore spent considerable time examining Draft Provision 9 which addresses the allocation of costs.

The draft sets out a general approach to allocating costs, factors tribunals may consider when deciding, and a special rule for cases that are dismissed early because they lack legal merit.

Discussions on Papers 253 and 262 continued to advance the development of draft procedural rules on the allocation of costs, with particular focus on Draft Provision 9. These discussions build on initial deliberations held in September in Chile on Paper 253, which resulted in Annotations 1–8 (Paper 254), and subsequent refinements reflected in Working Paper 262. The meeting addressed both the form and implementation of the proposed rules, seeking to balance predictability with the flexibility required across different arbitration frameworks.

A central issue was whether the rules should include a definition of “costs.” Delegates observed that definitions vary widely across arbitral rules, institutions, treaties, and jurisdictions, though there was general agreement that costs typically include tribunal fees and institutional expenses. The debate focused on whether a formal definition would enhance predictability or risk inconsistency across legal frameworks. The consensus was not to include a general definition. Instead, the determination of costs will be governed by the applicable procedural rules and underlying treaties, with Draft Provision 9 confirmed as a procedural rule subordinate to the governing treaty framework.

The treatment of success fees in allocating costs was a major talking point. Many delegates expressed concern that success fees should not be treated as recoverable costs, characterising them as a bonus rather than

a true cost of the proceedings. At the same time, it was recognised that fee structures differ widely across jurisdictions and that categorical exclusions could be easily circumvented through alternative arrangements. Delegates also noted overlaps with contingency fees and third-party funding.

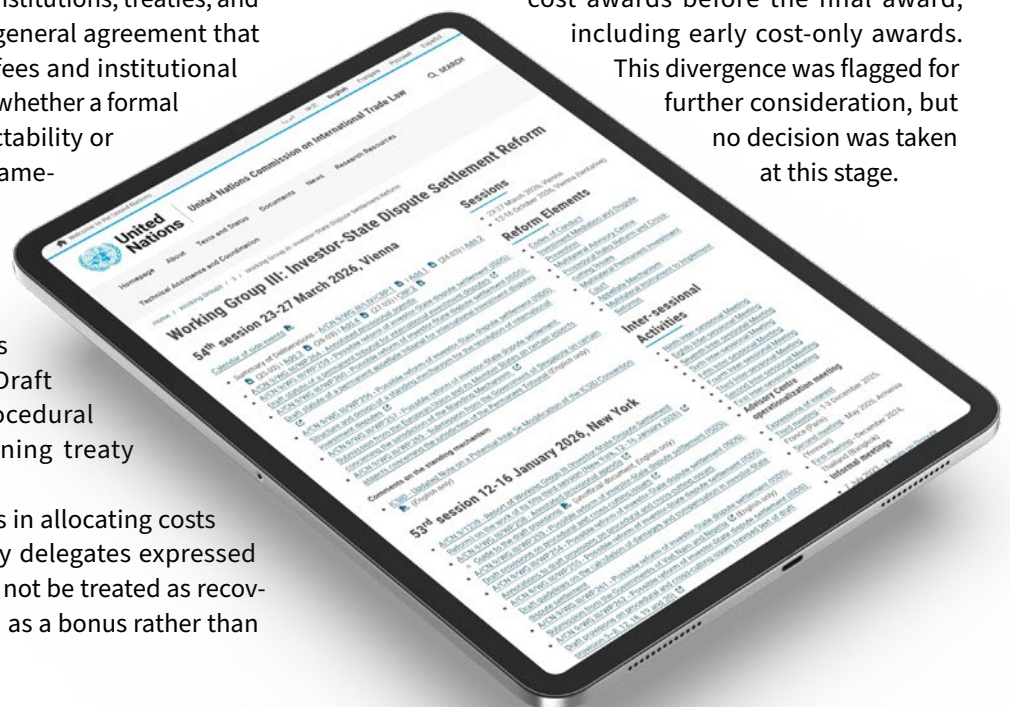
The prevailing view was to avoid an express exclusion. Instead, tribunals should retain discretion to assess the reasonableness of claimed costs on a case-by-case basis. While success fees were generally viewed as non-recoverable because they do not reflect the intrinsic value of the legal work performed, it was agreed that the final determination should rest with the tribunal, applying a reasonableness standard.

Delegates also discussed whether the Rules should further specify types of problematic conduct relevant to cost allocation, including excessive claims or defences, failure to cooperate in expediting proceedings, and refusal to explore amicable resolution or mediation. With respect to mediation, it was noted that mediation is not mandatory. It was also agreed that overly specific language to define problematic behaviour risked excluding other forms of inappropriate conduct not expressly listed. After extensive discussion, no further clarification was adopted, with the existing language considered sufficient and “reasonableness” retained as the governing standard.

Differences between ICSID and UNCITRAL approaches to cost allocation were also revisited. ICSID rules do not presume that the losing party bears costs, whereas UNCITRAL rules establish a presumption in favour of awarding costs to the prevailing party, subject to tribunal discretion. The Working Group agreed to retain the UNCITRAL approach, noting that arbitration outcomes are rarely binary and that parties are seldom entirely successful or unsuccessful.

Interim cost decisions were also considered. While ICSID practice generally does not permit interim cost decisions prior to a final award, UNCITRAL rules allow for cost awards before the final award, including early cost-only awards.

This divergence was flagged for further consideration, but no decision was taken at this stage.



For cases dismissed at an early stage due to lack of legal merit, the draft rules set a higher threshold for shifting costs. Costs may only be awarded in exceptional circumstances, a safeguard intended to ensure fairness and discourage misuse of early dismissal procedures.

Overall, Draft Provision 9 was confirmed as a procedural rule intentionally drafted in broad terms to provide guidance while preserving tribunal discretion. The Working Group favoured flexibility over prescriptive rules, particularly with respect to definitions of costs, success fees, and conduct-based cost allocation.

Draft Provision 9 was approved subject to revisions to Paragraph 2(d), which provides that the reasonableness of the costs claimed by the disputing parties should be assessed by considering, among other factors, the work performed and the difference between the costs claimed by each party. Paragraph 5 was also updated to clarify that expenses will not include costs that amount solely to a reward or bonus for legal representatives exceeding remuneration for work performed, or costs related to third-party funding.

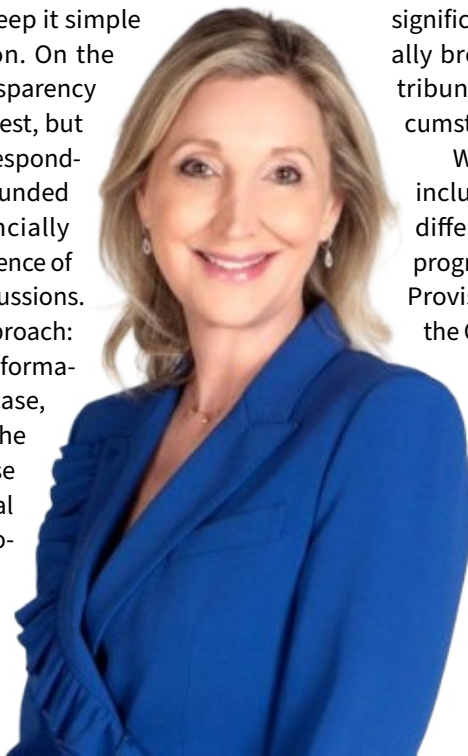
Importantly, the draft does not seek to define “costs,” reinforcing the decision to preserve tribunal discretion. Several issues, including interim cost decisions and the treatment of third-party funding, were identified for further consideration but were not resolved at this stage.

B. Third-Party Funding (TPF)

The Working Group engaged in lively discussions and compromises, starting with how TPF should be defined.

There was a suggestion to exclude intra-corporate funding and only count funding from completely unrelated parties. This idea did not gain traction. The group agreed that TPF can include situations where even a party’s own legal representative provides the funding. It was agreed that the definition should remain broad enough to capture all practical scenarios.

Disclosure sparked the most debate. On one hand, some members wanted to keep it simple and only require basic information. On the other hand, many argued that transparency is key—not just for conflicts of interest, but also to address situations where a respondent might not recover costs from a funded claimant, a funder benefits financially despite not being a party, or the presence of funding could affect settlement discussions. The group agreed on a balanced approach: funders must disclose important information, including who is funding the case, any related entities, and whether the funding arrangement affects the case outcome. Some terms like “beneficial owner” and “management of the proceeding” will be clarified to make it easier for funded parties to comply.



The delegates agreed that when and to whom to disclose was important and that timing matters. The funded parties need to disclose information to the other disputing party when arbitration begins—or immediately after entering a funding arrangement. Disclosure to the Tribunal should happen as soon as it is formed. Flexibility is allowed for updates, so new information should be shared as promptly as possible without creating unnecessary pressure.

In discussing public disclosure, the delegates further agreed that while transparency is important, so is confidentiality. The Tribunal can make information public, but only after consulting the parties and following applicable rules. Measures will be taken to ensure sensitive or confidential information is protected.

The Tribunal can request further information if necessary, and it decides what is relevant for the case. This includes the number of other proceedings funded by the same funder, which helps prevent potential conflicts of interest and ensures fairness.

To ensure compliance, the Tribunal can take various measures if a party fails to provide required information. This could include ordering security for costs, suspending proceedings, or, in extreme cases, terminating the case. The goal is to allow the Tribunal flexibility while maintaining accountability.

The key takeaways included TPF broadly defined but clearly regulated. Funded parties must provide transparent but manageable disclosure. The Tribunal has flexible powers to request additional information or make it public responsibly. There is a framework for sanctions ensuring parties adhere to disclosure rules. In short, the Working Group’s goal was to strike a careful balance between transparency, fairness, and protecting sensitive information.

C. The Way Forward

Overall, the discussions reaffirmed a commitment to fairness, flexibility, and transparency, and marked significant progress. The draft rules are intentionally broad, offering guidance while preserving tribunals’ ability to respond to the specific circumstances of each dispute.

Work will continue on outstanding issues, including the interaction of provisions across different legal systems. Although substantial progress was made, it was agreed that the Draft Provisions are not yet ready for submission to the Commission and require additional time for finalisation. The Secretariat was therefore asked to consult with conference management services on whether additional Working Group resources could support an extended Commission session.

Submitted by ArbitralWomen Member,
Katherine Raynal

ArbitralWomen at Riyadh International Disputes Week 2026

From Vision to Impact: Women Driving Change in International Disputes



Speakers of Clyde & Co and ArbitralWomen’s event: from left to right Fatima Balfaqeeh, Nata Ghibradze, Rebeca Mosquera, Ms Cherie Blair CBE, KC Ms Paula Hodges KC, Nesreen Osman and Sara Aalamri

ArbitralWomen convened its community in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 5 February 2026 for an event held in collaboration with Corporate Subscriber **Clyde & Co** as part of Riyadh International Disputes Week.

The event, titled “From Vision to Impact: Women Driving Change in International Disputes,” brought together practitioners from across the disputes community for a morning focused on leadership, professional development, and the evolving role of women in international dispute resolution.

The programme opened with welcome remarks from **Rebeca Mosquera**, President of ArbitralWomen, who reflected on the importance of building institutions through mentorship, professionalism, leadership, and on the responsibility of creating spaces where experience and impact are shared across generations.

The opening remarks were followed by a fireside conversation with Cherie Blair CBE KC, Co-Founder and Chair of Omnia Strategy LLP, moderated by **Nesreen Osman**, ArbitralWomen Board Member and Partner at **Pinsent**

Masons. The discussion offered candid reflections on leadership, professional resilience, and the importance of sustaining long-term engagement within the legal profession.

The session then continued with a



ArbitralWomen board members Nesreen Osman and Nata Ghibradze, and ArbitralWomen President Rebeca Mosquera with event attendees



Audience at Clyde & CO and ArbitralWomen's event

panel discussion examining the influence of female leadership in international disputes. The panel, moderated by **Nata Ghibradze**, Secretary of the Board of ArbitralWomen and Counsel at **Hogan Lovells**, featured:

- Paula Hodges KC, Independent Arbitrator;
- Fatima Balfaqeeh, Managing Partner at Balfaqeeh Advocates & Legal Consultants; and
- **Sara Aalamri**, Partner at Clyde & Co and Vice Chair of the ICC Saudi National Committee for Arbitration and ADR.

The discussion explored practical pathways to leadership, regional and international perspectives on professional growth, and the importance of mentorship and institutional support in strengthening diversity within dispute resolution.

The event concluded with networking among participants and continued exchanges on professional collaboration and future initiatives in the region.

The strong response to the event underscored the importance of continuing to create forums where experiences and perspectives can be shared openly, strengthening both the profession and the institutions that support it.

Submitted by Rebeca Mosquera, President of ArbitralWomen



Nesreen Osman, ArbitralWomen Board Member and Ms Cherie Blair CBE, KC



Nata Ghibradze, Sara Aalamri, Fatima Balfaqeeh and Ms Paula Hodges KC

International Women’s Day 2026:

#GiveToGain – Micro-Mentor Moments: One Sentence Can Change a Career



To mark International Women’s Day 2026, ArbitralWomen launched its campaign #GiveToGain – Micro-Mentor Moments, an initiative designed to spotlight one of the most powerful assets in the international arbitration community: the willingness to share knowledge, time, and opportunity.

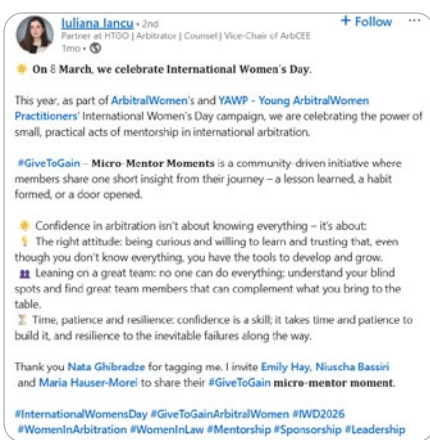
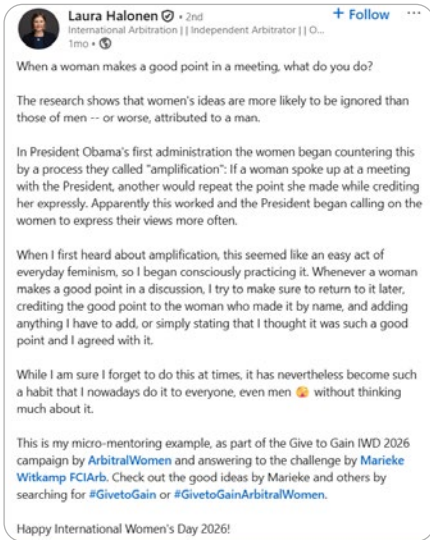
Mentorship in arbitration does not always require formal programmes or long meetings. Sometimes, a single sentence of encouragement, a thoughtful introduction, or a timely recommendation can transform someone’s trajectory. Through this campaign, members of the

arbitration community shared concise, practical insights drawn from their professional journeys—reminding us that even the smallest act of mentorship can have a lasting impact.

Over the course of 7–10 days around International Women’s Day, ArbitralWomen Members and supporters published a series of **Micro-Mentor Moments**: short, actionable reflections from leaders across the field. Each contribution distilled a lesson learned through experience—moments that have shaped careers and that can help open doors for others.

Several contributors emphasised the importance of **actively creating opportunities for women**. **Katherine Bell**, Partner at Schellenberg Wittmer, highlighted the role senior practitioners can play by recommending women for speaking roles—particularly when they are not in the room to recommend themselves—and by forwarding concrete opportunities rather than simply offering advice.

Similarly, **Nata Ghibradze**, Counsel at Hogan Lovells, encouraged senior practitioners to uplift women by introducing them directly to clients and



fully ready quietly changed her professional trajectory. Feeling ready and being ready are not always the same, she observed; often confidence follows action rather than preceding it.

Mireze Philippe, co-founder of ArbitralWomen emphasised resilience and persistence: never allow intimidation to hold you back, demonstrate your expertise, and if one door closes, find another. When speaking opportunities were unavailable early in her career, she turned to publishing—creating visibility and influence through scholarship instead.

Across the many Micro-Mentor Moments shared, several themes emerged:

- **Mentorship can be simple but powerful.** A mentor once asked a question during a performance review that changed how a young professional perceived herself. The moment mattered less for the specific advice given and more for the feeling of being truly seen and valued.
- **Opportunity often comes from connection.** Lifting one's head from the work and engaging with the wider arbitration community—through conferences, initiatives, and thought leadership—can open unexpected doors.
- **Visibility matters alongside competence.** Showing up in the right professional spaces and building relationships can lead to referrals, recommendations, and opportunities that might otherwise remain out of reach.
- **Authenticity should guide career choices.** Decisions rooted in personal values, curiosity, and ambition tend to lead to the most fulfilling paths.
- **Celebrate and support other women.** Recognising the brilliance, generosity, and kindness of the women around us helps build a stronger and more inclusive professional community.

Perhaps the most important takeaway from the [#GiveToGain](#) campaign is that mentorship does not have to be

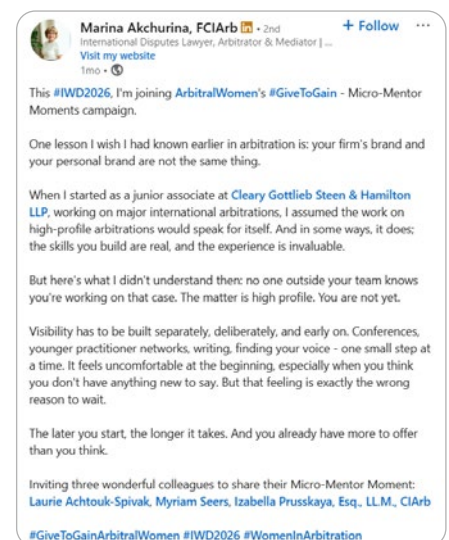
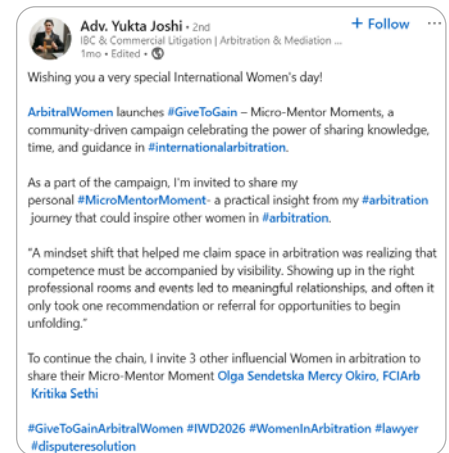
grand or formal to be meaningful. The most impactful mentor-mentee relationships often grow organically—from conversations, introductions, encouragement, or a willingness to advocate for someone else.

Each Micro-Mentor Moment shared during this campaign demonstrates how **one insight, one introduction, or one act of advocacy can multiply opportunities.**

As the international arbitration community continues to grow and evolve, initiatives like [#GiveToGain](#) remind us that progress often begins with a simple gesture: sharing what we have learned and using our voices to create space for others.

Because sometimes, **one sentence of mentorship is all it takes to change a career.**

Submitted by Elena Guillet,
ArbitralWomen Board Member



professional networks, sharing professional opportunities, and advocating for them when they are not present.

Others reflected on the **transformational role of mentors**. For **Anna Kelly**, Associate Director at **HKA**, the generosity of mentors who shared not only their time and guidance but also their networks fundamentally shaped her professional journey, providing both access to opportunities and the confidence to excel in them.

A similar sentiment was echoed by **Rekha Rangachari**, Executive Director at New York International Arbitration Center, who shared a simple yet powerful lesson: *anyone can open one door*. A single moment of support can make a critical difference, and the responsibility to keep opening doors should be carried forward.

Many reflections focused on **confidence and stepping into opportunity**. **Clea Bigelow-Nuttall**, Shareholder at Greenberg Traurig shared how saying yes to responsibilities before feeling

Energy Disputes in an Era of Peak Uncertainty



Emma Johnson

On 2 December 2025 we hosted a panel discussion on the topic “Energy Disputes in an Era of Peak Uncertainty”. The event was part of the inaugural London Arbitration Week.

We explored various recent geopolitical events and the impact they have had in the energy sector. Our speakers included Katja Yafimava (Oxford Institute for Energy Studies), Oisin Brady (Gaoithe Renewable Energy), Tania Tholot (Brattle Group)

and Peter Cameron (Queen Mary University of London). The discussion ranged over topics from pricing volatility to LNG non-supply, delays and cancellations of renewable projects and the impact of digitalisation.

We summarise 8 key takeaways below:

The ‘Energy Trilemma’ (the need for energy security, increasing decarbonisation and equity in terms of access and affordability of energy) is under immense stress

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Europe’s consequent imposition of sanctions and distancing of itself from Russian gas and the drive to get new renewables projects online as quickly as possible has exacerbated disputes risk. Increased reliance in Europe on imported LNG has led to sellers taking advantage of price arbitrage opportunities. Buyers are being left short when contractual flexibility has been used to divert supplies to

other markets and supply routes have suffered physical attacks.

Oil and gas price volatility has led to commercial disruption, not just in the fossil fuels sector but also in the renewables sector

In the UK, the setting of gas prices by reference to oil, and of power prices by reference to gas prices has meant that energy price volatility has led to disputes. These relate not only to price but also to supply under many long-term contracts. Sellers are looking to maximise their returns, including by wilfully breaching contracts and selling at higher spot prices. They have developed creative legal arguments based on force majeure, hardship and change in law. The United States’ imposition of tariffs and related global trade chaos has further strained supply chains. Many companies are re-thinking their energy transition plans, with the consequence of stalled and even cancelled projects.



Regulatory change remains a key driver of disputes

These disputes are not just against states but also between commercial parties. Changing governments, policies and commitments to renewable energy impact investor appetite and the economics underpinning many renewables projects. Increasingly interventionist resource policies in respect of critical minerals, including rare earths, vital to the transition are anticipated to drive disputes at both state and commercial level as supply chains are jeopardised.

Grid connection and stability issues are paving the way for a new frontier of renewables disputes

Attempts by states to address such challenges, including by reforms affecting how grid connections are allocated, will only lead to further short-term uncertainty and risk. Battery energy storage system (BESS) and hybrid projects might provide a solution, but will also increase interface risk and muddy the waters in the event of dispute.

Whilst data centres are contributing to demand, their integrated power generation and storage could be used to contribute to supply

Hybrid data centre/renewable energy projects come with their own risk profile; however, not least because they involve new players

with less experience operating in the energy sector and perhaps a greater appetite for disputes. They also consume energy in different ways and supply to the grid would likely be intermittent, which may challenge grid infrastructure.

Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine and a potential US LNG glut is unlikely to mean that energy sector disputes “dry up”

Energy and power prices remain high, and gas remains crucial both for the energy transition and in other sectors such as fertiliser production. Europe still lacks adequate infrastructure to take full advantage of an abundance of US LNG which will in any event flow to wherever prices are highest and not necessarily to Europe.

Arbitration will remain the preferred forum for resolution of many energy sector disputes

It remains the best means of obtaining a neutral and readily enforceable decision for players in many jurisdictions, but there is an onus on those involved in the process to ensure it remains an efficient and legitimate one.

AI will drive further change and disputes in the energy sector

This is not just because of the energy required to support the development and use of AI technology but also as it will be used to develop and deliver novel ways of addressing long-standing problems in the energy sector.

Our international arbitration practice has experience of dealing with these issues and the disputes they lead to. Do get in touch if you are interested in hearing more.

Submitted by ArbitralWomen Member, Emma Johnson

Lost in Legal Translation: Legal Culture and Language as Risk Factors in International Arbitration and Litigation



As cross-border contracts and treaties multiply, international dispute resolution faces a critical but often overlooked risk: linguistic ambiguity and conceptual misalignment. International disputes typically involve parties, counsel, and adjudicators from diverse linguistic and legal backgrounds, making language itself a source of misunderstanding. Similarly, ‘legal culture’ (the assumptions, practices, and interpretive habits ingrained in different legal systems) further shapes how participants behave, perceive, and understand the contracts, treaties, and proceedings. Misunderstandings of translated legal terms during negotiation and drafting pose systemic risks to fairness, enforceability, and, in some cases, parties’ access to justice. Even when parties share the same language, underlying legal-cultural and language

differences can lead to divergent interpretations of key terms.

This post examines how language and legal culture intersect in international disputes by highlighting cases

where translations and cultural assumptions influenced outcomes and proposing practical guidance for drafters, counsel, and arbitrators. Rather than focusing on the [impact](#) and [import-](#)



Sophia Herbst and Camille Ramos-Klee

tance [↗](#) of the procedural language or translations during a proceeding, this post emphasises drafting and the meaning of the text being translated. As international disputes increasingly span languages and legal traditions, effective communication and mutual understanding are essential for the fairness and efficiency of dispute resolution. Preventative measures at the contract formation stage can reduce the likelihood that ambiguities later jeopardise parties' rights and obligations.

Language and Legal Culture: The Foundations of a Misunderstanding

The complexity of language lies with the fact that a word's meaning does not exist in a vacuum – it derives meaning from cultural and legal context. In this sense, a “perfect” translation is a myth. Even speakers of the same language can understand a word differently and moving between different languages, cultures, and legal systems multiplies misinterpretation risks.

Each legal system develops its own terminology, often tied to unique doctrines or institutions. Where concepts lack precise equivalents in other languages, translations require more than literal renderings. An accurate legal translation must convey the

sense of the term in what the parties agree is the target legal jurisdiction – a challenge that, admittedly, may prove near impossible. In this sense, the goal is not a literal translation, but one that conveys legal meaning [without masking divergent legal concepts](#) [↗](#).

Legal culture encompasses the various background assumptions, methods, and value systems that lawyers and neutrals internalise from their home jurisdiction's training and experience. In international disputes, practitioners from different jurisdictions often interpret identical words or facts differently. The sharpest divergence is often between common-law and civil-law attorneys. These two traditions approach procedure and interpretation in distinct ways, which can create mutual incomprehension if not reconciled.

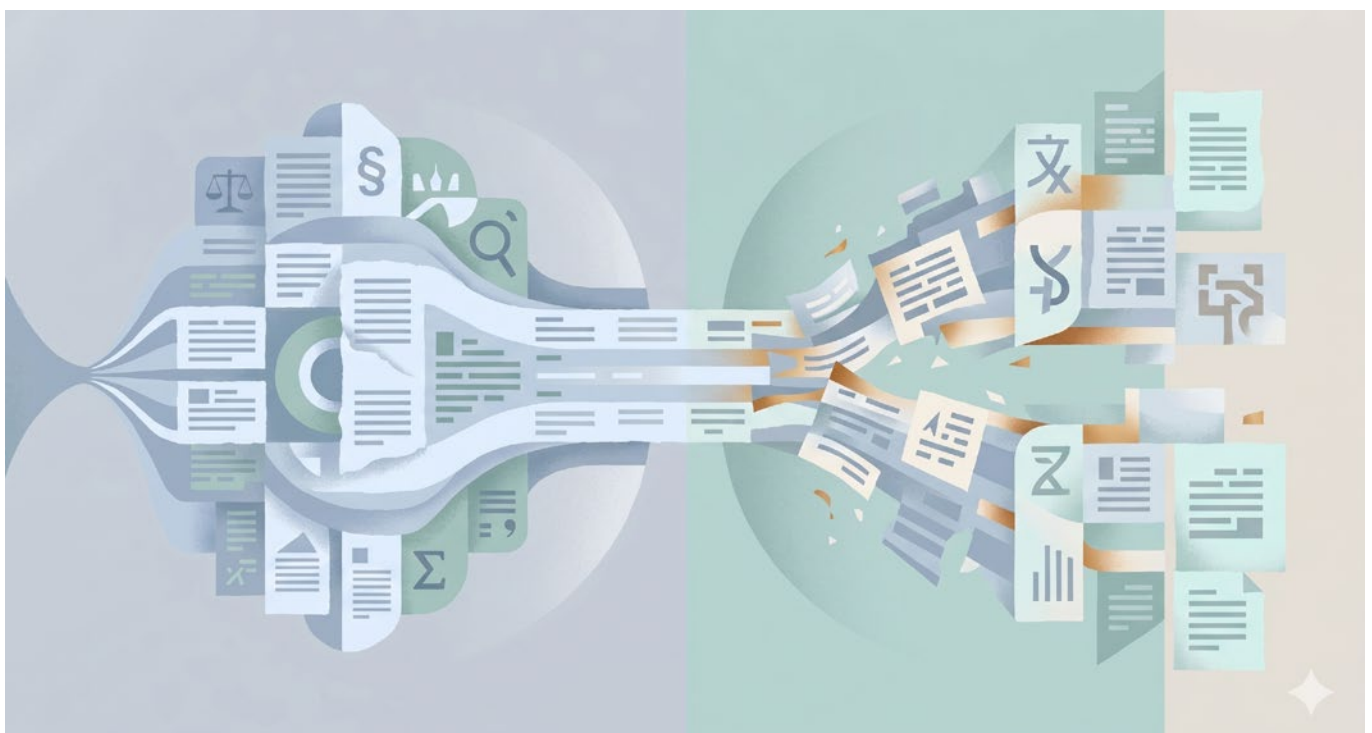
The cases summarised below underscore the broader risk that, when parties and neutrals have different legal languages or legal cultures, they may interpret the same words in divergent ways or infer legal obligations the other party never intended.

Notable Cases

An illustration of translation risk comes from the [Elettronica Sicula \(“ELSI”\)](#) [🔗](#) case before the ICJ. The

United States alleged that Italy had effected a “taking” under the U.S.-Italy Friendship, Commerce and Navigation Treaty, while Italy pointed to the Italian version of the text, which used the term “*espropriati*,” more accurately translating to “expropriated.” While a taking defines as “any host governmental action that negatively affects the economic value of the foreign investment,” and is [broader than formal expropriation](#) [↗](#), an expropriation generally refers to a host State's actions interfering with tangible or intangible property rights or interests. Although the ICJ resolved the case on other grounds, the dispute illustrates how parties can believe they agree to the same protections or standards, but, in fact, do not.

Translation differences can even determine whether arbitration is available. In [Kılıç İnşaat İthalat İhracat Sanayi v Ticaret A.Ş. v. Turkmenistan](#) [🔗](#) (“Kılıç”), the ICSID tribunal examined Article VII.2 of the Turkey-Turkmenistan BIT, provided in both English and Russian. Due to a translation difference, the English text could be interpreted as making recourse to the local courts optional whereas the literal, English translation of the Russian text made it a precondition to arbitration. The *Kılıç* tribunal applied Articles 31 through 33 of the [Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties](#) [🔗](#) (“Vienna Convention”) and



concluded that the Russian version's requirement was mandatory. Thus, the tribunal lacked jurisdiction.

In 2015, the ICSID tribunal in *Muhammet Çap Sehil İnşaat Endüstri ve Ticaret Ltd. Sti. v. Turkmenistan* [\[2\]](#) ("Sehil"), was tasked with determining whether the same Article VII.2 of the BIT established a mandatory or permissive local courts step prior to arbitration with a one-year limit for the local courts to render a final decision. The tribunal determined that the interpretation of Article VII.2 was a matter of jurisdiction and, applying the Vienna Convention to address the ambiguity of the provision, noted that "[t]he lack of clarity in the text is probably due to the fact that... Turkey relied on the English text it had produced and Turkmenistan signed the Russian version — which had been translated from the English version." Seeking to minimise the risk of a denial of justice scenario or protracted litigation, the tribunal concluded that Article VII.2 should be read as optional after the cooling-off period. The tribunal acknowledged that its reading differed from that of the *Kılıç* tribunal but declined to express views on the decision, deferring instead to the evidence and arguments put before it.

Finally, in 2016, a separate ICSID tribunal in *İçkale İnşaat Limited Şirketi v. Turkmenistan* [\[3\]](#) interpreted the same provision as establishing a procedural obligation related to admissibility rather than jurisdiction. The parties disagreed regarding the interpretation of Article VII.2 of the BIT, as in *Kılıç*, with the claimant arguing investors could choose between local courts and arbitration, while Turkmenistan maintained that submission to local courts was mandatory unless the courts failed to provide a final decision within a year. After analysing the English and Russian texts, which had differing lists of authentic texts, the tribunal concluded first that the Russian text was an authentic version, then attempted to reconcile differences between the Russian and English texts concluding that, "the meaning that best reconciles the two texts is that only the English and Russian version of the [BIT] are considered authentic." The tribunal

was then tasked with determining which text's local remedies provision would control and ultimately concluded that Article VII.2 established a one-year admissibility limitation rather than jurisdictional requirement during which the investor must pursue local remedies.

These examples underscore how a drafting error can result in inconsistent and consequential decisions once a dispute arises.

Recommendations for Drafters and Counsel

The above cases show that linguistic and cultural mismatches in drafting can have far-reaching consequences. Several practical measures can mitigate these risks:

- **Draft clearly and define key terms.** Vagueness is the enemy of effective translation. Use definitions and explanatory clauses to specify what terms mean. Where a text is drafted with built-in ambiguities in one language, such ambiguity is necessarily reflected in any subsequent translation and can lead to jurisdictional disputes and inconsistent rulings.
- **Designate a controlling language.** For multilingual agreements, include a clause designating which language version prevails in case of discrepancy. Supremacy clauses provide clear starting points for interpretation and prevent disputes over which language version should control. When no such clause exists, parties necessarily hand the task to the tribunal to reconcile texts using contract and treaty interpretation guidelines to varying results.
- **Engage bilingual and comparative lawyers early.** Involve lawyers fluent in the relevant languages and familiar with the relevant legal systems. Cross-cultural collaboration is crucial. Involving such practitioners from the counterparty's jurisdiction can surface potential pitfalls.
- **Avoid "the trap of hidden meaning" and test translations.** During drafting, test translations with practitioners from the target jurisdiction

to ensure that the language conveys the intended meaning.

- **Provide explanatory annexes when needed.** For complex terms or provisions, include interpretive annexes that explain how particular terms should be understood.

Recommendations for Arbitrators

In the absence of the precautions outlined above, tribunals face the complex task of determining which version of an agreement or related document should prevail. The following considerations may guide arbitrators in addressing these linguistic challenges:

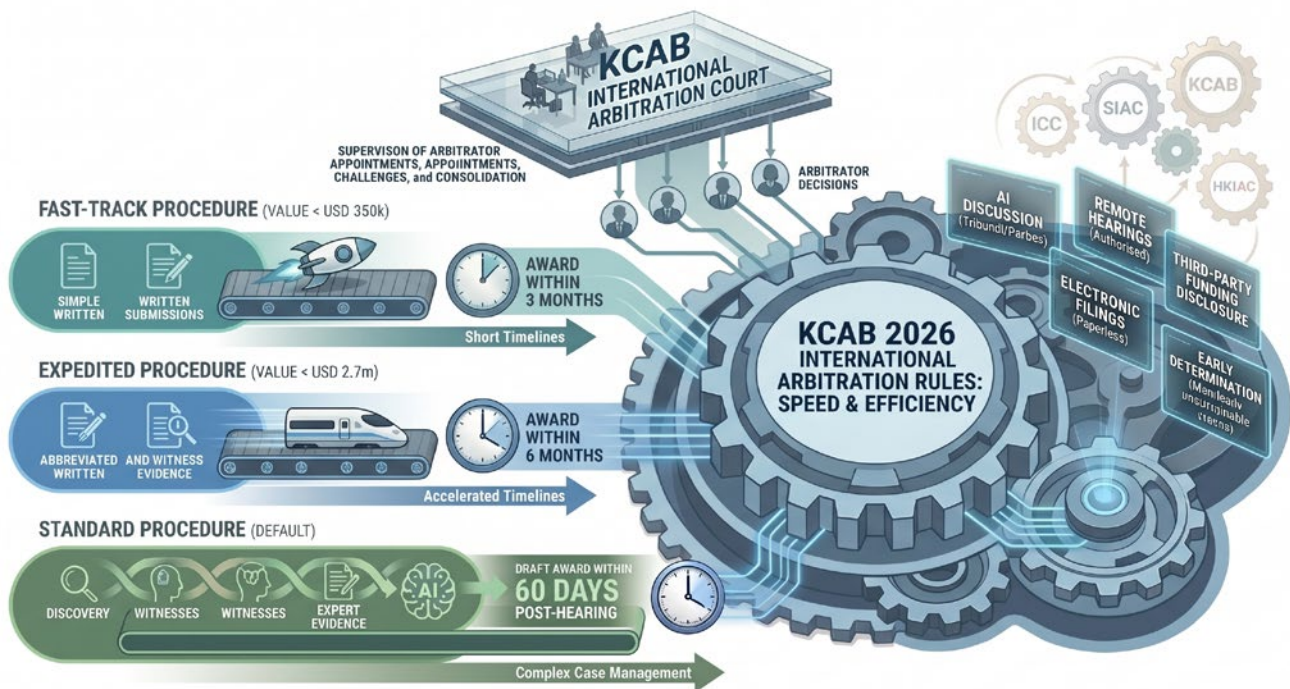
- **Determine the authenticity of all versions** when no supremacy clause exists. Even though many parties now include such clauses, tribunals must assess whether each version of an agreement or related document was intended to be equally authentic.
- **Refer to Articles 31–33 of the Vienna Convention** when applicable, as they provide interpretive principles useful for multilingual treaty interpretation.
- **Seek to reconcile authentic texts** where possible, considering whether diverging interpretations can be harmonised to produce a consistent meaning rather than conflicting outcomes.

Conclusion

Overall, differences in language and legal culture may go overlooked or merely underappreciated, but present critical risk factors in international disputes. Legal meaning is shaped by cultural context as well as language and, accordingly, dispute resolution practices and procedures must account for linguistic ambiguity, conceptual divergence, and other drafting asymmetries. Parties should take care to treat language choices and multi-lingual drafting with the same care and precision as other aspects of the agreements.

Submitted by ArbitralWomen Members
Sophia Herbst and Camille Ramos-Klee

KCAB's 2026 International Arbitration Rules: What Practitioners and In-House Counsel Need to Know



On 1 January 2026, the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB) brought into force its revised International Arbitration Rules. The new Rules strengthen procedural efficiency, transparency and flexibility, and reflect the broader shift among leading arbitral institutions towards prioritising procedural efficiency. While the previous 2016 Rules had already positioned KCAB as an increasingly significant venue and institution for cross-border disputes, the 2026 update signals a further step towards global best practice.

One of the most consequential changes is the establishment of the KCAB International Arbitration Court. This new body now oversees arbitrator appointments and challenges, as well as consolidation decisions, responsibilities that previously sat largely with the KCAB Secretariat. KCAB also now mandates award scrutiny, with the Secretary-General able to suggest form modifications and draw attention to points of substance, and refer

awards to the Court in appropriate cases. This reform aligns KCAB with governance structures familiar to counsel practicing under the ICC Rules, where the ICC Court exercises substantial supervisory authority, as SIAC's Court of Arbitration model also does. For parties and counsel, it is hoped that this structural shift translates into



Jess Webster

greater predictability and institutional oversight. KCAB has openly signaled its wish to move away from previous perceptions that the Secretariat-led decision-making under the 2016 Rules lacked transparency.

In an effort to bolster procedural efficiency, the 2026 Rules now offer three distinct procedural tracks, each with its own tempo and structure appropriate to the value and/or complexity of the dispute:

- At the bottom of the scale is the **Fast-Track Procedure**, newly introduced for smaller-value disputes (under KRW 500 million (approximately USD 350,000) unless otherwise agreed). This is a strikingly high-speed mechanism: Tribunals must render the final award within three months of constitution, and proceedings are designed to be short, based only on written submissions, and without fact witness or expert evidence or document production.

- The next level up is the **Expedited Procedure**, which already existed under the 2016 Rules but has been expanded to cover disputes up to KRW 4 billion (approximately USD 2,730,000). While potentially longer than the Fast-Track (awards must be issued within six months of tribunal constitution), this procedure functions as a streamlined process with truncated written submissions and witness evidence, tighter case management and a generally accelerated timetable.
- Outside these two mechanisms lies the current standard procedure, which remains the default for more complex or high-value disputes. Even here, however, the 2026 Rules impose more rigorous case management: The Rules shorten the time for arbitrator appointments where the Court is required to form the tribunal / select a single arbitrator, and tribunals must issue a draft award within 60 days of the last hearing or filing, promoting greater predictability in award issuance. While this is a notably short period (compared to, for example, SIAC's 90 days or HKIAC's three-month window) and is likely to be welcomed by parties, it seems likely that tribunals will seek and be given more time by parties when required, especially considering that this procedure applies to the highest value and/or most complicated disputes going through KCAB.

The introduction of an express provision permitting early determination of claims represents another important development. The new Rules now explicitly empower tribunals to dispose of claims that are manifestly unsustainable or without legal merit. This procedure has long been a feature of the SIAC Rules, where early dismissal has been used to eliminate untenable claims at the outset, and HKIAC has already adopted similar powers. With the 2026 Rules, KCAB gives practitioners a better platform to seek early dismissal, whether to remove weak claims efficiently or pressure opposing parties into clarifying or narrowing their case at an early stage.



The new Rules also codify practices that have increasingly become standard in international arbitration since the COVID-19 pandemic. Remote hearings, electronic filings, electronic signatures and a generally less paper-based approach are now expressly authorised. While the 2016 Rules accommodated some aspects of virtual practice, they were not written with the expectation that remote advocacy and digital document handling would be the norm. The 2026 Rules now place KCAB on equal footing with the ICC and SIAC, both of which updated their rules in recent years to formalise virtual hearings and digital processes. For counsel, this means that the 2026 Rules reflect more closely the new reality of running complex cross-border disputes and multinational teams' increasing use of technology.

Other changes reflecting recent developments in arbitration practice include an express provision encouraging the tribunal to discuss with the parties how AI should be used during the arbitration, and a requirement for parties to disclose third-party funding

arrangements. KCAB has also refined its provisions on consolidation and joinder, offering greater clarity and flexibility for cases arising from complex project structures which can be particularly common in construction, energy, and infrastructure disputes, categories which have historically been significant in KCAB's own caseload and other disputes involving Korean parties worldwide.

Taken together, the 2026 Rules bring KCAB into closer harmony with the procedural architecture seen in the leading arbitration institutions while having certain features, particularly the multi-tiered procedural tracks and condensed tribunal appointment timelines, that position KCAB as a distinctly efficient option. For practitioners, the overall effect is a set of rules that positions KCAB as even more international, more transparent, and noticeably faster in pace if parties adopt the expediting measures on offer.

Submitted by ArbitralWomem member
Jess Webster, Vinson & Elkins RLLP

UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)

83rd session (16 to 20 February 2026), New York

The primary focus of the 83rd session was to continue its deliberations regarding

- i. awards in electronic form, finalising the additions to the [Explanatory Note and the Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings](#); and
- ii. electronic notices, continuing discussions on a provision specifying that notices of arbitration in electronic form were permissible, consistent with the principle of non-discrimination, as well as proposals for language addressing delivery and receipt issues.

In addition to the Working Group's formal agenda (II), the first one and a half days of the session included

a colloquium on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in dispute resolution and on remote arbitration and mediation procedures (I).

The colloquium gathered practitioners, institutions and experts to exchange views on emerging technological developments and their implications for arbitration and mediation practice.

Throughout the week, the Working Group engaged in detailed discussions on legal, procedural and practical issues arising from the increasing use of digital technologies in international dispute resolution, with the aim to formulate a recommendation on possible future work for consideration by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session, in 2026.

A. Key discussions

i. Amendments to the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (MAL)

The discussion concerned editorial and substantive amendments to the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (MAL), particularly regarding electronic arbitral awards:

- i. A minor editorial proposal suggested inserting the indefinite article “a” in article 2(g) and (i) so the phrase would read “*by means of a data message*.”
- ii. There were diverging views on whether article 34 should explicitly state that an award cannot be set aside simply because it is in electronic form. Supporters argued this would reinforce the principle of non-discrimination between electronic and paper awards, while others feared it could disrupt article 34's structure or imply that electronic form might otherwise be relevant.
- iii. The Working Group also debated whether to retain the word “*solely*” in provisions addressing electronic awards. Some saw it as important to clarify that electronic form alone cannot justify setting aside or refusing enforcement, while others thought it might create ambiguity. Several drafting alternatives were proposed to simplify or clarify the

wording. The Working Group deleted the first reference to “*in electronic form*” in article 35(3), leaving the sentence: “*An award shall not be set aside solely on the ground that it is in electronic form.*”

- iv. The Working Group discussed whether to delete the phrase “*in writing*” in article 35(1) of the Model Law. While some argued its removal would align the provision with the New York Convention and allow greater flexibility, others warned it could create confusion or imply that oral applications are acceptable. The Group ultimately decided to retain “*in writing*,” clarifying that it includes electronic communications.

ii. Additions to the Explanatory Note to the MAL

The discussion also focused on revisions to the Explanatory Note explaining amendments aimed at explicitly recognising arbitral awards and communications in electronic form. These amendments (to articles 2, 3, 7, 31, and 35) reflect principles from UNCITRAL electronic commerce texts, particularly non-discrimination against electronic documents, while leaving technical requirements (e.g., authentication, integrity) to national law.

The Group agreed on revised explanatory paragraphs outlining that the amendments clarify the validity of electronic awards, notices, and com-

Sophie Davin



munications, allow awards to be issued electronically with party consent (or absent objection), and ensure that recognition or enforcement cannot be denied solely because an award is in electronic form.

The Working Group emphasised that Notes are intended for practitioners to navigate varying legal regimes and should remain neutral, without favouring paper awards. Concerns were raised about wording that implied a lack of “originality” for electronic awards, and alternative phrasings were proposed to avoid misinterpretation.

It was suggested that key information from proposed footnotes be incorporated into the main text to ensure practitioners receive a complete and balanced view, while keeping references concise and avoiding unnecessary detail. Additional drafting improvements included acknowledging modern technological advances and addressing specific requirements for electronic signatures alongside traditional wet-ink signatures.

The Working Group agreed on text clarifying that arbitral awards may be issued on paper or electronically. Electronic awards can enhance efficiency and facilitate distribution, storage, and retrieval, but some jurisdictions or institutions still require paper or impose specific electronic requirements. Tribunals are advised to consult parties regarding applicable rules, certified copies, or signature requirements, and to consider practical and legal implications, including timelines.

The note will be titled “*Paper or Electronic Form of Awards*”, inserted as Note 21 after a revised Note 20, with subsequent notes renumbered accordingly.

iii. Electronic Notices of Arbitration

The Working Group also considered the use of electronic communications in initiating arbitral proceedings, including the possibility of formalising guidance on electronic notices of arbitration.

Key aspects of the discussion.

The discussion focused on whether and how electronic communications should be recognised for delivery of written communications under the UNCITRAL Model Law (MAL):

- i. Some participants argued that detailed rules on delivery should remain in domestic procedural law, suggesting that the MAL should only state the principle that electronic communications are permissible.
- ii. One proposal allowed delivery by electronic communication to an address designated by the addressee or authorised by the tribunal, modelled on the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, with special caution for notices of arbitration because they initiate proceedings and trigger deadlines.
- iii. Others proposed a simpler rule stating only that

delivery includes transmission by electronic communication, to keep flexibility for different jurisdictions.

- iv. Concerns were raised about default rules creating presumptions of receipt, especially for notices of arbitration; suggestions included using official registers or previously used communication addresses.
- v. A final proposal suggested integrating electronic communications directly into Article 3(1)(a) so that electronic transmission with proof of sending would be treated similarly to personal or postal delivery, preserving the existing structure while adding electronic methods.

The Working Group discussed clarifying provisions on written communications under the Model Law, focusing on who may designate the relevant address, the use of the term “electronic address” to maintain technological neutrality, and how tribunals could authorise an address. It was suggested that parties, rather than tribunals, should designate addresses, and notices of arbitration should be excluded from the provision. Minor textual adjustments were also proposed for consistency across articles.

The Working Group agreed that written communications are deemed received when delivered personally, at a place of business or residence, or transmitted electronically to a specifically designated address that provides a record of transmission. If delivery is not possible after reasonable inquiry, the communication is deemed received if sent to the last-known address by registered letter or other recorded means. Receipt occurs on the day of delivery or electronic transmission.

For the Explanatory Note, the Working Group confirmed that electronic communications transmitted to a party-designated address are considered received on the day of transmission. The term “usually” was clarified to avoid implying that the opposing party could unilaterally designate the address. The Working Group also agreed to update the MAL title to Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration and to renumber the Explanatory Note consecutively.



B. Colloquium on Artificial Intelligence

The Colloquium was held on February 16 and 17 and included three panels:

- i. **Panel 1 on “Arbitrators and the use of artificial intelligence (impact on recognition and enforce-**



ment”: this panel discussed the use of artificial intelligence (AI) by arbitrators and its potential impact on recognition and enforcement of awards. Institutional perspectives highlighted ongoing initiatives and guidelines from arbitral institutions and organisations to address concerns about AI use in arbitration. It was noted that the rapid evolution of AI may make comprehensive guidance difficult, suggesting that harmonising existing guidelines could be more practical. Participants proposed that UNCITRAL could explore issues such as categorising AI uses in arbitration, developing model clauses and procedural tools on disclosure, confidentiality, and safeguards, and providing guidance on due process, equality of arms, and arbitrators’ cognitive independence. Attention was also drawn to potential legal questions regarding accountability, liability, and the compatibility of AI-assisted decision-making with existing frameworks for recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards.

- ii. **Panel 2 on “Use of artificial intelligence in mediation and remote mediation”**: this panel discussed the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in mediation, noting that it can improve efficiency and access to justice, particularly for administrative tasks, while more advanced uses remain experimental and less reliable. Concerns were raised about hallucinations, reduced empathy, and confidentiality risks, especially in private caucuses. Participants suggested UNCITRAL could map relevant issues and consider high-level principles while avoiding overregulation. The panel also examined remote mediation, which expanded significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic and can enhance access, reduce costs, and facilitate complex disputes when properly designed. It was suggested that any future UNCITRAL work should

address both AI and online mediation together, given their growing interaction and potential implications for due process, confidentiality, and enforceability of settlement agreements.

- iii. **Panel 3 on “Remote hearings in arbitration (procedural guidance and best practices)”**: this panel discussed potential due process, fairness, and confidentiality concerns arising from remote and hybrid hearings, including equality of arms, technical disruptions, cybersecurity risks, and possible disadvantages in hybrid formats. Safeguards such as protocols, identity verification, and technology testing were noted as mitigation tools.

The Working Group subsequently, discussed the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in arbitration and mediation, noting it is a rapidly evolving area. Key issues identified included accountability, human oversight, AI’s role in decision-making, confidentiality, and platform-based dispute resolution, including whether outcomes could qualify as awards under the New York Convention. While some participants suggested clarifying basic principles, others cautioned against premature normative work or treating AI differently from other forms of assistance. It was widely agreed that the secretariat should continue monitoring AI developments in dispute resolution and report back to the Working Group. Determining the form of future work was considered premature, with priority placed on identifying and defining the relevant issues.

Regarding remote hearings, support was expressed for work in this area, as it aligns with UNCITRAL’s objectives of efficiency and access to dispute resolution. Relevant topics could include equality of arms, safeguards in hybrid hearings, and the use of AI in remote settings. However, it was also noted that most legal questions around remote hearings have been addressed, and remaining issues are largely technical, potentially suitable for secretariat or expert group work rather than Working Group-led work.

C. Next steps

The Working Group requested the secretariat to present the texts on electronic awards and notices from the Dispute Resolution in the Digital Economy (DRDE) project for finalisation and adoption by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session in 2026, allowing sufficient time for discussion. The Working Group also agreed to recommend that the secretariat continue monitoring developments in AI tools in arbitration and mediation and platform-based dispute resolution, in collaboration with the iGLIP project, and report back to the Working Group.

Submitted by ArbitralWomen Member Sophie Davin

Building Bridges in Nairobi: ArbitralWomen Returns to Africa in the Moot



The final act, group photo and stronger together as a community

For the second consecutive year, ArbitralWomen was proud to participate in Africa in the Moot, reaffirming our commitment to advancing diversity, inclusion, and capacity building within the arbitral community. This year’s programme in Nairobi proved to be an energising and deeply rewarding experience.

Representing ArbitralWomen were Board members Niamh Leinwather and Rekha Rangachari, who led a vibrant session that began with a hosted lunch and continued with our widely recognised Diversity Toolkit training. With more than 25 participants from across Nairobi in attendance, the room was alive with energy from the very start.

Through interactive exercises—including the impactful privilege walk—and dynamic breakout sessions, participants engaged with openness, curiosity, and a shared willingness to explore meaningful and sometimes challenging conversations. The atmosphere throughout was one of genuine engagement, reflecting a strong commitment to advancing inclusivity within the field of arbitration.

Beyond the formal sessions, the

discussions continued during breaks, where themes such as capacity building, allyship, and opportunities for future collaboration took centre stage. These conversations highlighted a clear and growing appetite for sustained engagement and partnership within the region—something ArbitralWomen is excited to continue nurturing.

ArbitralWomen extends its sincere thanks to its colleagues at Africa in the Moot for their exceptional organisation and collaboration, which once again enabled us to deliver our Diversity Toolkit training. Their ongoing

dedication to fostering diversity and inclusion in arbitration is both inspiring and impactful.

As ArbitralWomen Board members returned home, they did so with renewed enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose. ArbitralWomen looks forward to building on these connections and continuing to support the growth of a more inclusive arbitral community across Africa and beyond.

Submitted by ArbitralWomen Members Niamh Leinwather and Rekha Rangachari



Delving into substantive topics, including what’s holding us back, to identify the path forward

Mooting Feedbacks

International Islamic University Islamabad report excerpts



From left to right: Shereen Ali, Neha Fatima, Mohsina Hayat, and Amna Sohrab. Sitting: Lavesh Kirpalani, Grace Ip and Roger Chin

democratic excellence and perseverance but also marks a significant institutional advancement in international legal advocacy. It highlights the growing presence of Pakistani students in global arbitration forums and underscores the expanding role of women as capable contributors and emerging leaders in complex areas of international commercial arbitration.

Women Empowerment Impact

Our participation in the Vis East Moot 2026 must be viewed in the context of the lived realities we come from four women belonging to different provinces of Pakistan, shaped by diverse cultural, educational, and social backgrounds, and originating from smaller cities where access to international academic opportunities is limited and often unfamiliar. Within these contexts, pursuing a career in law itself is still frequently perceived through traditional expectations, and the field of legal advocacy remains largely male-dominated in both perception and practice.

From the very beginning, our journey was marked not only by academic

This report outlines the participation of our team in the 23rd Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot 2026, held in Hong Kong. The competition brought together 171 teams from leading universities worldwide, making it one of the most competitive platforms in international arbitration education. We proudly represented the International Islamic University Islamabad as its first all-female team and served as the sole representative of Pakistan in this edition. Our participation was made possible through the generous financial support of ArbitralWomen, whose contribution directly enabled our registration and entry into this global platform. The experience significantly enhanced our legal research, drafting, and oral advocacy skills while exposing us to diverse legal systems and international arbitration practices. It also strengthened our confidence in engaging with complex legal problems in a global environment.

For the first time, an all-female team from the International Islamic univer-

sity, Islamabad had a chance for this globally renowned competition, while also serving as the sole representative of Pakistan among 171 international teams. As aptly reflected in the spirit of the Moot, “excellence is not defined by presence alone, but by the ability to stand out among the best” — a principle our participation strongly embodies. This milestone reflects not only aca-



From left to right: Shereen Ali, Neha Fatima, Mohsina Hayat, and Amna Sohrab

challenges but also by structural and societal constraints. Securing sponsorship independently became one of the most demanding aspects of our participation, as institutional financial support was limited. This required us to actively seek funding, engage with potential supporters, and repeatedly establish the credibility of our participation in an international moot court competition an effort that had to be sustained alongside rigorous academic preparation. At the same time, balancing expectations from our environments, limited exposure to global platforms, and the pressures of representing ourselves in a highly competitive field added another layer of complexity to our journey. Despite these challenges, our participation was driven by a shared conviction that aspiration is not defined by geography or background. Coming from different regions and experiences within Pakistan, we were bound by a common determination to step into a space where women—particularly from smaller cities are still underrepresented. The belief that law is a “male-dominated field” is still deeply rooted in many societal settings we come from; yet our journey was shaped by the desire to challenge that perception through presence, preparation, and performance.

Standing on an international platform such as the Vis East Moot was therefore not only an academic milestone but also a deeply personal and collective achievement. It reflected the possibility of overcoming geographical, financial, and societal barriers through persistence and unity of purpose. Our participation became a representation of voices that are often less visible in global legal forums, demonstrating that capability is not confined by background, and that women from diverse and underrepresented regions can meaningfully contribute to international legal discourse.

In this way, our experience stands as both a reflection of the challenges we faced and a testament to the impact of simply being present asserting, through action, that inclusion in international arbitration must extend beyond privilege to potential, regardless of origin or circumstance.



From left to right: Mohsina Hayat, Shereen Ali, Neha Fatima and Amna Sohrab

Role and Impact of ArbitralWomen's Support

The support extended by ArbitralWomen was pivotal in transforming our participation from an aspirational goal into a realised opportunity in the Vis East Moot 2026. Coming from diverse regions across Pakistan and operating within the constraints of limited institutional funding for international academic participation, securing sponsorship independently was one of the most critical hurdles we faced. In this context, ArbitralWomen's intervention arrived at a decisive moment, bridging a gap that would otherwise have restricted our access to this global platform.

What distinguished this support was not only its financial dimension, which enabled us to meet essential registration requirements, but its enabling effect on our entire academic journey. It relieved us from the constant uncertainty of resource constraints and allowed us to direct our full attention toward the intellectual demands of the competition research, memorial

drafting, and oral advocacy preparation. This stability was essential in ensuring that our preparation met the standards required for a competition of such international calibre. Beyond its practical value, ArbitralWomen's support carried a deeper significance. It reflected a commitment to expanding participation in international arbitration beyond traditional boundaries and reinforcing the presence of women from underrepresented jurisdictions. For us, it functioned as an enabler of visibility and inclusion allowing our work, preparation, and advocacy to be seen and evaluated on its own merit in a global arena.

Ultimately, this support did more than facilitate participation; it altered the trajectory of our experience. It allowed us to stand in an international forum not as constrained participants, but as confident advocates prepared, present, and fully able to engage with the demands of a world-class arbitration competition.

Submitted by Shereen Ali

The University of Dar Es Salaam 33rd Willem C. Vis Moot Report



From left to right: Neema Mwamlima, Grace Ayoub Raphael, Christabella Kahemele, Aida Kulwa Omary, Prisila Issack and Nashukuru Mwakisilwa

The report below aims to provide an overview of the University of Dar es Salaam's 33rd Willem C. Vis Moot Team's journey during this year's Vis Moot season, from the preparation to stages to the physical rounds in Vienna and the Virtual Post-Moot as well. The team consisted of Christabella Elizabeth Kahemele, Aida Kulwa Omary, Nashukuru Daniel Mwakisilwa, Grace A. Raphael, and Prisila Issack Nnko. We extend our deepest gratitude to the ArbitralWomen team and we are honoured to be able to share the significance of the support that we have received within this report.

The APAC and Nairobi Pre-Moot

As the University of Dar Es Salaam team for the 33rd Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, we are honored and thankful for our chance at participation in the entire competition. We are deeply grateful for the lessons, growth and commitment to ensuring we had a successful participation in the competition. Starting from the interview stage where we were carefully selected and warmly welcomed to the team, the drafting process along with the support from our coaches got us through these stages. Notably, the virtual Asia Pacific Vis Pre-Moot 2026 was the first pre-moot competition that we did as a team, and the feedback received from that moot was

well carried throughout the rest of the Vis season. Furthermore, during the 5th East Africa Pre-Moot which took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 17 to 21 February 2026 was one of the biggest highlights of our entire experience. We got to meet and connect with other African law students and experts in the field of International commercial arbitration. We are thankful to Africa in The Moot, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) Kenya branch and all the organisers at large. As first-time participants, we got to learn what mooting in a big stage like that meant. We appreciated the panels, the teaching sessions and discussions that were very insightful and helpful in refining and bettering our arguments. Being a fully female team, we are even more thankful for Arbitral Women. We felt truly represented directly hearing from women in the field who have been greatly successful and flourishing but were once exactly where we are.

The 33rd Willem C. Vis Moot

Furthermore, without the funding from Arbitral women, we would not have been given the opportunity to participate in the 33rd Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition itself. The University of Dar es Salaam team faced several challenges, and due to travel and visa issues, only one

team member was able to physically appear for the oral rounds in Vienna. That, nevertheless, was an invaluable experience, that we are incredibly grateful for, to the Vis Moot organisers, participants, coaches and arbitrators, the entire team at Africa in The Moot, and of course, the team at Arbitral Women who are part of the reason that it was all possible. We have gained so much exposure, knowledge and opportunity to enhance our oral advocacy skills, both during the pleading rounds, and the various events, such as the tour of the Vienna Arbitration Center, the various events organized as part of the Vis, MAA and Africa in the Moot experience, and even the coaching we received during the writing stages of the competition. We are thankful to everybody involved. You have truly taught us the spirit of the moot.

The Willem C. Vis Virtual Post Moot

The Virtual Post moot was a blessing that the University of Dar es Salaam had not anticipated. Knowing that the team's visa struggles were seen and understood, and seeing the extra mile that the Vis moot and Africa in the Moot team took to make our mooting experience as fulfilling as possible, touched every member of the team. The majority of the team that were not able to make it to Vienna were given the opportunity to present their arguments and receive first-class feedback. It was truly unexpected and we are again, deeply thankful for it.

To conclude, this year's Vis Moot season has been one that has shaped and impacted the entire team. Preparation for the Vis Moot was of course a daunting and demanding task, but the aid received and support received was a crucial step in making the entire process possible. Thank you for believing in the team.

Submitted by Christabella Kahemele

Makerere University in Vienna: A Journey of Growth and Advocacy



From Left to Right, Angeo Rachael, Masika Rinah, Katende John Baptist, and Rugyera Mahoro Martha

The 33rd Willem C. Vis International

Commercial Arbitration Moot is the world's largest and most prestigious international arbitration moot court competition that is held annually in Vienna, Austria. The 33rd vis moot problem focused on the principle of contractual interpretation, ambiguity dispute resolution clauses and calculation of damages under the CISG. This season, had a total of 384 teams participating in both the memorandum stage and the oral rounds that were held from the 28th March – 2nd April in Vienna, Austria.

Preparing for the 33rd vis moot as the team representing Makerere University was more than just an academic commitment — it was a journey that challenged, shaped and ultimately transformed us in ways we all had not anticipated. It not only tested both our intellect and personal limits but also built a sense of discipline and resilience in us that we had not experienced before.

Making it to Vienna was a bitter-sweet experience for our team. While it marked the culmination of months of preparation, we had to face the reality of competing without our full team. Due to visa challenges, our

substantive speakers were unable to travel, leaving only two procedural speakers; Martha Mahoro Rugyera and Rachael Angeo to represent the entire team. It was not the situation we had envisioned but it was the reality we had to rise to.

Under those circumstances, stepping into the oral rounds required a different kind of strength. We had to quickly adapt — taking on broader roles, supporting each other more intentionally and trusting in the collective preparation we had done as a team back home. Despite how heavy each round felt, not just because of the complexity of the arguments, but because we were carrying the effort and expectations of those who could not be there with us, having encouraging arbitrators like Tess Bens created an environment that allowed us to engage, learn and grow rather than feel overwhelmed. Outside the hearing rooms, her continuous support and guidance pushed us to grow beyond the competition, shaping us into better versions of ourselves professionally, academically and socially. This helped us realise that even in less-than-ideal circumstances, we were still capable of showing up and delivering.

Outside the hearing rooms, the experience was just as meaningful. Engaging with other teams, practitioners, and arbitrators, sharing stories and reflecting on our journey reminded us that the Vis moot was more than just a competition but a community as well. Even though our team was incomplete, we enjoyed the company of the Boston University Vis moot team and Africa in the Moot that gave us a community with whom we made friendships and memories that we shall carry with us for a lifetime.

Generally, Vienna was as rewarding as it was beautiful. From the chilly mornings that reminded us how far we were from home to the sunny afternoons after our rounds that felt like a reward after the intense rounds. Walking through Vienna felt like stepping into history. The buildings, with their archaic yet elegant architecture, carried a quiet beauty that made every street feel significant. Beyond the scenery, the warmth and kindness received from the strangers through small gestures made us feel welcome. This added a special charm to entire journey making our experience more memorable and meaningful.

With that, my sincere appreciation goes to everyone that made it possible for us to make it to Vienna; our sponsors, coaches, teammates, the Africa in the Moot community, and everyone for their unwavering support, generosity, guidance and belief in us throughout this season. This experience transformed us into better versions of ourselves, impacted us personally and professionally and enabled us make lifelong relationships — for this we are grateful.

“It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up”

— by Vince Lombardi

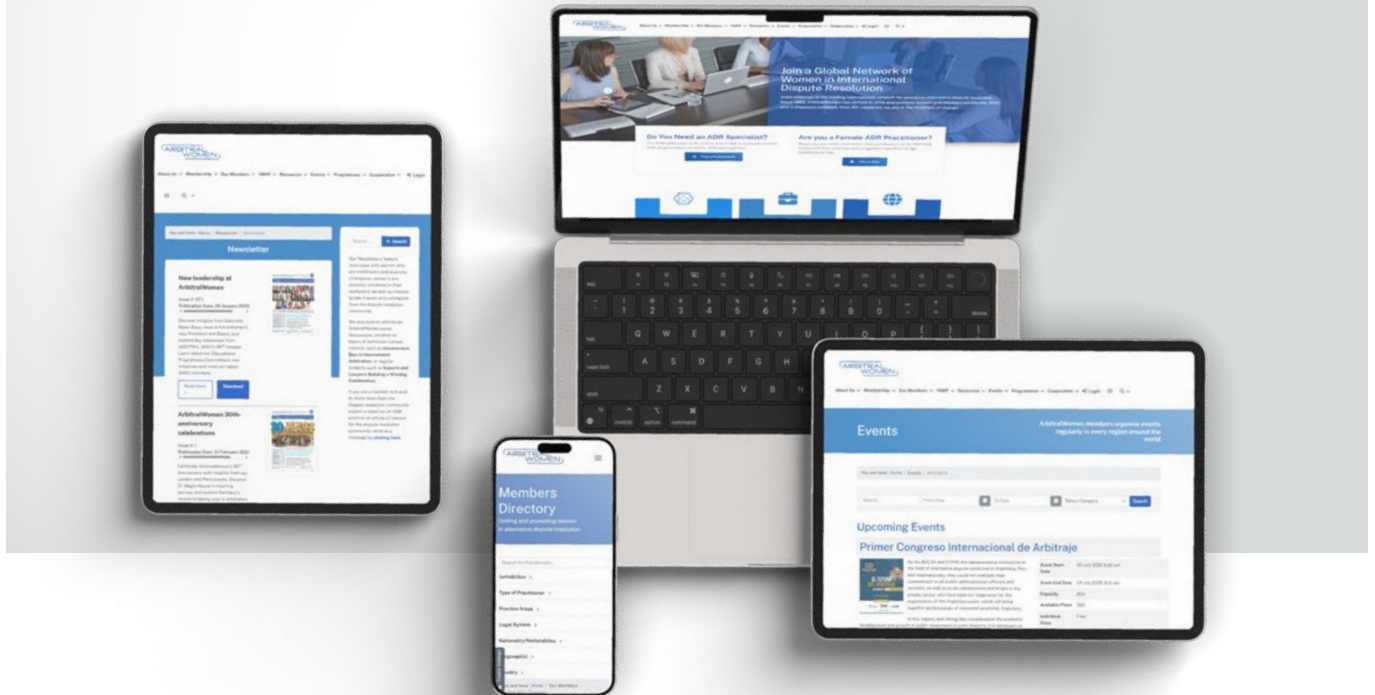
Submitted by Martha Mahoro Rugyera

Mark your agendas

Date	Venue	Event
22 May	Volkshaus Zurich	Tailoring Written Advocacy for a Diverse Audience ArbitralWomen Speakers: Anjuli Patel, Jingjing Li, Juliana de Ureña
3 June	Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, London	YAWP Networking Breakfast ArbitralWomen Speakers: Katrin Enders, Khaleda Wheeler, Melissa Hollenders-Brown
3 June	Vinson & Elkins RLLP, 24th Floor, 20 Fenchurch Street, London	LIDW: AI in International Arbitration: Essential Tool or Existential Threat? ArbitralWomen Speakers: Elena Guillet, Kimberley Taieb, Louise Woods
9 June	The National Club, Toronto	Mutual Mentorship in Arbitration: Learning from Different Generations ArbitralWomen Speakers: Chloe Snider, Louise Barrington, Tara Singh
9 June	Online	YAWP: Meet the Institutions x SCC ArbitralWomen Speakers: Özge Yazar
8 July	Online	YAWP: Meet the Institutions x LCIA ArbitralWomen Speakers: Melissa Hollenders-Brown

Keep up with ArbitralWomen

Visit our website on your computer or mobile and stay up to date with what is going on. Read the latest News about ArbitralWomen and our [Members](#), check [Upcoming Events](#) and download the current and past issues of our [Newsletter](#).



ArbitralWomen & Kluwer Arbitration Blog

ArbitralWomen has a long-standing collaboration with Kluwer Arbitration Blog, the leading publication of its kind presenting a high-quality examination of hot topics and latest developments in international arbitration, with an impressive global readership of 120,000 views per post.

As part of this collaboration, ArbitralWomen liaises with Kluwer Arbitration Blog to ensure priority publication of articles submitted by its members. Published contributions

will also feature on the [AW website](#).

We strongly encourage our members to make use of this great opportunity! Please send your article or idea for a topic to the AW-Kluwer Arbitration Blog Committee, consisting of ArbitralWomen Board Members Nicola Peart, Mary Thomson, Shanelle Irani and Elena Guillet, at kluwer@arbitralwomen.org.

We kindly ask you to take note of the Kluwer Arbitration Blog [editorial guidelines](#).

We look forward to receiving your ideas and submissions!

ArbitralWomen thanks all contributors for sharing their stories.

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ArbitralWomen Individual & Corporate Membership

ArbitralWomen's website is the only hub offering a database of female practitioners in any dispute resolution role including arbitrators, mediators, experts, adjudicators, surveyors, facilitators, lawyers, neutrals, ombudswomen and forensic consultants. It is regularly visited by professionals searching for dispute resolution practitioners.



The many benefits of ArbitralWomen membership are namely:

- Searchability under [Member Directory](#) and [Find Practitioners](#)
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- Promotion of your dispute resolution speaking engagements on our [Events page](#)
- Opportunity to showcase your professional news in ArbitralWomen's periodic news alerts and [Newsletter](#)
- Visibility on the [News](#) page if you contribute to any dispute resolution related news and ArbitralWomen news
- Visibility on the [News about AW Members](#) to announce news about members' promotions and professional developments
- Ability to **obtain referrals** of dispute resolution practitioners
- **Networking** with other women practitioners
- Opportunity to participate in ArbitralWomen's various programmes such as our [Mentoring Programme](#)

We encourage female practitioners to join us either individually or through their firm. Joining is easy and takes a few minutes: go to '[Apply Now](#)' and complete the application form.

[Individual Membership](#): 150 Euros

[Corporate Membership](#): ArbitralWomen Corporate Membership entitles firms to a **discount on the cost** of individual memberships. For 650 Euros annually (instead of 750), firms can designate up to five individuals based at any of the firms' offices worldwide, and for each additional member a membership at the rate of 135 Euros (instead of 150). Over **forty firms** have subscribed a Corporate

Membership: [click here](#) for the list.

ArbitralWomen is globally recognised as the leading professional organisation forum for advancement of women in dispute resolution. Your continued support will ensure that we can provide you with opportunities to grow your network and your visibility, with all the terrific work we have accomplished to date as reported in our Newsletters.

ArbitralWomen membership has grown to approximately one thousand, from over 40 countries. Forty firms have so far subscribed for corporate membership, sometimes for as many as 40 practitioners from their firms.



Do not hesitate to contact membership@arbitralwomen.org, we would be happy to answer any questions.