



International Bar Association
the global voice of the legal profession

IBA PRESIDENCY - 2023/2024

UPDATE FOR MANAGEMENT BOARD AND COUNCIL IN BUCHAREST AS AT 16.05.2024

Strengthening even more the IBA



WHY

Relevance

Increase the IBA's profile: having substantial projects, institutional activity and collaboration with leading institutions, and communicating them.
- **WORLD BANK GROUP**

Engagement

Further engagement with Members, specially with Member Organisations to ensure alignment.
- **REACH OUT COMPLETED**

Internal Cohesion

Promoting dialogue and collaboration between the IBA constituencies.
- **JOINT MEETINGS**
- **IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS**

WHAT

HOW

- **Achievement of the IBA Strategic Plan Goals:**
 1. Prepare the legal profession for the future, support Rule of Law, Human Rights and professional core values.
 2. Improve the Membership Offering.
 3. Improve Governance.
- **Five Key Topics & Projects.**
- **Building a relevant agenda of institutional meetings.**

Key Topics & Projects



- 1

IMPACT
Highlighting the legal sector contribution.
- 2

GENDER EQUALITY
Gender equality in the legal sector at the top.
- 3

ESG @ IBA
Placing the IBA/the legal sector as a relevant player in the ESG agenda.
- 4

AI & IBA
Placing the IBA as a leader in the legal aspects of AI.
- 5

YOUNG LAWYERS
Preparing lawyers for the future.

Special Reports



- 1. Impact: The IBA report on the social and economic impact of the legal profession.
- 2. AI: guidelines for AI regulation, impact in the legal profession, guidelines for bars and law societies, impact on human rights.

Education



- 1. Gender equality.
- 2. Young Lawyers' Executive International Programme.
- [3. The IBA International Lawyer Degree.]

Meetings & Conferences



- 1. Legal Agenda Forum.
- 2. ESG Lawyers' Conference.
- [3. Iberoamerican Summit.]

Enhanced Communications



| | | | |
|----------|---|---|--|
| INTERNAL | Between the IBA senior leadership and IBA Members. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Direct communication through in person and remote meetings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Reach out plan to Member Organizations. Calls held from March to September 2023 – 136 bars invited, 29% participation. Next steps. |
| | Between the different parts of the Association. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Strategic Implementation Group, formed by the vice-chairs of each constituency and the Deputy ED with the support of the IBA Vice-Presidents and the Secretary General, as a forum to ensure coordination. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">> SG> Financial WG Ccreated |
| | Institutional communication with members. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The IBA President will establish a monthly communication with members through the IBA e-newsletter. | Walking the Talk: (1) January: Day 1 of the first 100 days; (2) February: Our brave Ukraine colleagues; (3) International Women’s Day: From the practice of Law to the growing of seeds; (4) Latin America, a region of contrasts; (5) Rule of Law, our daily bread?; (6) ESG @ IBA; (7) Legal Agenda; (8) AI & IBA Project. |
| EXTERNAL | Specific communication plans for substantial IBA Projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Legal AgendaParis Conference <p>2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Impact Project LaunchIBA international legal practice course[Mexico Annual ConferenceAI & IBA Project Launch | Meeting with communications agency and IBA Communications Team in April. Brainstorming meeting 11.07.23. Report from agency team 18.07.23. ED hired new resource March 2024. Teneo engaged for coms. plan – Launch of Impact Project |
| | Specific communication plans for IBA substantial institutional agenda events. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Presidency site in the IBA web provides information about the most relevant IBA projects activities and agenda. | Not running |

Institutional Agenda

Presidential Visits

Attendance to IBA events combined with institutional visits, including Bars and Law Societies, and to local firms.

During the Presidency the main Continents may be covered, selecting relevant jurisdictions for the IBA.

A well-thought agenda of institutional meetings. To be revisited in the context of the Impact Project launch.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Advocacy of the Rule of Law and of the core values of the legal profession.
- **GOAL 1.** Defend and support Human Rights.

> Objective

- Strengthening the **relevance** of the IBA.
- Strengthening **engagement with members.**

- > Institutional visits in Colombia (LARF Biennial Conference): Ministry of Justice; State Attorney General

- > Relevance for the IBA to maintain institutional relationships with a selected number of institutions c10.
- > Relationship strengthened with WBG following Paris Conference.

Special Reports

Impact—Maximising the impact of the Legal profession

Special report to be carried out by the IBA working jointly with a top consultancy firm to analyse the legal sector contribution to society.

Scope: the social and economic contribution of the legal profession to society and how to maximise it in the future

- > Initial approval by MB in February 2023.
- > Management Board final approval May 2023.
- > Working plan being timely complied with
- > Workshop providing preliminary findings of the Project in Paris, right after the Council Meeting.
- > First draft of Report circulated to TF Members in January 2024.
- > Summary circulated to MB Members February 2024.
- > Last draft sent to MB 2nd May.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Enhancing the profession and its core values.
- **GOAL 1.** Showing support to the Rule of Law & protection of human rights.

> Objective

- **Relevance of the IBA.**
- **Engagement with members**
- **Highlight** the importance of the legal sector.
- **Generate data** actually inexistent.
- **Provide recommendations** to improve current impact.

- > Potential actions to increase impact discussed at MB meeting 17 February 2024.
- > Presentation of report and discussions in May, at the Mid-year Meetings.

AI & IBA- AI, the Law and the Legal Profession

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is currently one of the most important issues, both in terms of the substantive law developments and in terms of the challenges posed to the legal profession and to society as a whole. The IBA is uniquely placed to provide thought leadership, raising awareness and creating or improving best practices on this matter.

- The scope will cover:
 - IBA Guidelines on the principles to govern AI regulations across the world.
 - Report on AI impact in the legal profession
 - Best practices for Bars.
 - Human rights implications
- All IBA parts to be involved- LPD, PPID, BIC, HRI.

- > Outline of Project approved by different parts of the Association (July 2023).
- > Task Force set up (September 2023).
- Announcement in Paris at AI Special Ring -Fenced Session.
- Engagement with Project Director- CAIDP March 2024
- > September 2024- México conference - AI Project presented at Presidential Showcase.
- > Plan to get maximum benefit of the Project – ongoing.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Enhancing the profession and its core values.
- **GOAL 2.** Improve the Membership Offering.
- **GOAL 3.** Prepare the legal profession for the future.

> Objective

- **Engagement with members:** matching their expectations.
- The IBA as **prescriber** of best practices.
- Strengthening the **IBA profile**.

Prepare & Transform the Legal Profession

Gender equality

Promote gender balance in the legal profession by making the IBA a prescriber of best practices. This initiative will take into account the 50:50 by 2030 Global Gender Study driven by the IBA (LPRU, D&I Council, WLG) and the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation.

Activities:

- **Guidelines.** WG to develop simple guidelines on key matters to be followed by lawyers and law firms
- **Bars.** Engage with local bar associations to disseminate and implement the IBA message.

- > 1st IBA Women's Day Celebration on 8 March 2023- 30+ participants
- > Walking the Talk-Gender – From the practice of Law to the growing of seeds.
- > Speaker at UN – The Rural Women and Technological Advancement: Sustainable Legal Strategies on 13 March 2023.
- > **IBA Presidential Showcase Paris – *The new female leadership at Law Firms – a Gamechanger?***

2024

- > **Working Group on commandments formed. Scope discussed, January 2024.**
- > **2nd IBA Women's Day Celebration 2024 – more than 100 participants.**
- > **Launch of the Ten Directives to break the Glass Ceiling in the Legal Profession – March 2024.**



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Avoiding of all forms of discrimination and bias within the legal profession.

> Objective

- Further increase the IBA's **relevance** as a leader and an example in the promotion of gender equality in the legal sector.

IBA INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE

An IBA Executive Program in International Legal Practice designed for young professionals who plan to work in cross-border and transnational contexts.

- To be developed by a **leading Law School**.
- **Branded** IBA / Law School.
- The IBA **to contribute** to the programme: selection of topics and suggested “special” teachers.
- **The benefit for IBA:**
 - **Innovative** programme
 - **Managed** by the Law School.
 - **Economic - TBD**

- > Proposal submitted by the Law Schools Global League.
- > Faculty:
 - Kings College, London
 - FGU, Sao Paulo
 - IE University, Madrid
 - Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law
 - National University of Singapore
- > Agreement ready for approval.
- > Course launch October/November 2024.



> **Link to the Strategic Plan**

- **GOAL 1.** Prepare the legal profession for the future.

> **Objective**

- **Enhance the international legal practice culture globally**, strengthening relationships between lawyers who are interested in working internationally and give them a better understanding of the global legal landscape.
- **Provide valuable practical training in advocacy, legal practice and litigation skills.**
- **Acquire transnational business skills** that serve lawyers as a tool to strengthen the relationship with their clients and increase their results.
- **Attracting** young lawyers to the IBA.
- Increasing the **IBA visibility**.

[The IBA International Lawyer Degree

The degree to operate as a “quality seal” for any lawyer considering the possibility of working in an international environment. An LLM of key topics for international lawyers.

- (i) **Technical skills:** common law in corporate, commercial, corporate governance, etc.
- (ii) **Soft skills:** communication, relating with international clients or colleagues.
- (iii) **Technology skills.**
- (iv) **Ethics.**

> Second potential step of the IBA Executive Programme.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Prepare the legal profession for the future.

> Objective

- Leading **new trends** in legal education.
- **Strengthening collaboration** with top Law Schools.
- **Attracting young** lawyers to the IBA.
- Increasing the **IBA visibility.**]

Special Meetings

Legal Agenda Forum

Think-tank of leading practitioners from IBA members as well as third parties who may help to direct the work of determining issues of top importance to IBA members and the legal community.

- By invitation event.
- To be the basis of some of the key legal topics to permeate in the activities of the Association.

2023- 19 Law firms attended on 13 June 2023.

- Simultaneous in person meetings in London and NY.
- NY and London virtual connection
- Draft statement of IBA Legal Agenda circulated for comments to participants July 2023.
- Release in September 2023.

2024

- Review of Legal Agenda 2024 – 16 April 2024
- 18 Law firms attended.
- Update of Legal Agenda pending.
- Foreseen release – June/July 2024.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Prepare the legal profession for the future.
- **GOAL 2.** Improve the membership offering.

> Objective

- Increase **engagement** with members
- The **IBA as prescriber** of legal trends.
- Raising the **IBA profile**.
- **Visibility**.

IBA ESG Project

A Project aimed at positioning the IBA/legal sector as a key player regarding the ESG framework giving greater prominence and focus to ESG legal issues and their impact, also in the legal profession.

Task Force formed. Work in progress.

Five pillars:

1. **Providing visibility** to IBA existing work in the ESG area. ESG @ IBA hub launched June 2023.
2. **IBA ESG dedicated Conference** 1st held in NY-March 2023; **2nd Conference: 28/29 Feb 2024.**
3. **Educating lawyers** in developing countries around ESG (**ongoing**)
4. **Exploring partnership** with non-legal organisations to leverage IBA's impact: **[WEF, UN, Aspen Institute (ongoing)]** – WBG started.
5. **Internal IBA ESG Compliance - ED+ SF**



> **Link to the Strategic Plan**

- **GOAL 1.** Prepare the legal profession for the future.
- **GOAL 2.** Improve the membership offering.

> **Objective**

- The IBA as **prescriber**.
- Increasing the **IBA profile and visibility**.

[Iberoamerican Summit

Summit of IBA Group Members and Corporate Members dedicated to discuss the overall legal environment in Latin America and Iberia, respectively and international business transactions between Latin America and Iberia by prominent practitioners from both sides of the Atlantic.

Duration: 1 and ½ day.

- > Draft outline programme ready.
- > Appetite in Spain and LATAM tested.
- > Scheduled 16/18 June **2024**.
- > Abandoned – High cost. Mexico Conference.



> Link to the Strategic Plan

- **GOAL 1.** Promote the Rule of Law; prepare the legal profession for the future.
- **GOAL 2.** Improve the membership offering.

> Objective

- **Engagement with members:** improve the offering to Group Members and Corporate Members.
- **Test appetite** for bilateral meetings in other regions.
- **Facilitate** legal developments.
- **Insight** on the respective legal markets.]



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