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IBA Arb40 Symposium:

Salient issues in international arbitration

22 February 2024, Shangri-La Singapore, Singapore

A symposium presented by the Arb40 Subcommittee of the IBA Arbitration Committee

The cost of the event is US\$70 per person. Register online at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2483 and make immediate payment by credit card.

Thursday 22 February

0830 – 1300 **Registration**

0900 – 0910 **Welcome remarks**
Emilio Bettoni *ArbLit, Milan*

0910 – 0930 **Keynote speech**
Daryl Chew *Three Crowns, Singapore*

0930 – 1030 Session one

Arbitration in the era of social media

Social media has undoubtedly influenced the landscape of international arbitration. Recent studies have noted the increased use of arbitration clauses by social media platforms and websites. The personal and professional connections established on social media have also led to challenges against arbitrators. Courts and arbitral institutions have imposed a 'duty of curiosity' on counsel to scrutinise the potential non-disclosure of public information by arbitrators. This panel will examine these issues and offer guidance to young practitioners and arbitrators on effectively using social media to advance their careers while avoiding uncomfortable situations.

Moderator

Ashley Chandler *Michael Pryles Arbitration and Mediation, Melbourne, Victoria*

Speakers

Hyunyang Koo *Lee & Ko, Seoul*

Murphy Mok *Herbert Smith Freehills, Hong Kong SAR*

David Isidore Tan *Rajah & Tann, Singapore*

Nhu Hoang Tran Thang *Independent arbitrator, Lausanne*

1030 – 1045 **Coffee break**

1045 – 1230 Session two

Current challenges in international arbitration: environmental concerns and seat selection

Certain states and non-governmental organisations have voiced concerns about the use of international arbitration to resolve disputes involving complex environmental issues. Among the criticisms of investor–state arbitration is that arbitrators often fail to consider a state's domestic and international obligations to safeguard the environment, sometimes even at the expense of the investors' rights. Additionally, some jurisdictions in Asia have established arbitration-friendly legal frameworks, bolstering confidence for both Asian and non-Asian parties in selecting an arbitration seat. This Oxford-style panel will delve into these two issues. The house will provide some motions. One panellist will defend the motion and the other will rebut it.

- First motion: this house believes that the international arbitration legal framework is well-equipped to handle cases involving complex environmental issues.
- Second motion: 'The Battle of Seats' – this house believes that Asia-based seats will continue to increase in popularity in the coming decade.

Moderator

Adam Tahsin *White & Case, London*

Speakers

Jack Biggs *Baker Botts (UK), London*

Sharmistha Chakrabarti *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, New York, New York*

Joel Quek *WongPartnership, Singapore*

Huili (Vicky) Zhao *JunHe, Beijing*

1230 – 1240 **Closing remarks**

Emilio Bettoni *ArbLit, Milan*

1240 – 1400 **Networking lunch**

1830 – 2030 **25th Annual IBA Arbitration Day Welcome Reception**

Monti at 1-Pavilion, 82 Collyer Quay, Singapore

The reception is open to all registered delegates.