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UAE: 10TH INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION & ADR SUMMIT — DUBAI

Thursday, 24 April 2025, 9:10am — 5:25pm

Venue: Shangri-La Hotel, Dubai (This conference will be conducted in English)

Legal Plus is a leading global event specialist that creates and manages annual summits, forums and seminars throughout Asia, Middle East and Europe. Partnering with leading industry companies throughout the world as well as government institutions, leading Arbitration centers and chambers of commerce. Legal Plus events brings together annually, thousands of companies in the construction, pharma, financial, corporate, technology, energy, IP & TMT fields with their general counsels, risk & compliance managers and legal experts creating leading business & networking summits. These events also showcase the ever changing landscape on essential legal, financial, regulatory, fraud and compliance issues to keep general and corporate counsels up-to-date with the tools required to protect their company armed with the latest legal and regulatory updates.

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BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR SEAT

This conference will be conducted in English

Venue: Shangri-La Hotel, Dubai

Al Bader Ballroom, 9/F Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai PO Box 75880, United Arab Emirates

Super Early Bird Rate: USD495

(on or before 31 January 2025)

Early Bird Rate: USD695

(1 February — 15 March 2025)

Normal Rate: USD895

(from 16 March 2025)

Supporting Organisation Rate: USD695

Half Day Rate (AM/PM): USD495

The above are inclusive of networking lunch

Registration is by invitation only and targeted to General Counsel from leading companies. Priority will be given to by invitation guests. Each event will have limited seats opened for paid registration to law firm and risk management companies.



Paul Key KC Essex Court Chambers London Chairman



Jehad Abdulrazzaq Kazim Executive Director, Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) Welcome Address



Robert G Volterra Partner, Volterra Fietta Keynote Speaker



Leonora Riesenburg Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator, INTADR DMCC Moderator — 1st Grand Panel



Simon Hughes KC Keating Chambers Moderator — 2nd Grand Panel



Zarghona Fazal Partner & Head of Arbitration, Hadef & Partners Moderator — 3rd Grand Panel



Soraya Corm-Bakhos Independent Arbitrator Moderator — 4th Grand Panel



Sheila L. Shadmand Partner-in-Charge, Middle East & Africa, Jones Day Moderator — 5th Grand Panel



Cesar Ghaleb Founding Partner, Triumph & Co.



Julian Cohen Arbitrator & Barrister, Resolution Chambers



Tim Yimin Liu Partner, Global Law Office



Dr. Bader AlBusaiyesFounder & Managing Partner,
Alsuwaiket & Albusaiyes



Humayun Ahmad Partner, Hadef & Partners



Paul Kelly Senior Claims Consultant, Triumph & Co.



Sean Hugo Senior Managing Director, CBBG Group



Céline Abi Habib Kanakri Partner & Co-Head, Dispute Resolution Practice, BLK Partners



Nesreen Osman Partner, Pinsent Masons



Yulia Barnes Managing Partner, Barnes Law



Alex Voigt
Founding Partner,
Construction Dynamics
Solutions



Vikki WallPartner, Accounting Valuation
Experts (AVE)



Arran Dowling-Hussey Barrister, 4-5 Gray's Inn Square



Angelika Hellweger Legal Director, Rahman Ravelli



Victor P. Leginsky International Arbitrator, Arbitralis



Robert Lloyd Head of Contracts, Arabian Construction Company



Matthew Page Partner, Habib Al Mulla & Partners



Rozana ALTayyar Independent Arbitrator & Mediator



Moses W. Park Barrister, Liberty Chambers



Christian P. Alberti Chief of ADR and General Counsel, Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA)



Marcus Khoury Head of Legal, Averda



Robert Lewsley Senior Legal Counsel, Standard Chartered Bank



Robert A Sliwinski Independent Arbitrator & Barrister



Joseph Chedrawe KC Independent Arbitrator

9:10 - 9:25	Welcome Message by Chairman	13:00 - 14:00	Networking Lunch		
9:25 — 9:40	Paul Key KC, Essex Court Chambers London Welcome Address by Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) Jehad Abdulrazzaq Kazim, Executive Director, Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)	14:00 – 14:45	3 rd Grand Panel: Enforcement & Invalidity of Awards: Understanding Arbitration Clauses & Monetising an Award — Regional Issues to Consider Moderator: • Zarghona Fazal, Partner & Head of		
9:40 — 10:00	Keynote Session: The Development of International Arbitration in the Arabian Peninsula: How We Got Where We Are Today Robert G Volterra, Partner, Volterra Fietta		Arbitration, Hadef & Partners Panellists: • Céline Abi Habib Kanakri, Partner & Co- Head, Dispute Resolution Practice, BLK		
10:00 — 10:20	Cross-border Shareholders, Stakeholders & Director Disputes — Best Practices and Tips for Inhouse Counsels Robert A Sliwinski, Independent Arbitrator & Barrister		Partners Marcus Khoury, Head of Legal, Averda Nesreen Osman, Partner, Pinsent Masons Tim Yimin Liu, Partner, Global Law Office		
10:20 — 11:05	1st Grand Panel: Art of Negotiation: Tactical Issues in Why Arbitration, Why Mediation and Why Not? Moderator: • Leonora Riesenburg, Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator, INTADR DMCC Panellists: • Yulia Barnes, Managing Partner, Barnes Law • Rozana ALTayyar, Independent Arbitrator & Mediator • Matthew Page, Partner, Habib Al Mulla & Partners • Julian Cohen, Arbitrator & Barrister, Resolution	14:45 — 15:30	4th Grand Panel: Energy Charter Treaty, ESG, LNG, Pricing and Compliance: Avoiding Inevitable Disputes and Understanding Changes of Circumstances Moderator: • Soraya Corm-Bakhos, Independent Arbitrator Panellists: • Christian P. Alberti, Chief of ADR and General Counsel, Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) • Dr. Bader AlBusaiyes, Founder & Managing Partner, Alsuwaiket & Albusaiyes • Marcus Khoury, Head of Legal, Averda • Joseph Chedrawe KC, Independent Arbitrator		
	Chambers	15:30 — 15:55	Networking Break & Afternoon Refreshment		
11:05 – 11:30 11:30 – 11:50	Managing Cross-border Disputes With Chinese Companies Tim Yimin Liu, Partner, Global Law Office	15:55 — 16:15	Winning the Unwinnable Delay and Disruption Claim: A Case Study Alex Voigt, Founding Partner, Construction Dynamics Solutions		
11:50 — 12:15	Debunking the Myth of Arbitration In Construction Disputes: To Arbitrate or Not to Arbitrate Moderator: • Cesar Ghaleb, Founding Partner, Triumph & Co. Panellist: • Paul Kelly, Senior Claims Consultant,	16:15 — 16:35	Fireside Chat — A Quick Overview on Top Tips in Preparing for an Arbitration From a GC/Company Perspective in the Middle East • Victor Leginsky, Independent Arbitrator, Arbitralis • Arran Dowling Hussey, Barrister, 4-5 Grays Inn Square		
	Triumph & Co. • Robert Lloyd, Head of Contracts, Arabian Construction Company	16:35 — 17:15	5 th Grand Panel: Technology Disputes 2025: Digital Assets & Tracing, Rise of AI, & Investigations/Fraud Issues		
12:15 — 13:00	 2nd Grand Panel: Construction Disputes in The Midde East: Expert Witness, Damages, Quantum & Supply Chain Issues Moderator: Simon Hughes KC, Keating Chambers Panellists: Julian Cohen, Arbitrator & Barrister, Resolution Chambers Sean Hugo, Senior Managing Director, CBBG Group Vikki Wall, Partner, Accounting Valuation Experts (AVE) Humayun Ahmad, Partner, Hadef & Partners 		 Moderator: Sheila L. Shadmand, Partner-in-Charge, Middle East & Africa, Jones Day Panellists: Robert Lewsley, Senior Legal Counsel, Standard Chartered Bank Moses W. Park, Barrister, Liberty Chambers Angelika Hellweger, Legal Director, Rahman Ravelli 		
		17:15 — 17:25	Closing Remarks & Lucky draw		
		17:25 — 18:45	Networking cocktail at ikandy ultralounge		

Paul Key KC, Essex Court Chambers London

Paul Key K.C. is recognised as one of the leading QCs at the English Commercial Bar. He has particular expertise and specialism in arbitration, both international commercial arbitration and investment treaty arbitration (including ICSID). He also regularly appears in arbitration-related Court matters, including appearing in the English Supreme Court in Jivraj v Hashwani. He has been ranked in the toptier (band 1) rankings for arbitration for over 10 years and has consistently been identified as one of the leading figures in that field ("a real arbitration expert", "few can rival his expertise, ability and knowledge in the field of arbitration", "the first port of call for important arbitration disputes", "an arbitration guru").

He has appeared as advocate in over 300 major international arbitrations worldwide, as well as appearing regularly before the English Courts (at all levels) and foreign Courts on arbitration matters. In addition to his extensive experience in international commercial arbitration, he is one of the very few English QCs to have real expertise in investment arbitration. He has been lead counsel in a very large number of BIT / investment arbitrations, acting both for and against States. He is Visiting Professor in international arbitration law at King's College, London, and has lectured and published widely in this field. He has been a longstanding representative of the UK on the ILA International Commercial Arbitration. Committee and is also a delegate for the UNCITRAL Working Group on Arbitration.

Jehad Abdulrazzaq Kazim, Executive Director, Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)

Jehad is the first Executive Director of Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) and the first Emirati woman to assume a leadership position in the largest arbitration centre in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia region. Drawing on a wealth of knowledge gained from over 22 years of experience in the legal and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) fields, Jehad has played an instrumental role in building and executing DIAC's forward thinking strategy. Under her proactive and dynamic leadership, the Centre strives to enhance the efficiency of its operations, optimize its performance and improve its ADR services through business excellence, stakeholder engagement and innovation.

Prior to joining DIAC, Jehad was the Vice-President of the Legal Affairs Sector of Dubai Chambers where she oversaw the entire legal function of the Chambers and its international offices around the world. She played a key role in providing broad strategic guidance and legal support to the Dubai Chambers and its stakeholders on wide spectrum of matters including legislation, dispute resolution, corporate governance and policy advocacy in line with Dubai Chambers' vision and strategic objectives.

Jehad holds an LL.M in Business Law from University of Hertfordshire, UK and LL.B in Shari'a & Law from the U.A.E. University. A seasoned negotiator with ability to negotiate in a wide range of business contexts, Jehad has successfully completed Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation. She is a graduate of Mohammed Bin Rashid Programme for Leadership Development and Cranfield School of Management's Executive Leadership Development Programme and a Certified Board Director, accredited by Hawkamah and Mudara-Institute of Directors.

Previously, Jehad has served as an Assessor for the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award and as a Judge for the Oath Middle East Legal Awards. Jehad is the first Emirati woman on the Board of Directors of DIAC and she has served as a Member of the Board of Dubai Women Establishment, a women centric establishment dedicated to leverage Emirati women's potential and active participation in various aspects of economy and society.

Robert G Volterra, Partner, Volterra Fietta

Partner at Volterra Fietta, Visiting Professor of Law at University College London, Canadian barrister and English solicitor-advocate. Robert Volterra advises and represents clients around the world on the full spectrum of international dispute resolution. Clients hire him as counsel for cases before the International Court of Justice, at the PCA and at all the major global arbitral institutions. He has sat as arbitrator in commercial and investment treaty arbitrations for over 30 years.

Robert advises and represents governments, government linked companies and private entities throughout the Gulf, in international disputes. This includes the governments of the UAE, Abu Dhabi and Dubai, as well as UAE-based businesses.

The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners legal directories have ranked Robert and his practice consistently in the top tier for some 30 years. He is ranked in their Hall of Fame / Star Individual categories, for both commercial arbitration and public international law. Their accolades include that Robert is "a leading figure in the market, whose considerable practice covers investment treaty arbitrations and commercial arbitrations" and that he is "probably the best PIL lawyer on this planet".

Leonora Riesenburg, Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator, INTADR DMCC

Leonora Riesenburg is an Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator at INTADR DMCC, Dubai, and an International Tenant at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square in London. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), a Fellow of Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR), and stands as a leading figure in international arbitration, mediation and adr in Middle East, Asia, and the UK. Leonora specialises in complex disputes across key sectors, notably in investment, infrastructure, construction, real estate, joint ventures, banking and finance, and receives routine Chairmanship appointments. Her affiliations with prestigious arbitral institutions-among them the ICC, LCIA, SIAC, DIAC, ADCCAC, SCCA, MIAC, AIADR-further solidify her standing as a leading figure in international arbitration. Leonora's leadership is reflected in her previous roles as Branch Chair of CIArb UAE, as an Elected Member of the Board of Management for CIArb London, and member of DIFC Courts Arbitration Division Working Group. She is a member of LCIA Arabs Users' Council and a member of the Swiss Arbitration Association. Leonora is a highly in demand faculty member for the CIArb globally and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in the MENA Region and in the UK, playing a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of dispute resolution practitioners. Her global influence extends through her service with leading institutions worldwide, including in Asia, the Governing Council of the Hyderabad Arbitration Centre (HAC) in India as well as the Global Advisory Panel for Musaliha International Centre for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (MICADR) in Pakistan.

Simon Hughes KC, Keating Chambers

Simon Hughes KC is a specialist silk in major construction, engineering, shipbuilding and other off-shore and energy related disputes was recently awarded "Construction and Energy Silk of the Year" for 2019 by the Legal 500. He comes recommended for his client-focused approach, understanding of the technicalities of disputes and his "exceptional" advocacy, cross-examination, and advice.

Simon has been fortunate to have acted on some of the largest, and most challenging, heavy civil engineering disputes of the day (including a great deal of highway/highway infrastructure and associated geotechnical work).

He is ranked in the 'Star' category in Chambers & Partners for Construction and is also in the very top ranking in Chambers & Partners (Band 1) for International Arbitration. There are only few silks with these dual top-ranking and this reflects Simon's stellar practice for major clients and leading law firms. Simon has been ranked in Who's Who's Legal as a Thought Leader in Construction and recommended in Arbitration and Construction.

Simon has substantial experience of conducting large arbitration in, or for clients based in, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and more broadly within south east Asia. Simon's practice is typically major infrastructure or energy project-based problems on live matters or arbitrations.

Zarghona Fazal, Partner & Head of Arbitration, Hadef & Partners

Zarghona Fazal is Partner, Arbitration, and Head of DIFC/ADGM Litigation at Hadef & Partners. She has acted as counsel in numerous commercial arbitrations in the UAE and internationally, both ad-hoc and under the rules of the major arbitral institutions in the region including the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), DIFC-LCIA, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA).

Zarghona also regularly advises on the enforcement of judgments and arbitral awards through the UAE Courts including the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts. Her international experiences have proven an invaluable element in navigating the UAE disputes landscape. She specialises in a variety of high-value contractual, shareholder, real estate, accounting and banking disputes and has wider experience in consumer laws, insurance, oil and gas, and construction litigation.

Soraya Corm-Bakhos, Independent Arbitrator

Soraya Corm-Bakhos, a French qualified lawyer, is one of the leading arbitration practitioners based in Dubai since 2008. After nearly twenty years of experience in international law firms, Soraya now dedicates herself to her practice as arbitrator. During her career in private practice Soraya advised clients in all types of commercial arbitrations under all major institutional arbitration rules in relation to a variety of industry sectors including energy, transport and infrastructure. Soraya has acted as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator and chair in arbitrations mainly seated in the Middle East under the ICC, DIFC-LCIA, LCIA, DIAC, BCDR and ArbitrateAD in disputes related to construction, real estate, sale and purchase agreements, joint-venture disputes and general commercial disputes. She has been appointed to serve as a member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR. She has authored numerous publications in the field of arbitration.

Sheila L. Shadmand, Partner-in-Charge, Middle East & Africa, Jones Day

Sheila Shadmand is a U.S. lawyer resident in Dubai for 17 years. She is the Partner-in-Charge of the Firm's Middle East Region and leads its Global Disputes and International Investigations practices in the Middle East and Africa. She represents Fortune500 global companies in a multitude of complex commercial litigation, arbitration, and investigative matters. Over her 27 years' of experience, she has defended clients before the DOJ and SEC, in U.S. state and federal courts, and in the DIFC Courts. She has led and defended investigations in over 40 countries throughout the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (MEASA).

Cesar Ghaleb, Founding Partner, Triumph & Co.

Cesar is the founding partner of Triumph & Co., a firm with offices in the UAE and Lebanon, and currently expanding into London and KSA. Cesar is a dual qualified lawyer, admitted to the Beirut Bar Association, and admitted as a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales. He holds two master's degrees including an LLM in Corporate and Commercial Law from Queen Mary University of London, having graduated with distinction.

With over ten years of experience and a strong focus on the construction industry, he represents through his firm a significant number of leading contractors and developers in high profile litigation and arbitration cases across the region, having handled billions of dirhams in claims.

Julian Cohen, Arbitrator & Barrister, Resolution Chambers

Julian has 30 years of specialist experience of heavyweight international, and domestic, disputes. Sums in dispute in his cases vary from small to in excess of USD 2 billion. In addition to acting as counsel, he also regularly sits as an arbitrator. Julian has over 10 years' experience in the MENA region, including 2 years based full time in Dubai, and an ongoing long-term commitment to the region. Julian has been involved in projects and disputes in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Oman, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Benin, Sierra Leone and Mali.

Julian was called to the Bar in England & Wales in 1990. He was with Pinsent Masons' Construction Disputes practice in London and Hong Kong from 1993 to 2009. He left Pinsent Masons as a partner in 2009, and was called to the Bar in Hong Kong in 2010. Julian is particularly well known for his heavy weight practice in relation to the Construction and Engineering sectors, the Energy, Oil and Gas sectors and International and domestic arbitrations.

Tim Yimin Liu, Partner, Global Law Office

Mr. Yimin Liu, Tim, FCIArb, focuses on cross-border legal practices, his cases are from the jurisdictions such as the USA, China, the UK, the UAE (DIFC and ADGM), the KSA, Qatar, Turkey, Egypt, Israel, Kazakhstan, ASEAN, India, Australia, and New Zealand, etc. Tim is empaneled as arbitrator and mediator of SCCA and DIAC. As counsel, Tim works on the matters such as China domestic litigation and arbitration, cross border litigation, international commercial arbitration and mediation, judicial reviewing of arbitral awards (recognition and enforcement, setting aside, and refusal of recognition and enforcement). Tim was also involved in cross border bankruptcy and assets recovery in foreign jurisdictions.

Currently Tim works with Global Law Office of China (GLO) as partner in Shanghai. Before that, Tim worked with Accenture as in-house Legal Director for complex digital and data deals, and with other leading international law firms such as Morrison & Foerster, Clifford Chance, Nixon Peabody LLP, and Heller Ehrman LLP, Mori Hamada & Matsumoto. Tim worked in NYC, Chicago, Tokyo and Hong Kong.

Dr. Bader AlBusaiyes, Founder & Managing Partner, Alsuwaiket & Albusaiyes

Dr. Bader is a certified lawyer and arbitrator with around 20 years of experience in the legal field, with an extensive background and strong passion for resolving conflicts. Has proven ability to represent clients in a wide range of legal matters from different industries. His clients include companies from Maritime, Oil, Gas, Energy, Logistics, Pharmaceutical, Banking, Petrochemical, Insurance, Tax, Aviation, Retail and more. Skilled in negotiation and mediation, and able to resolve disputes quickly and efficiently in a fair and impartial manner.

A highly motivated and results-oriented professional with a strong commitment to justice. His area of expertise includes Contracts, Customs law, Companies incorporations, regulations of trade, corporate law and corporate governance, Foreign Investment, Intellectual Property, Legal Due diligence, Merger and Acquisition, Mediation, Commercial Arbitration, and litigation.

Humayun Ahmad, Partner, Hadef & Partners

Humayun Ahmad is a Partner within Hadef's dispute resolution department specialising in contentious Engineering & Construction matters. He is an experienced arbitration practitioner with 20 years' experience of advising developers, funders, main contractors (sole and JV), subcontractors (sole and JV), employers (private and government-related), engineers and architects on bringing and defending complex and high-value claims relating to issues such as time, cost and quality, extensions of time, loss and expense, variations, payment and final account claims.

Specifically, Humayun has represented clients in arbitrations seated in various jurisdictions including Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. These have been governed by prominent institutional rules, including those of DIAC, SCCA, LCIA, ICC as well as ad hoc and UNCITRAL Rules. Such disputes have been resolved under a variety of national laws. Humayun also advises construction clients during the execution of their projects. Working in a Project Counsel role, Humayun advises on contractual entitlements and advises on correspondence, notices, variation and claim submissions brought during the life cycle of the project. He has worked on a variety of projects across the Middle East including building, construction, engineering, rail, infrastructure, healthcare, mining and oil and gas projects.

Paul Kelly, Senior Claims Consultant, Triumph & Co.

Paul, an MRICS, MCIArb, and MCIOB member, has over 15 years of experience in the construction industry, specializing in dispute resolution, cost management, and commercial advisory across the MEA region. He has advised international clients on quantum claims, contract documentation, and dispute avoidance, representing them in high-profile arbitrations under ICC, DIAC, ADCCAC, and DIFC-LCIA rules.

Sean Hugo, Senior Managing Director, CBBG Group

Sean, a Partner at CBBG Group, brings to the table extensive expertise as a Testified Delay and Disruption Expert. His proficiency spans the specialized domains of delay and disruption analysis. Prior to assuming this role, Sean heldized project-based positions, including Site Engineer, Project Manager, Project Controls Manager, and Planning Manager, on complicated projects. Sean has significant EPC experience in Oil and Gas in both a dispute setting and practical work experience.

As an Independent Delay and Disruption Expert, Sean has been entrusted with drafting numerous expert reports, testifying and undergoing cross examination, offering unbiased opinions on construction project delay and disruption. He is well-versed in adhering to the best practice protocols outlined in AACE International Recommended Practice No. 29R-03 and the SCL Delay and Disruption Protocol. Additionally, Sean has undergone formal training in expert witness testimony and advanced cross-examination techniques.

Sean's expertise has been recognized through his appointments as an independent delay/disruption expert under the arbitration rules of ICC, DIAC, QICCA, and LCIA. His contributions in this capacity have led to him being recognized by WWL under the category of Arbitration Future Leaders - Expert Witnesses.

Céline Abi Habib Kanakri, Partner & Co-Head, Dispute Resolution Practice, RI K Partners

Céline Abi Habib Kanakri is a Partner and the Co-Head of the Dispute Resolution Practice at BLK Partners, based in Dubai. Céline specializes in international arbitration, with a focus on commercial, construction, and real estate matters, as well as alternative dispute resolution within the GCC. With over 19 years of experience, Céline brings a wealth of knowledge in domestic and international arbitration and serves as an arbitrator with esteemed institutions such as the ICC, the LCIA, and the DIAC. Her proficiency extends to both co-arbitrator and sole arbitrator roles, handling a diverse range of domestic and cross-border disputes in the UAE and the Middle East region.

Céline was honored by DIAC as the best sole arbitrator under the age of 40, a testament to her exceptional skills and dedication in the field. Beyond her arbitration practice, Céline has actively contributed to the legal landscape in the UAE, participating in the drafting and review of multiple decrees, laws, and regulations. Additionally, she has played a pivotal role in the development of training materials for the CLPD program at the Dubai Legal Affairs Department and has contributed to earlier versions of the revised DIAC Rules.

Céline is affiliated with esteemed professional organizations, including the SCL, UAE International Chamber of Commerce, ICC Arab Arbitration Group and Arbitral Women. Her outstanding contributions have garnered recognition with rankings in prestigious publications such as the Asian Legal Business by Thomson Reuters, where she was named one of the MENA Super 50 2022 lawyers. She has also been consistently ranked in the Legal 500 for construction and dispute resolution. Moreover, Céline has been recognized in the Legal 500 Private Practice Arbitration Powerlist for the Middle East Region in 2022 and 2023, solidifying her reputation as a leading figure in the field of arbitration. Additionally, she has contributed to several publications and has been a speaker at numerous events addressing topics related to dispute resolution, international arbitration, construction, and real estate.

Céline has a BA from St. Joseph's University (Beirut, Lebanon). She is a member of the Beirut Bar Association, and is fluent in Arabic, English and French.

Nesreen Osman, Partner, Pinsent Masons

Nesreen is a Partner in our Dubai office with 15 years' disputes experience specialising in construction and engineering disputes. Nesreen acts on behalf of employers, main contractors, subcontractors and consultants. Nesreen has advised client from various parts of the world including the UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Pakistan, India, China, Japan and South Korea. She has extensive experience in international arbitration in the infrastructure and energy sectors. Nesreen has advised in relation to disputes relating to contract interpretation, variations, payment, delay and disruption, defective works, suspension of works and termination of contracts and professional negligence. Nesreen's disputes experience also covers a broad range of other sectors including commercial developments, residential developments, PFI/PPP projects for schools and hospitals as well as EPC projects for heavy industries. Nesreen has advised clients in respect of major construction and engineering disputes in arbitration under the rules of various arbitration centres such as ICC, DIAC, DIFC-LCIA and ADCCAC in the majority of the GCC countries as well as the wider Middle East.

A significant portion of Nesreen's time is also spent advising clients on managing negotiations and alternative means of resolving disputes with the aim of reaching extra-judicial settlement (including mediation and expert determination).

Nesreen was ranked as a Next Generation Partner in the Legal 500 EMEA rankings for UAE Construction.

Yulia Barnes, Managing Partner, Barnes Law

Yulia Barnes is our Managing Partner and an experienced solicitor of more than 20 years. She specialises in commercial and corporate law, dispute resolution and corporate governance for commercial clients and high net-worth individuals. Yulia first qualified in Russia, before then qualifying in England and Wales. Following this, she worked at a large international law firm, before becoming a partner at a regional law firm heading up the Dispute Resolution department. Yulia's career then took her in-house, before she decided to start Barnes Law, her own boutique practice, with the aim of providing exclusive services to HNW individuals and privately-owned businesses in 2018. Yulia's practice is wide spanning, but she has particularly extensive experience in commercial litigation and contentious trusts, as well as regularly advising on M&A deals.

Yulia and the wider Barnes Law team are recognised for their strong awareness and skills across the broad spectrum of both commercial and corporate law. Yulia takes a practical and professional approach to all matters and is dedicated to ensuring clients' objectives are achieved in the most cost-effective way possible. She prides herself on her problem-solving, her commercial acumen and project management skills, while being robust in negotiation. Yulia brings a personal touch to every case and immerses herself in all her clients' businesses to gain a deep understanding of their position and the best approach to achieve their strategic objectives. This has led her to be recognised as a leading professional in her field.

In her spare time Yulia enjoys sailing, hiking and theatre.

Alex Voigt, Founding Partner, Construction Dynamics Solutions

Alex Voigt is a founding partner at Construction Dynamics Solutions, and a world leading expert in applying System Dynamics to analyse the performance of complex construction and engineering projects. Throughout his 25-year career, Alex has led consulting teams preparing fifteen major delay and disruption claim analyses, and he regularly publishes on the matter in renowned journals. Alex holds a master's degree in aeronautical engineering (Madrid) and an MBA (MIT).

Vikki Wall, Partner, Accounting Valuation Experts (AVE)

Vikki Wall is a Partner and co-founder of AVE, a forensic accounting boutique, and an experienced testifying expert witness. Vikki specialises in evaluating quantum, typically company or asset valuations, loss of profit and wasted costs claims in commercial, contractual, transactional and investment treaty disputes.

Vikki has been a forensic chartered accountant for over 25 years and has worked on more than 100 cases, giving oral testimony in international and UK litigation and arbitration proceedings, including being appointed as expert in arbitration under ICC, LCIA, PCA, UNCITRAL, ICSID, QICCA, SCC, HKIAC and DIAC rules. Vikki has extensive experience in all aspects of dispute work in the construction industry and across a wide range of further industries including IT, leisure and travel.

Vikki has a first class mathematics degree from Leeds and Paris Jussieu universities and initially trained as a chartered accountant and auditor. Vikki is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales and past chair of its Forensic and Expert Witness Community advisory panel.

Arran Dowling-Hussey, Barrister, 4-5 Gray's Inn Square

Arran Dowling-Hussey is a barrister, arbitrator and mediator practicing from chambers at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square, London. He is an adjunct professor of law at University College Cork and also at Gujarat Maritime University. Arran is an outgoing Trustee of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (having served 2017-2024) and a member of the Council of the Society of Construction Law. He cowrote 3 editions of 'Arbitration Law' which has been cited and approved by the Irish Superior Courts. Arran is called to the Bar in Belfast, British Virgin Islands, Dublin, London and is part 2 registered with the DIFC Courts' Register of Legal Practitioners in Dubai.

Angelika Hellweger, Legal Director, Rahman Ravelli

Angelika is a specialist in international, high-level economic crime investigations and large-scale commercial and sanctions-related disputes, as well as asset recovery. As a multilingual lawyer she represents corporates and conglomerates across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the United States. Her comprehensive experience and thorough understanding of all aspects of white-collar crime have led to her successfully representing corporations in many notable multijurisdictional investigations and in some of the most complex commercial litigation. She has a particular expertise in multijurisdictional asset recovery cases for and against governments and states using both civil and criminal asset recovery routes, and in handling diplomatic questions related to such cases. Her work on cases involving environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues has seen her become one of the lawyers at the forefront of this developing area. As part of Rahman Ravelli's international sanctions team, much of her sanctions practice is particularly focused on enforcement activities, the freezing and seizure of assets and sanctions-related disputes.

Victor P. Leginsky, International Arbitrator, Arbitralis

Victor P. Leginsky, Canadian citizen, is an experienced international arbitrator and mediator resident in the United Arab Emirates since 2007. Victor has earned the internationally-recognized designations of Chartered Arbitrator and Fellow from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and is appointed to the ClArb Panel of Arbitrators. Victor is a CEDR (Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, London) accredited mediator and mediation experience as Chair, Manufactured Home Park Dispute Resolution Committee (Attorney General of British Columbia, Canada, appointment) and in mediations. Victor is appointed to the panels or lists of arbitrators in a number of international centres and is a committee member of the International Court of Arbitration (ICC) Canada. He has instructed and assessed in respect of Mediation though the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the ClArb. He is the past Middle East Regional Director of the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN). He is a member in good standing of the Law Society of British Columbia, Canada.

Robert Lloyd, Head of Contracts, Arabian Construction Company

Robert has more than 30 years of experience working for contractors in the UK and Middle East. Since 2009, Robert has lead the contracts department at Arabian Construction Company (ACC) and is responsible for the management of all pre and post contract risk.

Matthew Page, Partner, Habib Al Mulla & Partners

Matthew is a Partner specializing in construction and commercial arbitration and litigation in the UAE and globally. With over 20 years of experience, he has acted as counsel in numerous arbitrations, both ad hoc and under the rules of the major arbitral institutions, such as the ICC, DIAC, ADCCAC, LCIA, DIFC-LCIA, ICSID, and UNCITRAL. Matthew is ranked and profiled in the Legal 500's Private Practice Powerlist for Arbitration in the Middle East, and is described in leading legal directories as "showing great judgment in his dealings with the client and opponents", "very good at managing the dispute process", and "very hard working, produces excellent written work and has great drive and enthusiasm".

He is a Solicitor-Advocate qualified in England, a registered Legal Practitioner of the DIFC Courts, and also sits as an Arbitrator. He advises clients on disputes in a range of industry sectors including construction, commercial, energy, oil and gas, real estate, telecommunications, and shareholder disputes. Matthew's expertise extends to representing both governments and multinational companies in investment treaty arbitrations. He has written extensively on international arbitration and regularly speaks at international conferences and seminars.

Matthew previously worked for major law firms in the UAE and London (including Herbert Smith LLP) and obtained an M.A. Hons in History and Law from the University of Cambridge (Downing College).

Rozana ALTayyar, Independent Arbitrator & Mediator

Rozana AlTayyar is an esteemed Independent Arbitrator and Mediator, serving as a member of the ICC Court and the Chair of the ICC Saudi Arabia Arbitration & ADR National Committee. As the Founder and Managing Director of Taswea, she offers over a decade of specialized expertise in navigating complex, high-value commercial disputes, including construction, real estate, family businesses, and joint ventures.

Rozana's proficiency in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) is further enhanced by her 14-year career in corporate banking, where she gained extensive insights across diverse industries such as real estate, food manufacturing, automotive, and aviation. A distinguished Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), she also serves on the CIArb-KSA Steering Committee and the Advisory Board of the College of Law at Princess Nora University.

Her significant contributions to the legal field were recognized in the LexisNexis Middle East publication, "Women in Law in the Arab World," on August 23, 2022.

Moses W. Park, Barrister, Liberty Chambers

Moses W. Park is a dispute resolution lawyer practicing as a barrister (trial advocate) based in Hong Kong. His practice mainly focuses on conduct and resolution of cross-border and international commercial arbitration and litigation. He has handled a broad spectrum of commercial work with an emphasis on civil fraud, assettracing /recovery, enforcement of foreign arbitral awards/judgments, family office as well as shareholder disputes. Moses has expertise concerning recovery strategies and emergency relief measures related to fraud including Mareva injunctions, Norwich Pharmacal orders and asset tracing proceedings. He is well versed in the enforcement of foreign judgments and arbitral awards process in Hong Kong. His clients have included multi-national corporations and businesses as well as high and ultra-high net worth individuals. Moses specialises in multi-jurisdictional financial crime and regulatory matters. He advises financial institutions on cross-border fraud and asset recovery related issues and has particular expertise in conducting complex multi-jurisdictional asset tracing. His experience spans a wide range of industry sectors, particularly, financial services, family offices and private equity funds. His work extends to regulatory fields (providing advice on matters governed by securities and banking legislation). Lately, he has been advising international clients on regulatory issues relating to overnance and regulation of family offices.

Christian P. Alberti, Chief of ADR and General Counsel, Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA)

Christian P. Alberti is the Chief of ADR and General Counsel of the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) and based in Riyadh and Dubai. Prior to joining the SCCA in 2019, he was the Assistant Vice President of the International Centre for Dispute

Resolution (AAA-ICDR). He taught as Adjunct Professor at New York University School of Law (NYU) on International Arbitration and International Sales Law between 2017 and 2019. He is a Member of the Global Advisory Board of the New York International Arbitration

Center (NYIAC), a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators as well as a member of various international ADR associations. He is certified to practice law in Germany and New York State.

Marcus Khoury, Head of Legal, Averda

Marcus Antoine Khoury is Head of Legal at Averda. Marcus has been working as an inhouse legal counsel in the construction industry in the GCC, in particular in Saudi Arabia and in the UAE, for the past 20 years. He is both German and Lebanese and has graduated at the Sorbonne in Paris and the Universities of Cologne and Munich. In his spare time Marcus loves to hike and considers having walked more than 1000 km to the Spanish city of Santiago de Compostela as one of his greatest experiences.

Robert Lewsley, Senior Legal Counsel, Standard Chartered Bank

Robert is the Regional Head of Disputes and Government Investigations (Africa & Middle East) at Standard Chartered Bank. Robert studied law at the London School of Economics (2003, LLB Hons first class), was called to the Bar of England & Wales in 2004 and practised in London before moving to Dubai in 2009. He spent seven years in the arbitration team at Al Tamimi & Co. handling complex commercial disputes, and appeared regularly before the DIFC Courts and arbitral tribunals as an advocate. He joined Standard Chartered Bank in 2017. Robert has published widely, contributing articles to Global Arbitration Review, the International Arbitration Law Review, and chapters on the DIFC as a seat for arbitration.

Robert A Sliwinski, Independent Arbitrator & Barrister

Robert is a Barrister, Chartered Arbitrator, Mediator and Dispute Board Member with 35+ years' experience of the construction and engineering industries, having initially qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor, and is able to provide a unique view of the worldwide ADR arena today.

Robert is based in Dubai where through his company Insight Legal FZ l he acts as independent legal Counsel representing clients in both domestic and international disputes in a wide variety of settings.

Through ArbDB Chambers in London Robert acts as Arbitrator, Mediator, Adjudicator and Dispute Board Member. He has been involved in wide range of commercial and contractual disputes within the fields of construction, civil engineering, process plant, etc as well as general commercial disputes.

Robert is the current Chair of the UAE branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and works hard to promote all forms of ARD in the region.

Joseph Chedrawe KC, Independent Arbitrator

Joseph Chedrawe KC is an independent international arbitrator based in Dubai. With two decades of dispute resolution experience under many arbitral seats, arbitral rules, and governing laws, he has sat as chair, sole arbitrator, and coarbitrator in more than 20 arbitrations and has acted as counsel in more than 50 cases. Joseph was previously a Partner and Vice Chair of Disputes (EMEA) at Covington & Burling and the Office Managing Partner and Head of Disputes in Dubai at Vinson & Elkins. In addition to his arbitrator work, Joseph is a visiting professor in international arbitration at Dalhousie University in Canada and was a lecturer in law at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom.

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