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AFRICA:

1ST INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION & ADR SUMMIT — NAIROBI

Thursday, 18 September 2025, 9:10am — 5:10pm

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi Upper Hill

(This conference will be conducted in English)

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SPEAKERS



Saad Hegazy
Trustee, Ciarb; Managing
Partner, Resolve
Chairman



David Brynmor Thomas KC
Keynote Speaker



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



Victor Leginsky
Independent Arbitrator,
Arbitralis
Moderator — 2nd Grand Panel



Samuel Mbiriri Nderitu
Founding Partner,
Mbiriri Ngugi & Co



Sadaff Habib
Independent Arbitrator,
Equanimity Arbitration



Marcus Khoury
Head of Legal, Averda



Mercy Okiro
Chairman, National
Construction Authority Board
of Directors

9:10 – 9:25	Welcome Message by Chairman
9:25 – 9:40	Welcome Address by Nairobi Centre for International Arbitration (NCIA)
9:40 – 10:00	Keynote Session David Brynmor Thomas KC
10:00 – 10:20	Investor State Dispute Settlement in International Construction Projects
10:20 – 11:00	1st Grand Panel: Art of Negotiation: Tactical Issues in Why Arbitration, Why Mediation and Why Not? Moderator: • Leonora Riesenburger Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator, INTADR DMCC Panellist: • Samuel Mbiriri Nderitu, Founding Partner, Mbiriri Ngugi & Co
11:00 – 11:30	Networking & Morning Refreshments
11:30 – 11:50	Managing Cross-border Disputes in the Region
11:50 – 12:10	Exploring Treaty Based Disputes Mechanisms in Africa: AfCFTA Protocol & OHADA Treaty & Its Effects
12:10 – 12:50	2nd Grand Panel: Enforcement & Invalidity of Awards: Understanding Arbitration Clauses & Monetising an Award – Geopolitical Risks & Regional Issues to Consider Moderator: • Victor Leginsky, Independent Arbitrator, Arbitralis
12:50 – 13:55	Networking Lunch
13:55 – 14:15	Importance of Understanding African Cultural Dynamics in International Arbitration Sadaff Habib, Independent Arbitrator, Equanimity Arbitration
14:15 – 14:55	3rd Grand Panel: Construction Disputes in Africa: Expert Witness, Damages, Quantum & Supply Chain Issues Moderator: • TBC Panellists: • Mercy Okiro, Chairman, National Construction Authority Board of Directors • Marcus Khoury, Head of Legal, Averda
14:55 – 15:35	4th Grand Panel: Energy Charter Treaty, ESG, LNG, Pricing and Compliance: Avoiding Inevitable Disputes and Understanding Changes of Circumstances
15:35 – 16:00	Short Break & Afternoon Refreshment
16:00 – 16:20	Use of Emergency Arbitration & Expedited Procedures in the Region: To Do or Not to Do?
16:20 – 17:00	5th Grand Panel: Corporate Fraud & Investigations in the Region: Tracing Assets & Digital Issues
17:00 – 17:10	Closing Remarks & Lucky Draw

* program is subject to change without prior notice

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This conference will be conducted in English
Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi Upper Hill
Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi Upper Hill,
Elgon Road, Nairobi, Kenya

Registration Fee –

Rates for Law/Risk Management Firms

Includes all networking drinks & refreshments

Super Early Bird Rate: USD 399
(on or before 30 June 2025)

Early Bird Rate: USD 550
(1 July – 11 August 2025)

Normal Rate: USD 750
(from 11 August 2025)

Supporting Organisation Rate: USD 550

Half Day Rate (AM/PM): USD 399

Saad Hegazy, Trustee, Ciarb; Managing Partner, Resolve

Saad has more than 20 years' experience. He is an arbitrator, CEDR accredited mediator, testified delay and quantum expert, member of the Academy of Experts and expert determinator, based in the Middle East. He has lived and worked in the UAE, KSA and Qatar. His formal education includes a BSc in civil engineering, a MSc in strategic project management, and an LLM in construction law and international arbitration.

He has gained a wealth of experience and knowledge having worked on airports, metros, infrastructures, industrials, oil & gas, water treatment, utilities, luxuries and high rise buildings.

He has participated in over 30 Arbitration cases, as Counsel, Arbitrator and advisor. Saad has been instructed as party or tribunal appointed expert in arbitration proceedings under ICC, DIAC, QICCA, LCIA, and ADHOC rules as well as independent expert in litigation proceedings in matters involving large and complex projects with disputes values in excess of US\$ 2bn. He is a testified and been cross examined in both English and Arabic.

He is the Trustee of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Ciarb) for the MENA region, the Pat President of the AACE Qatar Branch, and the previous ICC YAF MENA regional representative.

Saad is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCI Arb), Expert Witness of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS), CEDR accredited Mediator and Arbitrator listed at ICC, Ciarb, SCCA, DIAC, QICCA, BDAC, AAC, and W&W rosters with various arbitration appointments.

David Brynmor Thomas KC

David Brynmor Thomas is King's Counsel of England and Wales and now exclusively sits as a leading international commercial arbitrator and mediator. He is also an honorary professor of law in the School of International Arbitration at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary University of London where he teaches International Construction Contracts and Arbitration. David has more than 30 years of experience in international arbitration in which he has been arbitrator or counsel in over 30 jurisdictions globally. David has been appointed in over 70 disputes as sole, party-appointed or presiding arbitrator in ad hoc and institutional commercial arbitrations. He is presently sitting in arbitrations in a range of seat arising from EPC contracts for infrastructure projects, Upstream Energy projects and general commercial and investment disputes.

Leonora Riesenburger Independent Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator, INTADR DMCC

Leonora Riesenburger 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 (CI Arb), 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 CI Arb UAE, as an Elected Member of the Board of Management for CI Arb 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 CI Arb 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.

Victor Leginsky, Independent 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 CI Arb 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 through the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the CI Arb. 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.

Samuel Mbiriri Nderitu, Founding Partner, Mbiriri Ngugi & Co

Nderitu is an advocate in the Kenyan Bar and a founding Partner of Mbiriri Ngugi & Co. He is a highly skilled Arbitrator, Mediator and commercial law practitioner with right of audience in the Astana International Financial Centre Court (AIFC Court) and International Arbitration Centre (IAC), Kazakhstan. In 2023, he was recognized by the Law Society of Kenya as the 1st Runner up ADR practitioner of the Year.

Nderitu is quite active in the ADR space and was privileged to serve as the Chair of CI Arb, Kenya Branch (2019-2021) and in the National Committee of International Chamber of Commerce, Kenya. He is currently a Member of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) African Users' Council, Board member of the Nairobi Centre for International Arbitration (NCIA), Advisory Board member for ODR Africa Network and Musaliha International Center for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (MICADR), Pakistan. He is also accredited as a trainer and examiner of Arbitration and mediation.

Nderitu is in the panel of Arbitrators and mediators at the Nairobi Centre for International Arbitration, CI Arb Kenya and the China Maritime Arbitration Commission. His service extends to being a member of Law Society of Kenya CPD Committee and also Convenor of the ADR Committee.

Sadaff Habib, Independent Arbitrator, Equanimity Arbitration

Sadaff Habib is an independent arbitrator. Born and raised in Kenya with Indian roots, she is qualified as an attorney in New York. Sadaff has extensive experience in international arbitration, including disputes involving construction, infrastructure, property, commercial, desalination plants, and solar power projects. Prior to going independent, Sadaff worked with international law firms such as Beale & Co and Fenwick Elliott. Sadaff is recognized as a Future Leader by Who's Who Legal and is also ranked in Who's Who Legal as a Global Elite Thought Leader. She also holds a ranking in the Legal 500 Middle East Construction, where she is acknowledged for building a reputable presence in international arbitration as an arbitrator.

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.

Mercy Okiro, Chairman, National Construction Authority Board of Directors

Mercy Okiro brings over a decade of post-admission experience to her practice. She has served as the sole arbitrator, mediator, and construction adjudicator in disputes across various industries. Mercy is a member of the panels of neutrals for several local and regional institutions. In 2019, she was honoured as "The Young African Arbitration Practitioner of the Year 2019"; she was also listed as one of Africa's Most Promising Young Arbitrators in 2020, 2021, and 2022 by the Association of Young Arbitrators. Additionally, she was named second runner-up as ADR Practitioner of the Year in 2021 by the Law Society of Kenya, Nairobi Branch. In 2023, she received the Jury's Award for her contributions to ADR from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Kenya.

She is the current Chairperson of the board of the National Construction Authority in Kenya and an adjunct faculty member of the Kenya School of Law and Strathmore University.

Mercy is an active member of the arbitration community, sitting on the Council of the Association of Young Arbitrators and serving as an Advisory Board member of the Lagos Court of Arbitration (Young Arbitrators Network), as well as a Steering Committee Member of Equality for Representation in Arbitration, Africa.

She was an ICC YAAF Representative for Africa and the MENA region, sat on the Steering Committee of the Young Members Group of CI Arb London, and was the founding Chair of the Young Members Group of CI Arb Kenya. She also served as an Ambassador for the Alliance for Equality in Dispute Resolution, Arbitrator Intelligence, and Racial Equality for Arbitration Lawyers (REAL).

Mercy's academic background includes a Master of Arts in International Studies and Diplomacy from the University of Nairobi, a Master of Laws degree in International Commercial and Investment Arbitration from Queen Mary University of London an Oxford Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration.

Africa: 1st International Arbitration & ADR Summit — Nairobi

For enquiries and registration, please contact
LegalPlus Asia at legalpluseventsasia@legalplus-asia.com.

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Includes all networking drinks & refreshments

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> *Complimentary seat for in-house/general counsel (one per company only) | |

*Important note

• Complimentary seat is applicable to in-house counsel from non law/consultancy firm and based on first-come-first-served. Results are based on the organiser's discretion and applicants will be notified by email.

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- 21 days or less to the event date: No refund of the registration fee but allowed to have a substitute to replace your attendance.

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