International Arbitration: Exploring India’s Potential
Global Dialogue Forum

Friday 15 November 2019

Chatham House | 10 St James’s Square | London | SW1Y 4LE

As India's economic clout grows, so does its aspiration to become a favoured arbitration destination in a globalised world dominated by foreign investments flows and cross border transactions. India's bid to enhance its status as an arbitration destination depends largely on the suitability of its legal environment in meeting the demands of an increasingly sophisticated approach to disputed resolution. This conference will assess these, and other related, issues.

09.30-10.00  Registration

10.00-10.30  Welcome Remarks
Moses Manoharan, Chairman, Global Dialogue Forum
HE Ruchi Ghanashyam, High Commissioner to the UK, India

10.30-12.00  Session One: The Changing Landscape of Indian Arbitration in the Global Economic Environment

The panel will discuss India’s responses to the evolution of critical aspects of international arbitration:

- Examining India’s regulatory approach to international arbitration and how far it promotes ease of doing business
- Assessing Ad hoc versus Institutional Arbitration in the Indian scenario
- Balancing entitlements in Investor-State Dispute Settlements
- Dealing with Third Party Funding

Speakers
Dipen Sabharwal QC, Partner, White & Case LLP
Ashish Prasad, Senior Litigation Partner, Economic Laws Practice, Mumbai, India
Kunal Vajani, Head of Chambers, BlackRobe Chambers
Wendy J.Miles QC, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Chair: Professor Stavros Brekoulakis, The School of International Arbitration, Queen Mary University of London

12.00-13.00  Lunch
13.00-14.30 Session Two: Arbitration Amidst Competing Global Geopolitical Visions

This panel will explore the relationship between different bodies and pillars of the arbitral sphere, how they co-exist, cooperate and compete:

This panel will discuss new trends in international arbitration and how emerging economic power blocs are coping with the challenges:

- International arbitration and international relations – balancing the rule of law and sovereign interests
- The role of courts in fostering arbitration- a comparative look at different jurisdictions and legal cultures
- Emerging regional arbitral centres
- The need for reform in the investment treaty arbitration landscape
- The role of international arbitral institutions in establishing a New Multilateral Order

Speakers:
Feresthe Sethna, Senior Partner, DMD Advocates
Helen Brown, Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague
Pranav Mago, Founder and CEO, ELF Partners Pte Ltd, Singapore

Chair: Shai Wade, Partner, Stephenson Harwood LLP, UK

14.30-15.00 Afternoon Break

15.00-17.00 Session Three: Challenges and Opportunities for India in Developing as an International Arbitral Hub

This panel will consider how India can establish itself as a leading arbitral centre, the challenges it faces and the opportunities that can accrue from it, including:

- Recent developments in the law and arbitral culture in India
- Scope for growth in institutional arbitration in India
- The global perception of India as a choice for an arbitral seat
- Comparative experiences of other Asian arbitral hotspots

Speakers:
Manish Aggarwal, Partner, Tree Crowns LLP
Ravindra Shrivastava, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and former Advocate General of Chattisgarh
Shreyas Jayasimha, Advocate, Arbitrator, Mediator, Aarna Law LLP, Bangalore, India
Karthik Balisagar, Managing Director, FTI Consulting
Ashleigh Brocchieri, Deputy Counsel, International Court of Arbitration, Paris

Chair: Charles Bear QC, Fountain Court Chambers, London

17.00-17.30 Closing Remarks

Professor Dan Sarooshi QC, Essex Court Chambers, Professor of Public International Law, University of Oxford, UK