The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators is launching three international conferences in 2017 which will examine ‘The Synergy and Divergence between Civil Law and Common Law in International Arbitration’. The theme will be developed during each conference by identifying the issues and then developing solutions, using a pragmatic approach to the understanding and utilisation of both systems within arbitration.

The series of conferences will start in Dubai on 8-9 March and then take us to Johannesburg, South Africa in July and Paris, France in December.

Dubai Conference, 2017
The conference in Dubai on 8 - 9 March 2017 will look at the topic from the perspective of the Middle East and Asia. The welcome address will be given by the President of The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIarb), Professor Dr Nayla Comair-Obeid C.Arb. Prof Comair-Obeid is the founding partner of Obeid Law Firm and heads the firm’s dispute resolution practice.

The programme comprises a series of panel discussions on a variety of topics including:
• The role of legislation in developing and sustaining an arbitration friendly seat
• The perspective from arbitral institutions on building the synergy between civil and common law
• The civil-common law dichotomy – practical solutions to current problems
• Young Members Group in civil and common law systems: challenges and opportunities

The sessions will explore themes such as: ‘The perspective from arbitral institutions on building the synergy between civil and common law’, chaired by Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, and ‘Judicial intervention, perceptions and reactions – The civil-common law approaches’, chaired by Dr Michael Hwang SC C.Arb. All sessions will be discussed and debated from both common law and civil law angles. We will be delving into the differences and similarities between these perspectives. The conference will have speakers representing both common law and civil law counterparts.

The conference will be taking place at the One & Only Royal Mirage in Dubai, overlooking the amazing landscape of Palm Jumeriah and the Arabian Gulf and just minutes away from Dubai Marina.

For registration visit: www.ciarb.org/Dubaiconf
Conference programme

Wednesday 8th March 2017

- 8.00am  Registration and coffee
- 9.00am  Welcome and opening comments
- 9.10am  Keynote Speech
  Prof Dr Nayla Comair-Obeid FCIArb C.Arb
  President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- 9.30am  Panel Discussion 1: The role of legislation in developing and sustaining an arbitration friendly seat
  Chair: HE Dr Nabil Elaraby  CIArb Patron
  Mostafa El Bahabety  Egypt Vice-Minister of Justice/ Judge at Cairo Criminal Court
  LIU Dexue  Director of the Legal Affair Bureau of the Macau SAR Government of the People’s Republic of China
  Rimsky Yuen, SC, JP  Secretary for Justice of the Hong Kong SAR
- 11.00am  Coffee Break
- 11.20am  Panel Discussion 2: What the client wants: strategic choices in drafting arbitration agreements
  Chair: Samaa Haridi  Partner, Hogan Lovells US LLP
  Edward Sunna FCIArb C.Arb  Chief Legal Officer, MERAAS Holding LLC
  Prof Stephen A Hibbert FCIArb  General Counsel and Head of Legal Services, Qatar Rail
  Chris Wilcock  MEA Head of Legal & Contracts, Samsung C&T Corporation
  Dr Jan Knop  Head of Legal and Compliance at Airbus Group Africa and Middle East
- 12.50pm  Lunch
- 14.00pm  Panel Discussion 3: Judicial intervention, perceptions and reactions - The civil-common law approaches
  Chair: Chief Justice Michael Hwang SC  Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts
  Justice GAO Xiaoli  Senior Judge of the Supreme People’s Court of PR, China
  Judge Sami Mansour  Former Judge, Lebanese Cour de Cassation
  Counselor Dr Michael Naser Hakim Mouawad  Director of the Technical Bureau of Arbitration
  Dr Fan Yang FCIArb  Director, International Dispute Resolution Academy
  Chief Judge Mohammed Al Sabousi  Chief Judge, Dubai Commercial Court
- 15.30pm  Coffee Break
- 15.50pm  Panel Discussion 4: Young Members Group in civil and common law systems: challenges and opportunities
  Chair: Alex Bevan  Partner, Shearman & Sterling LLP
  Yvonne Foo MCIArb Senior Associate, Clyde & Co
  Robert Stephen ALCIArb Senior Associate, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP
  Jocelyn Y.T. Lim ACIArb  Partner, SKRINE
  Sami Tannous ACIArb  Counsel, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
  Dr Michael Gurney FCIArb  Director, International Dispute Resolution Academy
  Michael Tonkin FCIArb C.Arb  Senior Vice President, Hill International CIArb Trustee and Honorary Treasurer
- 17.20pm  Open Forum: Civil-common law divergence and convergence: the construction industry case study
  Chair: James Abbott MCIArb  Partner, Clifford Chance
  Prof Dr Nael G Bunni FCIArb  C.Arb Bunni & Associates
  Prof Khawar Qureshi QC  Serle Court Chambers London and McNair Chambers Qatar
  Ziad Obeid FCIArb  Partner, Obeid Law Firm
  Michael Tonkin FCIArb C.Arb  Senior Vice President, Hill International CIArb Trustee and Honorary Treasurer
- 18.20pm  Drinks, canapés and networking
Thursday 9th March 2017

- 8.30am  Registration and coffee

- 9.00am Panel Discussion 5: The perspective from arbitral institutions on building the synergy between civil and common law  
  Chair: Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa  Principal and Founding Partner, Haya Rashed Al Khalifa Law Firm
  Alec Emmerson FCIArb  Chief Executive of DIFC Arbitration Institute  
  Dr Ismail Selim  Director, Cairo Regional Center for International Commercial Arbitration  
  Prof Nassib G. Zade  CEO Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution  
  Dr Habib Al Mulla FCIArb  DIAC Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
  Hicham Zeqri  Secretary General of Casablanca International Mediation & Arbitration Centre (CIMAC).

- 10.30am Coffee Break

- 11.00am Panel Discussion 6: The art of advocacy: the civil and common law styles  
  Chair: Francis Xavier SC FCIArb C.Arb  Regional Head, Dispute Resolution, Rajah & Tann  
  Alec Emmerison FCIArb C.Arb  Partner, Dentons  
  Prof Dr Mohamed S Abdel Wahab MCIArb  Founding Partner, Zulficar & Partners  
  Thomas Snider  Partner and Head of Arbitration, Al Tamimi & Company (Dubai).

- 12.30pm Q&A Session for Panels 5 and 6

- 12.50pm Lunch

- 14.00pm Panel Discussion 7: Arbitrators: the civil and common law styles  
  Chair: Anthony Houghton SC FCIArb C.Arb  Barrister, Des Voeux Chambers. CIArb Trustee  
  Dr Mark Hoyle FCIArb C.Arb  Partner, Gateley Plc  
  Prof Dr Loukas Mistelis MCIArb  Director, School of International Arbitration, QMUL

- 15.30pm Coffee Break

- 16.00pm Panel Discussion 8: The civil-common law dichotomy - Practical solutions to current problems  
  Chair: Michael Black QC FCIArb C.Arb  Barrister, XXIV Old Buildings  
  Gordon Blank MCIArb  Partner, DWF LLP  
  Andrea Carlevaris  Secretary General, ICC International Court of Arbitration  
  Anthony Abrahams  Director General of the CIArb

- 17.30pm Close  
  Prof Dr Nayla Comair-Obeid FCIArb C.Arb  
  President - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Thank you to our sponsors

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