



Patron: The Rt Hon. Dame Elizabeth Gloster DBE

BRANCH CHAIR'S REPORT, APRIL 2021 TO APRIL 2022

BEN GIARETTA

1. I started last year's report by saying that it's been an extraordinary year, a year like no other. This year has perhaps been no less extraordinary, given events across the world. The positive news at least has been the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, which has meant that the lockdowns have been lifted in the UK and we have been able to emerge blinking and bleary-eyed from our homes. While the trains and the workplaces are still half empty, at least we are now able to gather together for conversations that are not punctuated with, *"you're still on mute"*.
2. What has this year been like for the CI Arb London Branch? The statistics, I think, tell a remarkable story. We've run 22 events over the past year, including 11 webinars, 5 hybrid seminars (in-person and online), 3 in-person seminars and 3 workshops. We've had 89 speakers at our events. I don't have a figure for all the attendees but I'm confident that, with all the events and all the online attendance, it runs easily into the thousands. And we've had excellent feedback from attendees about our events. I believe that this has been the busiest ever year for the CI Arb London Branch – following on from last year when 15 events took place, which was itself a record. In two years of pandemic, the Branch has organised 37 events. An extraordinary response to extraordinarily difficult circumstances. Thank you to the Branch Committee for organising these events, and to all the Branch members for their engagement with the events.
3. And what a range of topics! Over the past year we've covered procedural paranoia in arbitration, party-appointed experts, good faith obligations in construction contracts (under English law and Egyptian law), international criminal courts, offshore windfarms, arbitrations at the Olympic Games, and much, much more. We've had entertaining workshops about storytelling, online and in-person. We've discussed tribunal secretaries, compulsory mediation and the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill. And we've hosted three "Supremes": we've heard from the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, about her career; we've learnt about the best forum for cryptocurrency disputes from Lord Mance, the former

Deputy President of the UK Supreme Court; and we've had tips on cross-examination of expert witnesses from Lord Neuberger, the former President of the UK Supreme Court.

4. But if anything, I would describe this as the Year of Technology. We've had events about various technological topics including cybersecurity, cryptoassets and remote and hybrid hearings; and we're very much looking forward to this year's Keynote Speech by Christina Blacklaws, the Chair of the Lawtech UK Panel and the former President of the Law Society, about the impact of technology on legal services. Technology has also transformed our mode of operations. We've tried wherever we can to hold hybrid events, so that people can watch online as an alternative to attending in person. We've also held Branch Committee meetings by Zoom and in person. In addition, we've got a new website and a LinkedIn page, as a result of the sterling efforts of our Branch Committee members Gill Mansfield and Natalia Otlinger. We are now a tech-enabled and tech-infused Branch. I wouldn't be surprised if we soon got calls from both Elon Musk and Sheryl Sandberg about how they might join the Committee. Thanks to Gill and Natalia we can now direct them to the elections page on our new website.
5. Technology has allowed new partnerships. I'm very pleased we've been able to run events with the CIArb Egypt and Qatar Branches this year, and I look forward to our collaborations with other CIArb Branches in the future. This is in addition to the joint events we've run this year, like in previous years, with two of the world-class arbitration institutions that London is proud to be home to: the LCIA and the LMAA. I'm also pleased we've continued to work closely with the CIArb Headquarters – another world-class institution based in London, I should add. Like last year, we have combined with the Headquarters for our International Women's Day event, and we have continued to contribute to the life of the CIArb via Branch Chairs meetings and via discussions with Catherine Dixon, the CIArb Director General, at some of our Branch Committee meetings. We're delighted that this year there will be a London Branch candidate for the CIArb Presidency. That's Jonathan Wood and you'll hear from him a little later this evening.
6. I want to turn now to some thank yous, congratulations and farewells. Thank you to our Branch officers: our Vice-Chair, Daniel Djanogly; our Honorary Secretary, Karina Albers; our Honorary Treasurer, Andrew Davis; and our Public Relations Officer, Natalia Otlinger. Thank you also to all our other Branch Committee members: Paul Rose, our Immediate Past Chair; Elizabeth Montpetit, Dan Harrison and Laila Hamzi, our Young Members Group representatives; Tope Adeyemi; Gillian Carmichael Lemaire; James Clanchy; Abigail Day; Kim Franklin QC; Shobana Iyer;

Jean-François Le Gal; Gill Mansfield; Rob Price; and Glenda Vencatachellum; as well as our Branch Administrator, Elinor Pritchard. You've all done so much for the Branch.

7. Thank you to our Branch Patron, Dame Elizabeth Gloster. And thank you to all the organisations that have hosted our events. There's a complete list of all of this year's events and the hosts attached to this report.
8. Congratulations to the new people who have been elected to the Branch Committee (the results that election will be announced shortly). And congratulations to our Branch Committee member, and former Honorary Secretary, James Clanchy, who has become the Honorary Secretary of the LMAA. We look forward to continuing the long and fruitful relationship between the LMAA and the CI Arb London Branch via our joint annual seminar – which James will now be organising from the other side of the fence, of course.
9. But this also takes me on to my farewells because James is also retiring from the Branch Committee at this AGM, at the end of his elected term. Retiring too are Abigail Day and Kim Franklin QC, at the end of their terms; while Paul Rose, a steadfast supporter of the Branch for 14 years, is coming to the end of his office as Immediate Past Chair, for reasons I will come onto. It's been an enormous pleasure to serve on the Branch Committee with all of you. Thank you indeed, for everything you have done.
10. The final farewell, of course, is my own. I have come to the end of my own term as an elected Branch Committee member, and that means my time as Branch Chair also ends. It's been a privilege to serve in this position for the last two years. I've made many friends and, I hope, helped to form friendships and connections between others across the ADR community in London. Thank you to the Branch Committees I have chaired and thank you to the Branch members who I have served. Farewell, however, but not goodbye, because the Branch Rules allow me to remain on the Branch Committee as the Immediate Past Chair. I follow in the footsteps of Paul Rose, and I hope to support my successor as Chair, once they are elected, with the same enthusiasm and goodwill as Paul has supported me.
11. I finish with the same words as last year's report. I thank all the Branch members for their participation in the Branch activities this year. I hope you've enjoyed the seminars, webinars, workshops, roundtables and the fireside chats. I hope you remain safe and well, and that you're

looking forward to the country continuing to return to normality. And I hope to see you again soon at our events over the coming year and beyond. Thank you.

Ben Giaretta

Chair, London Branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

20 April 2022

SCHEDULE

CIARB LONDON BRANCH EVENTS SINCE 2021 AGM

<p>11 May 2021</p>	<p>Webinar: Preparing tomorrow's disputes practitioner: the future of dispute resolution training</p> <p>Speakers: Nadya Berova, Dr Paresh Kathrani, Dr Rémy Gerbay, Alexandra Mitretodis and Marike Paulsson (moderator)</p> <p><i>Part of London International Disputes Week, joint event with Queen Mary University of London and Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners</i></p>
<p>26 May 2021</p>	<p>Webinar: Procedural paranoia in international arbitration: is the vaccine in sight or shall we expect the disease to spread further?</p> <p>Speakers: Dr Ismail Selim, Dr Sally El Sawah, Dr Rémy Gerbay and Jean-Francois Le Gal (moderator)</p> <p><i>Joint event with the CI Arb Egypt Branch in cooperation with the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration</i></p>
<p>30 June 2021</p>	<p>Webinar: Is your arbitration cyber-secure?</p> <p>Speakers: Damian Hickman, Wolf von Kumberg, Wendy Gonzales, Shobana Iyer, Tony Gee and Karina Albers (moderator)</p>
<p>7 July 2021</p>	<p>Lunchtime Discussion Webinar: Getting best use from experts</p> <p>Panel: Roderick Cordara QC, Philippa Hill and Daniel Djanogly (moderator)</p>
<p>20 July 2021</p>	<p>Young Members Group Webinar: "Good faith" and construction contracts: English and Egyptian perspectives</p> <p>Speakers: Prof Dr Mohamed Abdel Wahab, Robert Price and Aisha Nadar (moderator)</p> <p><i>Joint event with the Young Members Group of the CI Arb Egypt Branch</i></p>
<p>29 July 2021</p>	<p>Annual Mediation Seminar: Compulsory ADR: a brave new world?</p> <p>Speakers: Lady Justice Asplin, Jane Andrewartha, Jon Lang and Gill Mansfield (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by The International Dispute Resolution Centre (hybrid event)</i></p>

<p>9 September 2021</p>	<p>17th Annual Joint CI Arb London-LCIA Seminar: Update to the LCIA Rules a year on</p> <p>Speakers: Philip Clifford QC, Jamie Harrison, David Joseph QC, Sherina Petit, Robert Price (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Latham & Watkins LLP (hybrid event)</i></p>
<p>30 September 2021</p>	<p>Joint CI Arb London & BCLP Arbitration Survey Launch Event: Expert evidence in international arbitration: saving the party-appointed expert</p> <p>Speakers: Claire Morel de Westgaver, Professor Janet Walker, Julian Lew QC, Chudozie Okongwu, Wendy MacLaughlin, Daniel Djanogly, George Burn (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP (hybrid event)</i></p>
<p>13 October 2021</p>	<p>Lunchtime Discussion Webinar: Getting best use from experts</p> <p>Panel: Alistair Schaff QC, Emilie Gonin, Daniel Djanogly (moderator) and Karina Albers (moderator)</p>
<p>21 October 2021</p>	<p>Seminar: International criminal courts – do they work?</p> <p>Speakers: Andrew Cayley CMG QC, Fiona Mckay, Sir Howard Morrison KCMG CBE QC and Nicholas Stewart QC (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Peters & Peters (hybrid event)</i></p>
<p>16 November 2021</p>	<p>Evening Workshop: Let me tell you a story – storytelling techniques in dispute resolution?</p> <p>Workshop leader: Anna Conomos-Wedlock</p> <p><i>Hosted by Quadrant Chambers</i></p>
<p>30 November 2021</p>	<p>Young Members Group Evening Workshop: Cross-examination masterclass</p> <p>Speakers: Lucas Bastin and Rani Noakes (advocates); Jessica Resch and Edward Martin (experts); Lord Neuberger (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Taylor Wessing LLP</i></p>
<p>2 December 2021</p>	<p>Joint CI Arb London-LMAA Seminar: Offshore windfarms</p> <p>Speakers: David Steward, Mary Anne Roff, Krista Lee QC, RV Ahilan and Ben Giaretta (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Clyde & Co (hybrid event)</i></p>
<p>7 December 2021</p>	<p>Webinar: Cryptoassets and the UKJT Digital Dispute Resolution Rules</p> <p>Speakers: Lawrence Akka QC, David Quest QC, Shobana Iyer, John Krashi and Camilla Macpherson (moderator)</p>

14 December 2021	<p>Lunchtime Discussion Webinar: Tribunal Secretaries – a path to arbitral efficiency or an abdication of responsibility?</p> <p>Panel: Richard Hoyle, Laetitia Souesme and Daniel Djanogly (moderator)</p>
17 February 2022	<p>Seminar: Cryptocurrency disputes – litigation v arbitration</p> <p>Speakers: Tope Adeyemi, Chloë Bell, Stephen Doherty, Charlotte Hill, Jaak Poldma and Lord Mance (moderator)</p> <p><i>Hosted by Penningtons Manches Cooper (hybrid event)</i></p>
22 February 2022	<p>Young Members Group Webinar: In conversation with the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin</p> <p>Speakers: The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, Robert Price (moderator) and Elizabeth Montpetit (moderator)</p>
24 February 2022	<p>Lunchtime Discussion Webinar: Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill – interesting times for arbitration and ADR</p> <p>Panel: Paul Rose, Daniel Djanogly and Glenda Vencatachellum (moderator)</p>
8 March 2022	<p>International Women's Day Seminar: Break the bias</p> <p>Speakers: Kim Franklin, QC, Natalia Otlinger, Jane Gunn, Lateef Yusuff and Catherine Dixon (moderator)</p> <p><i>Joint event with CI Arb Headquarters</i></p>
14 March 2022	<p>Seminar: Looking back on Tokyo and looking forward to Doha: the arbitration of disputes at major sporting events</p> <p>Speakers: Professor Zachary Calo, Susan Ahern, Sarah Lewis OBE OLY and Ben Giaretta (moderator), with introduction by Saad Hegazy and closing remarks by Ahmad Al Ansari</p> <p><i>Joint event with CI Arb Qatar Branch. Hosted by 33 Bedford Row (hybrid event)</i></p>
24 March 2022	<p>Speakers Dinner</p>
6 April 2022	<p>Lunchtime Workshop (webinar): Mesmerise don't memorise: speak masterfully</p> <p>Workshop leader: Sara Glancy</p>
20 April 2022	<p>AGM & Keynote Speech by Christina Blacklaws: The impact of legal technology on legal services - what does that mean and what should we do about it?</p>