

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, It is a great honour to assume the Chairmanship of the Branch for a second year. I am indeed privileged to be working alongside a very dedicated Board of Directors and I would like to thank and acknowledge their hard work in making the past year a fruitful one for the Branch. A special thanks to Richard Hayler, for his untiring contributions as our Honorary Treasurer, to Jonathan Choo for his hard work in taking care of all the Branch's secretarial matters as our Honorary Secretary and to Paul Sandosham, for his excellent support as Vice-Chair.



The Board is grateful to the following Co-Chairs of the various sub-committees and their members on their contributions:

1. **Professional Development:** Richard Tan / Chou Sean Yu
2. **Membership:** Amanda Lees
3. **Events & Social:** Timothy Cooke
4. **Publications & Website:** Jonathan Choo / Shaun Lee
5. **Young Members:** Richard Hayler / Sapna Jhangiani

The past year has seen a continuation of comprehensive training programmes and events being organised. The number of training programmes and events organised have doubled since 2016.

Under the Branch's Active Regional Outreach Programme, the Branch had not only conducted training programmes in Singapore, but have collaborated with firms from other countries to offer arbitration courses. The number of courses running from year 2015 to 2017 had increased almost three-fold. The courses held in 2017/2018 included the Accelerated Route to Membership (ARM), Accelerated Route to Fellowship (ARF), Module 1 Law of Obligations and Civil Evidence, Module 2 Law of International Arbitration and Module 4 International Award Writing. The Branch conducted the Introduction to International Arbitration course four times and two of these were for delegation groups from the Bangladesh International Arbitration Centre (BIAC). I am proud to announce that the Branch is one of the few which runs all the international arbitration courses offered by CIArb.

Several events were organised in 2017/2018. Significantly, the Branch successfully organised the CIArb Singapore Members' Evening 2017. The evening was a splendid platform to welcome new members and for members to network over free-flow of drinks. Other events that were organised included the second edition of the SIAC-CIArb Debate (which attracted over 300 attendees), the many Young Members Group (YMG) Supper Club dinners with international arbitration luminaries, the very successful CIArb Singapore Branch International Arbitration Competition 2017, several seminars and talks including the extremely popular series of three CIArb-SIAC workshops.

The increased training and events have enabled membership for the Branch to increase. Membership grew about 19% and we have crossed the 450 mark for our membership strength. Several training programmes and events are scheduled in the coming months ahead and we look forward to your participation.

I would like to thank Ms Jan Tan and her team from EPC for their fantastic secretariat support.

I would also like to acknowledge the generous support of Ms Camilla Godman, the Director of CI Arb's Asia-Pacific Regional Office. The Branch looks forward to working even more closely with the Regional Office.

Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Board if you have any initiative or suggestion in enhancing the activities and profile of CI Arb Singapore. We are always on the look-out for members to help support and organise events for the Branch, and will welcome all contributions!

Chou Sean Yu
Chairman, Singapore Branch
July 2018