



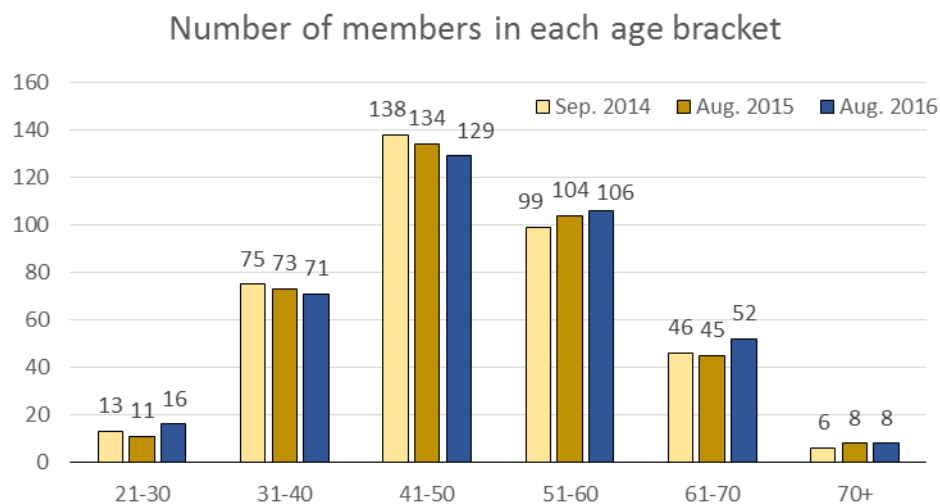
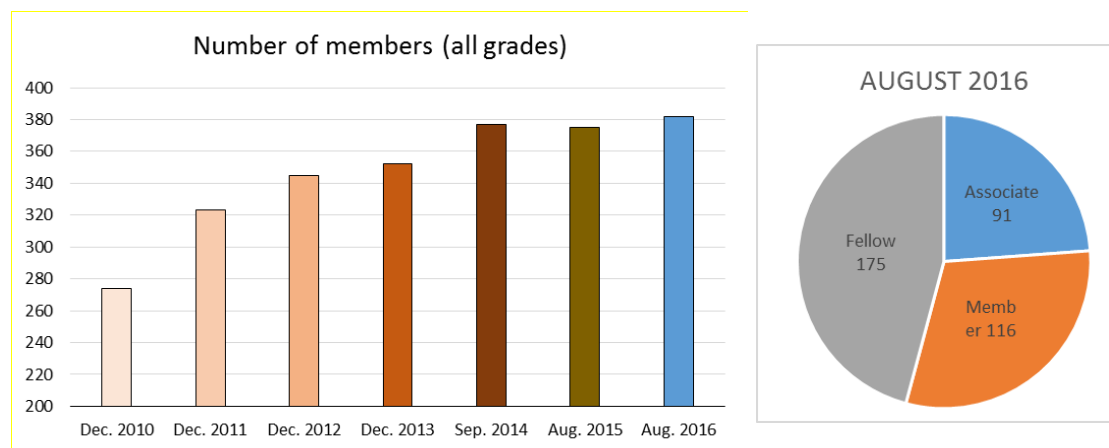
# Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Singapore Branch: 2016 AGM – Directors’ Report

## Introduction

2015 was a milestone year for the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, the Singapore Branch and indeed, for Singapore. It marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Chartered Institute and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Singapore as an independent nation. It also marked the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Singapore Branch. The Chartered Institute, the Singapore Branch and Singapore can look back with pride at the accomplishments and successes that each has enjoyed over the past decades.

## Membership

As of August 2016, the Singapore Branch has 382 members, namely, 116 Members, 91 Associate and 175 Fellows.



The Branch has also approached the local universities to encourage law students to join as CI Arb student members.



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### **Directors**

Benjamin Giaretta and Alastair Henderson notified the Board of Directors of their resignation as Directors of the Branch in June 2016. Hence, prior to this year's AGM, the Singapore Branch had 14 Directors. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Board extends its thanks and appreciation to Ben and Alastair for their years of service as Directors.

At this year's AGM (8 September 2016), 4 Directors, namely, Chou Sean Yu, Kent Napier Phillips, Balasamy Rengarajoo, and Paul Sandosham retired pursuant to Article 35(1) of the Branch's Constitution. Elections were conducted to fill a maximum of 8 vacancies for Directors. We are pleased to inform you that the Scrutineers' Report will be read at the AGM confirming that (i) Chou Sean Yu, Kent Napier Phillips, Balasamy Rengarajoo, and Paul Sandosham have been re-elected as Directors of the Singapore Branch; and (ii) Sapna Jhangiani, Amanda Joan Lees, Simon Peter Dunbar and Mark McGeoch have been elected as Directors of the Singapore Branch. This brings the total number of Directors in the Singapore Branch to 16 Directors. The Directors are:

1. Francis Xavier (Chairman)
2. Chou Sean Yu (Vice-Chairman)
3. Jonathan Choo (Hon. Secretary)
4. Richard Hayler (Hon. Treasurer)
5. Richard Tan (Immediate Past Chairman, Director)
6. Raja Bose
7. Timothy Cooke
8. Kent Phillips
9. Balasamy Rengarajoo
10. Paul Sandosham
11. Matthew Wills
12. Andrew Yeo
13. Sapna Jhangiani
14. Amanda Joan Lees
15. Simon Peter Dunbar
16. Mark McGeoch

### **Events**

Some of the major events held in 2015/2016, include:

#### 1. CI Arb Singapore Centenary Conference

The CI Arb Singapore Centenary Celebration Conference held on 3 & 4 September 2015 at Marina Bay Sands was a resounding success, with over 320 delegates, comprising of senior judges and judicial officers, international arbitration counsel, representatives of arbitral institutions, in-house legal counsel, arbitrators, industry professionals and law students attending the Conference. The highlight of the Conference was the keynote address entitled "Standards in need of bearers: Encouraging reform from within" by the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Chief Justice of Singapore and Patron of CI Arb. The Conference also saw the global launch of the CI Arb Guidelines with three panel sessions dedicated to discussing some of the more widely used guidelines.

#### 2. 4th ALA(S)-CI Arb-SCCA Golf Triangular Challenge

Over the last three years, this friendly annual triangular golf challenge tournament has helped to forge stronger ties among the ASEAN Law Association (Singapore), the CI Arb Singapore Branch and the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association and to provide a platform for members of these associations to interact with one another. The 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Law Association-Singapore Corporate Counsel Association Golf triangular challenge together with the CI Arb Singapore Branch's annual golf tournament was held on 24 June 2016 at Tanah Merah Country Club. Boosted by a strong team, ALA retained the trophy for the triangular challenge which they won last year. The winners were:

- *Best-score (stableford)* : Tan Liam Beng
- *Ladies Champion* : Kalyani Rajendran



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- Winner : Joseph Liow
- 1st Runner-Up : Chiam Tao Koon
- 2nd Runner-Up : Tito Issac
- Low Gross : Leon Koh

We are grateful to Chou Sean Yu and Tan Liam Beng for helping to organize this event.

*Talk by David Bateson on "THE GOLDEN AGE OF ARBITRATION OR HAS THE GOLDEN GOOSE BEEN SLAIN?" (27 Apr 2016)*

We were delighted to have David Bateson give a critical review of the current state of international arbitration, covering areas of both growth and improvement, concerns and complaints.

*Talk by Ben Giaretta on PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION (11 May 2016)*

We were privileged to have Ben Giaretta, a Director of the CI Arb discuss project management tools and techniques that can be used by arbitrators in order to ensure that arbitration proceedings are conducted expeditiously and economically.

*Talk by Michael Lee on "Managing the uncooperative party"(19 July 2016)*

We were pleased to have Michael Lee speak about how non- cooperation in an arbitration can manifest itself and how arbitral tribunals can deal with the issue.

*SIAC-CI Arb Debate:"This house proposes that an arbitral award that has been set aside at the seat may, and often should, be enforced abroad." (26 May 2016)*

The debate which featured the President and members of the SIAC Court of Arbitration, Mr Gary Born, Prof Bernard Hanotiau, Mr Toby Landau QC and Ms Lucy Reed, had an overwhelming turnout of 266. Francis Xavier, Chairman of CI Arb Singapore Branch moderated the debate. With the success of the debate, CI Arb Singapore and SIAC are keen to jointly organize this event annually.

### **Young Members**

*CI Arb Singapore Branch Young Members Essay Competition (2015)*

The CI Arb Singapore Branch International Arbitration Essay Competition 2015 was conducted this year in conjunction with the CI Arb Singapore Centenary Conference. The title for the 2015 Essay Competition was: "Innovation in international arbitration: does the Emperor need new clothes?" Entries were invited for this Essay Competition from persons below the age of 45 working or resident in Asia at the date the entries were submitted. Attractive cash prizes were awarded to the winner and the runner up, both of whom were also invited to the Centenary Conference Gala Dinner held on 4 September 2015. We congratulate the winners for this year's competition:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Junianto James Losari (cash prize of S\$2,000)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Ranjeeta Kaur (cash prize of S\$1,000)

We are grateful to Kent Phillips for acting as chair of the Events sub-committee.

*YMG Supper Club*

We were delighted to welcome leading international arbitrator, Professor Doug Jones AO, to the first ever Singapore YMG Supper Club. Professor Jones introduced the topic for the evening, "the role of the tribunal secretary" before inviting discussion over supper. The debate



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was lively and covered a range of angles and opinions. A delicious supper, great views and good company rounded off a fantastic evening.

We are grateful to Richard Hayler for helping to organize this event.

### **Professional Development and Courses**

We continue to offer arbitration courses at various levels to upgrade the level of knowledge and expertise of our members and members of the public, and have conducted courses not only in Singapore but in other countries in collaboration with professional organizations in those countries and our colleagues from the regional branches and chapters. Workshops and courses have been held in Myanmar and Vietnam.

The following Courses were held in 2015/2016:

#### Singapore

- Accelerated Route to Fellowship (ARF) (18 September to 19 September 2015)
- Module 4 International Arbitration Award Writing (26 October 2015 to 17 March 2016)
- Introduction to International Arbitration (20 November 2015)
- Accelerated Route to Fellowship (ARF) (21 March to 22 March 2016)
- Accelerated Route to Membership (31 March to 1 April 2016)
- Module 1 Law of Obligation and Civil Evidence (1 March to 9 November 2016)
- Asia-Pacific Diploma Course in Arbitration (20-28 August 2016) - *jointly organised by the CI Arb branches in Australia, East Asia and Singapore*

#### Vietnam

- Introduction to International Arbitration (31 July to 1 August 2015)

#### Myanmar

- Introduction to International Arbitration (28 to 29 January 2015)

The following Courses are planned to commence in Oct 2016:

#### Singapore

- Introduction to International Arbitration (12 October 2016)
- Module 3 Practice and Procedure (5 October 2016 to 17 May 2017)
- Module 4 International Arbitration Award Writing (14 October 2016 to 7 March 2017)
- Accelerated Route towards Fellowship (ARF) (20 to 21 October 2016)
- Peer Interview (31 August 2016)

We are grateful to all the tutors, moderators, markers and assessors on the Approved Faculty List of the CI Arb who have taken time from their busy schedules to assist in these courses in their respective roles.

We welcome and thanks in advance the following tutors, moderators, markers and assessors who have expanded their scopes under the AFL, to assist in CI Arb courses. They are:

- *Amanda Lees*
- *Andrew Yeo*
- *Jonathan Choo*
- *Edmund Kronenburg*
- *Rob Palmer*
- *Timothy Cooke*
- *Chou Sean Yu*
- *Rengarajoo Balasamy*



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We are also grateful to the Professional Development sub-committee, chaired by the Immediate Past Chairman, Director, Richard Tan, and its members, and to the Secretariat for assisting with the running of the courses.

In addition, we are also grateful to the SIAC, ICC and AAA/ICDR for sending representatives to speak at some of the courses on institutional arbitration as special guest speakers.

#### Finances

The Singapore Branch's Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 have been circulated to members.

The Branch's financial position remains healthy and at the end of the financial year the Branch maintained a strong positive cash balance. Earnings grew from the revenue obtained from the many courses conducted by the Branch, which will sustain the operations of the Branch going forward and allow more programmes, courses and events to be organized.

We are grateful to the Hon. Treasurer, Richard Hayler, and the Secretariat for their work.

Francis Xavier  
Chairman, Singapore Branch, Chartered Arbitrator, FCI Arb

  
Chou Sean Yu  
Vice-Chairman, Singapore Branch  
Jonathan Choo  
Hon. Secretary, Singapore Branch  
Richard Hayler  
Hon. Treasurer, Singapore Branch

On behalf of the directors of the Singapore branch

8 September 2016