



Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Michael Pye - Presidential Statement

To serve as the President of the CI Arb is not only a great honour but a great privilege because our organisation has earned such a distinguished history in dispute resolution and such an enviable reputation across the world. I am particularly grateful to my fellow committee members at the North West Branch for the encouragement and support given me in my application.

I joined the Institute in the mid-nineties following my extensive experience in the United Kingdom and Southern Africa in civil and construction engineering. My ability to adapt to a situation together with a determination to succeed has, over the years, shaped me into the person I am today who, I am told, is someone who listens, connects and encourages fellow professionals to embrace progress and look forward to the future.

What I have to offer to all Branches and members no matter which continent they may hail from is my total commitment and enthusiasm to enhance the premier status of the Institute as *the* world leader in dispute resolution. The next few years, as we enter the twenties, certainly promises to be interesting as markets jostle for business across the globe. Times are changing. Our Institute needs to be there at the centre as this happens, ready to offer its expertise and leadership not only in the field of dispute resolution, but also in education by actively modelling thoughtful and serious analysis of methods and problems.

The members of any professional body are its greatest asset since without them the Institute would cease to exist. So, by forging effective relationships with branches and their members across the globe, listening to their ideas and concerns and acting on them, the Institute will continue its growth safely and organically through the forthcoming decade. Furthermore, I believe we need to focus our efforts in cooperating with other ADR organisations in other cultures and jurisdictions around the world to share in the development of their own dispute resolution models. In this way, we will keep up-to-speed with international best practice, their systems and aspirations whilst at the same time preserving the integrity and standing of our own organisation within the international forum.

Back at branch level, there is much time and effort given by committee members in promoting the Institute regionally and nationally. Presentations, tutoring, mock arbitrations, adjudications and mediations are but a few of the many events being organised continually up and down regions and jurisdictions. The standard is high, often attracting speakers at the very top of their profession with an audience to match. Full recognition accordingly needs to be given to branch members for all their efforts and enthusiasm since it is at such grass roots level that the Institute is able to consolidate its unique position and help to expand the Institute's reach into industry and commerce.

Should I be selected as your President I will ensure the full recognition of branches' activities and would be delighted to personally attend functions whenever and wherever possible.

In summary, I reiterate the privilege and great honour it would be to serve the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators on a worldwide platform as President and I therefore seek your vote. But whoever is elected in Atlanta in November deserves the warmest of congratulations and fullest support during their term in office.

Michael Pye
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