



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***British Virgin Islands International Arbitration Centre and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Sign Historic Memorandum of Understanding, Partner to Promote International ADR***

**TORTOLA British Virgin Islands (January 19, 2022)**—The British Virgin Islands International Arbitration Centre (BVI IAC) and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) November 5, 2021 as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual BVI IAC International Arbitration Week. The MoU aims to create a positive environment for alternative dispute resolution (ADR) by, inter alia, delivering CI Arb education and training, providing mutual support for events, offering joint programming and publications and promoting ADR within the region.

In signing the MoU, Francois Lassalle, Chief Executive Officer of the BVI IAC, remarked, “The BVI IAC and CI Arb share a commitment to high standards of ethics, professionalism and competence. Many on the BVI IAC Panel are already members of CI Arb. The BVI IAC will continue to look favorably on the CI Arb post-nominal qualification in recruiting new Panelists and we look forward to the BVI IAC’s continued collaboration with CI Arb within the region.”

Catherine Dixon, CI Arb Director General, provided, “as a territorial signatory to the New York Convention, its enactment of a modern UNCITRAL-based international arbitration law and a pro-arbitration business climate, the BVI and its BVI IAC play an important role in supporting the delivery of arbitration within the Caribbean. CI Arb, as a professional body and global membership organisation, is delighted to enter into this partnership to support the effective and ongoing development of arbitration in the Caribbean.”

Ann Ryan Robertson, C.Arb FCI Arb, the 2021 CI Arb President, signed the MoU on behalf of CI Arb, stating, “it gives me great pleasure to see that the efforts commenced by CI Arb and the BVI a number of years ago to continue through to the execution of this formal MoU. CI Arb looks forward to many years of continued collaboration with the BVI IAC.”

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### **About BVI IAC**

The British Virgin Islands International Arbitration Centre (BVI IAC) was established to meet the rapidly evolving dispute resolution needs of arbitration users worldwide. The Centre meets the demands of the international business community for a neutral, impartial, efficient and reliable dispute resolution institution in the Caribbean, Latin America and at the cross-roads of the Americas. The BVI offers a quality legal framework and a stable political environment as a



British Overseas Territory Party to the New York Convention. Users of the BVI IAC arbitration clause benefit from arbitration-friendly legislations that improve ease of business and support. The BVI IAC Panel includes arbitrators from over 40 countries, speaking more than 20 languages, and is one of the most gender-diverse panels in the world. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology and the flexibility to meet the unique requirements of any virtual arbitration, BVI IAC offers world-class facilities for conducting arbitral hearings. For more information, please visit [www.bviiac.org](http://www.bviiac.org).

### **About CI Arb**

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators is the world's leading qualifications and professional body for dispute avoidance and dispute management. CI Arb is passionate about promoting a harmonious society and helping people and organizations avoid, manage and resolve conflict through their global network of 17,000 members across 150 countries in 42 Branches. As a not-for-profit UK registered charity, CI Arb works in the public interest for the promotion, facilitation and development of all ADR methods and provides education and training for arbitrators, mediators, adjudicators and users of ADR services. To find out more visit [www.ciarb.org](http://www.ciarb.org).