



## PRESS STATEMENT

The Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre (OAC) and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) are delighted to announce their partnership to offer CI Arb's 'gold standard' arbitrator training and accreditation courses in Oman.

The partnership comes in response to the marked preference by Omani and international parties doing business in and through Oman to resolve their disputes through arbitration, and the resultant growing demand for alternative dispute resolution (ADR) training.

Under this strategic partnership the two institutions will jointly offer, for the first time in Oman, CI Arb's world-renowned 'Pathways in International Arbitration' programme which also includes accelerated route courses to CI Arb Membership and Fellowship.

All individuals who acquire CI Arb Fellowship through any of these courses will be deemed to have satisfied the important first step - the education and training requirement - for admission onto OAC's Panel of Arbitrators.

The courses, offered in Arabic and English\*, will be delivered in accordance with CI Arb's regulations, standards, and would make use of CI Arb tutors, syllabi, and course content, and also the CI Arb's centralised assessment system. These courses will be conducted in the conventional face-to-face mode as well as in a virtual environment.

The partnership would also strive to generally increase awareness of the advantages of arbitration and other forms of ADR to members of the business and legal communities in Oman and the wider MENA region.

The partnership agreement was signed recently by Dr Moosa Al Azri, CEO of the OAC and Catherine Dixon, Director General of CI Arb. On the occasion of the signing of this strategic partnership, Dr Al Azri said, "This historic partnership is part of the greater vision of the OAC to build capacity in arbitration in the Sultanate

of Oman and generally enhance the attractiveness of Oman as a seat and venue for arbitrations.”

Catherine Dixon CIArb’s Director General said “CIArb is delighted to be working with the OAC to deliver International Arbitration training in Oman to establish Oman as an attractive and sustainable seat for international arbitration. This exciting collaboration will enable arbitration practitioners and those aspiring to be arbitrators, to access world-class internationally recognised training and to join CIArb’s global and diverse membership of over 17,000 ADR practitioners operating in over 150 jurisdictions.”

\*With the exception of the accelerated route courses which will be delivered in English only, for the time being.

## **ABOUT OAC**

Stemming out of Oman’s 2040 vision which aims to encourage new investments in Oman, the [Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre](#) (OAC) was established by Royal Decree as an independent legal entity with administrative and financial autonomy in its operations.

The OAC aims to provide an institutional mechanism to ensure the expeditious, cost effective and totally neutral administration of arbitration and other forms of ADR to local, regional and international parties. The Centre also offers state-of-the-art virtual and physical hearing facilities from its modern premises located in the heart of legal Muscat.

For more information on the OAC, please contact: Moosa Al Kharusi at [moosa.alkharusi@omanarbitration.om](mailto:moosa.alkharusi@omanarbitration.om)

## **ABOUT CIARB**

The [Chartered Institute of Arbitrators](#) (CIArb) is a global centre of excellence for the practice and profession of ADR, championing all aspects of dispute resolution across arbitration, mediation and adjudication. It is committed to promoting ADR and the benefits it brings to society and economies across the world.

CIArb has a growing membership of over 17,000 based across 150 jurisdictions and supported by an international network of 42 branches.

It supports its members, from students to experienced Fellows, at every step of their ADR journey, offering:

- Opportunities to build skills and achieve career goals through learning, mentorship and insightful publications.
- Global and local ways to connect with each other, through its Branches, events and networking opportunities.
- A voice for its members, representing the profession when it counts.
- Guidance to help its members adapt as the world changes and ensure ADR practice reflects the society it represents.

For more information on CI Arb, please contact: Millie Patel at [MPatel@ciarb.org](mailto:MPatel@ciarb.org)

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