

Candidate Statement of Jonathan Wood

It is a great privilege and an honour to be nominated as a candidate for President of the world's leading professional body of neutrals, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. In my eight years of service as trustee, five years as chair of the Board of Trustees and my engagement with the branches, I have overseen significant growth and change in the Institute. I have gained considerable insight in the way it provides a service to our members and branches worldwide, helping them to develop their careers through courses, networking opportunities and thought leadership. I have been fortunate to have supported the growth and establishment of new branches, reaching out to prospective members, encouraging them to join and enjoy the benefits of membership. For example, I travelled to Pakistan this year at the request of the newly formed branch to speak at the launch, an event attended by the most senior members of the judiciary. We are now embarking on a major training project there, educating over a hundred professionals and members of the judiciary, who we hope will become members for the rest of their careers.

We are in the midst of significant transformation as an Institute. We are a regulated body under the watchful eye of the Charity Commissioners. And we face new challenges daily in a fast changing world - financial, reputational, technological, political. In my time on the Board we have had to up skill substantially to meet the challenges ahead. It has been my privilege to oversee a complete overhaul of our governance. After four years of consultation, review and work on the part of many, both members and the executive, changes to our Charter and Bye-laws have been approved by members so that, subject to final approval by the Privy Council, we can move forward with our plans for change for the benefit of us all. My other achievement was the recruitment of our DG, Catherine Dixon, to replace our previous DG, Anthony Abraham. I have worked closely with Catherine meeting with her on a weekly basis and more often as necessary, as she leads the executive.

As for my own experience, my CV is attached. I started my career in criminal defence and human rights (my first case under the ECHR in Strasbourg was successful against the UK government in 1976 under Article 6 and 8), moving into shipping, insurance, energy and international trade for commercial clients, the venue of choice often being arbitration. I established an office in the UAE, practiced in Singapore, taught in Tanzania. For 25 years I represented the British government's export credit agency around the globe, involving headline grabbing events, at diplomatic level, frequently involving arbitration. I chair my firm's Arbitration department and the board of the London Chamber of Arbitration and Mediation. This somewhat eclectic career has brought me into contact with people in all walks of life and societies which truly enhances one's understanding of diversity.

I suggest this experience well qualifies me to represent our Institute as President.

But what has been done in the past counts only for so much if one does not look to what one can for CI Arb as President. Firstly, one has to be relevant. By that I mean being able to communicate our vision and strategy both to members and the world beyond. Our three year strategic plan will come to an end in 2024 and a new strategic plan will be in place. It will be part of the President's role to communicate that plan. Secondly, it is my intention to continue to foster good relations with the many arbitral institutions around the world who have the power to appoint our members to panels. Thirdly, I propose reaching out to users through corporate counsel organisations and big business organisations (my connections with the Chambers of Commerce movement will assist in this regard). Fourthly, I wish to improve the Dispute Appointments Service by making it more diverse, and expounding the Presidential nominations services on a more international basis.

Finally, I confirm I have the available time to commit to undertaking the Presidential nomination's function, as well as the role itself.

I look forward to your support and vote.

Jonathan Wood

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Independent Arbitrator
Chair, Board of Trustees, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
Director, London Chamber of Arbitration and Mediation
Head of International Arbitration, Reynolds Porter Chamberlain (RPC)

Professional Qualifications:

Fellow Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
Solicitor, Admitted 1977
Registered foreign lawyer, Singapore 2015

Education:

LLB (Hons) Sheffield University (1974)
Maritime Law Course, Southampton University (1986)
Investment Treaty and ICSID Arbitration Course, UCL/SOAS

Accreditations:

Ranked Band 1, Chambers & Partners 2020
London International Arbitration Power List

Profile Summary:

I have

- sat as arbitrator for the last 20 years on cases under LCIA, LCA, LMAA, ICC, WIPO and UNCITRAL Rules, and ad hoc arbitrations. As counsel, I have handled a multitude of international arbitrations. I primarily sit as an arbitrator.
- over 40 years' experience as an international disputes lawyer in relation to general commercial disputes as well as international trade, energy, finance, insurance and reinsurance, shipping, commercial fraud, insolvency and joint ventures, a considerable part of which relates to public and private international law. I have experience in a variety of industry sectors.
- handled cases in many jurisdictions and before arbitral institutions around the world, namely North America, South America, APAC, Central and Eastern Europe, Africa and the MENA region. I have practiced in England and Wales, Singapore and the UAE.
- been advisor to the British Government's export credit agency, ECGD (now UKEF), provider of trade credit, political risk, overseas investment, insurance and financial support to exporters for 30 years.
- a niche in relation to international cultural property cases including the recovery and confiscation of stolen artefacts, provenance and advising on international conventions such as CITES.
- practiced as a criminal defence and human rights lawyer for the first 7 years of my career, including the leading case on the definition of "appropriation" under the Theft Act 1968 and the successful defence of a mother charged with the murder of her 12-month-old baby (R v Booth). I have advised on human rights including cases under the European Convention of Human Rights, acting as advocate for example in Strasbourg in *Lazlo Kiss v UK*, under Articles 6 and 8. I have been on the Foreign Office Human Rights pro bono panel for many years.

Client Feedback:

"Jonathan Wood is a star arbitration partner — he is simply superb." Legal 500 UK 2019

Jonathan is "very experienced in all forms of international arbitration - he is calm, professional and has very good judgment." - Legal 500 UK 2018

Jonathan Wood is "a real statesman, who can run massive arbitrations with his eyes shut, and is always one step ahead of the other side." - Legal 500 UK 2017

"Sources say Jonathan Wood of RPC has a "calming influence on clients and cases." Wood is best known for his expertise in international arbitrations relating to international trade, cultural property, trade finance and energy. He has significant experience in ad hoc and institutional arbitrations, including those conducted under LCIA, LMAA, ICC and AAA rules." - Chambers UK 2017

The "exceptionally experienced" Jonathan Wood of RPC is a "well thought of litigator and arbitration practitioner." He has substantial experience handling joint venture and shareholder disputes, as well as arbitration-related enforcement matters." - Chambers UK 2016

Examples of Experience

- Chair, LCIA Arbitration between Russian interests and Maltese interests in relation to enforcement of loan agreement for US\$30m
- Sole Arbitrator, ICC arbitration between Iraqi interests and US interests valued at US\$3m
- Party appointed arbitrator, LCIA arbitration between Ukrainian interests and Singapore interests in relation to coal shipment value US\$7m
- Party appointed arbitrator, BVI seated, in relation to dispute between US interests and BVI insurers in relation to substantial property damage claims arising out of Hurricane Irma
- Sole arbitrator in ad hoc arbitration between insured traders and trade credit insurers in relation to policy coverage
- Various arbitrations under SICOM Rules in relation to physical rubber trades
- Arbitration seated in St Kitts in relation to power plant fire
- Post completion warranty dispute in relation to cable laying vessel to wind farms (\$25 m)
- Fuchs v Republic of Georgia ICSID case No ARB/07/15 a claim under the fair and equitable treatment provisions of the Israeli- Georgia BIT. Enforcement proceedings before the English Commercial Court
- Biwater Gauff (Tanzania) Limited v Republic of Tanzania (ICSID case No ARB/05/22) — alleged treaty violations of expropriation, fair and equitable treatment, full protection and security, discriminatory measures and unrestricted transfer of capital and returns under UK-Tanzania BIT. Advising ECGD
- Trade Credit Finance No(1) v Bilgin [2004] EWHC 2732 - a claim for £10m in relation to the sale of a printing press. In addition to judgement in English proceedings, the outstanding balance was settled following a claim against the Republic of Turkey under UK- Turkey BIT
- Arbitration relating to expropriation of Ukrainian "oblenergos" (electricity companies) by Russian interests, arising out of events following the Orange Revolution value US\$250m
- XL Insurance Co v AXA Corporate Solutions Assurance [2015] EWHC 3431 and Court of Appeal — under Article 4 of Brussels Recast (EU regulation 1215/2012) English Court has no jurisdiction over French insurance Company
- Accentuate Limited v Asigra Inc [2009] EWHC 2655 — mandatory application of the EU Commercial Agents Directive and the effect on Canadian arbitration proceedings
- Representing the Turkish Government and Italian contractors in the recovery of \$115m in a mediation as a result of earthquake damage to the Ankara/Istanbul Highway project and related ICC and Commercial Court proceedings with joint venture partners
- Two substantial SIAC Arbitrations between bank and trade credit insurers relation to sale of metals to Indian steel manufacturers total value US\$70m

Career History and Memberships

Secretariat, Singapore Physical Rubber Exchange Arbitration (SICOM), 2015

Partner, Clyde & Co 1984 — 2010, Co-Chair of International Arbitration

Turner's Solicitors 1977- 1984

Former Chair, International Bar Association's Committee on International Sales and Related Financial Transactions

Member of the London Court of International Arbitration

Member of the International Bar Association

Member of the London Maritime Arbitration Association
Founding Member of Legal UK (Chaired by Dame Elizabeth Gloster)
Member of the Institute of Art and Law
Member of the Law Society
Lecturer in dispute resolution, Dar es Salaam Law School

Author of numerous legal articles and speaker at numerous conferences

Interests

Wild swimming, scuba diving, boats, skiing, gardening, walking and MUFC