

**ICCA Judiciary Committee Objectives and Activities**  
**Approved by the ICCA Governing Board on 26 April 2021**

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The objectives of the ICCA Judiciary Committee and its proposed activities to fulfil these objectives are as follows:

**A. Mission Statement**

The ICCA Judiciary Committee’s mission is to foster an informed understanding of international arbitration and other forms of international dispute resolution among the judiciary and to enhance their ability to assist and supervise the process in a knowledgeable, effective and cohesive manner (“Mission”).

**B. Focus Areas**

There are three main areas of focus to achieve the ICCA Judiciary Committee’s Mission (“Focus Areas”):

- (i) General introduction to international arbitration for judges; and
- (ii) Recognition and enforcement of arbitration agreements and arbitral awards by judges, including:
  - a. Judicial interpretation and application of the New York Convention;
  - b. Judicial interpretation and application of other relevant conventions, including the ICSID Convention; and
  - c. Judicial interpretation and application of the UNCITRAL Model Law.

These Focus Areas provide the core subject matters to be addressed in the ICCA Judiciary Committee’s activities and publications.

A possible future focus area is the enforcement of international settlement agreements under the Singapore Convention.

**C. Means to Achieve Mission**

The ICCA Judiciary Committee intends to achieve its Mission in the Focus Areas primarily by the following means: (i) in-person events; (ii) webinars; (iii) online content; (iv) written guides; and (v) the establishment of an international network of judiciary contacts.

The Committee intends to continue to closely cooperate with Young ICCA in achieving its Mission.

The Committee will also consider means to target younger members of the judiciary, for greater longevity of the Committee's work.

In the fulfilment of its Mission, the Committee may also have contact with members of the executive and legislative branches, to the extent that it relates to the judiciary.

(i) *In-Person Events*

The organisation of in-person events modelled on the New York Convention Roadshows remains a key means for the ICCA Judiciary Committee to achieve its Mission. These events are not only informative but allow for frank exchanges with judges that are less likely in other settings.

The Committee will continue to plan Roadshow-style events as circumstances permit, and to consider participation in or organisation of events alongside appropriate judicial conferences, in conjunction with ICCA members from the relevant jurisdictions.

Consistent with prior practice, wherever possible the use of judges and retired judges as speakers at in-person events is encouraged.

In-person events will also be coordinated with Young ICCA, to allow for an accompanying Young ICCA event to be held either before or after the judges' event wherever possible. This is mutually beneficial to Young ICCA and ICCA from an organisational perspective.

(ii) *Webinars*

The Committee will organise live webinars covering the Focus Areas.

The conduct of webinars is a convenient and accessible way to achieve the Mission in a cost-effective way, and in circumstances where international travel is restricted and/or uncertain.

However, experience to date indicates that webinars with judges are less interactive, and do not facilitate discussions that are as candid as those held at in-person events.

(iii) *Pre-recorded Content*

The Committee will develop and produce appropriate pre-recorded content in the form of short video presentations and podcasts (30-45 minutes).

Pre-recorded video and audio content can easily be disseminated to judges and judicial training centres and conveniently accessed by them, as they can listen/watch on their own schedule. This also allows a larger audience to be reached. Content can be tailored by region/jurisdiction as appropriate.

Pre-recorded content is best used as a prelude to, or in combination with, in-person events and webinars. It also allows such other events to be more effective, by covering introductory issues, and allowing time for more complex matters to be addressed in webinars and in person. Pre-recorded content could also be placed on Kluwer Arbitration as ICCA content, to increase the Committee's presence.

*(iv) Guides*

Guides are valuable educational tools and serve as a reference for judges on the Focus Areas. ICCA's Guide to the Interpretation of the 1958 New York Convention remains a primary tool to achieve the Committee's Mission. The Committee will also consider the drafting and publication of further Guides in the Focus Areas.

Translations of Guides (currently 23) are an important complement to publications, as they increase their reach and impact. The Committee will continue to translate Guides into additional languages.

*(v) International Network*

An international network of contacts with the judiciary is crucial to increase the reach of the Judiciary Committee. These contacts allow the ICCA Judiciary Committee to receive updates on case law and developments in each jurisdiction and facilitate the dissemination of information to judges.

Experience has shown that institutional contacts are more durable than individual judges, due to the high rotation of judges through positions. The Committee will undertake a more comprehensive listing of contacts in each jurisdiction and more active use of those contacts to receive case law and to disseminate ICCA products.

**D. Prioritising Jurisdictions**

A method needs to be determined to prioritise the Committee's work with respect to jurisdictions.

One relevant consideration, in this regard, is to encourage those countries that are not yet parties to the New York Convention to become parties.

#### **E. Committee Procedures**

The Committee procedures are as follows:

- Meetings are scheduled every two months.
- No meeting shall last longer than one hour.
- The agenda for each meeting will be circulated approximately one week in advance of the upcoming meeting. Committee members are invited to send agenda items to the Co-Chairs and the Secretary at any time between meetings.
- Minutes of each meeting will be circulated within one week of each meeting.
- Sub-groups need to be expanded for the various tasks.
- Expansion of membership may need to be considered.