

Event Report

Assignment-Based Workshop on Importance of Seat of Arbitration

10th September 2021

Assignment-Based Workshop on Importance of Seat of Arbitration was organised virtually by Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (CADR-RGNUL). The workshop was collaboratively hosted by CADR-RGNUL and the Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre (BAIAC), Singapore with an aim to delve into the concept of seat of an arbitration.

Prof. Steve Ngo, President, Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre and Ms Yvette Anthony, Associate Director, LVM Law Chambers LLC Singapore were resource persons for the event. Ms. Anthony explained all the probable legal effects a seat has on an arbitration. She also addressed the issue of New York Arbitration Convention. Prof. Ngo elaborated upon the difference between a ‘seat’ and a ‘venue’ and cited his personal experiences. He mentioned a number of authorities from various jurisdictions to make attendees understand the distinction which ranged from Analytical Commentary on Draft text of the Model Law’s Art. 20 (25 March 1985) to case laws of *Shashoua v Sharma* [2009] EWHC 957 (Comm) and *PT Garuda Indonesia v Birgen Air* [2002] 1 SLR(R) 401. The speaker remarked, “An ‘arbitration-friendly’ jurisdiction is one that has a proven track record in enforcing arbitration agreements and arbitral awards, and neutral and impartial courts, and availability of impartial courts.” Prof. Steve Ngo also referred to “bureaucratisation of arbitration” and “lack of awareness” that impede India’s way of acquiring the status of better arbitration-friendly seat.

No. of participants- 192

Event Co-ordinator: Dr. Gurmanpreet Kaur