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**CI Arb**

**Sixth Annual**

**WILLEM C. VIS EAST INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION MOOT**

**Hong Kong SAR, China**

**October 2008 – March 2009**

**Oral Arguments: 23 – 29 March 2009**

**Organized by:**

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

(East Asia Branch)

Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre

38/F, Two Exchange Square

8 Connaught Road Central,

Hong Kong SAR

**Hosted by:**

City University of Hong Kong School of Law

83 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong,

Hong Kong SAR

# INTRODUCTION

## I. The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

1. The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is an annual competition of teams representing law schools throughout the world (the "Moot"). In the Fifteenth Annual Moot in 2007-2008, 203 law school teams from 52 countries participated. Around 1200 students were members of the teams. The Moot was judged by 560 lawyers and professors from around the world.

2. The Hong Kong event ("**Vis East**") was organized for the first time in 2003 - 2004 in order to afford more law students, particularly from Asian jurisdictions, the opportunity to participate in the Moot. Like the Vis Moot in Vienna, the Vis East welcomes students from all jurisdictions. Fourteen schools participated in the first Vis East, which welcomed 150 students, coaches and arbitrators from Asia, Europe and America. The Fifth Vis East grew to 52 schools and nearly 450 participants.

3. **Goals.** The Moot is intended to stimulate the study of international commercial law, especially the legal texts prepared by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the use of international commercial arbitration to resolve international commercial disputes. The international nature of the Moot is intended to lead participants to interpret the texts of international commercial law in the light of different legal systems and to develop an expertise in advocating a position before an arbitral panel composed of arbitrators from different legal systems. An active social program at the time of the oral hearings in Vienna is organized by the

Moot Alumni Association with the aim of promoting friendships that can last long after the Moot itself is over.

4. The Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot, like the Vienna event, is designed to be a multi-faceted educational program in the form of a competition. It is not intended to be a competition with incidental educational benefits. The rules and procedures in the Moot should be interpreted in the light of that goal.

5. The Vis East is a sister to the Vienna moot, using the same Problem and essentially the same rules. The two events are however, two separate competitions with separate registration procedure, separate registration fee, and separate awards. The Vis East is not a regional elimination for Vienna, and any law school may participate in both events, subject to certain rules set out below governing eligibility of oralists and memoranda. Students may participate in teams for both Vienna and Hong Kong, subject to rules governing oral arguments and the memoranda. See paragraphs 27, 34, and 75 below.

## II. Organization of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

6. **Organizer, Co-sponsors, Supporters.** The Vis East is sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (EAB) and hosted this year by the City University of Hong Kong School of Law. It is also supported by a number of arbitration bodies and business entities, including: Pace University, The International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, the International Law Association, Lawasia, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), ArbitralWomen, the Swiss Arbitration Association and CIETAC.

7. The Vis East consists of the preparation of a memorandum for claimant, a memorandum for respondent and oral hearings.

8. **Venue.** The oral hearings will be held in Hong Kong at the School of Law of City University of Hong Kong. The general rounds will take place from Tuesday to Friday, 24 to 27 March. The elimination rounds will take place on Saturday 28 March, and the final round on Sunday 29 March 2009. The first events during the oral hearings are a welcoming party for student participants organized by the Moot Alumni Association on Monday evening, 23 March 2009, and the official opening with reception on Friday evening, 3 April 2009.

9. **Language.** The Vis East is conducted in English.

## RULES

### I. Registration

10. Registration in the Vis East is a three-step process consisting of submission of the registration form, payment of the registration fee and submission of the memorandum for claimant. Although registration forms will be accepted until 30 November 2008, submission of the registration form prior to distribution of the Problem on 3 October 2008 is desirable.

11. Receipt of the registration form, payment of the registration fee and e-mail submission of the memorandum for claimant and for respondent will be acknowledged to the team contact person

12. **Registration fee.** The registration fee for the Sixth Vis East Moot is US\$800 or HK\$6250. The registration fee must be paid by 30 November 2008 in order to compete in the Moot, unless the Director of the Moot has specifically agreed to a later date. Payment of the registration fee must be made by bank transfer. Only local Hong Kong cheques in Hong Kong dollars are accepted. No payment by credit card is possible. **All transfer fees must be paid by the transferor. Any amount less than HK\$6250 credited to the account will be collected in cash at the oral arguments.** The transfer must also indicate the name of the university for which the registration fee has been paid in order for the account of the participating university to be credited.

Do not make payments to Professor Barrington or to the university, as this will only delay your registration and cost you additional bank charges. Do make your transfer as follows:

Bank Transfer details:

Account Number: 002-554830-001

Name: Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (East Asia Branch)

Bank: HSBC, 1 Queen's Road Central, HK

SwiftCode:HSBC-HK-HHH-KH

13. The registration fee includes an invitation to an opening reception for all team members, coaches and accompanying persons on Monday, 23 March 2009. It also includes tickets for the awards banquet on Sunday, 29 March 2009, following the Final Round of hearings for a maximum of four team members registered in Hong Kong plus one accompanying team coach. The tickets must be presented for admission to the banquet. Lost tickets will not be replaced. Additional team members and accompanying persons are also invited, but will be asked to pay for the actual cost of the meal, US\$70 or HK\$550.

14. The registration fee of a team whose registration is withdrawn prior to 4 December 2008, i.e. the day the memorandum for claimant is due by e-mail, will be refunded in full, after deduction of handling fee of US\$ 50.

15. A team that submits its memorandum for claimant will be paired with two other teams for the exchange of memoranda, as described in Part IV below, and will be scheduled to meet those two teams in the first two oral

arguments, as described in Part V below. Withdrawal after submission of the memorandum for claimant affects adversely at least the two teams paired for the exchange of memoranda and the first two oral arguments. Therefore, teams that have submitted the memorandum for claimant are expected to participate in the entire Vis East, including the oral arguments. The registration fee will not be refunded nor will unpaid fees be waived.

16. **Registration form.** The registration form includes space for two names and addresses. All communications concerning the Moot will automatically be sent by e-mail to both persons listed on the form. It is the responsibility of those persons to distribute all relevant material to the team. The names of additional recipients of messages concerning the Moot may be submitted for inclusion on the list.

17. Communications between the team and the Vis East administration through anyone other than the designated persons are at the risk of the team.

## II. The Problem

18. **Subject Matter.** The Problem in the Sixth (2008-2009) Vis East involves a controversy arising out of an international sale of goods subject to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG).

19. **Dispute Settlement.** The controversy is before an arbitral tribunal pursuant to the Arbitration Rules of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce. The parties have agreed that the arbitration will be held in Vindobona, Danubia. Danubia has enacted the UNCITRAL Model Law on

International Commercial Arbitration (Model Law). Danubia, Equatoriana, Mediterraneo and Oceana, the four states that are, or may be, involved are party to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention).

20. **The Arbitration.** By the time the Vis East Moot begins, the claimant has filed its request for arbitration, the respondent has filed its statement of defense and the arbitral tribunal has been appointed. The Problem will consist of the statements of claim and defense with their exhibits, any orders of the arbitral tribunal issued prior to the date on which the Problem is distributed, and the clarifications described below. The Vis East involves writing memoranda and oral argument in support of the positions of the claimant and respondent.

21. **Distribution.** The Problem will be distributed on Friday, 3 October 2008, by posting on the Vienna Moot's website, and on the Vis East website. The URLs for the Moot and Vis East are <http://www.cisg.law.pace.edu/vis.html> and <http://www.cisgmoot.org> respectively.

22. **Facts.** The facts in the dispute that is the subject matter of the Moot are given in the Problem. No additional facts may be introduced into the Moot unless they are a logical and necessary extension of the given facts or are publicly available true facts. By way of example:

(a) The subject matter of the dispute in the Fourth Moot was men's suits. It was legitimate to assume that the suits were made of cloth. It was not legitimate to assume that they were, or should have been, made of pure wool. If a team intended to base an argument on the material out of which the suits were made, the team should have requested a clarification of the

Problem. By way of an additional example, a team may wish to base an argument on the apparent intention or state of mind of a person who sent a communication of some sort. It would rarely be possible on the basis of that which is given in the Problem to state as a fact that the person had a particular intention or state of mind. However, it would be legitimate to suggest that on the basis of the facts given the Arbitral Tribunal could (or even should) conclude that the desired intention or state of mind was present;

(b) The subject matter of the dispute in the Twelfth Moot was cocoa beans. The real, and extreme, price movements of cocoa beans during the period in question were given and were relevant to the dispute. Since the price movements in the Moot Problem were real, the reasons for those price movements were also real. It was permissible to refer to those reasons in the memoranda, if they were considered to be relevant. It would also have been permissible to refer to any such facts in oral argument, but only if they had been referred to in the memorandum of either party to that argument or if they were so well known that they should have been known to the other party as a result of reasonable research.

23. Statements of fact alleged by a team that do not qualify under paragraph 22 are not true. Therefore, basing an argument on any such alleged facts will be considered to be in breach of the rules of the Moot and to be professionally unethical. Arbitrators will enforce this rule strictly in both the memorandum and oral arguments and will evaluate the team's efforts accordingly.

24. **Clarifications.** Requests for clarification of the Problem must be sent to the dedicated address [clarify@cisgmoot.org](mailto:clarify@cisgmoot.org), prior to Thursday, 23 October 2008.

Mail sent to this address is automatically copied to Professor Bergsten. Requests for clarification should be limited to matters that would appear to have legal significance in the context of the Problem. A request for clarification must include a short explanation of the expected significance of the clarification. Any request that does not contain such an explanation may be ignored.

25. Clarifications issued by the Institute in the form of a Procedural Order from the Arbitral Tribunal will be distributed to all registered teams by e-mail within a week to ten days and will be posted on the Moot and Vis East websites. Teams are responsible for making sure that they have received the clarifications even if they were not registered as yet. Clarifications issued in the name of the Arbitral Tribunal become part of the Problem.

### III. Teams

26. **Composition.** Teams may come either from a law school or from another university level institution that includes law as part of its program of study. Each participating law school or other institution may enter one team. A team is composed of two or more students registered at the institution. Students may be registered either for a first degree or for an advanced degree and need not be from the country in which the institution is located. There is no maximum limit on the number of students who may be members of the team. No student who has been licensed to practice law is eligible to participate except with permission of the Director of the Vis East. Eligibility to participate in the Moot is determined as of 4 December 2008.

27. Teams may include former participants. However, students who have participated in an argument in an elimination Round of 32 or later in a previous Moot, whether in Vienna or Hong Kong, may not participate in the oral arguments. Although a student may be a member of both the team that participates in Hong Kong and the team that participates in Vienna, no student may argue orally in both Moots in the same year.

28. **List of team members.** The list of team members must be submitted at the time the memorandum for claimant is submitted. The names must be submitted on the form that will be made available. Certificates of participation for participating team members will be prepared from the lists submitted to the Institute. Therefore, names should be in the form in which they should appear on the certificates. Members of the team may be dropped or added at any time, but any changes in the composition of the team must be specifically communicated to Professor Barrington.

29. **Participation.** All members of the team may participate in preparation of the memoranda for claimant and respondent.

30. In each of the oral hearings two members of the team will present the argument. Other members of the team may not aid them during the argument in any way. Different members of the team may participate in the different hearings. Therefore, between two and eight members may participate in the oral hearings. However, to be eligible for the Neil Kaplan Award for best individual oralist, a participant must have argued at least once for the claimant and once for the respondent. The average score per argument will be calculated and the award will be determined on that basis.

#### IV. Written Memoranda

31. **Memoranda.** Each team must submit a memorandum in support of the claimant's position to the Moot administration by e-mail by midnight, i.e. 24:00, 4 December 2008. The deadline is measured at the team's location. Each claimant memorandum will be sent to one of the other teams by e-mail by 12 December 2008, or as soon after as is possible. Submission of the memorandum for claimant is an integral part of the registration procedure. Therefore, teams that fail to submit the memorandum by 4 December 2008 will be considered not to have completed registration for the Moot and will not be able to compete.

32. Each team will prepare a memorandum in support of the respondent's position in response to the memorandum in support of the claimant's position that was sent to it. The Vis East administration will determine to which team a memorandum in support of the claimant's position will be sent. The memorandum for respondent must be submitted by e-mail by Thursday, 22 January 2009. Teams that fail to submit the memorandum for respondent by 22 January 2009 will be considered to have withdrawn from the Vis East at that time.

33. The memorandum for respondent must be responsive to the arguments made in the memorandum for claimant. Nevertheless, the memorandum for claimant to which a memorandum for respondent is to be prepared may not have made all of the arguments that the team preparing the memorandum for respondent believes should have been made. The team preparing the memorandum for respondent may deal with those issues. Such additional arguments (arguments in response to arguments not made by your

opponent) would not normally be made in a real arbitration. However, they may be appropriate in the Vis East. If such arguments are made, they must be identified in an appropriate manner so that the jury judging the memoranda and the arbitrators hearing the oral arguments will be able to consider them separately.

34. A law school that participates in both the Vienna and the Hong Kong Moots is encouraged to submit separate memoranda to the two Moots. However, if the same memoranda are submitted to both Moots, they can be entered into the competition for best memorandum in only one of them. Therefore, when submitting the memorandum for the claimant, all law schools that participate in both the Moot in Vienna and the Vis East Moot in Hong Kong must indicate to the administrators of both Moots whether the same or separate memoranda have been submitted. This is done by completing the by completing the Choice of Venue form, indicating the event in which they wish to enter their memoranda for competition. The Choice of Venue form must be attached to the Memoranda of any team competing in both Vienna and Hong Kong. Since the memorandum for respondent must be responsive to the memorandum for claimant sent to the team, the memoranda for respondent are unlikely to be the same.

35. **Formatting requirements.** The formatting provisions listed in paragraphs 36, 37, 38, 41 and 42 must be followed. No memorandum that violates these provisions will be considered for award or honorable mention.

36. Paragraphs must be numbered and references to statements in either one's own memorandum or, in the case of the memorandum for respondent, to statements in the opponent's memorandum for claimant must be to the paragraph number.

37. The memoranda are intended to be of practical use to the arbitrators in deciding the dispute. They are not intended to be scholarly dissertations. Therefore, citations in the memorandum should be limited to those that advance the argument being made. The List of Authorities must reference to the paragraph in the memorandum where the case or doctrinal authority is cited.

38. Citations must be in the text of the memorandum and not in footnotes or endnotes. Citations in the text should be in a shortened form. The full citation should be given in a List of Authorities.

39. The List of Authorities should be in a form that is intelligible to all who will read the memorandum. That includes the members of the other teams, the arbitrators in the oral hearings and the members of the jury who will judge the written phase of the Moot. Most of the readers of the memorandum will be from other countries. Account should be taken that the style of citation of judicial decisions or articles in legal journals that is common in one country may not be intelligible to participants in the Moot (or in an arbitration) from other countries. Therefore, deviation from the standard style of citation in your country may be appropriate.

40. Care should be taken in the use of legal doctrines and terminology (including Latin maxims) common in some legal systems that are not found in the CISG, Model Law, New York Convention or the relevant arbitration rules and that may not be known to teams or arbitrators from other legal systems. Similarly, care should be taken to write in a formal English style that would be appropriate for submission to a court or arbitral tribunal. In

particular, slang or contractions (aren't, didn't) should not be used. This tends to be a mistake made by non-Anglophone teams that may have been taught not to be too formal when using English.

41. Memoranda may be no longer than thirty-five (35) 8½ x 11 inch or A4 typed pages, including any statement of facts, argument or discussion. Cover pages, tables of contents, indices, lists of authorities or other material that does not consist of facts, argument or discussion may be in addition.

42. No type style smaller than 12 point may be used, including in quotations or other non-argument parts of the memorandum. The memorandum should be typed at 1½ line-spacing. All margins must be at least one inch or 2.5 cm. Reproduction of all copies must be full sized and clear.

43. The name of the team and whether the memorandum is for the Claimant or for the Respondent must appear prominently on the outside cover page so that it can easily be read without opening the memorandum.

44. **Memorandum Revision.** A memorandum may not be revised once it has been submitted to the Institute, including for missing pages, typographical or grammatical errors or for problems caused by faulty computer software. Sufficient time should be left prior to submission to verify the text to be submitted.

45. **Scoring of Memoranda.** A jury will score the memoranda on the basis of the quality of the analysis, persuasiveness of argument, thoroughness of research, clarity of the writing and adherence to the elements of style set out above. The jury will take into account whether arguments are based on facts

not found in the Problem or clarifications and that are not logical and necessary extensions of the given facts. When judging the memorandum for respondent, account will be taken whether it is responsive to the arguments raised by the claimant.

46. The memoranda for claimant and for respondent will each be judged in two rounds. In the first round the members of the jury will each receive four memoranda. They will be asked to rank them in order of merit. In recent years each memorandum has been submitted to four or five readers. On the basis of the results from the first round of judging, memoranda will be selected for submission to a separate jury for determination of the winners of the awards for best memorandum in each category.

47. **Submission of Memoranda.** The memorandum submitted by e-mail must be submitted as a single computer file so that the memorandum can be printed complete with cover page. It is recommended that the memorandum be submitted in PDF format. Care should be taken that a PDF file does not exceed one megabyte. Memoranda that exceed one megabyte will be returned with a request that they be reconverted to a smaller file or that the memorandum be submitted in Word, WordPerfect or RTF format. In addition, at the same time the memorandum for claimant is sent, the names of the members of the team with e-mail addresses must be submitted on the form that will be provided.

48. Place for Submission of Memoranda. The submission by e-mail of the memorandum should be sent to:

Professor Louise Barrington

E-mail: [director@cisgmoot.org](mailto:director@cisgmoot.org)

49. The dates on which memoranda are due in Hong Kong are as follows:

Memorandum for Claimant:

E-mail: Thursday, 4 December 2008

Memorandum for Respondent:

E-mail: Thursday, 22 January 2009

50. Receipt of e-mailed copies of the memoranda will be acknowledged.

51. The designated contact person for each team will be sent by e-mail the memorandum for claimant of another team, to which a memorandum for respondent must be prepared. The memorandum will be sent within a week, or as soon after as is possible. If the contact person will not be available at the address given during that period, a substitute person or address must be notified to the Vis East administration at [info@cisgmoot.org](mailto:info@cisgmoot.org), prior to 1 December 2008.

52. On 26 January 2009, or as soon after as possible, the designated contact person will be sent by e-mail the memorandum for respondent prepared in reply to its memorandum for claimant as well as the memoranda of the other teams against which it will argue in its third and fourth oral hearings.

53. Teams that enter the elimination rounds will NOT be furnished with the memoranda of the teams against which they are to argue in those rounds.

54. **Copyright** Memoranda once submitted shall be the property of the Vis East Moot and may be copyrighted by it.

55. **Exchange of memoranda.** Teams may exchange memoranda after the memorandum for respondent has been submitted, but not prior to that time.

## V. Oral Hearings

56. **Venue.** The oral hearings will be held School of Law of the City University of Hong Kong, 83 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong.

57. **General Rounds** Each team will argue four times in the general rounds, twice as claimant and twice as respondent. In its first two oral hearings, each team will argue once as claimant and once as respondent. The respondent will be the team that prepared the memorandum for respondent in opposition to the memorandum for claimant that was sent to it. In its third and fourth oral hearings the teams will argue against teams with which they were not paired for the purpose of preparing written memoranda.

58. The general rounds will be scheduled so that, in principle, each team will argue once per day, Tuesday through Friday. If there should be an odd number of participating teams, or occasionally for other reasons, it may be necessary for a team to argue twice on the same day.

59. **Duration of Oral Presentation.** The oral presentation of each team is, in principle, thirty (30) minutes. The team should allocate equitably the time available to the two individual advocates. However, the arbitral tribunal may exceed the time limits stated so long as neither team is allowed more than

forty-five (45) minutes to present its argument, including the time necessary to answer the questions of the tribunal. It will be the responsibility of the tribunal to ensure that the teams are treated fairly.

60. **Arguments.** Claimants and respondents in their first hearing should expect to rely on the arguments given in their written memoranda or to be prepared to justify why that position has been abandoned. In subsequent hearings arbitrators may be less demanding on this score as it is expected that teams will improve their arguments during the Moot.

61. **Questions by Arbitrators.** The arbitrators are requested to act during the oral hearings as much as possible the way they would in a real arbitration. There are significant differences in style dependent both on individual personalities and on perceptions of the role of an arbitrator (or judge) in oral argument. Some arbitrators, or arbitral tribunals, may interrupt a presentation with persistent or even aggressive questioning. Other arbitrators, or arbitral tribunals, may listen to an entire argument without asking any questions. Therefore, teams should be prepared for both styles of oral presentation.

62. **Order of presentation.** Some panels of arbitrators will ask one team to present its argument on all of the issues before the other team is permitted to present its argument. Other panels of arbitrators will ask both teams to argue one issue first before they both argue in respect of a second issue. Normally the party who has raised the issue will argue first. Therefore, normally the claimant would argue first, if it is to present its arguments on all of the issues before the respondent is permitted to argue. However, if the respondent has raised an objection to the jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal

or other affirmative defense, the panel may ask it to present its arguments on that issue before the claimant responds to it.

63. The arbitrators will decide whether rebuttal arguments will be permitted. Whether or not rebuttal will be allowed can be expected to change from one argument to the next.

**64. Exhibits.** No exhibits may be used during the oral arguments that do not come directly from the Problem. Exhibits that are designed to clarify time sequences or other such matters may be used, but only if the arbitrators and the opposing team are in agreement. For technical reasons the exhibits may not consist of overhead or Power Point projections or require the use of a stand.

65. **Scoring** Each arbitrator will score each of the orators on a scale of 25 to 50. The scores of the two orators will be added to constitute the team score for that argument. Therefore, each team could score a maximum of 100 points per arbitrator per argument, or a theoretical maximum of 1200 points for the four arguments. Arbitrators will score the oral arguments without knowledge of the results of earlier arguments. Some arbitrators will have participated in evaluating the memoranda of teams whose oral arguments they later hear. Although they will be aware of their own evaluation of the memoranda, they will be without knowledge of the evaluations given by other arbitrators.

66. **First Elimination Round** After the general rounds, the scores of each team for its oral presentation in the four arguments will be totaled. At the General Assembly of Friday 27 March 2009, the sixteen teams that have obtained the

highest composite scores will be announced, and they will meet in the first elimination round, at 9:00 am on Saturday 28 March 2009. If there is a tie for 16<sup>th</sup> place, the decision as to which team will enter the elimination rounds will be determined by lot. The teams will be paired so that the first and sixteenth, second and sixty-third, etc. will argue against one another. Ranking of a team in the General Rounds will not be divulged until after the close of the Moot and then only to the team concerned.

67. **Quarter-Final Round** The eight winners of the Round of 16 will meet in the Quarter-Final Round on Saturday at noon, 28 March 2009.

68. **Semi-Final Round** The four winners of the Quarter-final Round will meet in the Semifinal Round on Saturday 28 March 2009 at 3:00 pm.

69. **Final Round** The two winners of the Semi-final Round will meet in the Final Round Sunday morning, 29 March 2009 at 10:00 am.

70. **Determination as to which team is claimant and which is respondent** If the two teams in any of the elimination rounds, including the final round, argued against one another in the general rounds, they will argue for the opposite party in the elimination round. If they did not argue against one another in the general rounds, in the first elimination round the determination as to which team will be claimant and which will be respondent will be determined by lot. In the following rounds, when one of the two teams in the preceding round was claimant and the other was respondent, they will argue for the opposite party for which they argued in that preceding round. If both teams argued for the claimant or both argued for the respondent in the

preceding round, the decision as to which team will be claimant and which will be respondent will be determined by lot.

71. **Winning Team.** The winning team of the oral phase of the Moot is the team that wins the final round.

## VI. Assistance

72. **Written Memoranda.** Although the students should do all the research and writing of the memoranda themselves - without assistance from anyone who is not a student member of the team - faculty advisors, coaches and others may help identify the issues, comment on the persuasiveness of the arguments the students have made in drafts and, when necessary, suggest other arguments the students might consider employing. However, the final product must be that of the students - not their advisors. A certificate signed by either person whose name appears on the registration form stating that no person other than a student team member has participated in the writing of the memorandum must be submitted by e-mail with the memorandum.

73. **Oral Hearings.** There is no restriction on the amount of coaching that a team may receive in preparation for the oral hearings. It is expected and encouraged that teams will have practice arguments, whether against other members of the team or against other teams that will participate in the Moot. The only restriction is that no team should have a practice argument against a team it is scheduled to meet in either the Vienna or Hong Kong Moot.

74. In each oral hearing two members of the team will present the argument. No communication with other members of the team who may be present at the hearing is permitted.

75. One purpose of the Moot is to develop the art of advocacy in international commercial arbitration proceedings. Observance of the performance of other participants is one way to develop that art. Therefore, attendance of team members at the arguments of other teams is permitted, except that no team, or friend or relative of a team member, is permitted to attend arguments of other teams against which it is scheduled to argue at a later time in the general rounds. This rule extends to the viewing of arguments in practice arguments. Violation of this rule will disqualify a team from participation in the elimination rounds. See also paragraph 55 on exchange of memoranda.

76. **Filming of arguments.** Filming of arguments is permitted with the agreement of the other team and the arbitrators. Filming must be done in such a way as not to disturb the argument.

## VII. Awards

77. The awards given in the Moot are:

- Eric Bergsten Award for Best Written Memorandum for Claimant
- Fali Nariman Award for Best Written Memorandum for Respondent
- Neil Kaplan Award for Best Individual Oralist. This award for the general rounds will be won by the individual advocate with the highest

average score during these rounds. To be eligible for this award a participant must have argued at least once for the claimant and once for the respondent.

- David Hunter Award for Best Team Orals. This award will be made to the winning team in the final round of the oral hearings.

- The Spirit of the Moot Award, to the team nominated and voted by all Vis East teams as having overcome substantial obstacles in order to participate in the Vis East.

Certificates will be prepared for all members of teams that win an award or honorable mention in one of the three team categories as well as for those who receive an award or honorable mention for best individual oralist. The certificates not picked up at the Gala Awards banquet will be sent by courier within one month after the close of the Moot.

#### VIII. Interpretation of the Rules

**78. Requests for interpretation of these rules.** Requests may be addressed to Professor Barrington. All interpretations, as well as any waivers, consents, or other decisions are at the discretion of the administration of the Vis East Moot.

#### IX. Contact Address

79. All communications in regard to the Vis East Moot should be directed to:

Professor Louise Barrington

Telephone: + 44 207 848 1661

E-mail: [director@cisgmoot.org](mailto:director@cisgmoot.org)



Modifications of the Rules between the Fifth and Sixth Moots other than changes in dates.

1. The registration fee remains the same. There is a clarification of the need for the payor to pay all transfer fees.

2. Teams participating in both the Vienna and the Hong Kong Moots should review carefully paragraph 34 in respect of submission of the memoranda. The basic rule has not been changed, but there has been some clarification of it.

3. The consequences of violation of the formatting rules have been clarified in paragraph 35.

4. In paragraph 42 there is a clarification that the rule against using less than 12 point type goes to all aspects of the memorandum.

5. Paragraph 55 clarifies that teams may exchange memoranda freely once the memorandum for respondent has been submitted, but not before

6. Contact addresses and numbers have been changed because of the change in venue of this year's Vis East Moot.