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The New South Wales Bar Association

[www.nswbar.asn.au](http://www.nswbar.asn.au)



Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration

[www.acica.org.au](http://www.acica.org.au)

Media Release

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## NSW barristers join Australia's leading arbitration body

Australia's largest state barristers body, the New South Wales Bar Association, has joined the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA) in a bid to access the lucrative global market of international arbitration.

Angela Bowne SC, who chairs the Association's ADR Committee, says: "In light of ACICA's effective leadership in positioning Australia as an international dispute resolution destination and its role as the sole default appointing authority under the *Commonwealth International Arbitration Act*, this will position our members to participate in a growing area of legal practice and access solicitors and clients engaged in international arbitration in Australia and overseas."

"A significant percentage of international commercial disputes, including disputes arising in relation to insurance, financial arrangements, infrastructure and development, trade disputes and other cross-border disputes, are determined by arbitration rather than judicial proceedings."

ACICA President and Clayton Utz Head of Major Projects and International Arbitration, Professor Doug Jones AM has welcomed the decision saying: "The New South Wales Bar will further strengthen our strong corporate base which already includes most of the national and international Law practices in Australia, and now the two largest Bar Associations in the country."

A major partner of the Australian International Disputes Centre (AIDC) ([www.disputescentre.com.au](http://www.disputescentre.com.au)) and a signatory to agreements with over 50 global arbitral bodies including the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, ACICA has developed the *Appointment of Arbitrators Rules 2011* which establish a streamlined process through which a party can apply to have an arbitrator appointed to a dispute seated in Australia.

A board comprising representatives of the Commonwealth Attorney-General, the Chief Justices of the High Court and Federal Court, the President of the Australian Bar Association, the President of the Law Council of Australia and industry representatives will oversee the appointment process.

Ends

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