

## Lebanon (Beirut) – Workshop for jurists:

### *International Business Dispute Resolution*

*A view from Europe and Its Increasing Relevance for the Legal Communities of  
Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and West Bank & Gaza*

**Beirut Bar Association - April 27, 2006**

An intensive skills-enhancing workshop for jurists intended to highlight the advantages of using arbitration and mediation dispute resolution processes as alternatives to litigation. This will occur through interactive participation of the attendees involved in group discussions with trainers and local specialists. During the workshop, instructors will draw on case histories, research data and legislation to illustrate the challenges faced in, and lessons to be learned from, the EU experience; members of the legal communities from each participating country will be invited to evaluate the relevance of such experience in the Southern Mediterranean Region. Video training materials will be used to give audiences a clear perception of the actual conduct of mediation in international commercial disputes.

#### WORKSHOP AGENDA

Morning Session		Afternoon Session	
09.00 - 10.15	<b>Introduction: The EC ADR Project in the MEDA Countries</b>  <b>Presentation of Participants, Instructors and Methodology</b>	14.15 - 15.45	<b>Mediation: Views (and Roles) of Lawyers, Businessmen and the Courts</b>  <b>Taking Action: How to Make Mediation Happen</b>
Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
10.30 - 11.30	<b>Fostering Effective Commercial Dispute Settlement to Promote Trade</b>	16.00 - 17.10	<b>International Commercial Arbitration in the Mediterranean Today: Law, Practice and Culture</b>
11.30 - 13.00	<b>Mediation in Action: Video Simulation of an International Commercial Mediation</b>	17.10 - 17.30	<b>Round Table Discussion and Action Planning</b>
Lunch		Adjournment	

#### *Key Presenters:*

**Judge Béatrice Brenneur** – Court of Appeals of Grenoble (FRANCE)

**Prof. Giuseppe De Palo** – President, ADR Center; International Professor of ADR Law and Practice, Hamline University (St Paul, U.S.A.) and University of Rome “La Sapienza” (Rome, ITALY)

**Prof. Ibrahim Najjar** – Professor of Law, University Saint-Joseph (Beirut, LEBANON); Editor of the *Lebanese Review of Arab and International Arbitration*

# *Settlement of Commercial Disputes in the Mediterranean*

*An International Dialogue of Judges, Lawyers and Alternative Dispute Resolution Specialists*

**Beirut - April 28, 2006**

**Auditorium of the Beirut Bar Association (h 10.00 – 12.30)**

Lawyers and business executives increasingly work across political and cultural boundaries. Neither trade nor business investment can be guaranteed to be free of disputes, but the prospect of international commercial litigation can discourage both trade and investment. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), particularly mediation and arbitration, have proven to be increasingly effective in preventing and settling commercial disputes in many countries.

As a follow on to an EU-financed skills-enhancing workshop on international mediation and arbitration, the conference brings together prominent jurists from Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and West Bank & Gaza, and from a number of EU countries, to discuss the current state, and the desirable developments, of commercial dispute mechanisms across the Northern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean.

## Conference opening:

- **Mr. Boutros Doumit** - President, Beirut Bar Association
- **Mr. Charles Rizk\*** - Minister of Justice of Lebanon
- **Mr. Sami Haddad\*** - Minister of Economy of Lebanon
- **Amb. Franco Mistretta** - Ambassador of the Republic of Italy in Lebanon

## Conference panellists:

- **Judge Béatrice Brenneur** - Court of Appeals of Grenoble
- **Prof. Giuseppe De Palo** - President, ADR Center; Professor of Law, Hamline University
- **Mr. Christian Duve** - Partner, Freshfields, Frankfurt; Chairman of the Working Group on Arbitration and ADR of the Council of the European Bars and Law Societies (CCBE)
- **Judge Francesco Antonio Genovese** - Italian Supreme Court

*(Draft of April 20, 2006)*