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**CI Arb**

## **ARBITRATION in Africa**

3rd March 2010 - 6 pm for 6.30 pm

Hosted by Edwin Coe LLP,

**2 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3TH**

Africa offers the London arbitration market ever increasing opportunities. Commercial activities between states outside Africa and African states continue to grow as do disputes arising from such cross border transactions. Arbitration as a form of dispute resolution, though not new in Africa, continues to be reinvented. Disputes especially those with an international dimension are resolved through arbitration. However very few cities in Africa are chosen as seats of these arbitration references and still fewer arbitration institutions and arbitrators residing in the continent are appointed to such cross border arbitral references. This seminar is intended to examine the state of arbitration in Africa and opportunities for London with its growth.

### **Chair:**

**Dame Linda Dobbs, DBE**, Honourable Mrs Justice Dobbs is the ethnic minority High Court judge in England & Wales, a position she has occupied since October 2004. As a barrister, she specialised in criminal law with special emphasis on white collar crimes. She was Chair of the Criminal Bar Association and has a doctorate degree in Criminology and penology in the Soviet Union. Her connection to Africa is through Sierra Leone. She is also very much interested in various partnership initiatives on continued legal education in various states of the continent.

### **Speakers:**

**David Greene** is head of dispute resolution at Edwin Coe LLP. He has worked in Africa for 25 years on arbitrations under the rules of all major arbitral institutions. He also acts as advisor to African governments, NGO's and private companies in disputes within Europe. David is a consultant with the World Bank, MCC and international donors on civil justice and human rights. He recently advised the Libyan Government on domestic law and international arbitration. He is currently team leader on a World Bank project to revise the civil justice procedure in Tanzania including arbitration and has worked on similar projects in Uganda and Lesotho. He was a member of the Civil Procedure Rules Committee and Civil Justice Council for ten years. He is Law Society Council member for international practice and President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association.

**Emilia Onyema, School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London**, is a lecturer in Law. She teaches international trade law and international commercial arbitration on the LLM with research interest (in addition to these areas) in the legal aspects of regional integration in sub-Saharan Africa. She was formerly a research fellow at the School of International Arbitration, Queen Mary University of London where she obtained her PhD in international arbitration. Dr Onyema is qualified to practice law in Nigeria, a solicitor in England & Wales, and is the alternate tribunal secretary of the Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal in London. She is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators London and is widely published in these areas.

**This seminar will be followed by a reception kindly hosted by Edwin Coe LLP.**

**Attendance is free but places must be reserved in advance by emailing CI Arb London Branch Administrator, Elinor Pritchard, at [elinor@thevirtualpartnership.co.uk](mailto:elinor@thevirtualpartnership.co.uk)**