



IPBA Arbitration Day Manila 2026

September 18, 2026

Rethinking International Arbitration in an Evolving Global Landscape

VENUE: University of the Philippines Bonifacio Global City Auditorium

The IPBA Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Committee brings you another IPBA Arbitration Day, this time in Manila. IPBA Arbitration Day 2026 will commence with a Welcome Reception on the evening of September 17, to be followed by a full day of interesting panels on September 18, 2026. The panels will discuss the use of AI in arbitration, asset recovery, and expert testimony, followed by a hands-on workshop to provide practitioners with the tools for a successful career in international arbitration.

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Registration link, hotel information link, and venue location details are on the final pages of this flyer.

IPBA Arbitration Day 2026 - Program

September 18 • Morning

VENUE: University of the Philippines Bonifacio Global City Auditorium

8:00 – 8:25 Registration & Networking

8:25 – 8:30 National Anthem

8:30 – 8:35 Opening Remarks

- Lars Markert, Co-Chair, IPBA Dispute Resolution & Arbitration Committee

8:35 – 9:15 Keynote Address

- Hon. Alexander G. Gesmundo, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines

9:15 – 10:45

Session 1: AI in IA—Balancing Innovation and Procedural Fairness

Moderator Sophie Jeonghye Ahn, Seoul
Speakers Edmund Kronenburg, Singapore
Ranjit Shetty, Mumbai
Jack Li, Shanghai
JJ Disini, Manila

Artificial Intelligence is reshaping the practice of international arbitration, from case strategy and document review to legal analysis and tribunal processes. As its use continues to evolve, questions have also emerged on transparency, bias, confidentiality, procedural fairness, and responsible use of AI in arbitral proceedings. This panel will explore how AI is shaping arbitration practice and proceedings today, the practical and ethical considerations that may arise from its use, and how the technology can coexist with due process and fairness.

10:45 – 11:00 Break and Networking

11:00 - 12:30

Session 2: Securing the Spoils: Modern Trends in Global Enforcement and Asset Recovery

Moderator Denis Brock, Hong Kong
Speakers Shumin Lin, Singapore
Masafumi Kodama, Osaka
Varuna Bhanrale, New Delhi
Louie Ogsimer, Manila
Edouard Fremault, Hong Kong

Disputants often spend years and millions of dollars securing a favorable decision, only to find the debtor's assets hidden, shielded, or moved across borders. However, winning an international arbitration is meaningless if the final award cannot be enforced, the monies not collected, or the victory not solidified and converted into a tangible success. This session addresses the critical reality that a legal win must not become a Pyrrhic victory—leaving the prevailing party with an unenforceable and unsatisfied piece of paper. The session examines the complex process of turning a favorable arbitration award into actual recovery. Panelists will explore the changing landscape of legal developments and regional shifts as well as provide practice strategies to navigate the challenges of enforcing awards across multiple borders.

IPBA Arbitration Day 2026 - Program

September 18 • Afternoon

VENUE: University of the Philippines Bonifacio Global City Auditorium

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch & Networking

14:00 PM – 15:30

Session 3: Expert Testimony in Arbitration: Boon or Bane?

Moderator	Patricia-Ann Prodigalidad, Manila
Speakers	Alessa Pang, Singapore
	Rouven Bodenheimer, Cologne
	Iain Potter, Singapore
	Hao Wu, Hong Kong
	Vivienne Li, Hong Kong

The use of expert evidence in international arbitration continues to evolve as transactions become more sophisticated, disputes become more data-driven, and methodologies for quantification of claims and damages develop. The insights of expert witnesses are more frequently adduced in high-stakes, complex commercial cases and technical construction disputes, where tribunals are asked to rely heavily on external technical or financial expertise.

The dual nature of expert evidence in international arbitration—as boon or bane—is an ongoing debate. This session will explore the usefulness of expert testimonies and the challenges these pose to arbitrators and arbitration lawyers specifically and to the process of international arbitration as a whole. The session aims to provide the conference participants with valuable insight into managing experts and collaboration with them, to ensure they provide independent, objective, and useful assistance rather than potentially biased or confusing evidence.

15:30 – 15:45 Break & Networking

15:45 – 17:15

Session 4: Success in Arbitration-Adjacent Careers — A Practical Workshop

Moderator	Ben Lissner, Cologne
Speakers	Miriam Pereira, Tokyo
	Luisa Mauricio, Manila
	Nishant Menon, New Delhi
	Julie Raneda, Singapore
	Ricky Sabornay, Tokyo

In recent years, the participants in arbitral proceedings have expanded from what was previously mainly counsel and arbitrators. This workshop explores the many emerging roles that are currently shaping arbitration practice, including work with arbitral institutions and tribunal secretaries. Designed for younger and starting arbitration practitioners, the session will offer a practical look at possible career paths, entry points, and the skills that remain useful across arbitration-related work as it is now and will be in the next years. The panel aims to help participants see how they can build a meaningful career in the field, outside the traditional track of acting as counsel and arbitrator.

17:15 PM: Closing Remarks

- Mariel Dimsey, Co-Chair, IPBA Dispute Resolution & Arbitration Committee

IPBA Arbitration Day 2026

REGISTER 



Early Bird registration until August 31st!

IPBA Members: US\$75 • Non-Members: US\$90
Government Lawyers/Employees, In-House/Corporate Counsel: US\$45

The fee includes the pre-conference dinner on September 17th.

From September 1st:

IPBA Members: US\$100 • Non-Members: US\$120
Government Lawyers/Employees, In-House/Corporate Counsel: US\$60

Visit the IPBA website for hotel information:

<https://ipba.org/events/608/ipba-arbitration-day-2026-manila.html>

Venue Details

September 17 Welcome Dinner • 19:00 – 21:00

The Atrium at Enderun

1100 Campus Avenue, Upper McKinley Hill
Taguig, Metro Manila 1634

Dress code: smart casual

September 18 Conference • 8:00 – 17:30

University of the Philippines Bonifacio Global City Auditorium

4th Floor Henry Sy Sr. Hall
32nd Street corner 38th Street, Bonifacio Global City
Taguig City 1634, Metro Manila, Philippines

Dress code: business attire

IPBA Arbitration Day 2026

Hotel Information

The following are recommended hotels and serviced apartments close to the conference venue. Please use your normal method of making hotel reservations to secure a room at any of the locations below. Of course, you are welcome to choose your own accommodations if you wish.

Hotels

SEDA BGC

30th Street Corner 11th Avenue, Bonifacio Global City, Manila, 1634, Philippines
<https://ayalalandhospitality.com/en/seda/hotels/seda-bgc-taguig>

Grand Hyatt Manila

8th Avenue Corner 35th Street, Bonifacio Global City, Manila, 1634, Philippines
<https://www.hyatt.com/grand-hyatt/en-US/mangh-grand-hyatt-manila>

Shangri-La At The Fort, Manila

30th Street Corner 5th Avenue, Bonifacio Global City, Manila, 1634, Philippines
<https://www.shangri-la.com/en/manila/shangrilaatthefort/>

Serviced Apartments

Ascott Bonifacio Global City Manila

28th Street corner 5th Avenue, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila
<https://www.discoverasr.com/en/ascott-the-residence/philippines/ascott-bonifacio-global-city-manila>

We look forward to seeing you!