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Patron: The Hon Murray Gleeson AC

President: Albert Monichino QC

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Media Release

Record number of women elected to Australian global arbitration board

A record number of women have been elected to the <u>board</u> of the Australian branch of the **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators**, a global leader in the training, accreditation and practice of alternative dispute resolution whose membership comprises eminent practitioners, policymakers, academics and business leaders from the UK, the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australasia.

All five women: <u>Caroline Kenny QC</u> (Vic Bar - Melbourne), <u>Beth Cubitt</u> (Partner, Clyde & Co - Perth), <u>Julie Soars</u> (NSW Bar - Sydney), <u>Sandrah Foda</u> (NSW Bar - Sydney) and <u>Jo Delaney</u> (Special Counsel, Baker & McKenzie - Sydney) have extensive experience in assisting parties resolving major commercial disputes both in Australia and overseas.

Melbourne-based barrister and newly elected CIArb Australia President, <u>Albert Monichino QC</u>, said: "I congratulate my colleagues on their election; a welcome milestone reflecting the level of involvement of women in the Australian arbitration profession."

Through its global network CIArb is able to promote and advance the interests of women in dispute resolution. Recently, it appointed leading Canadian arbitrator and scholar, Janet Walker as its global academic advisor and counts as fellows and members, distinguished practitioners such as Karyl Nairn QC, global co-head and partner, of litigation and arbitration in the London office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, who led the defence team for Chelsea Football Club owner Roman Abramovich in the largest private litigation case in British legal history."

Caroline Kenny QC who holds chambers in Melbourne and London and is ClArb Australia Chair of Education, said: "It's a great privilege to serve on the ClArb Board with so many talented arbitration practitioners. This is an exciting time to be involved in commercial arbitration as we witness unprecedented growth in international arbitrations here and in Asia. Having successfully conducted the ClArb Diploma in International Arbitration, the only globally-recognised tertiary international course, in Asia for the past three years, we are looking forward to planning the next one in Australia as part of the ClArb Centenary Celebrations in 2015."

Jo Delaney, Special Counsel for international law firm, Baker & McKenzie who has 13 years' experience of international commercial and investment arbitrations in London said: "Having returned 18 months ago from practising international arbitration in London, it is exciting to see the growth of arbitration in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. It is also encouraging to see the active role that women are playing in arbitration here."

Since its election, the new CIArb Australia board has launched new initiatives on further developing international arbitration as a core competency of the Australian legal profession.

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About Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)

Since 1915 and with 12,000 members worldwide, the **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators** exists for the global promotion, facilitation and development of all forms of private dispute resolution. In addition to providing education, training and accreditation for arbitrators, mediators and adjudicators, CIArb acts as an international centre for practitioners, policymakers, academics and businessmen. The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Australia is one of a 120 branches of this fast growing global professional community, offering institute members a prestigious, globally-recognised qualification and access to a worldwide professional community and regular networking opportunities.