Media Release From Judicial Office for Scotland

A new Arbitration Court User Group has been established to provide a forum for consultation, discussion and feedback from legal professionals and others involved in arbitration matters in Scottish courts.

The announcement of the formal establishment of the group was made today (Thursday 21 September) by Lord Clark, a Judge in the Commercial Court of the Court of Session and recently appointed Arbitration Judge, at the Scottish Arbitration Centre in Edinburgh.

It is intended that the group, which will be chaired by Lord Glennie, will provide a forum for those with an interest in arbitral law to come together to discuss arbitration practice and procedure.

The group may, in due course, also be able to offer views on the operation and effectiveness of Scotland's arbitration law, with a view to assisting in reinforcing the message to the international community that the Court supports arbitration.

Addressing an audience of domestic and international arbitrators at the Scottish Arbitration Centre's annual training event, Lord Clark said: "The principal purpose of the group is to provide a forum for consultation, discussion and feedback on arbitration matters that come before the court, involving judges, legal professionals and others with relevant expertise. The primary focus will be consideration of practice and procedure. As a result of carrying out this function, the group may in due course be able to offer views on the operation and effectiveness of the Arbitration (Scotland) Act 2010."

Since the passing of the Arbitration (Scotland) Act 2010, momentum has gathered towards an increased use of the procedure in Scotland. The establishment of the Scotlish Arbitration Centre and the work of its senior personnel in promoting arbitration has been an important feature of that process.

Notes to editors

The group comprises the following:

- Lord Glennie (Chair), Judge in the 1st Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session
- Lord Clark, Commercial Court Judge

- Andrew Mackenzie, CEO Scottish Arbitration Centre
- Brandon Malone, Chair Scottish Arbitration Centre
- Robert Howie QC
- Garry Borland QC
- Jonathan Broome, advocate
- Sheila Webster, solicitor, partner in Davidson Chalmers LLP
- David Anderson, solicitor, partner in Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP
- Janey Milligan, quantity surveyor, adjudicator and arbitrator, managing director of Construction Dispute Resolution
- Richard Farndale, solicitor, director of Burness Paull LLP, Chair of Scottish Branch of CIArb