
NEWSLETTER

QUARTER II / 2026



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS LLC
— INDEPENDENT ARBITRATORS & MEDIATORS —



INTRODUCTION



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ADR Vietnam Chambers is honored to publish the Quarter II/2026 Newsletter, bringing readers the latest highlights and notable activities related to arbitration and alternative dispute resolution in Vietnam and internationally from April to June 2026.

This quarter marked several important developments, including: the appointment of Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung as President of the VIFC International Arbitration Centre, his appointment to Law Drafting Committees for Legal Reform Projects, continued contributions to arbitration training and capacity-building, and international recognition in leading legal rankings.

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I.



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACTIVITIES



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Q2 2026 at a Glance: An Active Quarter in Arbitration

In the second quarter of 2026, Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung maintained an active arbitration schedule, concluding four arbitration cases involving construction, sale of goods, finance and loan agreement disputes.

Among these cases, one raised issues concerning a fundamental change of circumstances resulting from the impact of Covid-19 and the limits of applying equity under Article 6 of the 2015 Civil Code. This was also one of two cases during the quarter that addressed the limits of an arbitral tribunal's jurisdiction, particularly whether the tribunal may consider issues that were not raised by the parties. In another case, Mr. Dzung acted as sole arbitrator in a financial dispute involving a lengthy procedural history, including a separate jurisdictional phase and a court challenge against the tribunal's decision on jurisdiction.

Mr. Dzung also continued to receive the confidence of arbitration users, with four new appointments as presiding arbitrator and claimant-appointed arbitrator in disputes involving construction, renewable energy and maritime matters.



LAWYER, ARBITRATOR
NGUYEN MANH DZUNG

Lawyer, Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung maintained a busy schedule in Q2/2026

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung Appointed President of the VIFC International Arbitration Centre

On 19 May 2026, the Ministry of Justice issued Decision No. 1284/QĐ-BTP and Establishment Licence No. 55/BTP/GP, formally recording Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung as President and founding member of the VIFC International Arbitration Centre (VIFCA).

VIFCA is the first arbitration centre established under the Vietnam International Financial Centre. It is mandated to administer investment, business and commercial disputes through arbitration and commercial mediation.

With over 30 years of experience in commercial, maritime, construction, energy, logistics, insurance, M&A and international disputes, Mr. Dzung's appointment reflects his longstanding contribution to arbitration and dispute resolution in Vietnam.



Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung at the National Assembly session adopting the Law on Commercial Arbitration 2010, as a member of the Editorial Team.

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung Appointed to Law Drafting Committees for Legal Reform Projects

In the second quarter of 2026, Lawyer and Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung was appointed to drafting committees for important legislative and policy development projects concerning Vietnam's legal profession and dispute resolution framework.

His contributions focus on legislative projects of practical significance, including the modernization of Vietnam's legal services market, the development of the public lawyer regime, legal mechanisms relating to specialized courts, and the integration of international dispute resolution practices.

These appointments reflect recognition of Mr. Dzung's professional expertise and the increasingly important role of experienced practitioners in the process of legal reform.

ADR Vietnam Chambers is honored to support these initiatives and remains committed to contributing to the development of a modern, professional and internationally integrated legal framework in Vietnam.



Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung speaking at the Ministry of Justice, the lead agency responsible for drafting legislative projects.

Engagement with the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague

On 29 May 2026, Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung, Chairman of the Executive Board of ADR Vietnam Chambers and President of the VIFC International Arbitration Centre (VIFCA), had an informal meeting with Mr. Marcin Czepelak, Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), in The Hague, the Netherlands.

The meeting took place in the context of Vietnam's efforts to develop the dispute resolution framework of the Vietnam International Financial Centre. Mr. Dzung exchanged views with the PCA on possible areas of cooperation and highlighted VIFCA's intention to welcome experienced international arbitrators, particularly those with expertise in finance, investment, banking, fintech and complex commercial disputes.

The exchange was also meaningful given Mr. Dzung's longstanding engagement with international arbitration standards, including his contribution as co-author of Vietnam Chapter of ICCA International Handbook on Commercial Arbitration and translation of ICCA's Guide to the Interpretation of the 1958 New York Convention for judges. The documents may be accessed via the links at [here](#) and [here](#).

The meeting reflects ADR Vietnam Chambers' continued efforts to promote international cooperation and connect Vietnam's emerging dispute resolution institutions with leading global organizations.



Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung at the meeting.

II.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING



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Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung Participates as Lecturer in VIART Training Course on Arbitration Skills

From 8 to 10 May 2026, the Vietnam Institute for International Arbitration Training and Research (VIART) organized the training course "Skills for Resolving Disputes by Arbitration – Intermediate Module 2" at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law.

Lawyer and Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung participated as a lecturer, sharing practical experience on rendering arbitral awards at institutional arbitration centres and the waiver of the right to request setting aside under Resolution 222.

He also joined a mock arbitration session, offering insights on case management, evidence assessment and procedural handling.



Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung speaking at the lecture.

Workshop on Dispute Resolution Mechanisms for International Financial Centres

On 18 June 2026, the Faculty of International Law of Hanoi Law University organized the workshop "Dispute Resolution Mechanisms of International Financial Centres: International Experience and Implications for Vietnam".

Lawyer and Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dung contributed from the perspective of international commercial arbitration, emphasizing the need for a dispute resolution mechanism that is independent, efficient, transparent and aligned with international standards.

The event provided a meaningful forum connecting academic research with the practical development of Vietnam's emerging financial centre and its dispute resolution institutions.



III.



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES



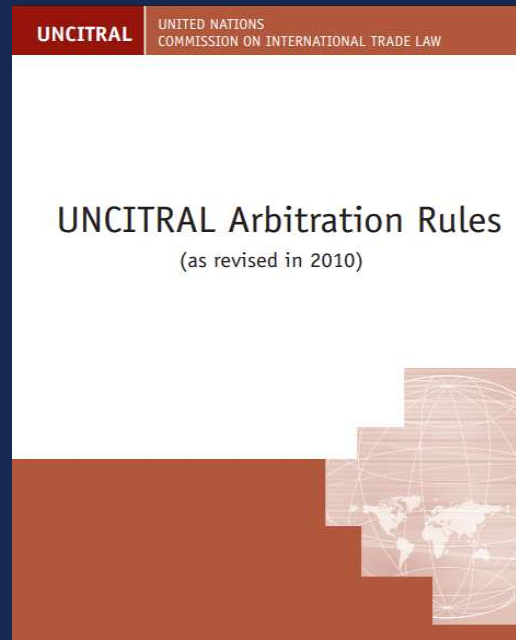
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Establishment of Arbitral Tribunals in Ad Hoc Arbitration: Appointment Mechanisms, Appointing Authorities and Drafting Recommendations

The establishment of an arbitral tribunal is a foundational step in any arbitration proceeding. This issue becomes particularly important in ad hoc arbitration, where there is no administering institution to supervise the process or assist the parties in overcoming procedural deadlock.

The research examines the mechanism for appointing arbitrators in ad hoc arbitration, with particular focus on the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, the role of appointing authorities such as the Permanent Court of Arbitration, and the position under Vietnamese law. Under the UNCITRAL framework, party autonomy remains the central principle, particularly in determining the number of arbitrators and the method of appointment. At the same time, fallback mechanisms are necessary to prevent delay where the parties cannot agree on the constitution of the tribunal.

Parties choosing ad hoc arbitration should clearly identify the applicable arbitration rules, the appointing authority, the number of arbitrators, the place of arbitration and the language of the proceedings. Proper drafting can reduce procedural uncertainty, avoid unnecessary court intervention and enhance the effectiveness of ad hoc arbitration in Vietnam. The research can be found [here](#).



UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules is popular among parties choosing ad hoc arbitration

Publication on Challenges to Arbitrators in International Commercial Arbitration

The publication examines the challenge of arbitrators as an important mechanism for safeguarding the independence and impartiality of arbitral tribunals. At the same time, it addresses the risk that challenge procedures may be misused as a tactical tool to delay arbitral proceedings.

The research analyses key concepts such as justifiable doubts, the duty of disclosure and the objective test for assessing conflicts of interest. It draws on leading arbitration rules and soft law instruments, including, among others, the IBA Guidelines on Conflicts of Interest in International Arbitration. The publication also considers international practice through selected LCIA and SIAC decisions, as well as the UK Supreme Court's decision in *Halliburton v Chubb*.

From the Vietnamese perspective, the publication identifies several issues requiring further attention, including the need for clearer time limits for challenging arbitrators, more detailed disclosure standards and a more independent institutional mechanism for deciding challenges. The authors also make recommendations for Vietnamese arbitral institutions and specialized courts, particularly in the context of Vietnam's ongoing efforts to develop international financial centres and a more internationally aligned dispute resolution framework. The publication can be found [here](#).

IBA Guidelines on Conflicts of Interest in International Arbitration

Adopted by resolution
of the IBA Council
on Thursday 23 October 2014

Cover of the IBA Guidelines on Conflicts of Interest in International Arbitration 2024, a key soft law instrument for assessing arbitrator independence, impartiality, disclosure, and challenges.

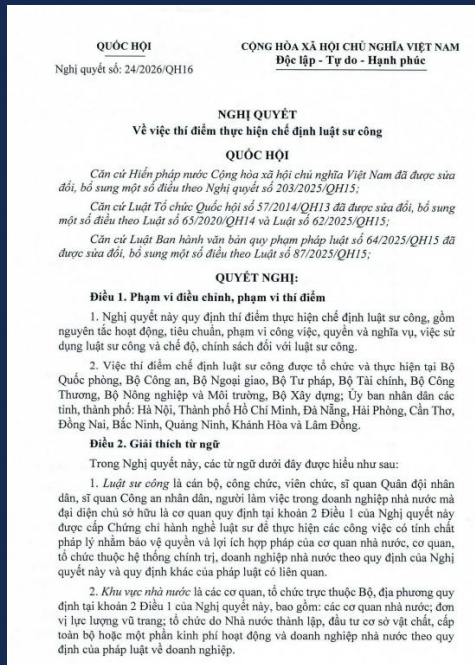
Research on the Internationalisation of Lawyer Training in Vietnam

ADR Vietnam Chambers continued its research activities with a contribution on the internationalisation of lawyer training in Vietnam for the period 2026–2030.

The research reviews the current framework for training lawyers for international integration and considers how the programme may be further developed in light of Vietnam's emerging International Financial Centre, the Specialized Court and the VIFC International Arbitration Centre. It emphasizes that internationalisation should not be understood only as the addition of more international law subjects, but as the development of practical professional competencies required for cross-border legal practice.

In particular, the research highlights the need to strengthen training in legal English, legal writing, contract drafting, international negotiation, advocacy, witness handling, cross-border compliance and dispute resolution skills. Drawing on foreign models, it suggests that Vietnam's lawyer training should combine transactional skills with advocacy and dispute resolution skills.

Overall, the study contributes to the discussion on how Vietnam can prepare a new generation of lawyers capable of working effectively in international transactions, financial disputes, arbitration proceedings and specialized court litigation. The research can be found [here](#).



Resolution No. 24/2026 of the National Assembly on the pilot implementation of the public lawyer regime.

ADR Vietnam Chambers continued its research activities with a contribution on the amendment of the Law on Lawyers 2006 and the development of Vietnam's legal services market.

The research reviews the current state of the Vietnamese legal profession, including the growth in the number of lawyers and law firms, the role of professional self-governance, and the increasing demand for legal services in commercial, investment and international dispute resolution matters. It also highlights several challenges, including the limited scale of many law firms, the need to improve legal training and continuing professional development, and the importance of strengthening law firm management and financial capacity.

Drawing on international experience, the research proposes that legal reform should move beyond regulating individual lawyers alone and pay closer attention to the development of law firms and the broader legal services market. Key recommendations include improving professional training standards, expanding market access, supporting small and medium-sized law firms, modernising law firm governance, and encouraging the growth of commercial and international legal practice in Vietnam. The research can be found [here](#).



Event marking Mr. Nguyen Manh Dung's 30 years of legal practice, featuring a discussion on the development of a professional legal profession in Vietnam and its relevance to the reform of Vietnam's legal services market.

IV.



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



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IV. PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung Recognized in Leading International Legal Rankings 2026

ADR Vietnam Chambers is pleased to congratulate Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung on his continued recognition in leading international legal rankings in 2026.

In Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2026, Mr. Dzung was recognized as a “Litigation Star” in Vietnam. In Lexology Index 2026, he was also recognized as “Recommended” in the field of Transport – Shipping in Southeast Asia.

These recognitions reflect independent assessment of Mr. Dzung’s professional expertise, practical experience and sustained contributions to dispute resolution, particularly in commercial arbitration, maritime disputes and international transport matters.

ADR Vietnam Chambers sincerely thanks its clients, partners and colleagues for their continued trust and support. These recognitions will continue to motivate ADR Vietnam Chambers to further enhance the quality of its professional work and contribute to the development of the dispute resolution community in Vietnam and the region.



V.



UPCOMING EVENTS



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS LLC
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Singapore Convention Week 2026 – Vietnam Event: "Vietnam in Focus: Arbitration Reform, the VIFC and Construction Law 2025"

The Singapore Convention Week 2026 Vietnam Event, jointly organized by YKVN, the Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC), and the Society of Construction Law Vietnam (SCLVN), will take place on Thursday, 27 August 2026 at Maxwell Chambers, Singapore. The event will also feature distinguished practitioners and experts, including Mr. Minh Dang, Dr. Hop Dang, Mr. Thang Pham, Mr. Jimmy Yim SC, Mr. Nguyen (Wynn) Do, Mr. Nguyen Nam Trung, Dr. Tran Viet Dzung and Mr. Michael E. Schneider.

Under the theme “Vietnam in Focus: Arbitration Reform, the VIFC and Construction Law 2025”, the event will bring together leading Vietnamese arbitrators, arbitration lawyers, construction law specialists, and international experts to discuss key developments in Vietnam’s legal and dispute resolution landscape

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung, Director of ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC and President of the VIFC International Arbitration Centre, will join the event as a speaker. Registration for the event is available at the following [link](#).



JOIN US AT SCW 2026

LET'S TALK ABOUT VIETNAM 

**ARBITRATION REFORM, VIFC
& CONSTRUCTION LAW 2025**

PANEL 1

Arbitration Reform & VIFC

16:00 – 17:15



Minh Dang
Moderator,
YKVN



Dr. Hop Dang
Arbitrator,
VIAC



Nguyen Manh Dzung
Chairman of the Executive
Board, VIFC



Thang Pham
Partner,
YKVN



Jimmy Yim SC
Chairman,
Drew & Napier

PANEL 2

Construction Law 2025

17:30 – 18:25



Minh Dang
Moderator,
YKVN



Nguyen (Wynn) Do
Partner,
YKVN



Nguyen Nam Trung
Chair,
SCLVN



Dr. Tran Viet Dzung
Associate Professor,
HCMC University of Law



Michael E. Schneider
Founding Partner and
Senior Counsel, LALIVE



**27 Thursday
Aug. 2026**

16:00 – 19:00 | 15:30 Registration
18:30 Networking

**Maxwell Chambers,
32 Maxwell Rd,
Singapore 069115**

REGISTRATION



For waiting list registration, please
send an email referencing SCW
and include your signature block
to the following email address:
laurent.nguyen@ykvvn-law.com



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEWSLETTER



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS LLC
MEMBER OF THE VIETNAM INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE

The appointment of Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung as President of VIFCA represents an important institutional development within the dispute resolution framework of the Vietnam International Financial Centre. VIFCA is expected to play a central role in providing arbitration and commercial mediation services for investment, business and commercial disputes.

Mr. Dzung's appointment to law drafting committees for important legislative and policy development projects reflects recognition of his professional expertise, including the modernization of Vietnam's legal services market and the development of the public lawyer regime.

ADR Vietnam Chambers continued to place strong emphasis on research as part of its contribution to the arbitration and legal community. In Quarter II/2026, ADR Vietnam Chambers carried out four research activities covering ad hoc arbitration, challenges to arbitrators, the internationalisation of lawyer training and the development of Vietnam's legal services market. These research activities reflect ADR Vietnam Chambers' continued commitment to sharing practical insights, supporting legal reform and contributing to the professional development of dispute resolution practice in Vietnam.

Mr. Dzung's recognition in Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2026 and Lexology Index 2026 reflects continued international acknowledgment of his experience and contribution to commercial arbitration, maritime disputes and international dispute resolution.



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS' SERVICES



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AD-HOC MEDIATION



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EXPERT WITNESS

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<https://adr.com.vn/en/>

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Thank You

Visit our website for future newsletters or follow our social media channels for regular updates.

Event materials posted on Academia:

<https://bit.ly/4g16QA6>

Thank you for reading!