

## Advocacy workshop reaches Brazil

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The Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy has held its first workshop outside Europe, in São Paulo.



The oversubscribed workshop took place last week, as Brazil celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Brazilian Arbitration Committee - CBAr. It was co-organised by Eduardo Damiano Gonçalves of CBAr and sponsored by the Chamber of Mediation and Arbitration of São Paulo (CIESP-FIESP). Thirty-one delegates were able to attend.

**Andrew McDougall**, a partner at Perley-Robertson Hill & McDougall in Ottawa and a member of the FIAA's executive committee, says that running a yearly programme in a developing international arbitration centre has been one of the foundation's goals since it was set up in 2007. "It is rewarding to reach our strategic objective with such resounding success in only our fourth year. We are already planning a similar programme in India for next year. This is just the beginning."

**Ank Santens**, a partner at White & Case in New York, who is also on the FIAA's executive committee and helped to organise the Brazilian programme, says it was a pleasure to visit Sao Paulo and to "teach and learn from the Brazilian arbitration practitioners."

“The quality and enthusiasm of the participants were impressive and inspiring,” she says. “They were eager to take full advantage of the opportunity to practise their advocacy skills with international arbitration counsel and arbitrators from around the world. Holding our first non-European workshop in Brazil was clearly the right call.”

Santens adds that the success of the event bodes well for the future of the foundation, “which offers a truly unique programme of immense practical value to participants.”

**David Roney**, one of the foundation’s founders and a partner at Sidley Austin in Geneva, says the FIAA is delighted with the response of the Brazilian arbitration community. He says he enjoyed working alongside CBAr and CIESP-FIESP – “two highly professional organisations which were key to making the workshop a success.”

“We were also fortunate to have on our faculty for this workshop several Brazilian and Latin American arbitration practitioners, providing participants with exposure to a wonderfully diverse group of instructors,” he continues. “The FIAA feels privileged indeed to have worked with such a high calibre team on the first workshop that we have offered outside Europe”.

Offering a Brazilian perspective, **Silvia Rodrigues Pachikovski**, the vice president of the CIESP-FIESP Arbitration Centre and a practitioner at RPSN Advogados in São Paulo, says that the workshop helped to develop arbitral best practice. “Lawyers trained in the civil law tradition were able to improve their techniques and get used to cross-examination,” she says.

Pachikovski adds that the training comes at a good time: “As host country of the next World Cup and the Olympics in 2016, Brazil is likely to see a large number of domestic and international arbitrations arising from infrastructure agreements.”

**Luiz Aboim**, a Brazilian associate at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Paris and an alumnus of the foundation’s first workshop in 2008, says he has “pushed for a Brazilian workshop ever since” and was delighted to be one of the trainers at the event.

The foundation was founded by Roney, **Sheila Block** of Torys in Toronto, **Jim Seckinger**, a professor of law at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, and Swiss arbitrator **Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler**. All except Kaufmann-Kohler attended the event as trainers.

The next FIAA arbitration workshop will take place in Paris in November 2011 and will focus on the questioning of expert witnesses in international arbitration. The workshop in India has been scheduled to take place from 15 to 17 March 2012, most probably in Mumbai.

**Faculty members for Brazilian workshop**

**Luiz Aboim** of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Paris  
**Julie Bédard** of Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom in New York  
**Sheila Block** of Torys in Toronto  
**Christian Camboulive** of Gide Loyrette Nouel in Paris  
**Nicholas Fletcher** of Berwin Leighton Paisner in London  
**Eduardo Damião Gonçalves** of Mattos Filho Veiga Filho Marrey Jr e Quiroga in São Paulo  
**Horacio Grigera Naón**, an Argentine arbitrator based in Washington, DC  
**Fernando Mantilla-Serrano** of Shearman & Sterling in Paris  
**Andrew McDougall** of Perley-Robertson Hill & McDougall in Ottawa  
**Giovanni Ettore Nanni** of TozziniFreire Advogados in São Paulo  
**José Emilio Nunes Pinto**, an arbitrator based at José Emilio Nunes Pinto Advogados in São Paulo  
**Francisco Orrego Vicuña**, an arbitrator based at Francisco Orrego Vicuña y Compañía in Santiago  
**David Roney** of Sidley Austin in Geneva  
**Ank Santens** of White & Case in New York  
**James Seckinger** of the University of Notre Dame Law School in Indiana  
**Eduardo Silva Romero** of Dechert in Paris  
**John Terry** of Torys in Toronto  
**Joseph Tirado** of Norton Rose in London  
**Michael Young** of Herbert Smith in Paris