

NAFTA 2022 COMMITTEE
2015 ANNUAL REPORT OF WEBSITE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. Current Co-Chairs

Canada: Kevin Banks - banksk@queensu.ca

Mexico: No Current Representative

United States: Elizabeth Pocock – epocock@natlaw.com

2. Website Revisions

a. Implementation of Revisions and Translations

At the 2014 Annual Meeting, the Website Sub-Committee presented the larger Committee a proposed draft of additional textual changes that the Website Sub-Committee considered necessary to improve some of the information on the existing website. Many of these were related to a change in the structure and ordering of the pages within the website to make the overall website more user-friendly. These revisions were approved by the larger Committee at the 2014 meeting and have since been implemented by the webmaster on the NAFTA 2022 website.

When implementing these changes, the webmaster requested the Website Sub-Committee also assist in sending translated versions of the changed text so similar updates could be made to the French and Spanish versions of the website. Initial drafts of these translations were completed in both languages with the assistance of volunteer interns from the NLCIFT and were sent to the Government Co-Chairs of both Canada and Mexico for review. At this point, Mexico has submitted their revisions of the translation back to the Website Sub-Committee and the webmaster has implemented these changes on the website. The Website Sub-Committee is still waiting for revisions of the French version and will send this version along to the webmaster as soon as it is received.

b. Addition of Documents

During the 2014-2015 work year, the Website Sub-Committee has also continued to assist the webmaster in keeping the website up-to-date by providing copies of the Committee documents for upload. These documents include the annual meeting minutes, legal update reports, and other Sub-Committee and Committee Reports. Should members of the Committee have versions of these documents they would like included in the website, please send such documents directly to the Website Sub-Committee by email.

c. Remaining Website Revisions

In addition to presenting suggested revisions to improve the overall functionality of the website, the Website Sub-Committee also highlighted certain text of the website that could be improved with the assistance of volunteers and input from those in the larger Committee. The Website Sub-Committee has sent several emails to the larger Committee requesting this assistance in the

2014-2015 work year and has not received any volunteers. As such, the Website Sub-Committee will again ask for volunteers at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

In particular, the Website Sub-Committee is seeking volunteers from the larger Committee to help drafting text for the following areas.

- 1) Add sentences from Legal Development Subcommittee about how ADR is used within the Region – include statistics if possible
 - <https://www.nafta-sec-alena.org/Default.aspx?tabid=103&language=en-US>
- 2) Consider adding paragraph on the limited Enforcement and Recognition of Mediation Settlements (certain states)
 - <https://www.nafta-sec-alena.org/Default.aspx?tabid=106&language=en-US>
- 3) Consider adding more information on Enforcement of Awards
 - <https://www.nafta-sec-alena.org/Default.aspx?tabid=106&language=en-US>
- 4) For a discussion on enforcement of arbitral awards in the NAFTA region, see "Enforcing Agreements to Arbitrate and Arbitral Awards in the NAFTA countries." (Need to locate this Document)
 - <https://www.nafta-sec-alena.org/Default.aspx?tabid=106&language=en-US>
- 5) Section on Conciliation – Needs to be added and re-drafted
 - <https://www.nafta-sec-alena.org/Default.aspx?tabid=106&language=en-US>

If anyone is interested or willing to assist the Website Sub-Committee in drafting text for any of these sections, please reach out directly to the Sub-Committee members by email.

3. Addition of Committee Member Bios

Besides the textual and formatting changes made to the website, the Website Sub-Committee has continued work on adding Committee Member Bios to the website. As members will recall, at the 2013 Annual Meeting, the Committee approved the addition of biographical information for all members and voted that bios should be limited to 100 words and include only information related to education and work experience that is relevant to International Commercial Arbitration.

To gather this information, the Website Sub-Committee distributed a Bio Form (attached as Annex I) to all Committee members via email. At this point, a number of bios have already been submitted to the Website Sub-Committee for posting. The Website Sub-Committee will attempt to collect all remaining bios of those Committee members interested in having their bio on the website during the 2015 Annual Meeting. Upon receipt bios for all, the Website Sub-Committee will pass any bios that have not yet be approved to the Government Co-Chairs for approval before sending these to the webmaster for posting.

4. Other Updates

In 2013, the Secretariat's website platform was changed. Since that time, the webmaster has not had the capability of capturing statistics related to the website hits. While the webmaster anticipated that they would be implementing further customization allowing for this type of reporting by December 2014, these updates have not been made at this point in time and no statistics are available. The Website Sub-Committee will continue to monitor the progress of these updates and will report any changes to the larger Committee.

Lastly, at the 2013 Annual Meeting, the Website Sub-Committee presented information about the use of a Linked In Group to replace the forum that previously existed on the Website for Committee communications. The Government Co-Chairs are still reviewing this option and it is anticipated they will provide an update on the progress of their discussion.

Should the larger Committee have any other tasks for the Website Sub-Committee to perform, the Website Sub-Committee welcomes this discussion at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

ANNEX I:

NAFTA 2022 Committee Member Bio Forms

Name:

Country Represented:

Firm/Affiliation:

Title:

Bio Paragraph: (Please limit to 100 words and include only education and work experience relevant to International Commercial Arbitration)