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ARBITRATOR ACCREDITATION GUIDELINES¹

ARTICLE 1. ACCREDITATION COURSE

1.1. Subject to the rules on exemption from examinations as set out in Article 3 below, individuals who wish to be trained in arbitration and be accredited to the PICCR panel of arbitrators must register and attend the PICCR Accreditation Course and pass the assessment examination of each of the following modules:

- a. Module 1 - Fundamentals of Commercial Arbitration
- b. Module 2 - The PICCR Arbitration Rules
- c. Module 3 - Award Writing

1.2. Module 1 (Fundamentals of Commercial Arbitration) introduces participants to the fundamentals of commercial arbitration through a series of lectures and practical exercises. Such lectures and exercises cover key topics and issues on commercial arbitration, including basic international instruments and Philippine laws and rules relevant to a strong understanding of the basics of commercial arbitration, in the context of both international and Philippine practice.

1.3. Module 2 (The PICCR Arbitration Rules) will introduce participants to the PICCR's Arbitration Rules ("**Rules**"). The lectures and exercises in this module will cover the key features of the Rules, such as (a) the required written submissions; (b) the constitution of the arbitral tribunal; (c) interim measures; (d) arbitral procedure; (e) issuance of the award; and (f) innovative mechanisms such as emergency arbitration and expedited procedure.

1.4. Module 3 (Award Writing) will feature practical exercises designed to train participants on how to draft arbitral awards.

ARTICLE 2. ASSESSMENT

2.1. Module 1 Assessment

2.1.1. An assessment examination will be administered at the end of Module 1. The assessment will be based on the materials provided and the lectures delivered during the Module 1 sessions. It is intended to measure the participants' knowledge of the fundamental principles of arbitration and the following laws: Republic Act No. 876, Republic Act No. 9285, the UNCITRAL Model Law (1985 Version) and the 1958 New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards ("**New York Convention**").

2.1.2. Participants are allowed to bring copies of and refer to these laws during the Module 1 assessment examination. **Participants will not be allowed to refer to any other material during the assessment.**

2.1.3. A participant may choose to defer and take the Module 1 assessment at a later date, by paying a late assessment fee. A deferring participant may still register and attend the Module 2 course; provided, however, that such participant

¹ These Guidelines are subject to changes that may be implemented by the PICCR.

will not be able to take the Module 2 assessment examination until after hurdling the Module 1 assessment examination.

2.2. Module 2 Assessment

2.2.1. An assessment examination will be administered at the end of Module 2. The assessment will be based on, and is intended to test the participants' knowledge of, the Rules.

2.2.2. Participants are allowed to bring copies of and refer to the Rules during the Module 2 assessment examination. **Participants will not be allowed to refer to any other material during the assessment.**

2.2.3. A participant may choose to defer and take the Module 2 assessment at a later date, by paying a late assessment fee upon registration for the deferred assessment. A deferring participant may not register and attend for the Module 3 course until after hurdling the Module 1 and Module 2 assessment examinations.

2.3. Participants in Module 3 shall be assessed as to their award-writing skills through the Award Writing course. Participants will be measured by two main criteria: (a) award formalities; and (b) substantive merit.

2.4. The passing grade for the assessment examination of each Module is seventy-five percent (75%). PICCR will endeavor to announce the results within 2 weeks after the assessment date. Participants who fail to meet the passing grade may re-take the assessment of the particular Module at a later date.

2.5. The PICCR may issue additional guidelines specific to each assessment examination.

ARTICLE 3. EXEMPTION FROM ASSESSMENT

3.1. An individual may request for an exemption to register, attend, and take the assessment examinations for, Modules 1 and/or 2 by submitting a written request for this purpose to the PICCR. The request for exemption shall set out the basis for exemption, such as, but not limited to, proven expertise and competence in the area of arbitration. The request for exemption shall also be accompanied by copies of documents and other evidence showing such expertise and competence.

3.2. The PICCR shall endeavor to act on the request for exemption within thirty (30) days from receipt of the request.

3.3. In evaluating the request, the PICCR shall consider the individual's background and qualifications, such as but not limited to the following:

- (a) Experience in arbitration practice, as arbitrator, counsel or secretary;
- (b) Accreditation as arbitrator by reputable domestic or international arbitral organizations; and
- (c) Being a law professor teaching arbitration