Foreword

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The importance of this book can hardly be overstated. 40 bright and experienced practitioners, below 40 years of age, coming from all continents, almost half of them women, is an almost perfect image of the arbitration world of tomorrow. Achieving greater gender, generational and regional diversity is a fundamental condition for maintaining trust in arbitration as a global system of justice and as a fair and legitimate means of resolving international business disputes. With globalization and the rise of emerging markets, in particular in Asia and Africa, arbitral institutions need to reach out to a much broader population of arbitrators of diverse origins and experiences if it wants to meet the needs of the users of arbitration in the decades to come.

Tomorrow's arbitration will also see many more women at the forefront. The ICC has endorsed the Equal Representation in Arbitration pledge, a landmark initiative that has put the promotion of women in international arbitration as a top priority for institutions and law firms. The current situation is however still far from being satisfactory, and we need decisive action to increase significantly the proportion of women amongst counsel, arbitrators, and of course in the governing bodies of arbitral institutions. This book, by featuring an almost equal number of women and men amongst its authors, is a great contribution to this objective.

Allowing young practitioners to be appointed as arbitrators is of paramount importance. The role of institutions is in this respect primordial. Many young practitioners get their first appointment from institutions rather than from the parties, an ideal opportunity to show their professional skills and to then make their way as arbitrators. Institutions are of course conscious of the fact that their primary duty is to select the best profile in any given case, and the promotion of young arbitrators should not be at the expense of the experience that is in certain instances required. However, even if many young have less years of practice behind them, they often have accumulated very significant experience in acting as counsel or arbitral secretary, and are able to conduct an arbitration with no less skills than their elders. I am always amazed to see the very high quality of awards produced by arbitrators who are still in their late thirties or in their forties. Young practitioners deserve the trust of the parties and of institutions.

It is also incumbent upon institutions to invest in training, and I am proud that the ICC, in particular through the ICC Institute of World Business Law, is displaying very significant efforts in organizing programs such as the now famous PIDAs, the Arbitration Masterclasses, the Arbitration Academy, and more recently its training programs for arbitral secretaries. The ICC Young Arbitrators Forum (YAF) is also a fantastic vehicle for moulding the next generation of leading international arbitrators and experts.

This book brings together forty authors who are among the most promising rising stars in international arbitration. The topics elected by the authors go to the fundamentals of arbitration, such as due process, independence and impartiality, the role of good faith, and human rights. The

book also addresses in a talented and often innovative way novel questions such as the role of psychology in arbitration, cognitive biases, third-party funding or the way in which technology will transform our profession in the years to come. My only wish is to see further editions of this remarkable book, and to see more authors from Africa and Asia amongst its future authors. I have no doubt that Carlos González-Bueno will heed this call. We should all be grateful to him for this remarkable initiative, which will greatly contribute to open the door to the new generation of arbitrators.