

Institute of Family Law Arbitrators Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference

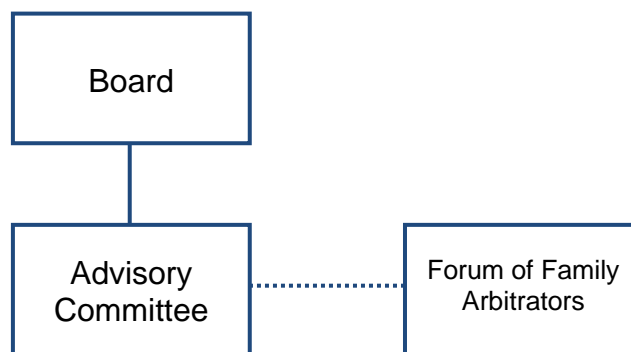
1. *Mission Statement*

The role of the Advisory Committee is to shape the future of this innovative approach to dispute resolution within the framework of family law.

2. *Purpose*

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to set the overarching direction and provide guidance for Family Arbitrators and Family Arbitration.

The Advisory Committee will report to the IFLA Board, and will link to the Forum of Family Arbitrators, made up of fully trained and qualified arbitrators, as shown in this organisational diagram:



The committee will therefore ensure that the strategic direction of IFLA is joined up with the operational delivery of family arbitration.

The committee will:

- Provide strategic advice in facilitating any changes required to enable family arbitration services to become an integral part of the family justice system;
- Promote professional recognition of family arbitration and monitor the quality of the training of and continuing professional development of family arbitrators;
- Develop and share good practice and promote continuous improvement and innovation in the delivery of family arbitration services alongside other forms of dispute resolution methods;
- Facilitate appropriate access for both professionals and the public to recognised and appropriately trained family arbitration services;
- Develop, maintain and improve the quality of the practice of family arbitration through an evaluation programme and research;

- Seek to inform government policy and campaign for appropriate law reform;
- Promote its work across other networks and consult with other groups and committees as necessary;
- Oversee the operations of IFLA and the Forum of Family Arbitrators.

3. Composition

The committee will be made up of twelve people, representing each of the founding organisations, trainers, and one or more representative of the Forum of Family Arbitrators.

It will be chaired, initially by His Hon Judge Cryan, whose role will be to ensure the committee fulfils its remit as set out in this document; consult with the board to ensure appropriate governance; and, supported by its members, determine its workplan and key activity.

Jacqui Jackson will act as secretary to the Advisory Committee and attend its meetings in an *ex officio* capacity, as well as arrange meetings, draft and distribute agendas, and take minutes.

Other members of the committee include:

Sarah Lloyd, Resolution, attending in her capacity as Resolution's Director of Dispute Resolution. Resolution is one of the founding partners of IFLA and Sarah will ensure that activity is appropriately linked between IFLA and Resolution.

Tony Marks, CI Arb

James Roberts, FLBA

Frances Burton, Centre for Family Law and Practice

Grant Howell, attending as Chair of the Forum of Family Arbitrators. His role will be to ensure effective co-ordination between the overarching activity of IFLA and how arbitration is delivered in practice.

David Hodson, International Family Law Group

Jonathan Tecks, Trainer

Suzanne Kingston, Trainer

4. Terms and Obligations

The committee will meet a minimum of 5-6 times over the course of a full year. Each member of the committee is expected to serve for a minimum of 24 months.

The committee will meet at venues provided, free of charge, by each of the founding organisations, in rotation where possible.

5. Duties

Members of the Advisory Committee will:

1. Work collaboratively with the Board, the Forum of Family Arbitrators and other strategic partners on the development and implementation of policy initiatives when reasonably required to do so;
2. Contribute to policy development work by attending meetings, submitting ideas, debating issues, etc, which may need to be on a strictly confidential basis and which shall be undertaken without further cost to IFLA;
3. Act as a source of expertise and experience to IFLA on issues relating to family arbitration in practice, including authoring and promoting relevant written articles for printed and electronic publications;
4. Actively disseminate information on arbitration within the family law arena;
5. The above obligations will be carried out with particular reference to raising awareness; developing the infrastructure around arbitration; and spreading good practice.

By signature below, the individual concerned confirms he/she is happy to become a member of the advisory committee, and understands its role and their obligations therein.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Organisation: _____