



Mexico City, 7 December 2020.

RE: Process of election to the Steering Committee.

By e-mail

Electoral Committee

ISDS Academic Forum

I would like to express my interest in being appointed as member of the Steering Committee.

My 16-year experience in the field of international trade and investment law, and dispute settlement mechanisms (DSMs) is an evidence of my strong interest and experience that I have for the Rule of Law in International Public Law. I do consider it as an essential factor in maintaining international peace.

The ISDS system, if we can call it “system”, has been under the highest pressure, the reasons are diverse and are coming from different actors, mainly from States but also from civil society, SMEs, practitioners, academia, among others.

Thus, the need for a reform of the ISDS system is nowadays of paramount importance.

In these circumstances, academics play an important role, on the one hand as they provide a guarantee of objectivity in the assessment of the situation, and on the other hand as they provide possible solutions to States.

I have strong relevant experience as academic, litigator and advisor, negotiator, and adjudicator. Thus, I believe that my profile could be of a particular interest to you.

As an academic: Since 2007 I have been a professor of *International Trade Law* at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), which includes investment law. The UNAM is the best ranked Faculty of Law in Mexico and among the best universities teaching in Spanish.

As a litigator and advisor: I worked as a government official representing Mexico in different DSMs including ICSID, UNCITRAL, WTO, and Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs), and as a delegate at UNCTAD and OECD. The experience it provided me is invaluable, as Mexico is among the top ten most frequent users of the WTO DSM and a frequent respondent in ISDS cases. I am partner at RRH Consultores, S.C., a boutique law firm specialized in International Trade and Investment Law, where I provide advice to clients on those fields.

As a negotiator: I negotiated international trade provisions of International Investment Agreements (IIAs).

As an adjudicator: I have also acted as panelist in two cases between Central American countries (SIECA), in relation to two complex matters.

I have an ample view of the current work at UNCITRAL Group III. Therefore, I am willing to contribute to the work of the Steering Committee as a member.

Accordingly, I kindly submit my nomination for your consideration.

Respectfully,

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