

## Seminar on The Role of the Legal Counsel in Domestic and International Arbitration



Kigali International Arbitration Centre (KIAC) organised a two-day seminar on 'The Role of Legal Counsel in Domestic and International Arbitration for State Attorneys; Legal counsels and advocates on April 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2018 at KIAC office.

The role of the legal counsel in international arbitration is seen as a core aspect of the success of any international arbitration. This requires the legal counsel to be well versed and familiar with a number of jurisdictions, and also be specialists across the sectors. This allows counsel to be familiar with the nuances of the dispute, given that the parties may be intent on settlement discussions during the course of the Arbitral Tribunal process, as well as ensuring compliance with the rules of the arbitral tribunal centre and ensuring complying with the steps for case preparation. By the end of the training, participants are expected to develop the foresight required to partake in proceedings before Arbitral Tribunals.

The sessions were chaired by Speakers who are all very experienced international arbitration practitioners. During the course of two days, they raised and discussed with the participants the key legal and practical questions relating on the role of the legal counsel, as they arise in the successive stages of an international arbitration, illustrating them with examples from real cases.

KIAC's Arbitration Rules provide the process and procedure for arbitration, commencing from the Request for Arbitration (Article 5) to the Correction of Awards issued by the Tribunal (Article 40). The rules recognise the appointment of legal representatives by the parties (Article 24). Where parties are represented, then by the nature of the legal retainer, legal counsel will comply with the rules, as the agent of the party.

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