Event Programme

Pakistan International Disputes Weekend 2026

12–13 December 2026 | Islamabad Marriott Hotel | PKT (UTC+5)

MC: Mansoor Azam Qazi

Working programme . Full programme revised 3 November 2026; Day 1, Panel 1 revised 5 November 2026. All times are PKT (UTC+5). Programme subject to change.

Day 1

Saturday, 12 December 2026

Mediation . AI . Islamabad as Seat . Economics of Justice

09:40
09:55

OPENING CEREMONY

Opening Ceremony & Co-Host Addresses

Noor Siddiqi
Opening address
Board Member, PIDW

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Chair PIDW
Chair, Pakistan International Disputes Weekend

Opening addresses

09:55
11:05

PANEL 1

2.5 Million Cases in Pakistan's Courts: Can Mediation Clear the Backlog?

Interactive Forum . Live Audience Vote (Before & After)

Noor Siddiqi
Moderator
Director, Towerbridge Legal

Justice (Retd) Zulfiqar Ahmad Khan
Speaker
Former Justice, High Court of Sindh
One Process for Every Dispute? Family, Community or Commercial - Which Cases Belong in Mediation?

09:55
11:05

PANEL 1

2.5 Million Cases in Pakistan's Courts: Can Mediation Clear the Backlog?

Interactive Forum . Live Audience Vote (Before & After)

Dr Can Eken
Speaker
Associate Professor, Durham Law School
Legislation vs Capacity: Is Pakistan Building the System Fast Enough? Lessons from Abroad

Dr Katherine Johnson
Speaker
President, Australian Dispute Resolution Association (ADRA)
Taking Mediation into the Community: Can Training Imams & Community Leaders Close the Mediator Gap?

Alim Khamis
Speaker
Partner & Head of Disputes (Middle East), Gateley
From Settlement to Execution: Should Mediated Settlement Agreements Be Directly Enforceable?

Mr Justice Adnan Iqbal Chaudhry
Judicial Chair . Concluding Remarks
Justice, High Court of Sindh, Karachi

Which cases? / Is the system ready? / Who will mediate? / Will it hold? / Verdict

11:10
11:20

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 1

LCIA Innovation Showcase

Kevin Nash
Presenter
Director General, LCIA

11:20
11:35

COFFEE & CONNECTIONS 1

Coffee & Connections

11:35
12:45

PANEL 2

Arbitration in the Age of AI: Can Technology Transform Disputes Without Undermining Justice?

AI Arbitration Experiment . Live AI Demonstration . Audience Polling . AI vs Human Challenge

Jahanzeb Awan
Moderator
Partner, Haidermota & Co

Dr Niklaus Zaugg
Speaker
CMS von Erlach Partners Ltd, Zurich | Geneva
AI as Counsel: Research, Drafting & Professional Responsibility

Aliaksei Korachkin
Speaker
Chairman, Belarus Arbitration Centre
Whose Law Is the AI Learning? Bias, Jurisdiction & Algorithmic Reasoning

Prof Brandon Malone
Speaker
Professor of Arbitration Law, Strathclyde Law School
The Duty to Disclose: Ethics, Confidentiality & Due Process in the Use of AI

Dr Andrey Kotelnikov
Speaker
Lecturer in Law, Robert Gordon University
Can AI Replace the Arbitrator? Human Judgment vs Machine Decision-Making

Mr Justice Yousuf Ali Sayeed
Judicial Chair
Justice, High Court of Sindh, Karachi

12:45
12:55

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 2

Pakistan Convention Showcase

Andrew Johnson
Presenter
COO, MSJC LLP; Board Member, PIDW26

12:55
13:45

NETWORKING LUNCH

Leadership Lunch & Structured Networking

13:45
13:55

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 3

Islamabad as Seat

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Presenter
Barrister, No5 Barristers' Chambers

13:55
15:00

PANEL 3

Seat at the Table: Why Is Pakistan Not Yet an Arbitration Seat?

The Seat Conversation . 3 Perspectives . Golden Recipe . International User Challenge

Mahnaz Malik
Moderator
Barrister; International Arbitrator, Twenty Essex

The Honourable Mr Justice David Waksman
Speaker
Judge in Charge, Commercial Court of England & Wales
Islamabad as Seat: From Vision to Implementation

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Speaker
Barrister, No5 Barristers' Chambers
From Creating a Seat to Sustaining One: What Is the Golden Recipe?

Mr Justice Jawad Hassan
Speaker
Judge, Lahore High Court, Lahore
Judicial Confidence, Arbitration Support & Pakistan's Journey as a Seat

15:00
15:05

CO-HOST ADDRESS

Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC)

Waseem Nazir
Co-host address
Chairman, Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC)

15:05
15:15

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 4

PEC ADR Centre

Lt General (Retd) Moazzam Ejaz
Presenter
Chair, Steering Committee ADR Centre

15:15
15:30

COFFEE & CONNECTIONS 2

Coffee & Connections

15:30
15:40

CO-HOST ADDRESS

CIArb Pakistan Branch

Karamat Ullah Ch.
Co-host address
Vice Chair, CIArb Pakistan Branch

15:40
16:50

PANEL 4

The Economics of Justice: Dispute Resolution as Economic Infrastructure in the Global South

Leadership Challenge . 4 Questions . Global South Perspective

Qasim Wadud
Moderator
Co-founder, Legal Oracles, Pakistan

Olusola Adegbonmire
Speaker
Chair, Ciarb Nigeria
Does FDI Follow the Quality of Justice?

Edmund Kronenburg
Speaker
Managing Partner, Braddell Brothers LLP
What Does Ineffective Dispute Resolution Cost an Economy?

15:40
16:50

PANEL 4

The Economics of Justice: Dispute Resolution as Economic Infrastructure in the Global South

Leadership Challenge . 4 Questions . Global South Perspective

Saltanat Imanova
Speaker
Chairman of the Board, International Arbitration Court, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kyrgyzstan
Commercial Courts, Arbitration or Neutral Platforms: What Does an Investor Actually Need?

Vladimir Khvalei
Speaker
Chair, Russian Arbitration Association
Unilateral Sanctions and Economics of Justice

Honourable Mr Justice Syed Shahid Bahar
Judicial Chair
Justice, Azad Jammu & Kashmir High Court, Muzaffarabad

16:50
17:00

KEYNOTE

Keynote Address - Chief Justice Ali Baig

Honourable Chief Justice Mr Justice Ali Baig
Keynote
Chief Justice, Gilgit Baltistan Chief Court, Gilgit

17:00
17:10

KEYNOTE

Keynote Address - Chief Justice Zafar Ahmed Rajput

Chief Justice Zafar Ahmed Rajput
Keynote
Chief Justice, High Court of Sindh, Karachi

17:10
17:25

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Closing Keynote Address - The Honourable Mr Justice Waksman

The Honourable Mr Justice David Waksman
Keynote
Judge in Charge, Commercial Court of England & Wales

17:25
17:30

CLOSING CEREMONY

Closing Speech - Mian Sheraz Javaid, Chair PIDW

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Closing speaker
Chair, Pakistan International Disputes Weekend

Day 2

Sunday, 13 December 2026

Prevention . CPEC 2.0 . Critical Minerals . Fireside . Policy

09:40
10:00

OPENING CEREMONY

Opening & Co-Host Addresses

Noor Siddiqi
Opening address
Board Member, PIDW

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Chair PIDW
Chair, Pakistan International Disputes Weekend

Opening addresses

10:00
11:10

PANEL 1

Prevention Before Arbitration: Why the Construction Industry Keeps Getting Standing Dispute Boards Wrong

Project Rescue Simulation . "What Would You Do?" . Audience Decisions . Video

Salman Ahmad Bawaney
Moderator
Partner, Bawaney & Partners, Karachi

Virginie Colaiuta
Speaker
Partner, LMS Legal
The Decision Arrives-Now What? Compliance, Enforcement & Keeping the Project Moving

Robert Sliwinski
Speaker
Barrister, Chartered Arbitrator, Accredited Adjudicator, ArbDB Chambers
Day One or Dispute Day? When Should the Dispute Board Be Appointed?

Garbhan Shanks
Speaker
Disputes and Insurance Partner, Fladgate LLP
Who Sits on the Board? Independence, Expertise & the Right Mix

10:00
11:10

PANEL 1

Prevention Before Arbitration: Why the Construction Industry Keeps Getting Standing Dispute Boards Wrong

Project Rescue Simulation . "What Would You Do?" . Audience Decisions . Video

Wendy Lin
Speaker
Partner, International Arbitration Practice
Prevent the Dispute or Decide It? The Board as an Early-Warning Mechanism

Honourable Mr Justice Asim Hafeez
Judicial Chair
Justice, Lahore High Court, Lahore

11:10
11:20

CO-HOST ADDRESS

Society of Construction Law (SCL) Pakistan

Syed Hammad Yousaf Gillani
Co-host address
General Secretary, Society of Construction Law (SCL) Pakistan

11:20
11:35

COFFEE & CONNECTIONS 1

Coffee & Connections

11:35
11:45

CO-HOST ADDRESS

No5 Barristers' Chambers

Mohammed Zaman KC
Co-host address
Head of Business & Property, No5 Barristers' Chambers

11:45
11:55

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 2

Medical ADR - Beyond the Courtroom

Dr Sana Sheraz Javaid
Presenter
Founder, OSLC

11:55
12:05

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 1

Islamic ADR

Suhail Laghari
Presenter
Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan

12:05
12:15

CO-HOST ADDRESS

Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (DRBF)

Yasemin Çetinel
Co-host address
Director, Board Region 2, DRBF

12:15
13:25

PANEL 3

The New Gold Rush: Building the Frameworks for Pakistan's Critical Minerals Economy

Critical Minerals Framework Lab . Build the Project Challenge

Elise Groulx
Moderator
Barrister, 9BR Chambers, United Kingdom

Matthew Hodgson
Speaker
Partner, Linklaters, United Kingdom
From Resource to Investable Project: What Frameworks Must Come First?

Julia Sullivan
Speaker
Arbitrator, ArbDB Chambers, USA
Getting the Contracts Right: Global Standards, Risk Allocation & Mining-Specific Expertise

Maria Mulla
Speaker
Barrister, Maitland Chambers, United Kingdom
The Investor Recipe: What Will Make Global Mining Capital Choose Pakistan?

12:15
13:25

PANEL 3

The New Gold Rush: Building the Frameworks for Pakistan's Critical Minerals Economy

Critical Minerals Framework Lab . Build the Project Challenge

Taimur Malik
Speaker
Partner, Kilam Law, Pakistan
Where Would You Resolve the Dispute? Designing a Menu of Trusted Dispute-Resolution Platforms

Honourable Mr Justice Abdul Qayyum Lehri
Judicial Chair
Justice, Balochistan High Court, Quetta

Format: Framework / Five-Ingredient Investor Recipe / Build the Project / Dispute-Resolution Menu

13:25
13:35

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 5

IPRI - Research, Policy & Pakistan's Global Positioning

Lt General (Retd) Majid Ehsan
Presenter
President, Islamabad Policy & Research Institute (IPRI)

13:35
14:20

NETWORKING LUNCH

Leadership Lunch & Structured Networking

14:20
15:30

PANEL 2

The Silk Road Reimagined: CPEC 2.0 and the Future of Cross-Border Projects

CPEC 2.0 Readiness Lab . Opening CPEC Quiz . Industrialisation Challenge

Kamran Rehman
Moderator
Partner, Penningtons Manches Cooper, London

14:20
15:30

PANEL 2

The Silk Road Reimagined: CPEC 2.0 and the Future of Cross-Border Projects

CPEC 2.0 Readiness Lab . Opening CPEC Quiz . Industrialisation Challenge

Thara Gopalan
Moderator
Vice President, AAA
Who Will Advise the Next Generation of CPEC Businesses?

Mispa Fri Awasum
Speaker
Founder, ACC Group
From Infrastructure to Industrialisation: Is Pakistan Ready for CPEC 2.0?

Robert Whitehead
Speaker
Partner | Head of DIFC & International Arbitration, HAS Law
National Expertise or International Expertise: What Is the Right Model?

Arran Dowling Hussey
Speaker
Barrister, 4-5 Gray's Inn Square Chambers, United Kingdom
Bring the Advisers in Before Things Go Wrong: From Transaction Support to Dispute Avoidance

Honourable Mr Justice Ijaz Anwar
Judicial Chair
Justice, KPK High Court, Peshawar

15:30
15:40

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 6

Islamabad Talks - Neutrality, Dialogue & International Conflict Resolution

Brigadier (Retd) Raja Shozab Majeed
Presenter
Advisor, National Coordination & Management Council (NCMC)

15:40
15:55

COFFEE & CONNECTIONS 2

Coffee & Connections

15:55
16:25

FIRESIDE CHAT

MSJ in Conversation with Mr Justice Waksman

One Judge . One Conversation . Five Curated Questions . Five Audience Questions

The Honourable Mr Justice David Waksman
Guest
Judge in Charge, Commercial Court of England & Wales

Mian Sheraz Javaid
Moderator
Barrister, No5 Barristers' Chambers, London

16:25
16:35

INNOVATION SHOWCASE 7

Review . Reflect . Revive - What Has PIDW Achieved So Far?

Mahwash Ali
Presenter
Co-Founder, TMH Procurement LLP; Board Member, PIDW26

16:35
16:45

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

IPRI - PIDW Policy Recommendations

Barrister Ayesha Siddique Khan
Presenter
Islamabad Policy & Research Institute (IPRI)

16:45
16:55

DECLARATION

Announcement of the Pakistan Declaration 2026

Honourable Mr Justice Jawad Hassan
Presenter
Justice, Lahore High Court, Lahore

16:55
17:05

KEYNOTE

Keynote Address - Chief Justice S. M. Attique Shah

Honourable Chief Justice Mr Justice S. M. Attique Shah
Keynote
Chief Justice, KPK High Court, Peshawar

17:05
17:15

KEYNOTE

Keynote Address - The Honourable Mr Justice Waksman

The Honourable Mr Justice David Waksman
Keynote
Judge in Charge, Commercial Court of England & Wales

17:15
17:25

CLOSING CEREMONY

Closing Speech - Barrister Mian Sheraz Javaid FCIArb, Chair PIDW

Barrister Mian Sheraz Javaid FCIArb
Closing speaker
Chair, Pakistan International Disputes Weekend