



GGI
Minutes Workshop “Establishing a practice group Litigation”
April 9, 2011 Munich, Germany

By : Mr. J.F. Langelaar
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1. Present: 17 participants.

2. An introduction is given by Johan F. Langelaar who chairs the workshop. Goal of this workshop is a kick-off meeting to find out whether there is need for a new practice group Litigation.

Johan makes it clear that he needs the input of the participants and gives a general statement of what the goal of a practice group is.

3. Karl Friedrich Dumoulin states that one of the goals should be the creation of a handbook informing the reader about litigation in the different jurisdictions. He emphasizes that such a handbook can be short in structure. The contents of a handbook should give summaries of the systems of the different jurisdictions, focusing on the distinctive features.

4. After the introductions a lively discussion developed about the goals of the new PG. Possible topics for PG meetings were discussed. The discussion went broader and it turned out that the participants had broad experience with international Litigation and that a practice group and the topics discussed were very relevant for those present.

5. Johan brought the discussion back to the goals for a practice group. One of the most important goals is to structure the future practice group meetings, starting in Toronto.

6. It was decided that a questionnaire would be produced for areas of practice of the participants, what kind work they are doing, etc.
Further this questionnaire could be used to introduce topics for the next meetings.

7. Johan and Karl Friedrich promised the participants to send a summary of the meeting and plans for the future.

8. It was agreed that the goal of the practice group meeting in Toronto should be to attract interest from Northern Americans to attract the litigation to Europe, because this is cheaper and more convenient. Further the European system should be introduced to the Americans, especially focused on arbitration. Further a comparison should be made between the European and the North American systems.

9. Johan proposed to ask one of the USA-members and one of the Canadian-members to give a short introduction of their juridical systems during the next practice group meeting in Toronto, which was accepted by the participants.

10. The discussion went on and the participants discussed mediation, pre-trial discovery, enforcement of judgements, the pros and cons of arbitrage versus public litigation, task of the lawyer for the client referring a case to a lawyer abroad, clearness of fee-structure in different jurisdictions, class-action, ECC-regulation, the role of the European court etc. etc.

11. Further experiences were shared.

12. The conclusion of this workshop is that a practice group Litigation, most probably re-named in "Dispute resolution", is a very welcome addition to the existing practice groups. Johan promised to inform the management about the fact that a new practice group was born!

13. Johan promised to attach to the minutes the names and e-mail addresses of the participants. Also he promised to attach his introduction to the workshop.

14. World chairperson of the practice group will be Johan F. Langelaar, European /Vice-chairperson will be Karl Friedrich Dumoulin. Johan will search for vice-chairpersons in North/South/Middle America, Asia/Africa.

15. Johan thanked all the participants for their lively contributions and discussions. The meeting was adjourned.