



# DIAC MARITIME DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCE - DUBAI 2005

\*CLOSING COMMENTS - FIRST DAY - 13TH JUNE 2005

by  
**RICHARD H.P JOWETT**

## 1. Introduction<sup>1</sup>

Delegates, fellow speakers, ladies and gentlemen;

It is a great honor to have been asked to make the closing remarks on this, the first day of the Maritime Dispute Resolution Conference.

It almost goes without saying that for all of us here, this has been a most interesting and stimulating day. The cross-section of speakers from important parts of the local community, including a judge from the Dubai Court of Cassation, leading practitioners in local law firms and legal consultancies, and our international colleagues from the German Maritime Arbitration Association, illustrates the dedication to achieving effective maritime dispute resolution in the local and regional community. The conference has been improved by the putting forward of differing viewpoints – Dr. Strube’s views on the combining of mediation with arbitration, Mr. Essam Al Tamimi and Mr. Samir Kanaan’s competing views on the adequacy of the existing UAE law.

Today, we have heard our various speakers give their views and thoughts on important aspects of maritime dispute resolution: the strengths of maritime arbitration in general, as well as the challenges that are faced in putting the finishing touches to the work which has been advanced by DIAC and the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry. We have witnessed this afternoon, a case study of how a maritime arbitration can typically be conducted.

As a listener here today, if I could briefly summarise some of the important points which have been floated, and then finish with an attempt to identify the golden thread which weaves them altogether, this would be a useful way of finishing the day, so that we can then all leave and prepare ourselves for the Gala dinner this evening.

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*\* Closing remarks presented at the international conference " Maritime Dispute Resolution Conference – Dubai – 2005" Organized by Dubai International Arbitration Centre – 13th – 14th June, 2005  
1Some headings have been added to aid in reading the written text of the speech given by Mr. Jowett*