Dear CPR Members and Friends:

For more than 30 years, CPR’s mission has been to enable parties to resolve commercial disputes more effectively – both directly, by enhancing their capabilities, and indirectly, by improving dispute resolution capacity worldwide. To maximize the impact of its international work, which includes advocacy and educational activities designed to increase understanding and thoughtful use of dispute resolution techniques, CPR works independently and collaborates with other like-minded organizations to drive key initiatives. Institutions with which CPR collaborates include:

• The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), including
  – The UNCITRAL Commission, as a member of the U.S. Delegation
  – UNCITRAL Working Group III (ODR), as a member of the U.S. Delegation
  – UNCITRAL Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation), as an NGO Observer
  – UNCITRAL Regional Centre Asia Pacific (RCAP)

• The American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution, including
  – The DR Section Council

• The Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia (IAMA) (Australia’s largest independent arbitration and mediation provider)

• The Centre for Mediation and Arbitration of Paris (CMAP) (a leading French and European Centre for resolution of commercial disputes)

• The London-based Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) (one of the leading international dispute resolution organizations)

• The Chamber of Arbitration of Milan (CAM) (a special branch of the Chamber of Commerce of Milan and the leading arbitration and mediation organization in Italy)

• CAMARB – Camara de Arbitragem Empresarial – Brasil, a provider of arbitration and mediation services to the business community in Brazil.
Over the last three years, CPR’s collaborations have enabled it to serve its members and the dispute resolution communities in the Asia-Pacific region, Brazil and Europe in extraordinary ways.

- Collaborating with the ABA DR Section and RCAP to convene the Asia-Pacific International Mediation Summit to be held in New Delhi, India on February 12-15, 2015. The Summit will engage a range of experienced dispute resolution practitioners, academics, judges, attorneys, mediators, and users such as international corporate representatives and government entities, on topics including building sustainable mediation programs, best practices in court-connected and community mediation programs, commercial mediation, cross-border international mediation, enforceability of international mediation agreements, and the future of mediation in Asia.

Dignitaries, including senior members of the judiciary and senior government officials, attending the Summit include:

- Renaud Sorieul, Secretary of UNCITRAL and Director of the International Trade Law Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations
- Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon – Supreme Court of Singapore
- Rimsky Yuen – Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong
- James Silkenat, Immediate Past President, American Bar Association, United States
- Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar – Supreme Court of India
- Mukul Rohatgi – Attorney General of India
- Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri – Supreme Court of India
- Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul – Chief Justice Madras High Court of India
- Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud – Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court of India
- Justice Madan Lokur – Supreme Court of India
- Ajit Prakash Shah – Former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and now Chairman of the 20th Law Commission of India
- Justice T. S. Thakur – Supreme Court of India

- High-level meetings in South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Thailand with governmental representatives and NGOs, and representatives of organizations in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, and Sri Lanka. (Fall 2013)

- Initial scoping work regarding development of mediation capacity in Vietnam under recent mediation law, with the goal of adaptation and replication for other regional emerging economies. (Fall 2013-Spring 2014)

- A survey of business interests in China and Southeast Asia, with the input of key coalition partners experienced in those markets, to identify and better understand attitudes regarding the use of dispute resolution techniques and potential barriers.
CPR’S WORK IN BRAZIL

• Collaborating with CAMARB, CPR will convene its Third Business Mediation Congress and Second International Business Mediation Workshop in São Paulo in April 2015. The Congress, which will be held at AMCHAM, the American Chamber of Commerce in Brazil, will address topics relating to the various draft mediation laws pending in Brazil, give an overview of successful mediation and/or dispute resolution programs, and provide an opportunity for interactive discourse.

• In March 2014, at the request of the Conselho Nacional de Justicia (CNJ), then CPR Board Member, PD Villarreal of GSK, and then CPR President and CEO, Kathy Bryan participated in a conference on the Peaceful Resolution of Business Disputes. Organized by SEBRAE, the Brazilian trade association for SMEs and micro entities, the conference drew top executives from leading companies, and highlighted the benefits of using alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and especially mediation, to resolve disputes and impact the company’s bottom line.

• CPR has constituted a Brazil Advisory Board under the leadership of Jonathan Graham of Danaher and comprising attorneys from among others, multi-national corporations such as MasterCard, Shell, Amgen and Google, as well as from leading law firms such as Pinheiro Neto, Tozini Freire, Sergio Bermudes, Koury Lopes and Campos Fialho. A representative of CAMARB, academic advisors and a leading jurist are also part of the Board. The Board is advising CPR with respect to its advocacy and training roles in Brazil.

• In association with CAMARB and Pro-Acordo and co-sponsored by several arbitration and mediation chambers, CPR developed and conducted Brazil’s first Business Mediation Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 2013. The sold-out event featured speakers from the corporate, law firm, academic and mediator communities. It was sponsored by numerous Brazilian and multi-national entities including Royal Dutch Shell, Fluor, Danaher, Swiss Re and AmBev. Law firms such as Baker & McKenzie, Chadbourne Parke and Pinheiro Neto also supported the Congress and contributed speakers. The law school of the Fundação Getulio Vargas hosted the Congress and provided logistical support. The goal of the Congress was to raise awareness in Brazil as to the availability and suitability of mediation as a method for resolving business disputes. Attendees enthusiastically embraced the concept of mediation, asking questions, providing context and making suggestions as to future events and topics. The topic of multi-step clauses, in particular, drew a fierce debate between proponents who said they promoted the use of mediation and opponents who believed they promoted perfunctory mediation on the way to the next step.

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CPR has created a European Advisory Board (EAB) to enable CPR to serve as a leading independent resource in Europe helping businesses and their in-house and external counsel, to resolve commercial disputes more creatively and efficiently, thus reducing costs and preserving commercial relationships. The EAB is composed of senior in-house counsel and leading dispute resolution practitioners based throughout Europe. The EAB Chair is Jean-Claude Najar of Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP, and the Vice-Chair is Maurice J. H. Kuitems of Fluor Corporation. Within the EAB, representatives from leading European law firms work collaboratively with senior representatives from the following corporations: DuPont, Shell Group, GE Oil & Gas, Fluor, Orange, Capgemini, Siemens, Akzo Nobel, HP, Koncar, GDF Suez, ENI, Boart Longyear, Hinduja Group, Nokia, and MasterCard.

Ongoing EAB projects include:

- Providing the users’ perspective on dispute prevention and resolution to various organizations and institutions, including the European Union.

- Promoting efficient and cost-effective conflict prevention and resolution by participating in and organizing events and creating a dispute resolution toolkit for in-house counsel and business people.

- Expanding CPR’s Global Panel of Distinguished Neutrals by identifying high-quality arbitrators and mediators throughout Europe.

- CPR has signed ADR Pledge Mutual Recognition Agreements with the Centre de Médiation et d’Arbitrage de Paris (CMAP) in France and the Irish Commercial Mediation Association (ICMA) in the Republic of Ireland. It has also signed agreements for the joint promotion of the CPR 21st Century Corporate ADR Pledge © in Italy, with the Milan Chamber of Arbitration (CAM), and the UK, with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR). These agreements facilitate and encourage the use of mediation and other dispute resolution processes for companies around the world.

- Over the past three years, CPR has organized a series of Young Attorneys in Dispute Resolution (Y-ADR) seminars in Paris, London, and Geneva. CPR’s Y-ADR program provides attorneys in the early stages of developing a career in dispute resolution with expert in-house counsel perspectives on the full spectrum of dispute resolution issues.
CPR’S WORK IN BRAZIL

• CPR and CAMARB conducted a second Congress in Belo Horizonte in 2014 at the Fundação Dom Cabral. The diverse audience of corporate, law firm, academics, mediators and jurists heard speakers on new and developing fields, including ODR and deal mediation. Other topics included an overview of how mediation is being used by organizations in Brazil, presentations on dispute boards in construction contracts, and an interactive session on ethical issues arising in mediation. Prof. Kazuo Watanabe gave the keynote address. Attendees participated enthusiastically in the Congress and a lively debate ensued as to whether mediation would supplant arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism in Brazil.

• In November 2013, CPR conducted its First International Business Mediation workshop in São Paulo, training over 20 mediator candidates. Robert Randolph and Frank Carr, who have trained mediators in all corners of the globe for USAID, took the attendees (practitioners from the leading cities of Brazil) through the basics of business mediation theory and practice.

• CPR has developed a strong collaborative network in Brazil, including several arbitral chambers (notably, CAMARB, AMCHAM, FIESP and CBMA) and bar associations, and enjoys the strong support of the Brazilian judiciary.

• CPR created and translated key supporting material in Portuguese comprising rules, articles, and training materials, and including a Portuguese subtitled mediation training DVD, and the CPR Mediation Suitability Guide.

• As a result of its work in Brazil, CPR has recruited to its Distinguished Panel of Neutrals six additional neutrals resident in Brazil and four additional Portuguese speaking neutrals resident in Portugal, as well as several other Latin America based neutrals in Argentina, Colombia and Venezuela.

ABOUT CPR
CPR is the only independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to help global business and their lawyers resolve commercial disputes more cost effectively and efficiently. For over 30 years, the legal community has trusted CPR to deliver superior arbitrators and mediators and innovative solutions to business conflict.