

## **Judicial Roundtable between France (International Chamber of the Cour d'Appel and Colleagues) and England & Wales (Business and Property Courts of England & Wales)**

Thursday 9 July 2020

### **Subject:**

**The Covid-19 crisis:**

**Including: impact on the functioning of the courts; experience of difficulties and successes; use of technology; case management; longer term impacts; consequences of economic impact including insolvency**

### **Participants:**

#### **France:**

The Judges of the International Chamber of the Cour d'Appel: Francois Ancel (President), Fabienne Schaller (judge), Laure Aldebert (judge), Anne Boutron (jurist assistant)  
Christian Wiest Judge of the Commercial Court (First Instance)

#### **England & Wales:**

Court of Appeal: Sir Geoffrey Vos, Chancellor of the High Court; Lord Justice Julian Flaux, Head of Judicial International Relations; Supervising Lord Justice for the Commercial Court  
Mrs Justice Finola O'Farrell, Judge in charge of the Technology and Construction Court, Mr Justice Colin Birss (IP expert), Mr Justice Antony Zaccaroli (insolvency expert), Mr Justice Simon Picken (Commercial Court – Judge responsible for European relations), Mrs Justice Sara Cockerill (Commercial Court), Mr Justice Richard Jacobs (Commercial Court)

(with Mr Justice Robin Knowles, Ms Roshani Palamakumbura and Ms Grace Karrass, attending)

### **Agenda**

Introduction and welcome: Sir Geoffrey Vos and Francois Ancel

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Topic : The impact of Covid on the functioning of the courts (chaired by Sir Geoffrey Vos)**

François Ancel :	Legal framework in France for cases during lockdown
Colin Birss:	Generally, including rules and practice
Fabienne Schaller :	Implementation in practice before the ICCP-CA
Julian Flaux:	Appellate courts
Christian Weist :	Implementation in practice before the Paris Commercial Court
Sara Cockerill:	First instance courts

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Topic : What are the implications or lessons for the future ? (chaired by Mr. François Ancel)**

Overall: Geoffrey Vos

#### **On case management:**

Laure Aldebert  
Finola O'Farrell

On commercial justice:

Christian Wiest

Simon Picken

On litigation:

Richard Jacobs: generally

Anne Boutron: Covid 19 and “force majeure” in France

On insolvency:

Antony Zacaroli

Closing remarks: Sir Julian Flaux and Francois Ancel