The Editor and Publisher of the WAMR are pleased to announce that Edward Anderson, Esq., Managing Director of the National Arbitration Forum (NAF), has joined the WAMR Advisory Board. We are delighted to have the benefit of Mr. Anderson’s experience and judgment on matters of arbitration and ADR. The NAF has become a significant entity in the provision of professional arbitral services.

The year-end issue of WAMR contains a substantial number of case abstracts from the National Arbitration Forum (NAF). The cases address the salient issues of arbitration law: mutuality of the obligation to arbitrate; the common law right to clarify awards; the decisional sovereignty of the arbitrator; the Kaplan doctrine on arbitrability; the Prima Paint doctrine on allegations of fraud; the availability of attorney’s fees, among others. (The NAF Case Abstracts begin on page 354.)

This issue also contains the inaugural presentation of two columns that will become a regular feature of WAMR. The first column is authored by JAMS and addresses and will continue to address important contemporary developments in the law and practice of arbitration. WAMR will carry six to eight JAMS Columns on Arbitration annually. The present column is entitled Kompetenz—From Prima Paint and Kaplan to Howsam and Bazzle: Should International Arbitrators Decide Their own Authority to Rule? It is written by Robert B. Davidson, Esq., Executive Director of JAMS Arbitration Practice (New York City). (The column begins on page 371.)

The second column is the brainchild of WAMR’s Editor for International Mediation, Nadja Alexander. Professor Alexander and her colleague, David Spencer, intend to provide a wide global perspective on the usage and implementation of mediation. The inaugural column provides a basic introduction to the emergence and practice of mediation in Australia. Professors Alexander and Spencer will supply between six and eight mediation columns annually. (The column begins on page 375.)

Additionally, Professor Frédéric Bachand (McGill Law Faculty), WAMR Editor for Investment Arbitration, provides a thorough appraisal of recent developments in NAFTA and ICSID arbitration. (The International News section begins on page 366.)

Finally, Paul D. Friedland of the law firm of White and Case, L.L.C. describes arbitration developments in Singapore, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and Milan. (The News Abroad section begins on page 362.)
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