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Dr. Rolf Knieper has been nominated as an arbitrator for the first time in 1990, in a dispute under ICC auspices between Kenyan and Austrian state enterprises. Thereafter he has served as arbitrator in eleven further ICC cases of which in one as president and one as sole arbitrator, six LCIA cases, twenty ICSID cases of which in three as president and in nine as member of an annulment committee, four PCA cases and three SCC cases.

In eleven international disputes, he has served as expert witness, seven times on Georgian law, three times on Turkmen law and once on Azeri law.

On one occasion, he was chosen as mediator between a Central Asian State and a European export company.

Languages were English and French.

He is a German national.

He is listed on the Panel of Arbitrators of ICSID and of the Kazakhstan International Arbitrage (KIA).

He has gained his practical experience of legal, economic and social problems and developments by actively contributing to legal and judicial reform of countries in different parts of the world (each time on leave from his university):

- as legal advisor to the government of Chad from 1978 to 1979 and to the government of the Central African Republic from 1981 to 1988 in technical assistance projects, financed by the World Bank and by German bilateral co-operation services where major topics were legislation on investment, on mining, on forestry, on debt management;
- as senior special fellow for UNITAR from 1991 to 1995 to advise African (Kenya, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Tanzania) and Asian (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh) States on legal aspects of debt management;
- as head of a project on legal and judicial reform of the newly independent Central Asian and Caucasian States from 1993 to 2006, financed by German bilateral co-operation, where major topics were the drafting of Civil Codes, Civil Procedure Codes, Company Codes, laws on bankruptcy, on intellectual property, on international and national arbitration, on court organisation and on legal professions (advocates, notaries) as well as the practical implementation of these laws;

- equally during this period: advising Moldova and Mongolia on the Civil Code; the PRChina on the Law on Contracts;
- as head of a project on the introduction of commercial and of investment arbitration in Turkmenistan from 2007 to 2008 by drafting national legislation and prepare the accession to the UN Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, financed by the European Union;
- as advisor to the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony/Germany from 2002 to 2004 on judicial reform in Germany and to the German Bundesnotarkammer (Federal Chamber of Notaries) on the future of civil law notaries.

In academics, Rolf Knieper has been visiting scholar at Harvard Law School (USA) from 1972 to 1973, professor of law at the University of Bremen (Germany) from 1973 until his retirement in 2006, visiting researcher at the IMF and the World Bank from 1977 to 1978. From 1990 to 1994, he was dean of law at Bremen University. He holds the title of Doctor iuris from the University of Frankfurt am Main (Germany). In November/December 2010 he has taught comparative contract law as 'distinguished chair professor' at National Taiwan University.

In his different capacities, he has been co-author of or contributor to the following codes, laws and other legal texts:

1. Législation minière de la République Centrafricaine
2. Code Forestier de la République Centrafricaine
3. Code des Investissements de la République Centrafricaine (published in ICSID Review Vol. 4, Spring 1989, pp. 167 ss together with a commentary on pp. 90 ss)
4. The law on sovereign borrowing of the Central African Republic (published in ICSID Review Vol. 4, Spring 1989, pp. 173 s)
5. La Convention d'Etablissement Type en République Centrafricaine (published in Penant, Revue de Droit des Pays d'Afrique No. 795 (1987), p. 427 ss)
6. Civil Codes of: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
7. Law on Contracts of the PRChina
8. Law on Entrepreneurs of Georgia
9. Joint Stock Company Law and Law on Companies with Limited Liability of Armenia.
10. Laws on Arbitration of: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.
11. Model Law "On Joint Stock Companies" for CIS Member States and Commentary, for the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly (English translation published in: Review of Central and East European Law, Vol. 36/2011, pp. 211 ss.)

His working languages are German (mother tongue), English and French. In addition, he has some knowledge of Italian and Russian.