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Foreword

Following the advent of the Arbitration Law in 1994, arbitration in China has seen rapid and steady progress. In 1995, there were 11 arbitral institutions in mainland China which administered around 1,000 cases, with a total amount of RMB 5 billion in dispute. As a contrast, in 2014, 235 arbitral institutions dealt with 113,660 cases, representing a total disputed value exceeding RMB 265 billion.

As the Secretary-General of the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) and the China Maritime Arbitration Commission (CMAC), both among the most prestigious arbitral institutions in China, I am fortunate to be a witness to such progress and I am proud of the achievements that have been made over the years by the arbitration community in China.

Mr Sun Wei is a partner of Zhong Lun Law Firm, one of the most prominent full-service law firms in China. He has distinguished himself as an expert of, in particular, arbitration and the enforcement of arbitral awards in China. Mr Sun has also been active as an arbitrator. He currently sits in the panel of arbitrators of both CIETAC and the Beijing Arbitration Commission. Determined to share his insights with international readers, Mr Sun joined forces with Ms Melanie Willems, the head of international arbitration for Andrews Kurth, to co-author this book. I welcome the collaboration between these two eminent arbitration practitioners.

I am honoured to be one of the first readers of this book. It covers all important facets of arbitration in China, including arbitration agreement, procedure, judicial review and enforcement. It also explores the numerous features of Chinese arbitration against the backdrop of international practices. I recommend this book to all readers interested in Chinese arbitration and, in particular, to scholars of comparative arbitration law and international practitioners who regularly deal with Chinese companies.

Yu Jianlong
Vice-Chair and Secretary-General of CIETAC