

Arbitration Rules

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CIAM - CIAR

Centro Internacional de Arbitraje de Madrid
Centro Iberoamericano de Arbitraje



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I. General

1. Scope of application

1. These Rules (the “Rules”) shall apply to arbitrations administered by the Madrid International Arbitration Center - Iberoamerican Arbitration Center (“CIAM-CIAR” or the “Center”). CIAM-CIAR only administers international arbitrations, in accordance with the definition of “international” contained in article 1, “Scope of Application”, of its Bylaws.

2. By submitting to these Rules, the parties expressly authorize the Center to determine the international or non-international nature of the arbitration and agree to accept the Center’s decision as final and conclusive. In the event that the Center determines that the arbitration is not international, the provisions of Additional Provision I, “Referral of Domestic Arbitrations and Mediations” of the Bylaws of the Center shall apply.

3. CIAM-CIAR exercises, within the framework of these Rules, functions that are strictly administrative in nature and not judicial. It is exclusively for the arbitrators to re-solve disputes submitted to the administration of CIAM-CIAR under these Rules, and the parties agree that the requirements of independence and disclosure of conflicts of interest that apply to arbitrators do not apply to CIAM-CIAR. The parties also agree, by submitting to these Rules, that no decision of CIAM-CIAR shall be deemed to be an award subject to appeal or review of any kind.

2. Rules of interpretation

1. In the Rules:

- a) the reference to “arbitrator”, “arbitral tribunal” or the “arbitrators” shall be construed as a reference to the arbitral tribunal, consisting of one or more arbitrators;
- b) references in the singular include the plural when there is a plurality of parties;
- c) the reference to “arbitration” shall be construed as equivalent to “arbitration proceedings”;
- d) the reference to “communication” includes any notice, inquiry, writing, letter, note or information addressed to any party, arbitrator or the Center, whether in physical or digital form;

e) the reference to “contact details” shall include domicile, usual residence, place of business, postal address, telephone, fax and email address.

2. The parties shall be deemed to have entrusted the administration of the arbitration to the Center when the arbitration agreement submits the resolution of their disputes to the “Center”, “Court”, “International Court of Madrid”, the “Rules of the Center”, the “Arbitration Rules of the Center” or any other analogous expression from which the parties’ intention to submit to arbitration by the Center is implied in its context.

3. It shall also be understood that the parties entrust the administration of the arbitration to the Center when, in accordance with the Rules of the Madrid Court of Arbitration, the Spanish Court of Arbitration, the Civil and Commercial Court and the Court of Arbitration of the Madrid Bar Association, there is a direct referral of international arbitrations.

4. Submission to these Arbitration Rules shall be deemed to be made to the Rules in effect on the date of filing the request for arbitration unless the parties have expressly agreed to submit to the Rules in effect on the date of the arbitration agreement.

5. The reference to the “Arbitration Law” shall be construed as a reference to the applicable arbitration law in force at the time the request for arbitration is filed.

6. The Center shall be responsible for resolving, either ex officio or at the request of any of the parties or the arbitrators, in a definitive manner, any doubt that may arise as to the interpretation of these Rules.

3. Communications

1. All communications between the parties and the Center, as well as the accompanying documents, shall be in digital format and shall be sent electronically, unless otherwise authorized by the Center for exceptional and justified reasons.

2. In its first written submission, each party shall designate an email address for the purpose of communications. All communications from the Center to be addressed to that party during the arbitration shall be sent to that address. They may also designate a physical address if necessary.

3. During the arbitration proceedings, the parties shall notify the Center, the arbitrators and the other parties of any change in their names, designations, addresses, telephone numbers or email addresses. Such modifications shall take effect upon receipt by the Center.

4. If a party has not designated an address for the purpose of communications, or if such address has not been stipulated in the contract or arbitration agreement, communications to that party shall be addressed to its domicile, place of business or habitual residence.
5. In the event that it is not possible to ascertain, after reasonable inquiry, any of the places referred to in paragraph 4, communications from the Center to that party shall be addressed to the last known domicile, habitual residence, place of business or address of the addressee.
6. It is the responsibility of the party requesting the arbitration to inform the Center of the information listed in paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 concerning the respondent, until such time as the respondent appears or designates an address for communications.
7. All communications, pleadings and documents transmitted by a party to the arbitral tribunal shall be sent in copy simultaneously to the other party and to the Center, except as provided in article 38, in the case of common time limits, or as otherwise determined by the Center or the arbitrators. The same rule shall apply to communications and decisions of the arbitral tribunal addressed to the parties or to any of them. In any event, the parties and the arbitral tribunal shall always copy the Center in all their communications, pleadings and documents.
8. Communications shall be made by email, but may also be made by delivery against receipt, certified mail, courier service, fax or any other means that provides evidence of issuance and receipt.
9. A communication shall be deemed to have been properly made on the day on which it has been:
 - a) received or attempted to be delivered by the sender to the electronic address of the addressee; or,
 - b) received personally by the addressee; or,
 - c) received or attempted to be delivered at the domicile, habitual residence, place of business or known address, or last known domicile, habitual residence, place of business or address of the addressee.
10. The arbitrators and the parties shall upload the case file documentation to the digital platform provided or enabled for such purpose by the Center, unless otherwise authorized by the Center for exceptional and justified reasons.

4. Time limits

1. Unless otherwise stipulated, in the periods indicated by days, counted from a given day, such day shall be excluded from the computation, which shall begin on the following day.
2. Time limits shall be calculated by calendar days, not excluding non-working days; however, if the last day of the deadline is a non-business day at the seat of arbitration, it shall be deemed to be extended to the first following working day. For the purposes of these Rules, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays at the seat of arbitration shall be considered non-working days.
3. The time limits established in these Rules may be modified (including their extension, reduction or suspension) by the Center, depending on the circumstances of the case.
4. Unless otherwise expressly agreed by the parties, the arbitrators may also modify the time limits.
5. The Center, the arbitrators and the parties shall at all times ensure that the time limits are effectively complied with and shall endeavor to avoid delays. This may be taken into account by the arbitrators when deciding on the costs of the arbitration.
6. The parties may agree that certain days shall be non-working days for the purposes of each arbitration proceeding.

II. Commencement of the arbitration

5. Request for arbitration

1. The arbitration proceedings shall commence with the filing of the request for arbitration with the Center or the institutions referred to in article 2.3 of these Rules, which shall record its date of entry.
2. The request for arbitration shall contain, at least, the following:
 - a) The full name, postal and email address and other relevant data for the identification and contact of the claimant party or parties and of the respondent party or parties. In particular, it shall indicate the addresses to which communications should be addressed for all such parties pursuant to article 3.
 - b) The full name, postal and email address and other relevant data for the identification and contact of the persons who will represent the claimant in the arbitration.
 - c) A brief description of the dispute.

- d) The claims being made and, if possible, their amounts.
 - e) The act, contract or legal transaction from which the controversy arises or to which it is related.
 - f) The invoked arbitration agreement.
 - g) A proposal as to the number and method of appointment of arbitrators, the language and the seat of arbitration, if there was no previous agreement on this or it is intended to be modified.
 - h) If the arbitration agreement provides that a three-member tribunal is to be appointed, the designation of the selected arbitrator, indicating their full name and contact details.
 - i) Whether or not a third party has provided financing or funds linked to the outcome of the arbitration. If so, the identity of the funder must be disclosed.
 - j) The international nature of the arbitration.
3. The request for arbitration may also contain an indication of the rules applicable to the merits of the dispute.
4. The request for arbitration must be accompanied by at least the following documents:
- a) A copy of the arbitration agreement or of the communications evidencing it.
 - b) A copy of the main contracts or instruments giving rise to the dispute.
 - c) Proof of payment of the corresponding arbitration costs.
5. If the request for arbitration is incomplete, if copies or attachments are required or if the arbitration costs have not been paid, the Center may set a deadline for the claimant to remedy the defect. Once the defect has been remedied, for the purposes of calculating time limits, the date of initial submission shall be taken as the date of reference.
6. Once the request for arbitration has been received with all its documents and copies; any defects, if any, have been corrected; and the arbitration costs have been paid, the Center shall promptly send a copy of the request to the respondent.

6. Answer to the request for arbitration

- 1. The respondent shall submit an answer to the request for arbitration within twenty days of its receipt.
- 2. The answer to the request for arbitration shall contain, at least, the following:
 - a) The full name of the respondent, its postal and email address and other relevant data for its identification and contact; in particular, it shall designate

the person and address to whom any communications made during the arbitration should be addressed.

- b) The full name, postal and email address and other relevant information for the identification and contact of the persons who will represent the respondent in the arbitration.
- c) Brief allegations on the description of the dispute made by the claimant.
- d) Its position on the claimant's claims.
- e) If it objects to the arbitration, its position on the existence, validity or enforceability of the arbitration agreement.
- f) Its position on the claimant's proposal regarding the number and method of appointment of arbitrators, the language and the seat of arbitration, if there is no prior agreement on this or it intends to modify it.
- g) If the arbitration agreement provides for the appointment of a three-member tribunal, the designation of the selected arbitrator, indicating their full name and contact details.
- h) Its position on the rules applicable to the merits of the dispute, if the matter has been raised by the claimant or, if not, if it deems it to be relevant.
- i) Whether or not a third party has provided financing or funds linked to the outcome of the arbitration. If so, the identity of the funder must be disclosed.
- j) The international nature of the arbitration.
- k) If applicable, the notice of counterclaim under the terms set forth in article 7.
- l) Proof of payment of the corresponding arbitration costs.

3. Once the answer to the request for arbitration has been received with all its documents and copies, a copy shall be sent to the claimant. The correction of any defects in the answer shall be governed by the provisions contained in article 5.5.

4. Failure to submit the answer to the request for arbitration within the time limit shall not stay the proceedings or the appointment of the arbitrators.

7. Notice of Counterclaim

1. If the respondent intends to file a counterclaim, it shall announce this in the answer to the request for arbitration.



2. The notice of counterclaim shall contain, at least, the following:
 - a) A brief description of the controversy.
 - b) The claims to be formulated and, if possible, their amount.
3. If a notice of counterclaim has been filed, the Center shall allow the claimant no more than twenty days to file a response.
4. The answer to the notice of counterclaim shall contain, at least, the following:
 - a) Brief allegations on the description of the counterclaim made by the counterclaimant.
 - b) Its position on the counterclaimant's claims.
 - c) Its position on the applicability of the arbitration agreement to the counterclaim.
 - d) Its position on the rules applicable to the merits of the counterclaim, if the question has been raised by the counterclaimant or, if not, if it deems it to be relevant.
5. If the counterclaim arises from facts subsequent to the answer to the request for arbitration, the Center or the arbitral tribunal, if constituted, before admitting the counterclaim, shall grant the claimant a period of no more than ten days to make, if necessary, submissions as to its admissibility. If admissible, the Center or the arbitral tribunal, if constituted, shall grant the claimant a period of no more than twenty days within which to respond.

8. *Prima facie* review of the existence of an arbitration agreement

In the event that the respondent does not submit an answer to the request for arbitration, refuses to submit to arbitration, or raises one or more defenses regarding the existence, validity or scope of the arbitration agreement, the following alternatives may apply:

- a) If the Center finds, *prima facie*, the possible existence of an arbitration agreement in accordance with the Rules, it shall continue with the proceedings. The decision of the Center shall be without prejudice to the admissibility or merits of any defenses raised by the parties, which shall be finally decided by the arbitrators in accordance with the Rules.
- b) If the Center finds that there is no *prima facie* existence of an arbitration agreement under the Rules, it shall notify the parties that the arbitration cannot be administered by the Center, without prejudice to the right of the parties to request a decision of any competent court as to whether or not, and in respect of which of them, an arbitration agreement binding upon them exists.

9. Advance on costs

1. The Center shall be responsible for the provisional determination of the amount of the proceedings. Prior to the appointment or confirmation of the arbitrators, the Center shall re-quest the amount of the advance on costs of the arbitration, including any applica-ble indirect taxes, to be paid by the parties within a period of time to be fixed by the Center. The Center shall be responsible for adjusting the amount of the arbitration at any time prior to the closure of the arbitration proceedings.
2. During the arbitral proceedings, the Center, on its own initiative or at the request of the arbitrators, may request additional advances on costs from the parties. The expenses related to the proceedings shall be considered part of the costs of the proceedings and shall be covered by the parties, and the Center may request additional advances for such expenses.
3. In cases where, due to counterclaims or for any other reason, it is necessary to request the payment of advances on costs from the parties on several occasions, it shall be the sole responsibility of the Center to determine the allocation of the payments made to the advance on costs.
4. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the payment of these advances shall correspond to the claimant and the respondent in equal parts, without prejudice to the final distribution of the costs contained in the award.
5. If, at any time during the arbitration, the required advances are not paid in full, the Center shall require the debtor party to make the outstanding payment within ten days. If payment is not made within this period, the Center may inform the other party so that, if it considers it appropriate, it may make the required payment within ten days. In the event of non-payment, the Center may, at its discretion, refuse to administer the arbitration or to carry out the action for which the outstanding advance on costs was requested. In the event that the Center refuses to administer the arbitration, and after deducting the amount due for administration costs and, if applicable, arbitrators' fees, the Center shall reimburse each party for the balance of the deposited amount.
6. Once the award is rendered, the Center shall send to the parties a statement of the advances received. The unused balance shall be returned to the parties, in the proportion corresponding to each of them.

III. Appointment of arbitrators

10. Number and nationality of arbitrators

1. The parties may agree upon an odd number of arbitrators for the arbitral tribunal. In the absence of agreement by the parties, the Center shall decide whether to appoint a sole arbitrator or an arbitral tribunal of three or more members, having regard to all the circumstances. As a general rule, the Center shall appoint a sole arbitrator, unless the complexity of the case or the amount in dispute justifies the appointment of three or more arbitrators.

2. As to the nationality of the arbitrators, the sole or presiding arbitrator shall be of a nationality different from that of the parties, unless the parties have the same nationality or agree otherwise.

11. Designation of arbitrators

1. The parties are free to choose all arbitrators by mutual agreement. The Center encourages the parties to exercise this right and to this effect to designate not only the co-arbitrators but also the sole or presiding arbitrator.

2. Where the parties have agreed or, failing such agreement, the Center decides that a sole arbitrator should be appointed, the parties shall be given a common time limit set by the Center within which to agree on their designation, unless at any time prior to the expiration of such time limit either party has expressed its wish that the appointment be made by the Center. If this time limit has elapsed without a mutually agreed designation having been communicated, the Center shall proceed to appoint the arbitrator.

3. Where the parties have agreed upon the appointment of three arbitrators, each party shall, in its respective request for arbitration and answer to the request for arbitration, nominate one arbitrator subject to confirmation by the Center. If any party fails to nominate its own arbitrator in the said request for arbitration and answer or indicates its wish to have the appointment of its co-arbitrator made by the Center, the Center shall appoint the arbitrator.

4. The third arbitrator, who shall act as presiding arbitrator of the arbitral tribunal, shall be appointed by the Center. The parties may, however, agree that the presiding arbitrator shall be designated by the parties or by the co-arbitrators, subject to confirmation by the Center. In such case, the Center shall allow an appropriate time limit for the parties or the co-arbitrators to make such designation. If no mutually agreed designation has been communicated within such time limit, the presiding arbitrator shall be appointed by the Center.

5. If, failing agreement by the parties, the Center decides that a three-member tribunal should be appointed, the parties shall be given a common time limit within which each party must designate its co-arbitrator. After the expiration of this time limit without a party having communicated its designation, the co-arbitrator for that party shall be appointed by the Center. In this case, the Center may, at its discretion, appoint an arbitrator having the same nationality as the defaulting party. The third arbitrator shall be appointed as provided in the preceding paragraph.

6. When the Center is required to appoint an arbitrator, it may use one of its two systems provided for in Annex 1 to these Rules, the direct appointment system or the list system. Before appointing an arbitrator, the Center shall inform the parties of any disclosures made by the arbitrators.

12. Confirmation of arbitrators

1. The nomination or designation of any arbitrator shall be subject to confirmation by the Center in accordance with the procedure set forth in Annex 1 to these Rules. The Center shall decide on confirmations without obligation to provide reasons.

2. The Center shall confirm the arbitrators designated by the parties or by the co-arbitrators, unless, in its sole discretion, doubts may arise as to, among other matters, their suitability, availability, independence or impartiality.

3. In the event of non-confirmation of any arbitrator designated by a party, by the parties, or by the arbitrators, the parties shall be given a further appropriate time limit within which to make another designation. If the new arbitrator is also not confirmed, the Center shall make the appointment.

13. Independence and impartiality

1. Every arbitrator must be and remain independent of and impartial with respect to the parties, their representatives and advisors and any third party having an interest in the outcome of the proceedings, during the arbitration.

2. Prior to their appointment or confirmation, the person proposed as arbitrator shall confirm their availability and sign a declaration of independence and impartiality with respect to the parties, their representatives and advisors and, if applicable, third parties that may have provided financing or funds related to the outcome of the arbitration, which shall conform to the form provided by the Center, as well

as communicate in writing to the Center any circumstance that may be considered relevant to their appointment and, especially, those that in the view of any of the parties may raise doubts as to their independence or impartiality.

3. The arbitrator shall promptly communicate, in writing to both the Center and the parties, any circumstances of a similar nature arising during the arbitration.

4. In order to assist potential arbitrators and arbitrators in fulfilling their obligation under this article, each party shall promptly inform the Secretariat, the arbitral tribunal and the other parties of the existence and identity of any third party who has entered into an agreement for the funding of claims or defenses, under which they may have a financial interest in the outcome of the arbitration.

5. The Center's decisions on the appointment, confirmation, challenge, replacement or removal of an arbitrator shall be final.

6. The arbitrator, by accepting their appointment, undertakes to perform their function until its completion with diligence and in accordance with the provisions of these Rules.

14. Challenge

1. An arbitrator may be challenged if there are circumstances giving rise to justifiable doubts as to their independence or impartiality, or if they do not possess the qualifications agreed upon by the parties. The challenge to an arbitrator shall be made to the Center in a written statement specifying and substantiating the facts on which the challenge is based.

2. The filing of a challenge shall not stay the proceedings unless the arbitrators consider it appropriate to agree to such stay. If the challenge concerns a sole arbitrator or, in the case of an arbitral tribunal, all the arbitrators, the Center shall decide on the stay of the proceedings.

3. The challenge must be formulated within fifteen days of receipt of the acceptance and declaration of independence, impartiality and availability of the arbitrator or from the time when the party knew or should have known the facts on which the challenge is based.

4. The Center shall communicate the challenge to the challenged arbitrator, to the other arbitrators, and to the other parties. If, within ten days of the communication, the other party or the arbitrator accept the challenge, the challenged arbitrator shall cease to perform their functions and another arbitrator shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of article 16 for replacements.

5. If neither the arbitrator nor the other party accept the challenge, they shall express this in writing addressed to the Center within the same ten-day period and,

after any evidence that may have been proposed and admitted has been taken, the Center shall make a reasoned decision on the challenge.

6. The Center shall, at the request of either party, made prior to the decision, provide reasons for its decision on the challenge.

15. Removal of arbitrators

1. An arbitrator may be removed if they fail to perform their duties in accordance with the Rules or within the time limits established, when there are factual or legal circumstances that seriously hinder their performance, or when there are unjustified delays in the conduct of the proceedings. The removal of an arbitrator may be decided ex officio by the Center or at the initiative of one of the parties. In the latter case, the party must submit a request to the Center in writing, specifying and substantiating the facts on which the request is based.

2. The request for removal shall not stay the course of the proceedings unless the arbitrators or the Center deem it appropriate to agree to such stay. In the event that the removal affects a sole arbitrator or, in the case of the tribunal, all the arbitrators, it shall be for the Center to decide on the stay of the proceedings.

3. The request for removal shall be presented within fifteen days from the date on which the party knew or should have known the facts on which the removal is based.

4. The Center shall communicate the notice of removal to the arbitrator concerned and to the other parties. If, within ten days after such communication, the other party or the arbitrator accept the removal, the arbitrator shall cease to perform their functions and another arbitrator shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of article 16 for replacements.

5. If neither the arbitrator nor the other party accepts the removal, they shall so state in writing to the Center within the same ten-day period and, after any evidence that may have been proposed and admitted has been heard, the Center shall make a reasoned decision on the request for removal.

6. In the event of removal ex officio by the Center, the parties shall be notified of the initiative so that they may present their arguments within ten days. The Center shall make a reasoned decision within fifteen days following receipt of the parties' arguments.

7. Article 14.6 shall apply to the Center's decisions on removals.



16. Replacement of arbitrators

1. An arbitrator may be replaced in the event of death or incapacity, in the event of resignation, when the arbitrator is successfully challenged or removed, or when all parties request it.
2. Whatever the reason for the appointment of a new arbitrator, the replacement shall be made in accordance with the rules governing the procedure for the appointment of the arbitrator being replaced. Where appropriate, the Center shall fix a time limit within which the party by whom the appointment is to be made may designate a new arbitrator. If such party fails to designate a substitute arbitrator within the time limit allowed, the substitute arbitrator shall be appointed by the Center.
3. In the event of the replacement of an arbitrator, the Center shall stay the proceedings until the replacement is appointed.
4. In the event that an arbitrator has to be replaced after the closing of the proceedings, the Center may, after consulting with the parties and the other arbitrators, decide to continue the proceedings with the other arbitrators, without proceeding with the replacement.

17. Arbitral Secretary

1. The arbitrators may appoint an arbitral secretary to support the arbitral tribunal provided that such appointment is considered to contribute to the efficient resolution of the arbitration.
2. The appointment of the arbitral secretary may not be made if any of the parties object.
3. The arbitral tribunal shall nominate a candidate for appointment as arbitral secretary, who shall provide the parties with a curriculum vitae and a declaration of independence, impartiality and availability in accordance with the model provided by the Center. The arbitral secretary shall be subject to the same standards of impartiality and independence as the arbitrators and their duty to declare their independence and impartiality shall continue throughout the arbitral proceedings.
4. The arbitral secretary shall act on the instructions of the arbitrators and under their supervision. The tasks performed by the arbitral secretary shall be understood to be carried out on behalf of the arbitrators, and the arbitrators shall be responsible for the conduct of the arbitral secretary in connection with the arbitration.

5. The arbitrators may not delegate to the arbitral secretary any decision making or any of their arbitration functions. The arbitral secretary shall exclusively perform the administrative, organizational and support tasks entrusted to them by the arbitrators. An arbitral secretary may be dismissed at the arbitrators' discretion.

6. In the event of the termination of an arbitral secretary, the Arbitral Tribunal may appoint a substitute arbitral secretary in accordance with the provisions of article 17.3 of these Rules.

7. An arbitral secretary shall in no case replace the work of the Center. The fees of the arbitral secretary shall be borne by the arbitrators. Likewise, the expenses of the arbitral secretary shall also be borne by the arbitrators, unless the parties agree to bear such expenses.

IV. Plurality of parties, plurality of contracts, intervention of additional parties, joinder of proceedings and procedural succession.

18. Designation and appointment of arbitrators with plurality of parties

1. If there are several claimants or respondents and three arbitrators are to be appointed, the claimants shall jointly designate one arbitrator and the respondents shall jointly designate another. In the event of the appointment of a sole arbitrator, the claimants shall act jointly on the one hand, and the respondents, jointly, on the other.

2. In the absence of such a joint proposal and in the absence of agreement on the method of constituting the arbitral tribunal, the Center may appoint the arbitrator whose designation could not be made jointly, or alternatively, at its discretion, appoint all the arbitrators.

19. Joinder of additional parties in the proceeding

1. The Center -before the constitution of the arbitral tribunal- or the arbitral tribunal -once constituted-, may decide to include any additional party in the arbitral proceedings, provided that: (i) all parties and the additional party consent to the intervention; or (ii) the additional party is *prima facie* party to the arbitration agreement on the basis of which the jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal is established or is intended to be established.

2. Joinder may be decided by the filing of a request for intervention with the Center by any party to the arbitration or by the person requesting to join the arbitration. The Center shall forward a copy of the application to the parties and the arbitrators as soon as possible.

3. The application for intervention must indicate:

- a) The basis on which the Center or the arbitrators may consider that: (i) all parties and the additional party consented to the joinder; or (ii) the additional party is *prima facie* a party to the arbitration agreement on the basis of which the jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal is established or purported to be established; and
- b) The additional party's claim; and/or
- c) The legal interest pursued by the application for intervention.

4. By filing an application to intervene, the additional party irrevocably accepts the arbitral tribunal that has already been constituted, if any.

5. The Center or, as the case may be, the arbitrators, upon receipt of the joinder application, shall grant the parties and the additional party an opportunity to present their views on the admissibility and merits of the joinder application. The Center or, as the case may be, the arbitrators, may stay the proceedings after receipt of the application to intervene.

6. In deciding on an application to intervene, the Center or, as the case may be, the arbitrators shall take into account all relevant circumstances, which may include in particular: (i) whether the arbitral tribunal may, *prima facie*, have jurisdiction over the additional party, (ii) considerations of equality of the parties in the constitution of the arbitral tribunal, (iii) the sufficient interest of the additional party, (iv) relevant considerations of procedural fairness, (v) the moment of the joinder application, (vi) possible conflicts of interest, and (vii) the impact of joinder on the arbitral proceedings.

7. Any decision to add an additional party is subject to the arbitrators' decision as to their jurisdiction with respect to such party.

8. Any decision on an application to intervene may take the form of a reasoned decision or a reasoned procedural order or award.

20. Multiplicity of contracts

Claims arising out of or in connection with more than one contract may be brought in a single arbitration, provided that they are brought on the basis of one or more arbitration agreements under the Rules that are compatible with each other.

21. Consolidation of proceedings

1. Without prejudice to any mandatory provision of the law(s) applicable to the arbitration, any party may request that the pending arbitration proceeding be consolidated with one or more other arbitration proceedings if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- a) the parties to all proceedings have agreed to the consolidation; or
- b) all claims in the arbitrations are made under the same arbitration agreement(s); or
- c) the claims in the arbitrations are not made under the same arbitration agreement(s), but the arbitration agreements are compatible and: (i) the disputes in the arbitrations arise in connection with the same legal relationship, or (ii) the arbitrations involve common questions of law or fact, where resolution in separate proceedings would risk resulting in incompatible decisions.

2. Requests for consolidation shall be filed with the Center. Unless otherwise decided by the Center, a request for consolidation shall not have the effect of staying pending arbitrations.

3. The request for consolidation shall be decided by the Center. Prior to deciding on the request, the Center shall grant the parties and the arbitrators of the pending arbitrations a hearing on the request for consolidation. The Center shall issue a reasoned decision on the request for consolidation within fifteen days once the parties and the arbitrators of the pending arbitrations have been heard.

4. In deciding whether consolidation is appropriate, the Center shall assess whether the conditions set forth in paragraph 1 above are met. The Center may also take into account any circumstances it considers relevant, including, as appropriate: (i) the stage of the pre-existing proceedings; (ii) whether consolidation would create conflicts of interest; (iii) whether consolidation would result in more efficient proceedings; (iv) whether there is a sufficiently close nexus between the arbitrations to be consolidated; (v) any relevant considerations of procedural fairness; and/or (vi) whether consolidation may jeopardize the validity of the award(s).

5. Unless the Center decides otherwise, once the consolidation has been decided, the new application shall be joined with the pre-existing proceedings. If an arbitral tribunal has already been constituted in the pre-existing proceedings, the parties shall be presumed to have waived their right to appoint arbitrators in respect of the new application, even if another tribunal has already been constituted in the new application.

6. Notwithstanding the above, the Center may decide at its discretion that a new arbitral tribunal shall be appointed in the joined proceedings. In such case, the parties, in joint consultation, shall designate the arbitrator or arbitrators. If the parties fail to reach agreement in this respect within a reasonable period of time fixed by the Center following the reasoned decision, the Center shall appoint the arbitrator or arbitrators. Subject to considerations of equality of the parties, the Center may appoint arbitrators who participated in the original proceedings to the new consolidated arbitral tribunal.

7. In the event of the appointment of a new arbitral tribunal in the consolidated proceedings, the mandate of the arbitrator or arbitrators who are not reappointed shall terminate at the time of the appointment of the arbitrator or arbitrators in the consolidated proceedings. The Center shall determine, as the case may be, the fees and disbursements for work already performed by the arbitrator or arbitrators with due observance to the provisions of these Rules.

8 These Rules shall continue to apply to the consolidated arbitration proceedings.

22. Procedural succession due to death or extinction of party

In the event of the death or extinction of a party, the Center or, as the case may be, the arbitrators, shall have the power, if they deem it necessary, to stay the proceedings, and it shall be up to the counterparty to request their continuation in order to proceed, if possible, with the corresponding procedural substitution. In the event of the succession of the deceased or extinct person, the Center or, as the case may be, the arbitrators, shall have the power to lift the stay, ordering the continuation of the proceedings and the updating of the procedural calendar if necessary.

V. General aspects of arbitration proceedings

23. Seat of arbitration

1. In the absence of agreement between the parties, the seat of arbitration shall be fixed by the Center in light of the circumstances of the case, and after consultation with the parties.

2. The arbitrators, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, shall not have the power to change the seat of arbitration.
3. The Center, when it has fixed the seat of arbitration, may, if exceptional circumstances have arisen that jeopardize the integrity of the arbitration, decide to change the seat, after hearing the parties and the arbitrators.
4. The hearings and meetings shall be held virtually or in the place that the arbitrators, after hearing the parties, deem most appropriate, without this circumstance implying a change in the seat of arbitration.
5. The law of the seat of arbitration shall be the law applicable to the arbitration agreement and to the arbitration proceedings in all matters not governed by these Rules, unless the parties have expressly agreed otherwise and provided that such agreement of the parties does not violate the law of the seat of arbitration.
6. The award shall be deemed to have been made at the seat of arbitration even if signed elsewhere.

24. Language of arbitration

In the absence of agreement between the parties, the language of the arbitration shall be determined by the Center having regard to the circumstances of the case, after consultation with the parties. If the circumstances so warrant and by reasoned decision, once appointed, the arbitrators may order that the arbitration be conducted in more than one language, or that a party may submit submissions communications or evidence in a language other than the language of the arbitration.

25. Representation of the parties

1. The parties may appear represented or advised by persons of their choice. To this end, the party shall state in the corresponding written statement the name of the representatives or advisors, their contact details and the capacity in which they act. In case of doubt, the arbitrators may require reliable proof of the conferred representation.
2. Each party shall promptly inform the Center, the arbitrators and the other parties of any change in its representation.
3. The arbitrators may, once the tribunal has been constituted, and after consulting the parties, take any measures necessary to avoid a conflict of interest arising from a change in the representation of the parties, including the exclusion of the new party's representatives from participating in whole or in part in the arbitration proceedings.

26. Arbitration finance

In the event that either party is funded by a third party for all or part of the proceedings, it shall bring this circumstance and the identity of the third party to the attention of the tribunal, the opposing party and the Center as soon as such funding occurs.

27. Powers of arbitrators

1. Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the arbitrators shall conduct the arbitration proceedings in such manner as they deem appropriate in each case, avoiding unnecessary delay or expense, in order to ensure a prompt and efficient resolution of the dispute, always observing the principle of equality of the parties and giving each party sufficient opportunity to present its case.

2. Without being exhaustive, this power of the arbitrators includes the following powers:

- a) To decide on the admissibility, relevance and usefulness of the evidence, being able to exclude in a reasoned manner evidence that is irrelevant, useless, reiterative or that for any other reason it deems inappropriate.
- b) To decide on the time and form in which the evidence should be filed, as well as on its presentation.
- c) To evaluate the evidence and allocated burdens of proof, including the determination of the consequences of a party's failure to present evidence admitted by the arbitrators.
- d) To modify the procedural calendar and to shorten or extend any time limit established in these Rules, agreed upon by the parties or set by the arbitrators, even when the time limit has expired. As regards the time limit for rendering the award, the provisions of article 40 shall apply.
- e) To decide on the bifurcation of the proceedings.
- f) To decide, as a prior question and, at its discretion, by means of an award, or by means of a procedural order, both challenges to the jurisdiction of the arbitrators pursuant to article 32.4 of these Rules and to claims or defenses that manifestly lack legal merit, adopting for such purpose the procedural measures they deem appropriate.
- g) To conduct hearings as they deem appropriate.

- h) To decide on the admissibility of the supplementation, extension or modification of the parties' arguments on the merits, taking into account, among other circumstances, the procedural moment in which they are intended to be made.
- i) To determine the rules applicable to the proceedings, even if they have not been invoked by the parties, provided that they are given the opportunity to express their views on the applicability of such rules.
- j) To order any of the parties to produce documents or copies of documents in their possession that have a bearing on the case.
- k) To take any appropriate measure to enable the performance of expert investigations or on-site inspections, including ordering that a movable or immovable property or access to facilities or sites be made available to a party, an expert or a third party.
- l) To adopt measures to protect industrial secrets or any other type of confidential information.
- m) To adopt measures to preserve the integrity of the proceedings, including oral or written admonishment of counsel.

28. Rules of procedure

1. As soon as the arbitral tribunal is formally constituted, and provided that the required advances have been paid by the parties, the Center shall deliver the case file to the arbitrators.
2. The arbitrators shall direct and order the arbitration proceedings as they deem appropriate, if necessary, by means of procedural orders, after consulting with the parties.
3. All those participating in the arbitration proceedings shall act in accordance with the principles of confidentiality and good faith in the conduct of the proceedings. The parties and their representatives shall avoid unnecessary delays in the proceedings and their actions may be taken into consideration by the arbitrators in the decision on costs.

29. Rules applicable to the merits

1. The arbitrators shall decide in accordance with the rules of law chosen by the parties, or, failing this, in accordance with the rules of law they deem appropriate.
2. The arbitrators shall only decide in equity if expressly agreed by the parties.
3. In any case, the arbitrators shall decide in accordance with the provisions of the contract and shall take into account the commercial uses applicable to the case.

30. Tacit waiver of objections

If a party, being aware of a breach of any provision of these Rules, the arbitration agreement or the rules agreed for the proceedings, continues with the arbitration without objecting to it as soon as it becomes aware of it and, in any event, within a maximum period of 30 days from the breach, shall be deemed to have waived the right to object to such breach.

VI. Procedure

31. First procedural order

1. As soon as possible and in any case within thirty days of receipt of the arbitration file, the tribunal shall hear the parties, either by telephone conference, videoconference, face-to-face meeting, exchange of communications or any other means deemed appropriate by the arbitrators. The agreement reached by the parties or, failing that, the decision of the arbitrators, shall be contained in a first procedural order which shall cover, at least, the following issues:

- a) The full name, description, address and other contact information of each of the parties and of any person representing them in the arbitration.
- b) The address where notifications or communications may be validly made during the arbitration and the means of communication to be used.
- c) A summary statement of the positions of the parties and their claims, together with the estimated amount of any quantified claims and, to the extent possible, an estimate of the monetary value of all claims.
- d) A list of the points in dispute to be resolved, unless the arbitrators deem it inappropriate.

- e) The full names, addresses and other contact information of each of the arbitrators.
- f) The language and seat of arbitration.
- g) The legal rules applicable to the merits of the dispute or, where appropriate, whether it should be resolved in equity.
- h) The procedural calendar.

2. The parties empower the arbitrators, after consultation with them, to modify the procedural calendar, as often and to the extent they deem necessary, including extending or staying, if necessary, the time limits initially established within the limits set forth in article 40 of these Rules. Should the parties fail to agree on the structure and procedural calendar, the arbitrators may take into account the proposal contained in Annex 3.

32. Decision on the arbitral tribunal's jurisdiction

1. The arbitrators shall have the power to decide on their own jurisdiction, including in relation to any objections relating to the existence or validity of the arbitration agreement or any other objections whose consideration would prevent them from entering into the merits of the dispute.
2. For this purpose, an arbitration agreement forming part of a contract shall be deemed to be an agreement independent of the other provisions of the contract. A decision by the arbitrators that the contract is null and void shall not by itself render the arbitration agreement invalid.
3. As a general rule, objections to the arbitrators' jurisdiction must be raised in the answer to the request for arbitration or, at the latest, in the statement of defense or, where applicable, in the response to the counterclaim, and shall not stay the course of the proceedings.
4. As a general rule, objections to the arbitrators' jurisdiction shall be resolved as a preliminary question and by means of an award, or by procedural order, after hearing all the parties, although they may also be resolved exceptionally and in a reasoned manner in the final award, once the proceedings have been concluded.

33. Evidence

1. The arbitrators shall decide on the admission, relevance and usefulness of the evidence proposed by the parties or agreed ex officio, after having heard the parties.
2. The taking of evidence shall be conducted on the basis that each party is entitled to know the evidence on which the other party bases its allegations with reasonable notice.
3. At any time during the proceedings, the arbitrators may request additional documents or other evidence from the parties, which must be submitted within the time limit set for such purpose.
4. If a source of evidence is in the possession or under the control of a party and the party unreasonably refuses to produce or give access to it, the arbitrators may draw from such conduct any conclusions on the facts to be evidenced as they deem appropriate.
5. The arbitrators shall freely assess the evidence, in accordance with the rules of sound judicial discretion.

34. Hearings

1. The arbitrators may decide the dispute on the sole basis of the documents and other evidence provided by the parties, unless any party requests an evidentiary hearing.
2. In order to hold a hearing for the taking of evidence, the arbitrators, after having consulted with the parties, shall summon them with reasonable notice to appear physically or telematically on a day to be determined by the arbitrators. The hearings, if held in person, may take place at a place other than the seat of arbitration.
3. The evidentiary hearing may continue to be held even if one of the parties, having been duly summoned in advance, does not appear without providing just cause.
4. The conduct of the hearings shall be the exclusive responsibility of the arbitrators, who may take all appropriate measures to ensure the efficient conduct of the hearings. With due notice and after consultation with the parties, the arbitrators, by issuing a procedural order, shall establish the rules under which the hearing is to be conducted, the manner in which witnesses or experts are to be examined and the order in which they are to be called.
5. Hearings for the taking of evidence shall be recorded unless the parties agree otherwise.

35. Default

1. A party to which a request for arbitration has been made and who, having been served or attempted to be served in accordance with article 3, fails to appear within the time limit to respond to the request, shall be deemed to be in default.
2. In such case, the Center shall issue a decision declaring the default of the party and the proceedings shall continue. Once the default has been declared, the Center and the arbitrators shall, if applicable, notify the defaulting party, in accordance with article 3, the following decisions: (i) the decision declaring the default; (ii) the First procedural order; (iii) the statement of claim; and, (iv) the award. In any case, the file shall remain at the disposal of the party in default at all times during the proceedings.
3. The party in default may appear at any time during the course of the proceeding, at which time the proceedings will be continued with it but shall not be reverted in time.
4. In the event of the extinction of a party and its procedural succession in accordance with article 22, the arbitrators, taking into account the provisions of article 3 for the purpose of notifications, may, at their discretion, declare the successor of the extinct party to be the party in default and continue with the proceedings in the usual manner.

36. Continuation of the arbitration

1. If the respondent or counterclaimant fails to file the answer to the request for arbitration, the statement of defense or the counterclaim within the prescribed time limit without giving sufficient cause, the arbitrators may, after having ascertained such circumstance, order the continuation of the proceedings. Should the party appear during the course of the arbitration, the arbitrators shall not be obliged to revert the proceedings.
2. Likewise, if one of the parties, duly summoned, fails to appear at the hearing without sufficient cause, the arbitrators shall be empowered to continue the hearing without its presence.
3. The arbitrators shall also decide, at their discretion, any other procedural issues raised by the parties, either by procedural order, partial award or, exceptionally and upon reasoned decision, in the final award.

37. Interim measures

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the arbitrators may, at the request of any of them, adopt such interim measures as they deem appropriate, weighing the circumstances of the case. The arbitrators shall apply the standards they deem most appropriate, such as the appearance of a good case on the merits, the risk of delay, the consequences that may arise from their adoption or rejection, as well as the proportionality of the measure and its consequences for the parties.
2. The arbitrators may require sufficient security from the applicant, including by way of counter-guarantee in a manner deemed sufficient by the arbitrators.
3. The arbitrators shall decide on the measures requested after hearing all the parties, without prejudice to the provisions of article 38.
4. The adoption of interim measures may take the form of a procedural order or, if so requested by one of the parties and/or decided by the arbitrators, of an award.

38. Ex parte preliminary measures

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, either party may, at the same time as it requests an interim measure, request a preliminary ex parte injunction whereby the arbitrators order the other party to refrain pro tempore from any action that could frustrate the requested interim measure.
2. The arbitrators may issue such a preliminary injunction, provided that they decide that the prior notification of the request for the interim measure entails the risk of frustrating the requested measure.
3. The arbitrators shall weigh the circumstances described in article 37, assessing whether the risk caused by the delay is likely to materialize if the preliminary injunction is not issued.
4. Immediately after having accepted or rejected the request for a preliminary injunction, the arbitrators shall notify all parties of the request for an interim measure and the preliminary injunction; the preliminary injunction itself, if granted, as well as all communications in this respect.
5. At the same time, the arbitrators shall give the party against whom the preliminary injunction has been ordered the opportunity to object as soon as possible.
6. The arbitrators shall decide without delay on any objection to the preliminary injunction.

7. The arbitrators may grant an interim measure ratifying or modifying the preliminary injunction, once the party against whom the preliminary injunction was directed has been notified and has had the opportunity to object. In the absence of such an interim measure, any preliminary injunction shall expire twenty days after its issuance.

8. A preliminary injunction shall be binding on the parties but shall not in itself be subject of judicial enforcement. Such preliminary injunction shall not constitute an award.

39. Closing of the proceedings

The arbitrators shall declare the proceedings closed when they consider that the parties have had sufficient opportunity to assert their rights. After that date, no pleading, argument or evidence may be submitted, unless the arbitrators, due to exceptional circumstances, authorize it.

VII. Termination of the proceeding and issuance of the award

40. Time limit for rendering the award

1. If the parties have not agreed otherwise, the arbitrators shall decide on the requests made within three months of the hearing or of the last substantive pleading.
2. By submitting to these Rules, the parties delegate to the arbitrators the power to extend the time limit for rendering the award for a period not exceeding two months in order to properly complete their task. The arbitrators shall ensure that there are no delays. In any case, the time limit for rendering the award may be extended by agreement of all the parties.
3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in exceptional circumstances, the Center may, at the reasoned request of the arbitrators, of the parties or on its own motion, extend the time limit for rendering the award.

41. Form, content and communication of the award

1. The arbitrators shall decide the dispute in a single award or in as many partial awards as they deem necessary or as requested by the parties. All awards shall be deemed to have been rendered at the seat of arbitration and on the date specified therein.

2. In the case of a tribunal of three (or more) arbitrators, the award shall be made by a majority of the arbitrators. If there is no majority, the presiding arbitrator shall decide.

3. The award shall be in writing and signed by the arbitrators. In the case of a tribunal of three (or more) arbitrators, the signatures of the majority of the arbitrators or, failing this, that of the presiding arbitrator shall be sufficient.

4. In the event of a dissenting opinion formulated in a separate document, the dissenting arbitrator shall send a copy thereof to the arbitrators forming the majority at least seven days prior to the date for submitting the award for scrutiny by the Center, to enable them to reconsider their decision or give reasons for their rejection sufficiently in advance.

5. The award shall state the reasons for the decisions herein, unless the parties have agreed otherwise or it is an award by agreement of the parties, unless the applicable law prohibits it.

6. The award shall be signed electronically and shall be uploaded to the digital platform provided for such purpose by the Center, unless: a) the mandatory rules of applicable law to the award require its written signature, b) the parties agree otherwise, or c) the arbitral tribunal or the Center determine otherwise. The arbitrators may also sign on separate sheets of paper.

7. The arbitrators shall notify the award to the parties by electronic means through the Center in the manner set forth in article 3. The same rule shall apply to any correction, clarification or supplement to the award.

8. In the event that one of the arbitrators has decided to express a dissenting opinion, the Center shall notify the parties of the dissenting opinion together with the award, provided that the law of the seat of arbitration does not preclude it.

42. Award by agreement of the parties

If during the arbitration proceedings the parties reach an agreement that puts an end to all or part of the dispute, the arbitrators shall terminate the proceedings with respect to the points agreed upon and, if both parties so request, and the arbitrators see no reason to object, they shall record such agreement in the form of an award on the terms agreed upon by the parties. In this case, and unless the parties agree otherwise, the arbitrators shall apply the criteria on the costs of the award set forth in article 48.

43. Scrutiny of the award by the Center

1. At least twenty days before the expiration of the time limit for rendering the award, the arbitrators shall submit a draft award for scrutiny by the Center. If an arbitrator has submitted a separate opinion, the presiding arbitrator shall attach it to the draft award.
2. The Center may propose formal modifications to the award and shall verify that, if there is a dissenting vote, it complies with the principles of secrecy of deliberation and respectful disagreement with the majority.
3. The Center may, while respecting the arbitrators' freedom of decision, draw their attention to aspects related to the merits of the dispute, as well as to the determination and apportionment of costs.
4. The arbitrators shall not issue any final award without the approval of the Center as to its form.
5. The scrutiny of the award by the Center shall in no way imply that the Center assumes any responsibility for the contents of the award.

44. Correction, clarification, rectification and supplementation of the award

1. Within fifteen days of the notification of the award, unless the parties have agreed otherwise, and provided that this is not contrary to the law of the seat of arbitration, either party may apply to the arbitrators for:
 - a) The correction of any calculation, copying, typographical or similar error.
 - b) Clarification of a specific point or part of the award.
 - c) The supplement of the award with respect to claims formulated and not resolved therein.
 - d) The rectification of the partial overreach of the award, when it has decided on matters not submitted to its decision or on matters not subject to arbitration.
2. A decision to correct, clarify or rectify the award for overreach will take the form of an addendum, which will form part of the final award. A decision granting or rejecting on the merits a request for supplement shall take the form of an "additional award".

3. After hearing the other parties within a period of fifteen days, the arbitrators shall send their draft decision to the Center for scrutiny ten days before the deadline for issuing the additional award or addendum. The time limit for issuing the additional award or addendum shall be thirty days.

4. Within thirty days from the notification of the award, the arbitrators may proceed ex officio to correct the errors referred to in paragraph a) of subsection 1.

45. Effectiveness of the award

1. All awards are binding on the parties. By submitting their dispute to arbitration under the Rules, the parties undertake to comply promptly with any award issued.

2. Should it be possible to file any appeal on the merits or on any point of the dispute at the seat of arbitration, it shall be understood that, by submitting to these Rules, the parties waive such appeals, provided that such waiver is legally valid.

46. Other forms of termination

1. The arbitration proceedings may also be terminated:

- a) If the claimant fails to file the statement of claim within the time limit without invoking sufficient cause or because the claimant withdraws their claims unless the respondent objects thereto and the arbitrators recognize a legitimate interest in obtaining a final resolution to the dispute.
- b) When the parties agree, by mutual consent.
- c) When, in the opinion of the arbitrators, the continuation of the proceedings is unnecessary or impossible.
- d) When the Center refuses to administer the procedure.

47. Custody and preservation of the record of the arbitration

1. The Center shall be responsible for the custody and preservation of the record of the arbitration after the award has been rendered.

2. The obligation of the Center to keep the record of the arbitration shall cease ten years after the award is rendered, with the exception of the award, which shall be kept for a period of thirty years. For this purpose, the Center shall make available, at its discretion, a digital or a physical copy.

3. While the Center's obligation of custody and preservation of the record of the arbitration remains in force, either party may request the return and delivery, at its own expense, of the original documents it has submitted.

48. Costs

1. The arbitrators shall rule on the costs of the arbitration in the award, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

2. Reasons shall be given for any award of costs. As a general rule, the award of costs shall reflect the success and failure of the respective claims of the parties, unless the parties have established a different criterion of allocation, or if, in view of the circumstances of the case, the arbitrators consider the application of this general principle is inappropriate. When fixing the costs, the arbitrators may take into account all the circumstances of the case, including the cooperation or lack thereof of the parties, in facilitating the efficient conduct of the proceedings, avoiding unnecessary delays and costs.

3. The costs of the arbitration shall be fixed in the award and shall include:

- a) Admission and administration fees of the Center, in accordance with Annex 2;
- b) The fees and expenses of the arbitrators, which shall be fixed or approved by the Center in accordance with Annex 2;
- c) The fees and expenses of the experts appointed, if any, by the arbitrators; and
- d) Expenses and fees incurred by the parties for their defense in the arbitration.

4. Arbitrators' fees

1. The Center shall fix the fees of the arbitrators in accordance with Annex 2, taking into account the time spent by the arbitrators and any other relevant circumstances, in particular the early termination of the arbitral proceedings by agreement of the parties or for any other reason and any delays in issuing the award.

2. The arbitrators may not collect any amount directly from the parties.

3. The correction, clarification or supplementation of the award provided for in article 44 shall not give rise to additional fees unless the Center finds that their particular circumstances justify them.

50. Confidentiality and publication of the award

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the Center and the arbitrators are bound to keep the arbitration and the award confidential.
2. The arbitrators may order such measures as they deem appropriate to protect trade or industrial secrets or any other confidential information.
3. The deliberations of the arbitrators, as well as communications between the Center and the arbitrators in connection with the scrutiny of the award, are secret and confidential.
4. Awards may be published, anonymizing the names of the parties, provided that no party objects to such publication within the time limit fixed by the Center. In any case, the contents of the publication of the award may be expunged by the Center at the initiative of the parties.

51. Liability

The Center, the arbitrators, or the arbitral secretaries shall not be liable for any act or omission in connection with an arbitration administered by the Center, unless there is evidence of bad faith, recklessness or malice on their part.

VIII. Optional challenge to the award

52. Optional challenge to the award

If the parties have so agreed in the arbitration agreement or at any time thereafter before the appointment of any arbitrator, either party may challenge the final award in the arbitration before the Center. In such a case, the provisions of Annex 4 shall apply.

IX. Abbreviated and highly expedited procedures

53. Abbreviated procedure

1. The abbreviated procedure will be applicable whenever:
 - a) The total amount in dispute is equal to or less than 1,000,000 euros, taking into account the claim and any counterclaim, and the parties have not expressly agreed not to apply it.
 - b) the Center does not decide that its application is inappropriate, based on the opposition of a party.
2. Any opposition to the application of the abbreviated procedure shall be set out in the request for arbitration and the answer thereto, and the decision shall be made by the Center, after hearing the other parties.
3. In the event that the amount of the proceedings is modified beyond the amount established in paragraph 1.a) of this article, the proceedings shall continue to be managed as abbreviated, unless the Center determines otherwise.
4. Regardless of the terms of the arbitration agreement, a sole arbitrator shall be appointed, unless the circumstances of the case make it appropriate, at the discretion of the Center and after hearing the parties, to appoint an arbitral tribunal composed of three arbitrators. The parties may designate the sole arbitrator within a time limit to be determined by the Center. Failing such designation, the Center shall appoint the sole arbitrator within ten days.
5. Once the arbitral tribunal has been constituted, no party may make additional claims, unless the arbitral tribunal so authorizes, having considered the nature of these claims, the stage of the arbitration and any other relevant circumstances.
6. The arbitral tribunal and the parties shall act expeditiously during the proceedings. For this purpose, the arbitral tribunal may shorten any of the time limits provided for in these Rules. The arbitral tribunal may also adopt any measure it deems appropriate to comply with the expeditious nature of the proceedings, after consultation with the parties, such as in particular: (i) limiting the number, length and scope of written submissions; (ii) deciding that the case shall be decided on the basis of documents, without a hearing; or, (iii) deciding not to authorize requests for production of documents. In any event, the arbitral tribunal must ensure that each party has a reasonable opportunity to present its case and respect the principle of equality of parties.

7. Within fifteen days of the referral of the file to the arbitrator, a conference shall be held to discuss the efficient organization of the proceedings. The arbitrator shall issue the first procedural order within twenty days of the referral of the file.

8. The arbitrator shall render the award within six months of the referral of the case file to the arbitrator. The Center may grant extensions upon the arbitrator's reasoned request.

9. In matters not provided for in this section, the abbreviated procedure shall be integrated, as applicable in accordance with its nature, with the other provisions of the Rules..

54. Highly expedited procedure

Scope of application

1. The highly expedited procedure shall be applicable provided that the parties have expressly agreed to it in writing.

2. The agreement of the parties to submit a dispute to the highly expedited procedure may be stated in the arbitration agreement or in any agreement prior to the answer to the request for arbitration.

3. Upon receipt of the request for the application of this procedure based on such agreement, the Center shall issue a resolution agreeing to the processing of the highly expedited procedure, unless, in exceptional circumstances, as decided by the Center, it considers that the same is not compatible with the Rules or the rules of this highly expedited procedure.

4. Notwithstanding the agreement of the parties, the Center may, at any time, upon the reasoned request of one of the parties or of the arbitrator and in the event of a substantial modification of the nature of the dispute or of the interests at stake, as decided by the Center, decide that the highly expedited procedure shall cease to apply. In this case, the sole arbitrator appointed shall remain in office, even if the arbitration agreement provides for a tribunal of three arbitrators, and the other Rules applicable to the ordinary or abbreviated procedure shall apply.

5. The provisions of article 53 of the Rules shall apply to the highly expedited procedure with the following modifications.

Appointment and designation of arbitrators

6. Regardless of the terms of the arbitration agreement, a sole arbitrator shall be appointed. The parties may designate, by mutual agreement, the sole arbitrator within seven days of the answer to the request for arbitration. Failing such appointment, the Center shall appoint a sole arbitrator directly within seven days of the expiration of the above time limit.

Statement of claim, defense and eventual replies and rejoinders

7. The claimant shall file its statement of claim within fifteen days of the decision of the Center referred to in article 54.3.

8. The statement of claim shall include all arguments and all factual and legal evidence (including any written statements of witnesses and expert reports) on which the claimant relies in support of its claims. The statement of claim shall include all the claims of the claimant, and no new claims shall be admissible at a later stage, unless decided by the sole arbitrator.

9. The respondent shall file its statement of defence and counterclaim, if any, within fifteen days of the statement of claim. The provisions of article 54.8 shall apply to the statement of defence and counterclaim.

10. The claimant shall file its statement of defence to the counterclaim, if any, within fifteen days of the statement of defence and counterclaim. The provisions of article 54.8 shall apply to the statement of defence to the counterclaim.

11. The sole arbitrator may authorize, within a short period of time, written replies and rejoinders to the statement of claim and the statement of defence, as well as a reply to the counterclaim and the statement of defence to the counterclaim. Such briefs may not include additional evidence which does not strictly answer a previous argument or evidence of the other party. Evidence produced, if any, pursuant to article 54.13 may also be submitted.

Rules of procedure

12. A first procedural order shall not be prepared.

13. The sole arbitrator shall have the power to decide that there shall be no requests for the production of documents. The sole arbitrator may decide that such requests shall be limited to a certain number of precisely identified documents and that requests for the production of categories of documents shall not be admissible. The sole arbitrator's decision on such requests does not need to be reasoned.

14. As a general rule, the sole arbitrator shall have the broadest powers to conduct the highly expedited arbitration in such a way as to comply with the time limit for the issuance of the final award, including the setting of time limits for the parties' submission. The sole arbitrator shall, in any event, ensure compliance with the principles of equality, hearing and contradiction.

15. Hearings of evidence and oral arguments shall not be held, and the proceedings of the case shall be based exclusively on documents. Therefore, the sole arbitrator may take into consideration the statements of witnesses and expert reports without the witnesses and experts having been cross-examined, if they so decide.

16. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the arbitrator, after hearing the parties and taking into account the circumstances of the case, may agree to hold a hearing and decide its format in order to hear the parties, witnesses or experts.

17. As a general rule, there shall be no closing arguments, unless otherwise agreed by the sole arbitrator.

Deadlines

18. The sole arbitrator may grant, in circumstances that justify it, extensions of the time periods set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

19. The arbitrator shall issue the final award within three months from the filing of the statement of claim.

20. The Center may grant an extension of this time limit at the reasoned request of the sole arbitrator.

21. The award shall be succinctly reasoned, provided that the reasoning is sufficient to understand the intellectual process that has led the arbitrator to reach their decisions. If the sole arbitrator so decides, the summary of the procedural events and facts may be limited to what is strictly necessary.

22. In matters not provided for in this section, the highly expedited procedure shall be integrated, as applicable in accordance with its nature, with the other provisions of the Rules.

X. Emergency arbitrator

55. Emergency arbitrator

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, at any time prior to the delivery of the file to the arbitral tribunal, any party to the proceedings may request the appointment of an emergency arbitrator.
2. The emergency arbitrator may take such interim measures as they deem necessary, which by their nature or circumstances cannot wait until the time of delivery of the file to the arbitral tribunal (“Emergency Measures”).

56. Request for an emergency arbitrator

1. The party requesting the intervention of the emergency arbitrator shall address the request in writing to the Center, preferably using the provided electronic means of contact.
2. The request for appointment of the emergency arbitrator shall contain:
 - a) The full name or company name, address and other relevant data for the identification of the parties, as well as the most immediate way to contact them.
 - b) The full name or company name, address and other relevant data for the identification and contact of the persons who will represent the party requesting the emergency arbitrator.
 - c) The content of the arbitration agreement or agreements being invoked.
 - d) A brief description of the dispute between the parties that gave rise to the initiation of the arbitration proceedings.
 - e) The list of the requested Emergency Measures.
 - f) The grounds for the request for Emergency Measures, as well as the reasons why the party considers that the initiation of the processing and adoption of Emergency Measures cannot wait until the delivery of the file to the arbitral tribunal.
 - g) Mention of the seat and language of the proceedings, and the law applicable to the adoption of the requested Emergency Measures.
3. The request for the appointment of the emergency arbitrator shall be accompanied by at least the following documentation:

- a) A copy of the arbitration agreement, in whatever form, or of the communications evidencing the existence of an arbitration agreement.
 - b) Proof of payment of the Center's administration fees and any applicable provisions for the emergency arbitrator's fees, in accordance with Annex 2. In the event that such fees of the Center and arbitrator fees have not been paid, the requesting party shall be granted a period of five working days within which to remedy such default.
 - c) The party requesting the appointment of the emergency arbitrator may attach to its request all documents it deems relevant to support its request.
 - d) In the event that it is not possible to send the documentation by email, the requesting party shall submit its request by providing copies in electronic format for the Center, for the emergency arbitrator and for those who are potential parties to the arbitration, whether or not they are the addressees of the Emergency Measures.
 - e) If due to special circumstances or due to their nature, some of the documents cannot be delivered in electronic format, they shall be submitted in an equal number of copies in a format in which their delivery is possible.
4. The request for an emergency arbitrator shall be drafted in the language agreed upon for the arbitration or, failing that, in the language in which the arbitration agreement or, failing that, the communications recording the existence of the arbitration agreement, are drafted.
5. The seat of the emergency arbitrator's proceedings shall be the place agreed upon by the parties for the arbitration or, failing this, the place decided by the Center.
6. The Center may terminate the emergency arbitrator proceedings if the Secretariat does not receive the request for arbitration from the requesting party within fifteen days after receipt by the Secretariat of the request for Emergency Arbitrator. The Center or the appointed emergency arbitrator may extend such time limit.

57. Transfer of the request for emergency arbitrator

1. The Secretariat of the Center shall conduct a formal examination of the contents of the request for emergency arbitrator and, if it considers that the provisions contained in this Title are applicable, shall immediately forward the request for emergency arbitrator and all documents attached thereto to the party against whom the request for Emergency Measures is directed.

2. The request for an emergency arbitrator will not be processed:
 - a) when the arbitral tribunal has already been constituted and the arbitration file has been transmitted to it;
 - b) when the Center manifestly has no jurisdiction; or,
 - c) when the request for an emergency arbitrator has not been accompanied by proof of payment of the Center's administration fees and the applicable provisions for the emergency arbitrator's fees, in accordance with Annex 2.

58. Appointment of the emergency arbitrator

1. When appropriate, the Center shall appoint the emergency arbitrator within the shortest possible time, which shall not exceed two working days.
2. Prior to appointment, the emergency arbitrator shall submit to the Center a statement of independence, impartiality, availability and acceptance. The emergency arbitrator shall remain independent and impartial with respect to the parties for the duration of their functions as emergency arbitrator.
3. The appointment of the emergency arbitrator shall be notified to the parties.
4. The appointed emergency arbitrator shall be provided with the case file.
5. From the time of the appointment of the emergency arbitrator, all communications relating to the Emergency Measures procedure shall be addressed to the emergency arbitrator and shall always be copied to the Center and the parties and/or their representatives. They must also be uploaded to the digital platform that the Center has for this purpose.

59. Challenge to the emergency arbitrator

1. The parties may challenge of the emergency arbitrator within three working days from the notification of their appointment, or from the time the facts and circumstances which, in their opinion, may support the request for challenge come to their knowledge.
2. The Center shall, after allowing a reasonable period of time for the emergency arbitrator and the other parties to make written submissions on the challenge, decide whether to admit the challenge.
3. If the challenge is upheld, a new appointment of an emergency arbitrator shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this Title.



4. The procedure for the appointment of the new emergency arbitrator shall not stay the course of the proceedings, which shall continue until such time as the decision is made. If, in accordance with the procedural calendar, the parties are required to submit written submissions prior to the appointment of the emergency arbitrator, such submissions shall be addressed to the other parties and to the Center, which shall include them in the file to be forwarded to the new emergency arbitrator.

60. Emergency Arbitrator Procedure

1. The emergency arbitrator may conduct the proceedings in the manner they deem most appropriate, taking into consideration the nature and circumstances of the Emergency Measures requested, with special attention to providing the parties with a reasonable opportunity to exercise their rights of audience and contradiction.
2. As soon as possible, within two days of receipt of the file, the emergency arbitrator shall prepare and submit to the parties and the Center a procedural calendar.
3. The emergency arbitrator may, if they deem it appropriate, summon the parties to a hearing, which may be held in person or by any means of communication. Otherwise, they shall render their decision on the basis of the written submissions and documents provided.
4. In matters not provided for in this article, the emergency arbitrator procedure may be integrated with the other provisions of the Rules.

61. Emergency arbitrator's decision

1. The decision of the emergency arbitrator shall be made in the form of a procedural order or in the form of an award if the emergency arbitrator deems it appropriate.
2. The emergency arbitrator shall render a decision on the Emergency Measures within a maximum of fifteen days from the date on which the file was referred to them. This period may be extended by the Center, ex officio or at the request of the emergency arbitrator, in view of the specific circumstances of the case.
3. In the decision, the emergency arbitrator shall rule, in particular, on their jurisdiction to adopt the requested Emergency Measures, whether they grant them, whether they require the provision of security for the effectiveness of the Emergency Measures and on the costs of the proceedings, which shall include the administration fees of the Center, the fees and expenses of the emergency arbitrator and the reasonable expenses incurred by the parties.

4. The decision of the emergency arbitrator shall be reasoned, dated and signed by the emergency arbitrator prior to the direct notification to the parties and the Center.

62. Binding effect of the emergency arbitrator's decision and duration of their term of office

1. The decision of the emergency arbitrator shall be binding on the parties, who shall execute it voluntarily and without delay as soon as it is notified.
2. The emergency arbitrator's decision shall cease to be binding if:
 - a) The Center agrees to terminate the proceedings for the request for Emergency Measures for failure to file the request for arbitration within fifteen days from the filing of the request for an emergency arbitrator, or within a longer period, if so agreed by the emergency arbitrator at the request of the requesting party.
 - (b) The Center accepts a challenge to the emergency arbitrator, in accordance with the provisions of this Title.
 - c) The arbitrators, at the request of a party, stay, modify, in whole or in part, or revoke the decision of the emergency arbitrator.
 - d) The final award is rendered in the main proceeding unless the award itself provides otherwise.
 - e) The main proceedings are otherwise terminated.

63. Costs

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Annex 2, if, in relation to the work actually performed by the Center and/or the emergency arbitrator, or due to other relevant circumstances, it is deemed necessary to increase the costs, the Center may at any time notify the requesting party of the increase in costs.
2. If the party requesting the emergency arbitrator fails to pay the increased costs within the time limit determined by the Center, the request shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.
3. If the proceeding is terminated early, the provisions of article 49.1 shall apply.

64. Other rules

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the emergency arbitrator may not act as arbitrator in any arbitration relating to the dispute.
2. The arbitrators shall not be bound in any way by any decision made by the emergency arbitrator, including the decision on costs of the proceedings and on claims arising out of or in connection with the enforcement or non-enforcement of the decision.
3. In general, and in particular if so determined by the law in force at the seat of the Emergency Measures proceedings, the parties are free to apply to the ordinary courts for interim measures of protection, provisional measures or measures to secure the taking of evidence. The parties undertake to notify the Center, the emergency arbitrator and the other parties of the request for measures before the courts, as well as of any decision that may be taken by the judicial authority on such request.

XI. General rule

65. General rule

In all cases not expressly provided for in the Rules, the Center and the arbitral tribunal shall proceed in the spirit of its provisions and shall always endeavor to make the award enforceable.

XII. Transitional provisions

66. Transitional Provision

1. These Rules shall enter into force on 1 January 2024.
2. These Rules shall apply to any arbitration whose application has been filed on or after the date of their entry into force.



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