

Brief on CRCICA Caseload and Activities for AfAA June Newsletter



On 21 March 2020, CRCICA sent a message to its users titled “CRCICA’s Response to COVID-19 situation”. In the said message, CRCICA recognized the increasing uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak, and is monitoring the situation in light of the WHO reports and the measures announced by the relevant local authorities.

Further, CRCICA stated that its first priority is to guarantee the health and safety of its employees, users and their families. It also believes it has a role to play in combatting the outbreak. To achieve these goals, CRCICA implemented a number of urgent measures. For further information, kindly visit the following link

<https://cricica.org/NewsDetails.aspx?ID=119>



On 31 March 2020, the total number of cases filed before CRCICA reached 1401 cases, with 16 new cases filed since the start of 2020. The cases related to various sectors, including Construction, Real Estate Development, Tourism, Food Manufacturing, Export-Import, Media & Entertainment and Corporate Restructuring. Parties involved in these cases came from Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and Yemen.

The language of the proceedings was Arabic in 9 cases, while English was the language of the proceedings for 7 cases. Since 1 January 2020, CRCICA has hosted 19 hearings. Of these 19 hearings, 2 related to *ad hoc* proceedings, 1 related to an ICC proceeding and the rest related to CRCICA cases.



CRCICA was represented by Dr. Dalia Hussein, CRCICA's Deputy Director, at the resumed 38th Session of the UNCITRAL Working Group III: Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform held on 20-24 January 2020, in Vienna. The session discussed the establishment of an appeal mechanism for awards rendered in investment disputes to increase consistency and guarantee the correctness of awards.

In March and April 2020, CRCICA contributed to significant African arbitration activities.



On 10 to-12 March 2020, Dr. Mohamed Hafez, Legal Advisor to the Director of CRCICA, participated as a speaker at the 6th SOAS Conference on Arbitration in Africa: Legal Culture and Arbitration/ADR Practice in Africa, Douala, Cameroon. The speech of Dr. Hafez focused on the rise of Dispute Boards (DB) as a method of Alternative Dispute Resolution. In April 2020, CRCICA contributed to the SOAS 2020 Arbitration in Africa Survey. The Survey aimed at learning from the users of the African arbitral centres their effectiveness and capacity to administer arbitration.

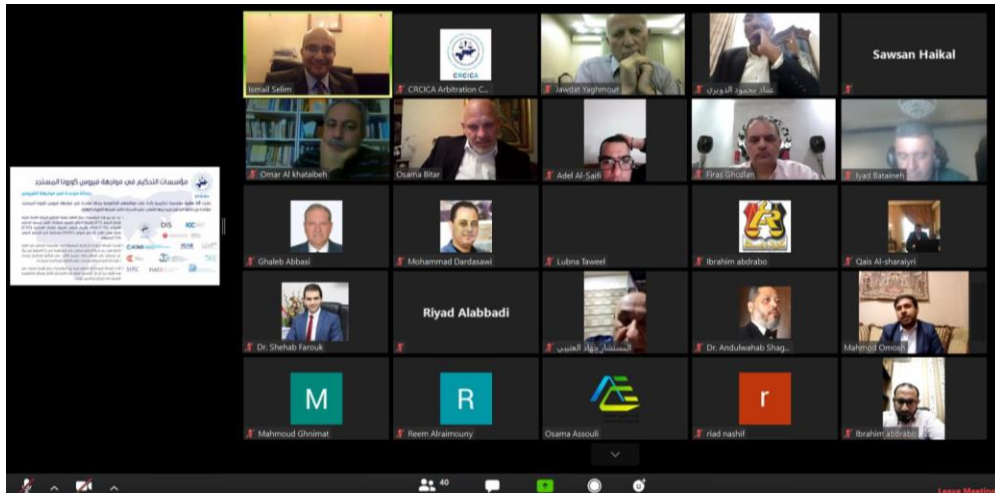
On another side, March as well witnessed active contributions of CRCICA in various arbitral orientations.



On 3 to 5 March 2020, Dr. Ismail Selim moderated the first session of the “Arab Conference for Sports Law” held in Cairo. The session titled Sports law and the establishment of principles for the settlement of sports disputes.



On 4 to 7 March 2020, the Alexandria University and CRCICA co-organized the First AlexandriaU-CRCICA Pre-Moot for the Willem C. Vis and International Commercial Arbitration Conference, Alexandria, Egypt. The Pre-Moot was meant to enable law students from Egypt, the African continent and the Middle East region to be well prepared for the international moot competitions of “the Willem C. Vis and the Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moots”.



On 30th April 2020, Dr. Selim delivered an online lecture titled “Arbitration after the Outbreak of COVID-19, organized by the International Specialized Lawyers and Philadelphia University (Jordan). Dr. Selim focused on the negative effects of the COVID-19 on arbitration, the escalating need of modern technology to combat it, and the procedures taken by arbitration institutions in handling arbitration cases. More than 600 Lawyers and Engineers from Jordan virtually attended the lecture.

Moreover, on 8 April 2020, CRCICA hosted virtually the Annual General Meeting and the quarterly Committee meeting of the CIARB Egypt Branch.

