



Newsletter – 1/2012

The revised Swiss Rules will take effect on 1 June 2012

After one and a half years of work, the revision of the Swiss Rules was completed at the beginning of 2012. The updated and revised rules will take effect on 1 June 2012, and they will be available on www.swissarbitration.org at the beginning of April 2012.

Relying on more than seven years of experience in administering over five hundred cases under the Swiss Rules, the members of the task force in charge of the revision sought to render the Swiss Rules even more useful for parties seeking to settle a dispute.

The Rules have also been improved from a linguistic point of view and now appear in a gender-neutral language.

Change of name of the Arbitral Institution

The process of revising the Swiss Rules prompted the Arbitration Institution of the seven Swiss Chambers of Commerce that offer arbitration services to change its name to the "Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution". The name of the arbitration committee that administers the cases has been changed to "Arbitration Court". This new terminology better reflects the functions and activities of the Institution and its governing bodies.

Arbitration Cases in 2011

With a total of 87 new arbitration cases submitted to Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution, the previous year's numbers were almost equalised. 52 % of the parties in these new cases were from Western Europe, 24 % from Switzerland, 8 % from Eastern Europe and Russia, 8 % from Asia

and the Middle East, and 3 % from Northern America. 51 % of the arbitrations were heard by a sole arbitrator, while 45 % were heard by a panel of three arbitrators.

67 % of the arbitrations were held in English, 15 % in German, 11 % in French and 6 % in Italian. 30 % of the cases dealt with the sale of goods, 13 % with distribution and agency, 15 % with the sale of shares and 9 % with service contracts.

The Expedited Procedures available under the Swiss Rules were again very popular for their cost-efficiency and speed, and 33 % of the new cases were conducted in this way.

The detailed statistics may be downloaded from the website www.swissarbitration.org.

Commercial Mediation in 2011

Six new mediation cases were submitted to the Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution, of which three were not accepted by the other party, one was settled and one was still pending at the end of the year.

Decisions

In 2011 the Arbitral Tribunals rendered a total of 48 final and 8 interim awards.

The Special Committee rendered five decisions concerning the seat of arbitration, one concerning the revocation of an arbitrator and another one concerning the challenge of an arbitrator, which was rejected.

Editor

Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution
Dr. Rainer Füeg, President
Tel. 0041 61 270 60 50
Fax 0041 61 270 60 05
E-mail: president@swissarbitration.org
Internet: <http://www.swissarbitration.org>

