Vietnam
ADR Week
2026

OPENING CEREMONY

VIETNAM ADR WEEK 2026 OPENING CEREMONY & ANNOUNCING THE VIAC RULES OF ARBITRATION 2026

25 May 2026
(Monday)

08.00 – 11.00 AM
(Morning Session)

GOLDEN BALLROOM
3rd FLOOR, FORTUNA HOTEL HANOI
6B Lang Ha Str., Giang Vo W., Hanoi, Vietnam

BILINGUAL
English, Vietnamese

Organizers

VIAC
VIETNAM INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE

HỘI LUẬT GIA VIỆT NAM
1955

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OPENING CEREMONY

VIETNAM ADR WEEK 2026 OPENING CEREMONY & ANNOUNCING THE VIAC RULES OF ARBITRATION 2026

In the context of increasingly large-scale and complex disputes across various sectors, the requirement for efficiency, flexibility, and compatibility with international practices in dispute resolution have become increasingly essential. The growing trend toward Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), particularly arbitration and mediation, not only addresses the needs of the business community but is also linked to the objective of enhancing the competitiveness and effectiveness of the national legal environment. In this process, the improvement of procedural rules, convergence with international standards, and adaptation to modern dispute resolution practices represent a strategic imperative.

In Vietnam, alongside the development of the legal ecosystem and the rising number of cross-border commercial disputes, arbitration institutions are facing increasing demands for reform in both institutional frameworks and operational practice. The update and refinement of procedural rules aim not only to enhance transparency, efficiency, and enforceability of arbitral awards, but also to strengthen user confidence, especially the business community and international investors.

As part of the **Opening Ceremony of Vietnam ADR Week 2026 (VAW 2026),** VIAC will officially launch the VIAC Arbitration Rules 2026. In this context, the event not only marks the beginning of a series of professional activities under VAW 2026, but also represents a significant milestone in VIAC's ongoing efforts to refine its arbitral procedures in a more modern, efficient, and user-oriented manner. At the same time, the event provides a platform for multi-dimensional dialogue among state authorities, domestic and international arbitration institutions, businesses, and legal practitioners. Through in-depth discussions, experience sharing, and updates on practical trends, the event aims to enhance user awareness and expectations, while promoting the adoption of international standards in dispute resolution practices in Vietnam.

Time

08:00 – 11:00 AM
May 25 2026

Venue

GOLDEN BALLROOM
3RD FLOOR, FORTUNA HOTEL
6B Lang Ha Street, Giang Vo Ward, Hanoi, Vietnam

AGENDA

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Time
08.00 – 11.00 AM
May 25, 2026 (Monday)

Venue
Golden Ballroom
Fortuna Hotel
6B Lang Ha Street, Giang Vo Ward, Hanoi, Vietnam

Language
Bilingual
Vietnamese - English

Time frame	Content
08:00 – 08:30	Registration
08:30 – 08:40	**Introductory to the VIETNAM ADR WEEK 2026**
08:40 – 09:10	Opening remark
09:10 – 10:00	The VIAC Arbitration Rules 2026: Key Innovations and Practical Implications
10:00 – 11:00	**Round-table Discussion:** Raising the Bar in Vietnam's Arbitration: From Rules to Practice and International Sta ndards **Content:** • *Dispute Resolution through Arbitration & ADR Rising Expectations from the Investment and Business Community;* • *Effective Conduct and Management of Arbitral Proceedings: New Tools and International Standards;* • *Trends Driving the Efficiency of International Arbitration Procedures - An International Perspective;* • *The Development of Vietnam's Legal Framework for the Arbitration Ecosystem and Career Prospects in Arbitration & ADR.*
11:00	*Closing remark*

INTRODUCTION

SPEAKERS

PROF. DR. LE HONG HANH

President, Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)

MR. NGUYEN KHANH NGOC

President, Vietnam Lawyers Association

MR. VU ANH DUONG

Permanent Vice President cum Secretary General of Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)

MR. LUU XUAN VINH

Founder & Managing Partner, Asia Legal

MR. NGUYEN HAI MINH

Vice President of European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (Eurocham Vietnam)

MS. VU THI HANG

Chief of Secretariat and Member of Scientific Council, VIAC

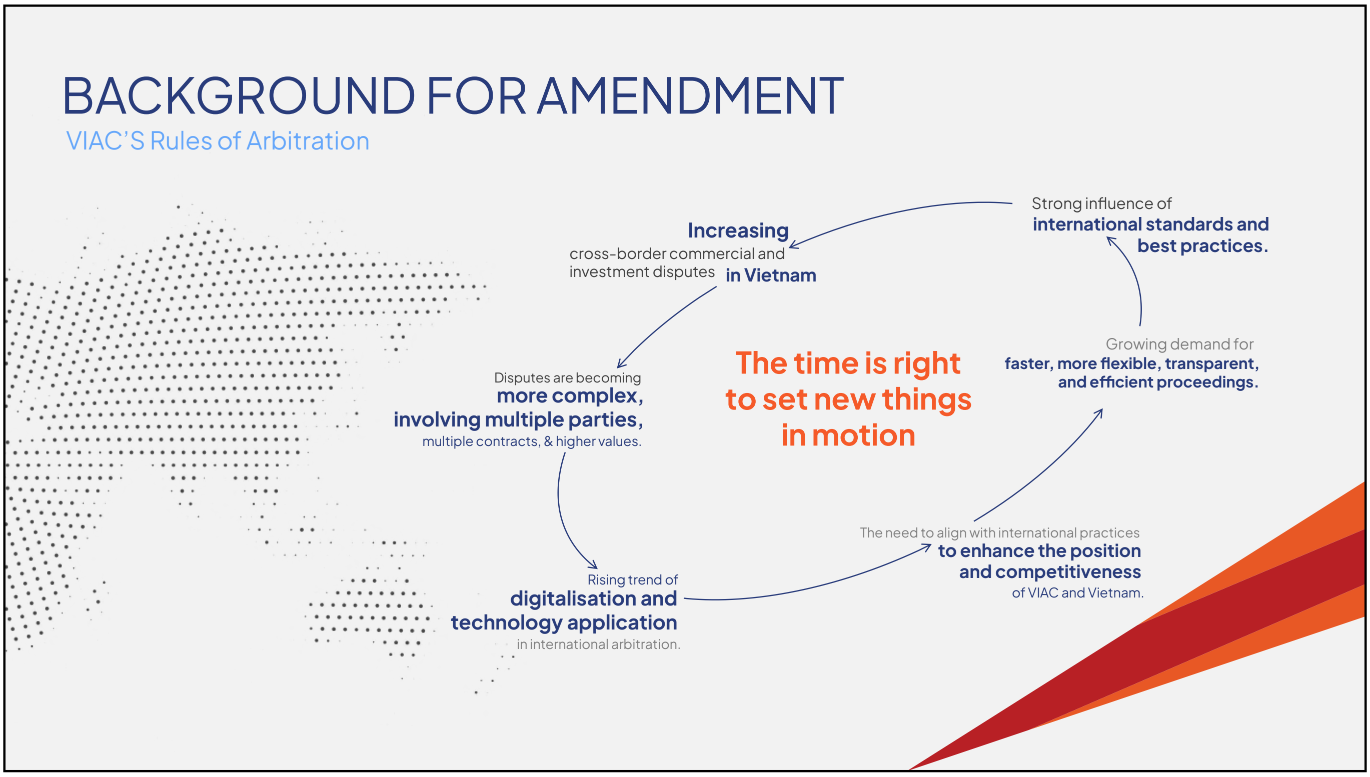
MR. EDMUND KRONENBERG

Managing Partner of Braddell Brothers LLP, Advocates & Solicitors, VIAC's listed arbitrator

MR. DO KHOI NGUYEN

Partner at YKVN, Head of International Arbitration


VIAC's Rules
of Arbitration
20
26
THE NEW DEVELOPMENT
OF ARBITRATION IN VIETNAM


BACKGROUND FOR AMENDMENT
VIAC'S Rules of Arbitration
Increasing
cross-border commercial and
investment disputes in Vietnam
Strong influence of
international standards and
best practices.
Disputes are becoming
more complex,
involving multiple parties,
multiple contracts, & higher values.
The time is right
to set new things
in motion
Growing demand for
faster, more flexible, transparent,
and efficient proceedings.
The need to align with international practices
to enhance the position
and competitiveness
of VIAC and Vietnam.
Rising trend of
digitalisation and
technology application
in international arbitration.

The amendments of VIAC's Rules of Arbitration is not merely a technical requirements but a requisite action for VIAC

to better meet the demand for modern, efficient dispute resolution in line with evolving international standards.

Strategic Orientation for Amendment

2026 VIAC's Rules of Arbitration

3 Key orientations

1

Aligning with the evolving international standard

Reference the procedural of international arbitration organizations to adopt reasonable alignment

Enhance modern procedural mechanism

2

Improve procedural efficiency

Time-efficiency

Enhance Tribunal's authority in case management

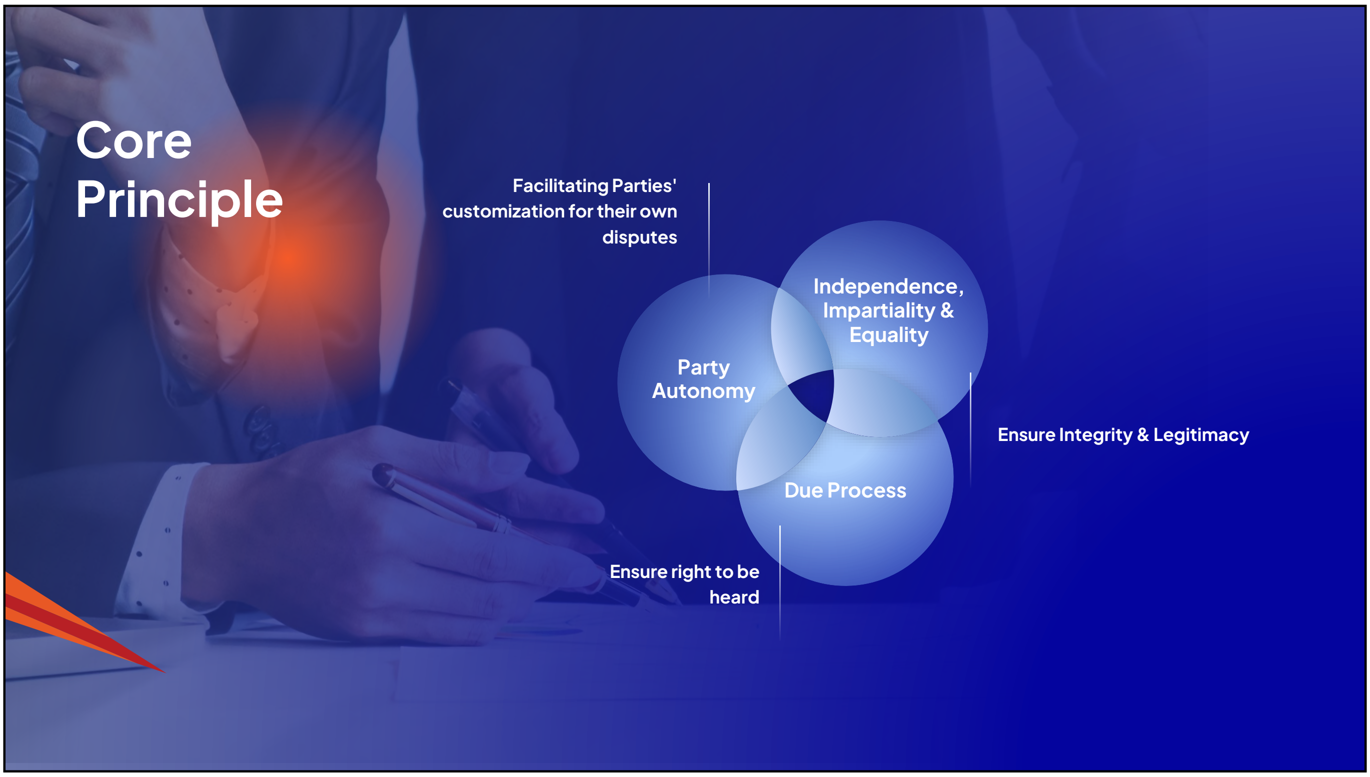
3

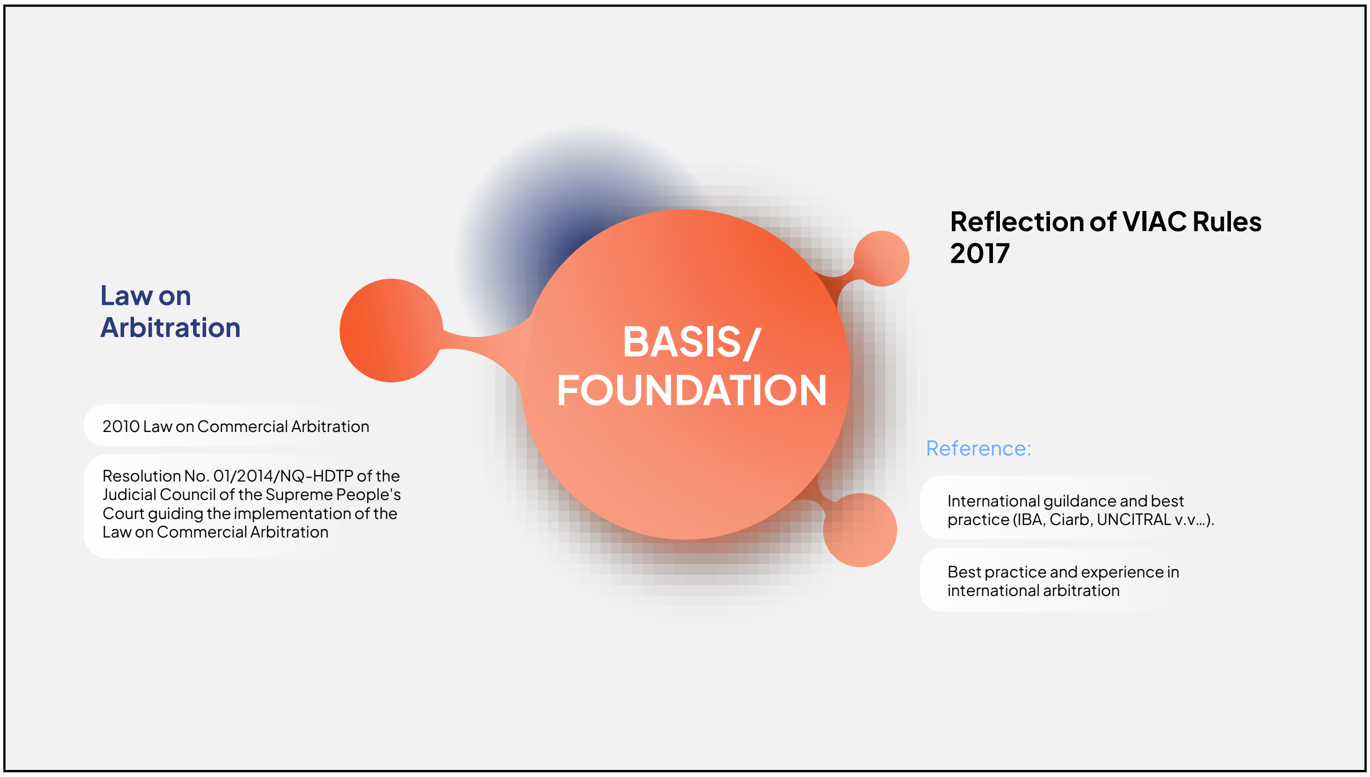
Digital Transition

VIAC. eCase platform

Virtual/hybrid meeting/hearing

Recognize electronic communication


Core Principle
Facilitating Parties' customization for their own disputes
Party Autonomy
Independence, Impartiality & Equality
Ensure Integrity & Legitimacy
Due Process
Ensure right to be heard


Law on Arbitration
2010 Law on Commercial Arbitration
Resolution No. 01/2014/NQ-HDTP of the Judicial Council of the Supreme People's Court guiding the implementation of the Law on Commercial Arbitration
BASIS/ FOUNDATION
Reflection of VIAC Rules 2017
Reference:
International guildance and best practice (IBA, Ciarb, UNCITRAL v.v...).
Best practice and experience in international arbitration

Structure

2026 VIAC's Rules of Arbitration

Scope

45 Articles

3 Appendices

Significant new development

1. Enhance digitalization
2. Multiple contract dispute
3. Consolidation
4. Joinder
5. Expedited Procedure
6. Impose higher standards of disclosure obligation
7. Case Management Conference
8. Broaden the authority/mandate of the arbitral tribunal
9. Promote the Arb-Med mechanism
10. Third-Party Funding
11. Administrative conference
12. Expert
13. Specify arbitrator qualifications
14. Exclusion of liability

1. Embrace digitalization

New updates

Promote Virtual/Hybrid Meeting/Hearing

Enable the application of information technology and AI

Formalize VIAC.eCase

1. E-Filing
2. Online Case Management
3. Online document exchange
4. Monitor cases status online

Purpose

Enhance the flexibility, transparency, professionalism, modernalization of proceeding.

Cost-efficiency

Enhance procedural efficiency

2. Multiple contracts

(Multi-contract): Article 6

VIAC's Rules 2017

Article 6

Multiple contracts

Claims arising out of or in connection with more than one contract may be made in a single Request for Arbitration to be resolved in a single arbitration, irrespective of whether such claims are made under one or more than one arbitration agreement.

VIAC's Rules 2026

- The disputes arise out of, or in connection with, the same legal relationship(s), or involve similar legal issues;
- The claims arise out of related contract, or the same transaction, or a series of related transactions; and
- The arbitration agreements are compatible.

2. Multiple contracts

(Multi-contract): Article 6

Purpose

- Comprehensive and synchronized dispute resolution
- Enhance procedural efficiency, tiem and cost efficiency
- Mitigate the risk of parallel/overlapping proceedings
- Ensuring the consistency of arbitral awards

3. Consolidation

(Consolidation): Article 17

Requirement: At the request of a party

The authority deciding on consolidation:

VIAC's President (considering the constitution of the arbitral tribunal, similarity in the composition of the arbitral tribunal and the efficientcy of dispute resolution)

Circumstances for consolidation

1. All parties have agreed to the consolidation
2. All claims and counterclaims in the arbitrations are made under the same arbitration agreement; or
3. Compatible arbitration agreements (parties to arbitration, language of arbitration, seat, applicable law, number of arbitrator, etc...

Arbitration shall be consolidated into the arbitration that is commenced **first.**

3. Consolidation

(Consolidation): Article 17

Purpose

- Time-efficiency
- Cost-efficiency (arbitration costs, legal fees, expert's feev.v...)
- Minimum repetition of proceeding (Hearing, evidence, witness, expert)
- Prevent duplicative testimony and expert contradictions
- Enable the arbitral tribunal to review and assess the case comprehensively
- Avoid contradictory arbitral awards
- Enhance the efficiency and enforceability of arbitral awards

4. Joinder

(Joinder): Article 18

Legal requirement

- At the request of a Party
- The additional party is prima facie bound by the arbitration agreement invoked by the Claimant or Respondent in the arbitration.
- All parties, including the additional party, have agreed to the joinder
- Accepted by the VIAC's President or the Tribunal

4. Joinder

(Joinder): Article 18

Purpose

- Comprehensive resolvement of multi-party arbitration
- Minimize the risk of fragmented/parallel proceeding
- Suitable for multiple contracts dispute/disputes in a chain of contracts
- Enhance the capability to resolve complex disputes
- Avoid contradictory arbitral awards
- Time and cost efficiency

VIAC's Rules of Arbitration 2026 for

better management of

multiple contracts, multi-party, multiple arbitration agreements dispute

Consolidation

Consolidate pending arbitrations into a single arbitration proceeding

Multiple contracts

Claimant submit a RFA in respect of multiple arbitration agreements invoked

Joinder

Joinder of one or more additional parties to an arbitration

5. Expedited Procedure

Article 24 + Appendix II

Characteristics/Feature

1. Applicable for small value/simple/suitable dispute
2. Sole arbitrator, unless agreed otherwise
3. Streamlining evidentiary and hearing procedures
4. Provide the mandate for the Arbitral Tribunal to determine the time limits and the manner in which the parties must submit documents and evidence, and the consequences of non-compliance with such time limits
5. Conducting certain procedural steps electronically, including the submision of documents and service of notice and documents
6. Virtual meeting/hearing
7. May be discontinued under new/complex circumstances

5. Expedited Procedure

Article 24 + Appendix II

Purpose

- Cost savings of 30% normal arbitration fees
- Time-saving in proceedings: Issuance of award within 2 months from the constitution of the arbitral tribunal
- Improve efficiency of case management
- Enhance accessibility to arbitration for small and medium enterprises

6. Impose higher standards of disclosure obligation

(Article 12)

- Arbitrator must examine VIAC's Arbitrator Statement
  - Clears the conflict of interests check
- The obligation to disclose becomes a continuous duty
- Any circumstance that may give rise to justifiable doubts must be updated in a timely manner.
- Absorb the IBA's guildline on conflicts of interest

Purpose

- Enhance procedural integrity
- Enhance Parties' supervision over the proceeding

7. Case Management Conference

Article 16

Contents

1. Active case management by the Arbitral Tribunal
2. Establishing procedural timetables & documents/evidence management mechanism
3. Determination of language of arbitration, seat and applicable law
4. Encourage the Parties to mediate

Purpose

- Increase Tribunal's discretionary mandate
- Enhance the efficiency of case management
- Curtail abuses and guerrilla tactics in arbitral proceedings
- Enhance of party autonomy/self-determination and participation in case management
- Promote the intergrity and preditability of arbitration proceeding

8. Broaden of authority/ mandate of the Tribunal

The arbitral tribunal has **a central role** in case management.

The power to **determine, review, and assess** all evidence of the Case

The power to **determine deadlines** and **the manner** in which the parties submit documents and evidence

To curtail potential procedural abuses and delay/gruella tactics.

The power to manage and conduct proceedings in such **a manner as the tribunal** considers **appropriate**

(ensuring fairness, objectivity, expedition, and efficiency).

The power the case. **to proactively control** progress, evidence, and procedural timetable

9. Promote mediation

Article 16.4

Purpose:

- Encourage and facilitate mediation in arbitration
- Reference to the VMC mediation mechanism
- Practical experience of VIAC and VMC

Intention:

- Combination of arbitration and mediation
- Promote procedural efficiency

10. Disclosure of third-party funding

Article 16.7

The funded parties are required to **disclose** the existence of such arrangement

The Tribunal has the power to order further disclosure.

Broaden the Tribunal's power/mandate:

01 Control conflicts of interest

02 Transparency in procedural costs/finance

03 Safeguarding fairness and equality.

11. Administrative conference

Article 23

Intention

Provide guidance and consultation on procedural matters

Administrative Role of Arbitration Institution

G: Gatekeeper	G: Guardian	G: Guide
Overseeing the efficient conduct of arbitration proceedings	Safe-guarding the integrity of the proceeding	Provide guidance on procedural matters

(Ms. Claudia Salomon – President of ICC's Court of Arbitration)

Implications

- Reflecting VIAC's modernization development and proactive case management
- Shifting from: "passive administration" into "active case management"
- Facilitating early consensus of the Parties on procedures and the procedural timetable
- Expediting the proceedings -> Enhancing efficiency
- Elevating the user experience with VIAC arbitration

12. Expert

Article 27

1. Provide a separated article (Article 27. Tribunal-Appointed Experts)
2. Consult with the parties on the scope of consultation and the list of experts
3. Consult with the parties on the costs of expert consultation.
4. Mechanism for resolving objections regarding the relevance of requested information or access to documents, goods, or property during the expert consultation process
5. Mechanism for cross-examining experts.

13. Specify arbitrator criteria

Appendix I

Requirements on **language capability**

Requirements on **experience, knowledge and professionalism**

Implication

Enhance the quality and efficiency of arbitration proceedings

Restrict the appointment of incapable arbitrators

14. Exclusion of liability

Article 44

01

Arbitrators, personnel of the Centre, including the President, the Vice President, Secretary General, the Secretariat, the Advisory Board, and the staff of the Centre **shall not be liable for any act or omission** in connection with the content or the issuance of decisions, awards and other documents or any procedural irregularities during arbitration, except to the extent that it can be demonstrated that such act or omission or mistake was carried out fraudulently or dishonestly.

02

The parties to arbitration **waive the right** to request, seek leave to summon, invite VIAC, Arbitrators, personnel of VIAC including the President, the Vice President, the Secretariat, and the staff, to participate as any roles in any legal proceedings at the court or arbitration, or administrative procedures, or any other proceedings with regard to the arbitration cases, unless otherwise provided by law.

03

The parties shall be deemed to have agreed that the exclusion of liability provisions under this Article is fair and reasonable; and the parties shall be deemed to have **waived any right to object or any claim for compensation against the arbitrators, the Center, or the Center's personnel**.

Pending
Matters

1. Emergency Arbitrator

Law on Commercial Arbitration:

1. **Provide** mandate/ authority for tribunal
2. **Does not provide** the same for arbitrator.

Effective court assistance in practice

2. Early dismissal procedure

Conclusion

1. The 2026 Rules: VIAC's most comprehensive and significant reform/amendment to date
2. Reflecting a strong trend towards internationalization and modernization of arbitral proceedings
3. Aligning with the practices and standards of leading international arbitral institutions
4. Enhancing adaptability to complex, multi-party, and multi-contract international commercial disputes
5. Shifting from an administrative administration model to active case management
6. Increasing flexibility, efficiency, and user experience
7. Elevating VIAC's competitive edge and reinforcing the confidence of the international business and investors community.