CPR Expands International Options with New Rules for Administered International Arbitration

CPR has responded to the needs and concerns of the global business community with a new set of Rules for Administered Arbitration of International Disputes, effective December 1, 2014, for use in cross-border business disputes. These new Rules, developed by expert in-house and law firm practitioners, represent another option in CPR’s dispute resolution toolbox. The new Rules reflect best practices, including the arbitration work of UNCITRAL, and address current issues in international arbitration, such as arbitrator impartiality, lengthy time frames to reach resolution, and burdensome and unpredictable administrative costs and requirements.

The Rules provide fair, fast, flexible, and cost-effective procedures and increase quality in the following unique ways:

**Designed to Increase Quality:**

- **Innovative “Screened” Selection Process** - To address concerns about the party-appointment process, parties may agree that the arbitrators can be appointed without knowing which party selected them.
- **International Arbitration Council** - an independent body of expert practitioners available to assist CPR as needed.
- **Expert Panels** - Parties have access to the experienced neutrals on CPR’s global and industry-specific panels, but are free to designate for appointment any arbitrators of their choosing.
- **Confidentiality** - The arbitrators, parties, and CPR are all subject to an express confidentiality requirement.
- **Multilingual Administrators** - Arbitration is administered by CPR’s multilingual staff attorneys, who have extensive international arbitration experience.

**Designed to Increase Efficiency and Lower Costs:**

- **Party Control** - The rules enable parties to control the process by providing only for those administrative functions needed.
- **Time to Award** - CPR must approve any extensions beyond one year from the constitution of the Tribunal.
- **Settlement Opportunities** - The arbitral tribunal is authorized to propose settlement and assist the parties in initiating mediation at any stage of the proceedings.
- **Fixed Fee Scale** - Flat fees based on amount in dispute are often lower and always more predictable.
- **Administrative Costs Capped** - CPR’s sliding fee schedule is capped at US $34,000, absent special circumstances.