

# Annual Report



# 2022









**Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques**  
**King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud**



المركز السعودي للتحكيم التجاري  
Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration







**HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud**

**Crown Prince and Prime Minister**



المركز السعودي للتحكيم التجاري  
Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration



# The Global Arbitration Center in Saudi Arabia





## Dr. Walid Abanumay

**Chairman**  
Chairman and board member of various national & international companies



## Mr. Toby Landau QC

**Vice Chairman**  
Member of Duxton Hill Chambers



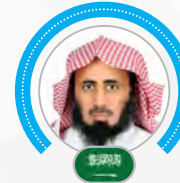
## Dr. Mohamed Abdel Raouf

**Head of the international Arbitration Group**  
Abdel Raouf Law Firm



## Prof. Georges Affaki

**Lawyer, Independent Arbitrator and Professor of Law**  
University of Paris



## Dr. Abdullah Al-Ajlan

**Partner, Head of Litigation & Dispute Resolution**  
AS&H Law Firm



## Dr. Saud Al-Ammari

**Lawyer and Independent Arbitrator**  
Saud Al-Ammari Law Firm



## Ms. Abby Cohen Smutny

**Global Head of International Arbitration Practice**  
White & Case



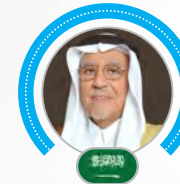
## Mr. Abdullah Al-Hashim

**Managing Partner**  
Al-Jadaan & Partner Law Firm



## Mr. Sulyman Al-Majed

Chairman and board member of various of national and foreign companies



## Dr. Ali Al-Sowailam

**Founder and Managing Partner**  
The Saudi Office, Lawyers & Consultants





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# Remarks from the Chairman







**Dr. Walid Bin Sulaiman  
Abanumay**



One phrase that describes the status of SCCA in 2022 is expansion and the search for new markets. Observers can clearly see that SCCA is no longer confined to its locale, namely Saudi Arabia, its launching pad. SCCA has Saudi roots, but its outlook is global.

Since its first day, SCCA has set its sights on being the regional leader in providing alternative dispute resolution to business sectors. In 2022, it took a notable step in this regard by establishing its first representative office outside Saudi Arabia, in Dubai International Financial Centre, one of the leading financial centers in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia. The office is part of the success story of this area and contributes to facilitating access to justice for businesses, local and foreign, in the UAE and abroad.

Domestically, SCCA opened another representative office in Qassim, an active area in the Saudi business community. This followed a cooperation agreement between SCCA and the Qassim Chamber aimed at strengthening SCCA's relationship with the region's business community and providing its establishments

with a package of institutional solutions for resolving commercial disputes.

This expansion decision was driven by the growth in the SCCA case roster. Regarding arbitration cases specifically, the number of cases registered grew by 67 percent from 2021. There are now 20 nationalities represented among claimants at SCCA, confident in its resources and ability to reach a fair settlement between parties with conflicts.

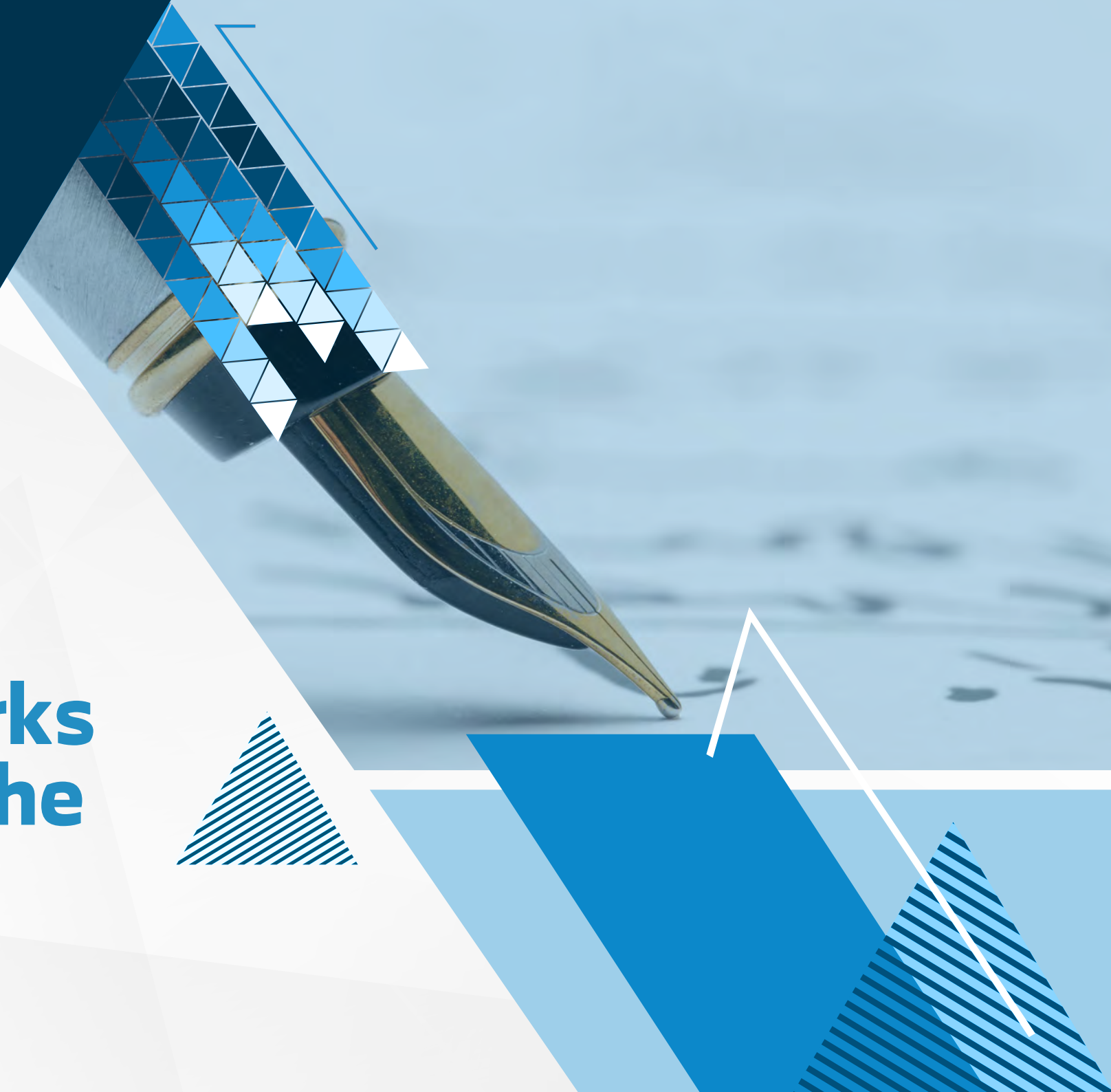
SCCA has reached a level of institutional maturity that has made it necessary to move to another level in practice, manifested in the establishment of the SCCA Court, which will adjudicate technical disagreements related to SCCA-administered arbitration cases. This will preserve the consistency and long-term sustainability of SCCA technical decisions, as they will not be affected by turnover among SCCA staff.

Today, as SCCA greets its new year, 2023, it strives to enhance its vertical and horizontal presence in the industry, namely by increasing the number and diversity of cases and pursuing geographic expansion through additional offices, in order to be the preferred regional option for alternative dispute resolution by 2030, God willing.





# Remarks from the CEO







**Dr. Hamed Bin Hassan  
Merah**



We have left 2022, leaving behind many of the achievements made during the year, bearing with a single word in mind, trust, which SCCA now enjoys among business sectors, the alternative dispute resolution community, and its institutions.

A key component of this trust was the opening of SCCA's first regional branch, in Dubai, based on SCCA's competitive value, which consists of its deep understanding of the reality of the Gulf and regional markets and its awareness of the complexities and conditions of these markets, blended with an international approach in its organizational structure and practices. This combination enables SCCA to provide outstanding services and is appropriate to the nature of the region, its culture, and its laws.

The opening was announced at the SCCA Second International Symposium in Dubai, held in the midst of Dubai Arbitration Week 2022. The symposium was attended by 55 governmental and quasi-governmental bodies, a diverse range of businesses, and 25 leading international law firms.

The symposium also featured the announcement of the founding of the SCCA Court, for which SCCA recruited 15 high-level, international members from 13 countries to independently decide in technical aspects related to SCCA-administered arbitration cases. SCCA was keen to achieve geographic,

nationality, gender, and industry diversity among SCCA Court members to reflect its prestigious international reputation.

As an extension of its efforts to empower the ADR industry locally and regionally, SCCA launched its training academy, SCCA Academy, with the aim of organizing its efforts to propagate the culture of ADR under one umbrella. In the same context, SCCA announced the expansion of its strategic partnership with CIArb to facilitate access for professionals wishing to practice ADR to more qualification programs offered by CIArb, as these programs are offered through SCCA Academy.

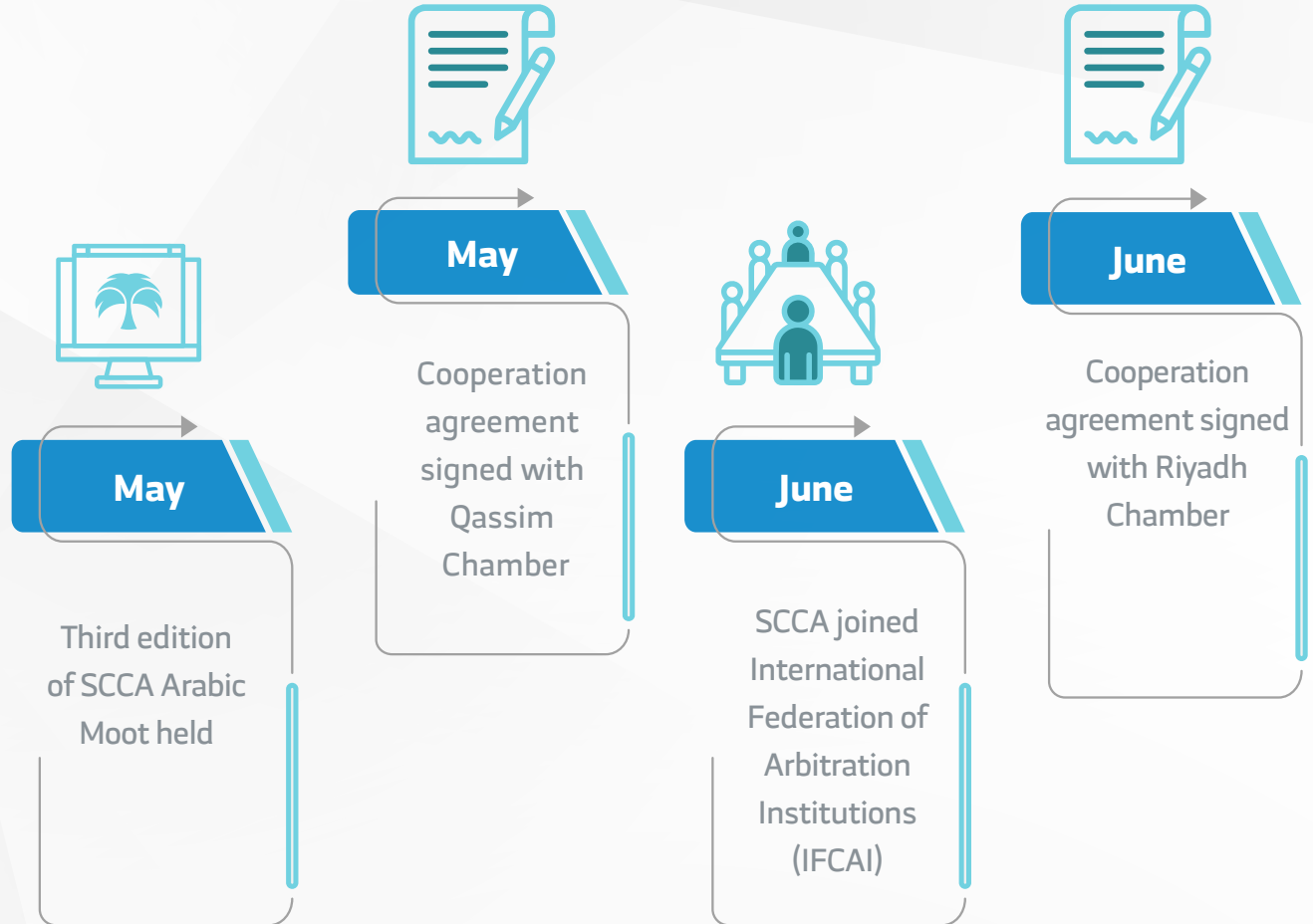
That is not to mention 70 business meetings, 11 events that SCCA held in partnership with 12 partners or co-sponsored, and a number of cooperation agreements concluded during the year. The most prominent was a cooperation agreement with the well-known platform Jus Mundi to publish selected non-confidential materials on arbitration held by SCCA and make them available to users of the platform.

All of these efforts and these achievements are in line with the SCCA vision to be the preferred regional option for alternative dispute resolution by 2030.

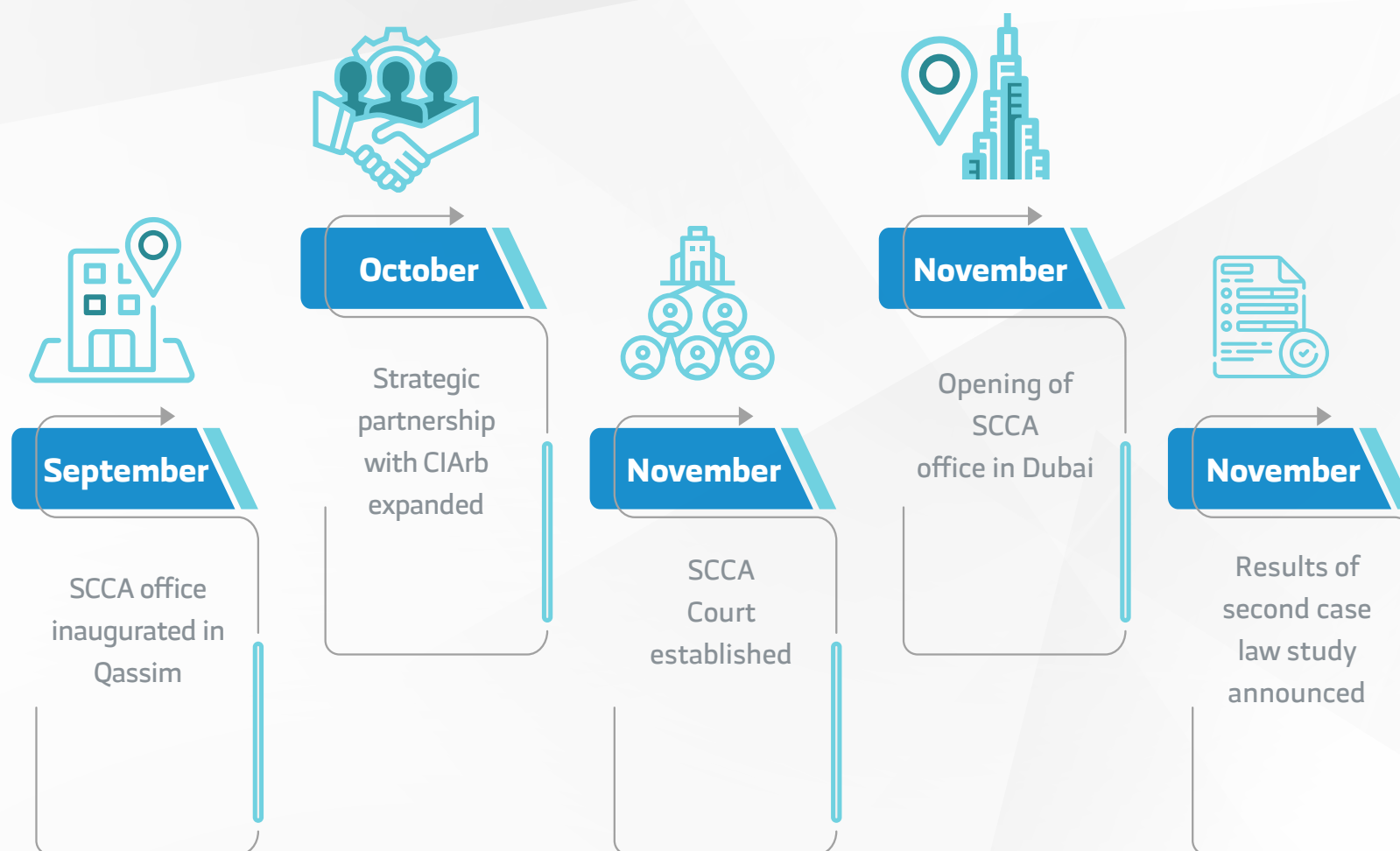




# SCCA Overview 2022











# Caseload Statistics and Highlights

1







Mr. Christian P. Alberti



## Remarks from the Chief of ADR

Another successful year lies behind us with many strategic initiatives and projects and having paved the way for being the go-to ADR provider in Saudi Arabia and advancing our mission to become the preferred ADR provider in the region by 2030.

The SCCA caseload has seen another solid increase with the registration of arbitrations continues to show consistent growth with a 67 % increase over last year. With disputes across 11 industry sectors, the SCCA service suite has further penetrated the Saudi and regional markets. Such diversification is also manifested in the make-up of party nationalities with a further increase to now 22 countries being involved in SCCA services since launch.

The SCCA's mission to institutionalize more of its processes to further enhance consistency and continuity has seen some significant progress in 2022. Together with its Rules Advisory Committee and a special Sub-Committee of the SCCA Board, the SCCA is on track with the revision of its SCCA Arbitration Rules and appendices. Significant efforts have led to a first draft of what promises to become a best-in class set of rules for users to ensure a fair, cost-effective, expeditious resolution of all sorts of commercial disputes.

These efforts are backed by the introduction of the inaugural SCCA Court comprised of 15 international arbitration experts and led by Prof. Jan Paulsson as

its first President of the SCCA Court. Under his aegis, the SCCA Court will determine key administrative issues that may arise in the life cycle of an arbitration. Both the SCCA Arbitration Rules and the new SCCA Court are scheduled to launch in the second quarter of 2023.

SCCA has also expanded its network with the joining of the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI) as well as the signing of various cooperation agreements with other arbitral institutions, chambers of commerce, and non-governmental organizations.

All in all, it has been a very busy and successful year by increasing the SCCA's market share and setting the stage for key projects in 2022, starting with the second edition of the SCCA Arbitration Rules and the SCCA Court, two features that will enable the SCCA to attract more business.

As a first outlook into 2023, we will begin the new year with the long-planned opening of our first regional office in Dubai followed by various roadshows in key arbitration hubs such as New York, Paris, and London in the first half of 2023. We expect a significant increase in our arbitration caseload and are preparing to scale our case administration capabilities to meet this exciting challenge.



## Number of Filings

1



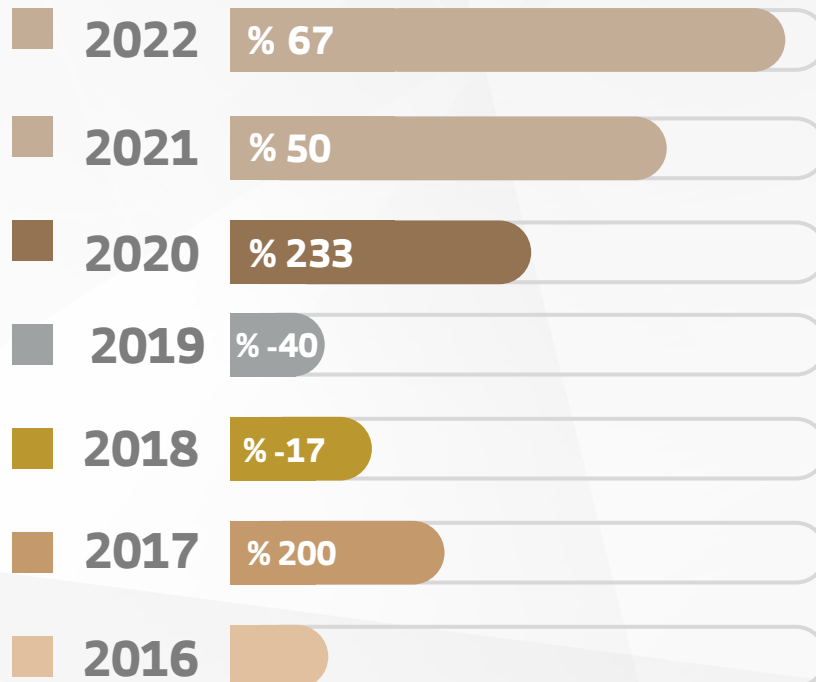
# 67%

## Increase in Arbitration Filings

in 2022 Compared to 2021



## Growth of Arbitration Filings Year Over Year



# 152.8

USD Million

Total Value of Filings  
Registered in 2022



# 1.06

USD Billion

Total value of Filings  
Registered Since Launch



## Sectors & Nationalities

New 2022 cases involved

11

Sectors out of 31 total sectors addressed in SCCA cases registered since launch



**Capital Markets  
and Investment**



**Construction and  
Engineering**



**Commerce/  
e-Commerce, Trade and  
Retail**



**Corporate**



**Education**



**Employment and  
Labor**



**Life Science  
and Healthcare**



**Professional  
Services**



**Real Estate**



**Shipping, Logistics  
and Maritime**



**Technology**



**Agriculture, Food  
and Bevearges**



**Not-for-Profit  
Sector**



**Arts and  
Entertainment**



**Automotive**



**Aviation, Aerospace,  
and Space**



**Banking and  
Finance**



**Sport and  
eSport**



**Corporate  
Data, Privacy, and  
Cybersecurity**



**Defense and  
National Security**



**Energy**



**Environment**



**Telecommunications**



**Fashion**



**Family-owned  
Businesses**



**Hospitality and  
Tourism**



**Insurance  
and  
Reinsurance**



**Intellectual  
Property**



**Manufacturing**



**Media and  
Marketing**



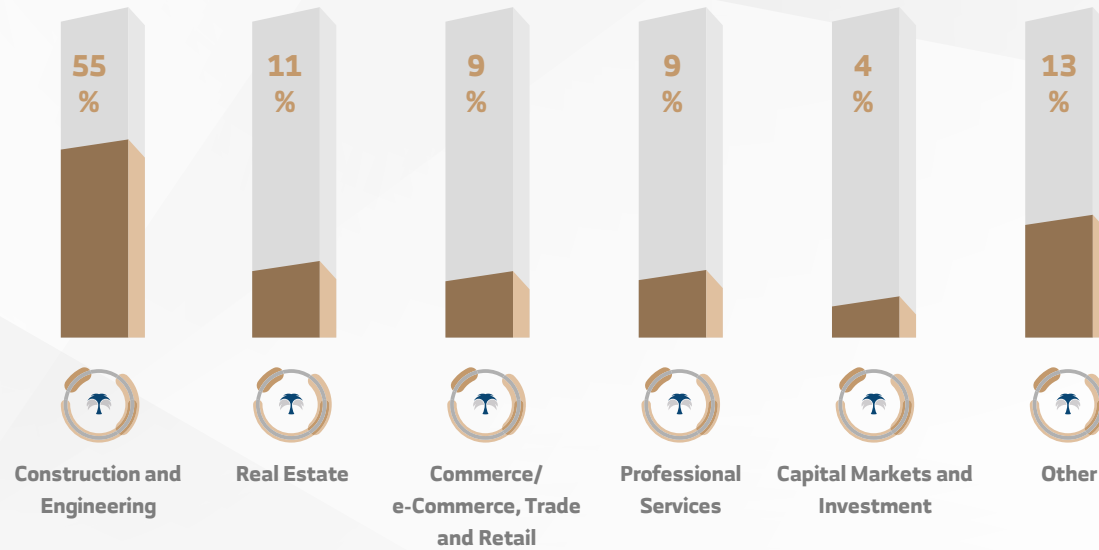
**Mining**



## Sectors & Nationalities



### New 2022 cases by sector



**20**  
Nationalities

represented  
by parties  
to SCCA cases





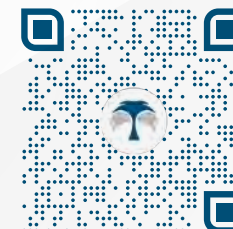
# Achievements



## Membership in IFCAI

With a view to strengthening cooperation with the commercial arbitration community, SCCA announced that it has joined the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI), which includes 52 preeminent international arbitral institutions from all over the world.

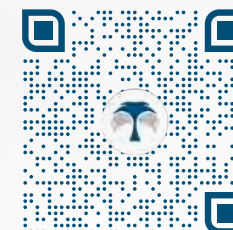
For more:



## Inauguration of SCCA venue in Qassim

SCCA and Qassim Chamber inaugurated an SCCA venue in the Qassim Province, hosted by the Chamber at its Buraidah headquarters, to facilitate access to SCCA's suite of alternative dispute resolution services for businesses and individuals in the province.

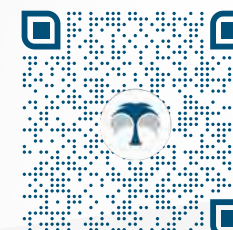
For more:



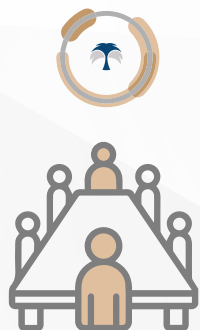
## Expansion of strategic partnership with CIArb

Reinforcing its efforts to train Arabic speakers in alternative dispute resolution, SCCA expanded its strategic partnership with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) to facilitate access to more CIArb training programs.

For more:



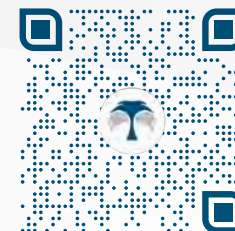




### Establishment of SCCA Court

SCCA established the SCCA Court, which has attracted prominent international experts, to independently determine key administrative matters related to SCCA-administered arbitrations.

For more:



### Establishment of SCCA Dubai

SCCA established its first regional office in the DIFC in Dubai to provide alternative dispute resolution services to local and foreign businesses and individuals in the UAE and in the region.

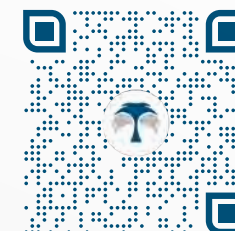
For more:



### Reveal of results of second case law study

SCCA revealed the results of its Saudi case law study it conducted in 2022 as a continuation of the study it began in 2021, including now 720 judicial judgments related to arbitration.

For more:





# SCCA establishes the SCCA Court to determine key administrative matters related to SCCA's caseload



The establishment of the SCCA Court follows international best practices and is in line with the approach adopted by other leading international arbitral institutions. It is also timely considering the fast-growing SCCA caseload that has now seen parties from 20 countries around the globe.



**Vice President**  
**Dr. Ziad Al-Sudairy**  
International Arbitrator; Principal  
Ziad Al-Sudairy Law Firm



**President**  
**Mr. Jan Paulsson**  
Consultant  
and Independent Arbitrator



**Vice President**  
**Mr. James Hosking**  
Founding Partner  
Chaffetz Lindsey LLP



**Mr. Alec Emmerson**  
Independent Arbitrator and  
Mediator  
ADR Management Consultancies



**Dr. Tai-Heng Cheng**  
Global Co-Head of International  
Arbitration and Trade Practice  
and Co-Managing Partner  
Sidley Austin LLP



**Mr. Tunde Ogunseitan**  
Arbitrator, Mediator and Counsel



**Ms. Jennifer Kirby**  
Principal  
Kirby international  
arbitration practice



**Dr. Habib Al Mull**  
Founder  
Habib Al Mulla & Partners



**Dr. Hamad Al-Kudiry**  
Former Acting Deputy  
Minister, MoJ; former  
President, Riyadh  
Commercial Court



**Ms. Sara Koleilat-Aranjo**  
Partner  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius



**Ms. Sarah Lancaster**  
Chambers Director  
Arbitration Chambers  
(London, Hong Kong, New  
York)



**Dr. Laurence Shore**  
Partner and Of Counsel  
BonelliErede



**Prof. Loukas Mistelis**  
Partner, Clyde & Co; Profes-  
sor of Int. Arbitration, Queen  
Mary University of London



**Dr. Majed Al-Rashed**  
Managing Partner  
Al-Rasheed Law Firm



**Dr. Mostafa Abdel Ghaffar**  
Judge  
Cairo Court of Appeal





# **Business Development**

2



### Horizontal and vertical engagement

with business sectors,  
the legal community, and  
relevant governmental  
and international bodies

**SCCA met with a wide range of government and private-sector actors** to introduce its latest dispute resolution services and promote the inclusion of the SCCA arbitration clause in contracts and agreements, in order to achieve its vision of being the preferred dispute resolution option by 2030.



# 70 Business Meetings



**22**  
**Government Sector**



**41**  
**Private Sector**



**7**  
**Diplomatic and  
International  
Organizations**





## Government Sector



### Financial system



### Commerce and investment system



### Regional development





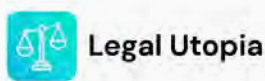
## Private Sector



### Companies owned or invested in by the State



### Saudi and foreign companies





# Business Meetings



## International law firms

**SQUIRE**  
PATTON BOGGS



**HERBERT  
SMITH  
FREEHILLS**



**Freshfields**

**ALSABHAN & ALAJAJI LAW FIRM**  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
**Pinsent Masons**  
بنسنت ماسونز



شركة المكتب الأول للمحاماة والاستشارات  
Prima Law and Consultations Office Co



**Outer Temple**

**CANDEY**

**ashurst**

**ALDHABAAN & PARTNERS**  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
**EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND**  
(INTERNATIONAL) LLP

**Burford**

**Legal  
Advisors.**  
Abdulaziz Alajjan & Partners  
in association with Baker & McKenzie Limited

**大成 DENTONS**

مكتب سلمان م.السدair للمحاماة  
THE LAW OFFICE OF SALMAN M.AL-SUDAIR

التميمي و شركاه  
**AL TAMIMI & CO.**

**Bird & Bird ReedSmith**

**LATHAM & WATKINS LLP**

**WHITE  
& CASE**



## Business community

غرفة الرياض  
Riyadh Chamber

غرفة جدة  
JEDDAH CHAMBER

غرفة القصيم  
QASSIM CHAMBER





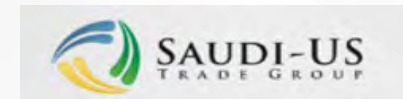
## Diplomatic and International Authorities



### Embassies



### International organizations







### Collaboration

to further the industry and serve business sectors

With the aim of promoting institutional arbitration and mediation practices, and enhancing their role in the development of business sectors, the Center signed **5 cooperation agreements and memorandums of understanding** with a number of national institutions in Saudi Arabia and abroad to strengthen ties with them for providing alternative dispute resolution services.



#### International institutions



#### Areas of cooperation:

The platform Jus Mundi publishes selected non-confidential materials and information about arbitration held by SCCA. It indexes the materials and information in its database, searchable by users of the platform, which relies on artificial intelligence and advanced research tools.



#### Saudi institutions



#### Areas of cooperation:

1

Cooperation in providing means of alternative dispute resolution to parties with contractual, relationships.

2

Support for including a dispute resolution clause in contracts.

3

Professional development in the field of alternative dispute resolution.

4

Awareness raising about alternative dispute resolution.





# Events

# 3





### Engagement with...

**the arbitration  
community and  
business sectors**

In the past year, **SCCA has organized, participated in, and sponsored of a series of outreach events** with business sectors and other relevant actors to introduce itself and its services, and to promote the inclusion of the SCCA dispute resolution clause in contracts and agreements.



**11**  
Events



**21**  
Partners





## Events in Detail

### Participation Format:



Virtual



In-person

### Participation Type:



Attendance



Remarks



Sponsorship



Organization

### Language:



Arabic



English

### Symposium

01

Making the Case for ADR  
in the GCC: Key Factors &  
Successes



### Seminar

02

Prospects for Arbitration in  
the Middle East and Current  
International Trends



### Conference

03

Dispute Resolution in the  
International Energy  
Business



CLIFFORD  
CHANCE

CLYDE & CO

quinn emanuel  
trial lawyers

ashurst

HERBERT  
SMITH  
FREEHILLS

SQUIRE  
PATTON BOGGS

التاميمي و شركاه  
AL TAMIMI & CO.

Aishahani  
Almanour

الشهراني  
المشهور

DLA PIPER

Freshfields

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT

بُرْهَانُ الْمَرْفَعَة  
— BURHAN ALMARIFA —



LexisNexis

SOL  
INTERNATIONAL



### Conference

04

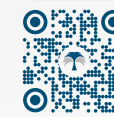
International Bar Association  
Annual Conference  
(IBA 2022)



### Conference

05

ICCA  
Congress



ICCA  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION



### Workshop

06

Franchise  
Bootcamp



### Seminar

07

Effective Alternatives to  
Settling Family Business  
Disputes: The Key to  
Sustainability



### Seminar

08

Introducing maritime  
transport establishments  
to the latest developments  
in the Saudi ADR industry



### Workshop

09

Commercial Arbitration and  
the Judiciary in Light of the  
Saudi Arbitration Law and  
International Best Practices



### Workshop

10

SABIC workshop to introduce  
the latest developments in the  
Saudi ADR industry



### Workshop

11

National Competitiveness  
Center and UNCITRAL  
experts workshop





## Events in Detail





In partnership with 10 leading international law firms and in the presence of high-level arbitration leaders, business executives, legal advisers, and lawyers,

### SCCA

concluded its 2nd annual Symposium As part of **Dubai Arbitration Week**. SCCA highlighted the development of arbitration in Saudi and the GCC region. It also underscored SCCA's role in facilitating business and creatively resolving commercial disputes.







2

## Events in Detail





# Symposium Prominent Attendees

The symposium witnessed attendees from a high level of more than 55 bodies, which are Saudi and emirate governmental and semi-governmental entities, as well as a wide range of business sectors and companies. A total of 25 law firms, many well-known in the field of ADR, also attended the Symposium.

To see the report on the Forum:



### Saudi Government Entities



### GCC Government Entities



### Private Sector







### 25 International Law Firms

In order to learn about the most recent advancements in the arbitration industry in the Kingdom and GCC, a number of international law firms have taken part in the symposium represented by high-profile individuals, including Partners, Co-Founders, Managing Partners, Counsels, Local Partners, and General Managers.



### International Bodies & Platforms

Watch the most important clips from the Forum:







4







## Ciarb and SCCA agree to extend ADR training provision in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Following the successful introduction of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Ciarb) alternative dispute resolution (ADR) training in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ciarb and the Saudi Centre for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) have agreed to extend their collaboration for the delivery of dispute resolution training including international arbitration and mediation.

Hundreds of practitioners have already benefited from Ciarb's globally recognised training. Delivered by the SCCA Academy in Arabic and English, the training adheres to Ciarb's world-renowned standards. Additionally, Ciarb is working with the SCCA who has agreed to host a Ciarb Branch to support Ciarb members in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The new agreement ensures opportunities for even more aspiring ADR professionals to be trained. For those already trained, the expanded range of courses offers the scope to further develop knowledge and skills. Those achieving Ciarb Fellowship (FCI Arb) may also go on to apply for admission onto the SCCA's Roster of Arbitrators, for which Fellowship is one of the eligibility criteria.







## Conclusion of the SCCA Arabic Moot in Commercial Arbitration (3)

With broad international participation, and in partnership with several international organizations, the third edition of the SCCA Arabic Moot in Commercial Arbitration concluded after eight months of competition. The moot began with the release of the mock case and passed through several stages, including submission of respondent and claimant memos and then oral proceedings. The final round of oral proceedings was held yesterday, followed by the crowning of the winners.

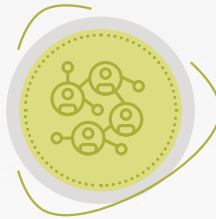


To see the report on the competition

**444**  
Students



**84**  
Teams



**64**  
Universities



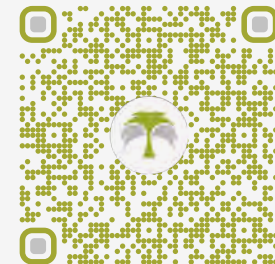
**142**  
Doctorates



**7**  
Specialized  
training  
programs



**14**  
Countries





## International Fellowship in Commercial Arbitration

Last year, **285 candidates** enrolled in the program across **11 classes**. The program enables successful candidates to attain CIArb membership and to join an elite class of international arbitrators.



### Enrollment by module

| Module 1 | Module 2 | Module 3 |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 201      | 27       | 57       |



**210**

Total number  
of candidates who have  
become CIArb members  
since the launch of the  
fellowship



**102**  
Members



**108**  
Fellows



### Mediation in Commercial Disputes program

SCCA held several rounds of the Mediation in Commercial Disputes program in Riyadh and Jeddah with the aim of providing those enrolled with the necessary knowledge and skills to practice commercial mediation in accordance with the latest international practices.



**99**

Candidates



**57**

Riyadh



**42**

Jeddah

### Arbitral Tribunal Secretary Preparation program

SCCA held several rounds of the Arbitral Tribunal Secretary Preparation training program with the aim of providing trainees with knowledge and skills related to the role and duties of an arbitral tribunal secretary, using model arbitral disputes.



**20**

Trainees



The background is a complex digital illustration. It features a large, glowing sphere composed of a network of points and lines, surrounded by concentric circles and arcs in shades of blue, purple, and red. Below the sphere, a smartphone is shown with a glowing circular interface on its screen. The entire scene is set against a dark blue background with various geometric shapes, including triangles and polygons, in shades of red, white, and blue. A large white number '5' is prominently displayed in the center-right area.

5



# **Publishing and Awareness-raising**



## Communication Activities

**+25**

Communications  
Campaign

### Objectives

1



Disseminate the latest news on SCCA and its work and activities.

2



Highlight the most important recent developments in the Saudi ADR industry.

3



Raise awareness and spread knowledge about the ADR industry and introduce the best international applications and practices.



## International outreach

Based on the SCCA role in propagating a culture of arbitration and highlighting local and international developments SCCA published an analytical article in the international arbitration journal GAR on the latest industry developments in Saudi Arabia, in addition to the results of a legislative study of Saudi laws on foreigners and non-lawyers representing parties before arbitral tribunals.

### Developments in the arbitration industry in Saudi Arabia



**Publication Date**  
31 May 2022



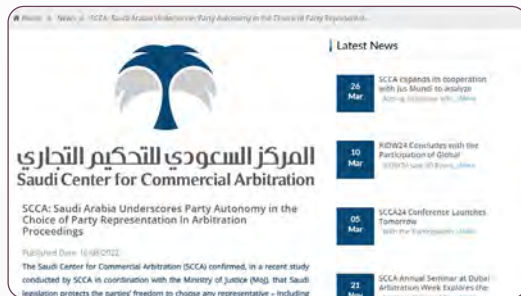
**Publisher**  
GAR

**Summary:** The article dealt with how the Saudi judiciary appears with regard to international standards and practices related to creating a safe, trustworthy arbitration venue. It reviewed the latest SCCA initiatives to support parties to cases and recruit the best international experts for its committees, and it published statistics and figures reflecting the Saudi judiciary's support for the arbitration industry.

Read the article:



### Foreigners and non-lawyers representing parties before arbitral tribunals Legislative study of the text of Saudi laws



**Publication Date**  
16 August 2022



**Publisher**  
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**Summary:** The study looked at the text of Saudi laws on the arbitration industry, in particular the Arbitration Law and the Enforcement Law, and concluded that those laws contain no restrictions that would prevent non-Saudis or non-lawyers from pleading before arbitral tribunals on behalf of the parties to cases.

See the results of  
the study:





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# Annual Report



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