Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Council of Ministers General Secretariat In the name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Beneficent



Decree No.: 257 Date: 14/6/1435H [15/4/2014CE]

The Council of Ministers:

After perusal of Request No. 6368 from the Royal Court, dated 21/2/1435H [16/12/2013CE], with the letter it included, drafted by His Excellency the Minister of Justice and Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council and His Excellency the Minister of Commerce and Industry, letter No. 267/1/1/1006 dated 3/11/1434H [8/9/2013CE], regarding the establishment of a center in the name of "The Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA)" under the umbrella of the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry;

After perusal of the legal arrangements for judicial and dispute resolution bodies approved in principle by Royal Order No. A/14 dated 23/2/1426H [3/4/2005CE];

After perusal of the Arbitration Law promulgated by Royal Decree No. M/34 dated 24/5/1433H [16/4/2012CE];

After perusal of meeting minutes Nos. 381 of 29/10/1425H [12/12/2004CE], 540 of 24/10/1433H [11/9/2012CE], 89 of 20/2/1434H [3/1/2013CE], 291 of 22/5/1434H [3/4/2013CE], 253 of 24/4/1435H [25/2/2014CE], prepared by the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers;

After perusal of memoranda Nos. 382 of 29/10/1425H [12/12/2004CE] and 196 of 19/5/1426H [26/6/2005CE], prepared by the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers;

And after perusal of recommendation No. 432 from the General Committee at the Council of Ministers, dated 9/5/1435H [11/3/2014CE];

Decrees the following:

- First: A permanent committee shall be formed in the Ministry of Justice, comprising a representative from each of the following: the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the General Investment Authority, three members chosen by the Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry;, and three expert, specialized members chosen by agreement between the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. The Committee's role is to:
 - 1 Consent to issuing licenses to establish Saudi arbitration centers and branches thereof in accordance with rules that the Committee shall adopt.
 - 2 Adopt standards for the registration of arbitrators at the centers that the committee licenses.
 - 3 Adopt guidelines for determining arbitrators' fees and expenses at the centers that the committee licenses.

The Committee shall issue its decisions by majority vote for approval by the Minister of Justice.

Second: A center called the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) shall be established under the umbrella of the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The SCCA's headquarters shall be in the city of Riyadh. It shall administer arbitration proceedings in relevant commercial and civil disputes where the parties agree to settle disputes through arbitration through the SCCA in accordance with the provisions of the governing laws and settled commercial and civil judicial principles. The SCCA's jurisdiction shall not include disputes related to administrative, personal status, or criminal cases, nor cases where conciliation is not permitted.

Third: The SCCA shall have a Board of Directors constituted through a decision of the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry in coordination with the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. Board Membership is for three (3) years and is renewable. The Chairman and Members of the Board shall be individuals with previous, relevant work experience in the private sector of at least ten (10) years for the Chairman and five (5) years for the Members.

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No Board Member may hold a government position or employment. The Board shall have oversight of the SCCA's affairs and guide the SCCA, in particular it has the following authorities:

- 1 Approving the SCCA's bylaws, rules, decisions, and requirements necessary for its work, matters relating to its financial resources, and the work of its branches.
- 2 Approving the roster of arbitrators within the scope of the SCCA's jurisdiction. A list from the roster shall be available for review by the parties concerned in order to choose from among the named arbitrators or others.
- 3 Adopting guidelines for determining the fees and expenses of arbitrators registered at the SCCA.
- 4 Approving the establishment of SCCA's branches inside or outside the Kingdom as needed.
- 5 Supporting the necessary measures concerning cases within the SCCA's jurisdiction in all disputes that arise between natural or legal persons.

Fourth: The SCCA shall represent the Kingdom in the field of commercial arbitration on the local and international levels in coordination with the Ministry of Justice.

Fifth: The SCCA shall have a fund for providing arbitration aid in accordance with regulations that the Minister of Commerce and Industry shall issue by decree.



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