



**Cairo Regional Centre for
International Commercial Arbitration**

***ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE CAIRO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION
1997 - 1998***

Presented by
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Director of the Centre

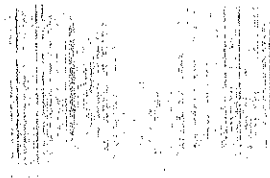
Submitted to the 37th meeting of the
Asian African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC)
New Delhi, April 12 - 18, 1998

I) INTRODUCTION

Twenty Years passed on and the AALCC Integrated Scheme for the Settlement of Disputes has safely reached its peak of maturity. The Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (CRCICA / the Cairo Centre) being an active part in this greater whole has real pleasure in associating the event with its various achievements of the current time commemorating in sodoing the Commission's twentieth anniversary and pathing a smooth way for its own one yet to come in January 1999 .

With this background, the CRCICA is pleased to submit this report highlighting in brief its works and activities from May 1997 till March 1998. The review covers different entries related, inter alia , to the administration of arbitral cases, the CRCICA New Rules and Regulations, contributions to arbitral legislation, the new arbitral principles adopted under the auspices of the Centre as well as the organisation of international events. Furthermore, the paper focuses on the new developments scored in the activities of the CRCICA Society of

Arab and African Arbitrators and handles the Center's recent role in establishing regional arbitral bodies whether being entities of independent nature or affiliates to international institutes. Towards the closure of the report, the most important publications of the Centre are outlined and the improvement of its electronic systems takes focus.



II) ARBITRATION

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CRCICA

.....ONE MORE YEAR OF PROGRESS

II.a) Administration of Cases

..... under Quick Review

Verging on the twentieth anniversary of the Cairo Centre significantly unfolds a leap beyond the hundred in the number of international cases reaching 110 arbitrations other than ad hoc cases and maritime disputes handled by the CRCICA Alexandria Branch . It is remarkable that the past year witnessed more use of ADR techniques - other than arbitration- and that the Centre gets more involved in conducting conciliations and mediations in particular .

Beside disputes in construction contracts , ex/importation matters , supply contracts, management and operation contracts , insurance issues and spatial emission matters , new types of disputes have been introduced since the issuance of the last Report in May 1997. Among these, disputes involving petroleum investments, others dealing with the

stock market as well as cases related to the transfer of technology are counted in .

In reviewing the arbitral practices of the past year , it appears that users get more aware of the instrumental proceedings the arbitration technique would provide . Appointment of experts, for instance , appears to be a repetitive procedure . In a number of cases that involves crucial and technically controversial matters, there occurs a necessity of summoning experts to give their experienced views. Around 90% of the experts summoned upon are financial and technical experts and the remaining 10% are maritime ones. Article (27) of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules provides guidance in this concern and so does the Centre's List of Technical Experts having a wide range of experts selected from all around the world and scoring an increase of 10 % in the previous year .

II.b) Arbitration before the Centre

in the Eyes of the Others :

*"Legitimate proceedings ... expert administrative staff ,
state-of-the-art facilities "*

"Arbitration proceedings before the Cairo Regional Centre are legitimate proceedings, supported by an impartial and expert administrative staff, a qualified roster of arbitrators , and conducted in "state-of-the-art" facilities." , as such one of the eminent international

arbitrators evaluates the works of the Cairo Centre¹. This was not the only 1997 pronouncement in this respect; in a partial award² concluded in last May, the tribunal announced "*the Cairo Arbitration Centre and its Alexandria Branch*" as being "*the only arbitral fora in the African-West Asian region that are deemed international*". Occasional declarations of the sort significantly come to support and back the belief that the Centre succeeds in crossing over the limitation of regionality³ up to the pinnacle of internationality.

II.c) Towards Perfection of Arbitral Performance

.....*CRCICA Reformations Underway*

Arbitration and other ADR are no unchangeable processes, the more theory is taken into practice the more the need to affect changes get urging. After almost twenty years of practice, the CRCICA finds real veracity in this belief and embarks accordingly upon affecting some vital changes, the most remarkable of which follows:

¹ Full speech available at the CRCICA Secretariat

² The award was concluded in Case no. 72/96 involving a Saudi and an Egyptian Parties

³ In this respect, see Item 1.c "Universal Recognition...Gained", Report on the Activities of the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration, May 1997, submitted to the AALCC 36th Session.

1) Amendment of CRCICA Arbitration Rules

The year 1997 witnessed an international trend towards amending arbitration rules by way of adapting institutional services to the changing needs of users. The CRCICA ranks one among the international arbitration foras which have taken the initiative. In the IFCAI Conference held in Geneva on October 24, 1997, the Centre's Rules⁴ were announced as being under revision. Two months later, specifically as of January, 1998, the new Rules were declared effective.

In reviewing the rules, it was of prime and prior importance to project all time-related provisions into their most speedy, reasonable and at one and the same time flexible form. In so far as the notice of arbitration is concerned, it was thought necessary to specify the period within which the respondent is expected to file his preliminary statement-in-reply along with necessary backing documentation (Article 3 para. 4.

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⁴ The announcement was made by the Director of the Centre who acted then as a Chairman of the Session entitled "The Revision of Arbitration Rules"

d) by a deadline line of thirty days. The same duration is once more utilized in article 6.2 as amended to limit the maximum period which an appointing authority may take to nominate the arbitrators.

These regulatory measures are meant at their core to avoid whatever prolongation likely to defect the time-saving principle being one of the most important characteristics of arbitration. However featuring out a definite and binding temporal framework (arts. 3 & 6 as discussed above) hinders not the essentiality of being flexible whenever necessary and so, the amendments of article 6.2 comes to comprehend time extension probability "*if compelling circumstances prevent from making (the) appointment in due time*".

In so far as multi-party arbitration is concerned and because the UNCITRAL Rules were silent in this regard , article 8 Bis was added to settle controversies that might arise - or rather used to arise - in case of parties' failure to agree upon the appointment of arbitrators . In settlement of this and upon request of any of the parties, the Centre would act as the appointing authority .

2) Reduction of Administrative Fees

in Domestic Cases

Over the previous year, the financial status of the Centre achieved an acceptable standard of stability after moving to the new owned premises saving in so a considerable amount of money used to be allotted to annual rental. Within the Centre's non-profit making strategy, it was naturally consequential to reduce administrative fees on local arbitrations wherein actual expenses are relatively moderate. By dent of declaration no. 1/1998, the reduction works as follows : 70% down from the registration fees, 50% from the administrative and finally 70% from the ceiling of maximum and minimum fees applied in international cases .

3) Proposals for Amending

Arbitration Law no. 27/94

After four years of application of the Egyptian Arbitration Law no. 27/94, it gets rather urging to put the provisions of the Law under systematic review and attempt an adaptation thereof to the burgeoning needs of users with the prospect of avoiding any pitfalls likely to deperfect the arbitral process. Therefore, the Centre manages to prepare

a) based-on-practice compilation of defects and pragmatic problems arising out of the application of the said Law and plan to hold accordingly a round table meeting by the participation of around thirty-five eminent lawyers , academicians and members of the Egyptian Judiciary on April the 28th , 1998 for that purpose . The Egyptian Minister of Justice and his staff of Legislative Department would be present .

The concluding report of the meeting would be then passed over to the competent bodies of the Government and the People's Assembly along with a proposal for amendment of the current Law ⁵

II.d) New Arbitral Principles Adopted by Arbitral Tribunals under the Auspices of the Centre :

Since inception , the Centre has taken up the practice of annually codifying and publishing the different legal principles that appear in, and provide founding stones for, the arbitral awards issued at the Centre. A Book including the most important awards issued under the auspices of the Centre is under publication by Kluwer Law and is expected to be in the Market soon . Following are some selections from the principles adopted in the awards of the year 1997 and three months beyond up to the end of March 1998 :

⁵ This approach integrates to another launched early at the beginning of 1997 when the Centre filed with the Egyptian Ministry of Justice a Draft Exegetic Law for Article (1) of the Law to include in express phraseology the applicability of the Law on administrative contracts. For more details in this respect, see item V.a " *An Initiative towards further Exposition of the National Arbitration Law* subtitled under "*Contributions to National and International Legislative Matters*" p.20, Report on the Activities of the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration, May 1997 , submitted to the AALCC 36th Session .

1) Jurisdiction of national courts for citizens is an expression of state sovereignty.

2) The Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration and its Alexandria Maritime Arbitration Branch are the only arbitral fora in the African-West Asian region that are deemed *international* and the Alexandria Centre is not an affiliate to the Arab League as so claimed by the respondent .

3) An arbitration agreement between an insurer and a current insured can be applied on a preceding beneficiary if the insurance policy provides for *interests for the others* , on condition that the beneficiary in question is the one and only beneficiary having no other person to share with neither the advantages nor the effects of the policy .

4) The one benefiting from the insurance policy by virtue of an-interest-of-other provision (as detailed above) shall be directly and personally entitled to whatever rights the policy includes.

5) If the Arbitration Clause is phrased to be applicable on all disputes arising out of either the interpretation or the performance of the contract at issue , then disputes related to failure of performance of the contractual obligations by either party shall fall within the scope of application of the said arbitration clause .

6) The plea of nullification of the arbitration clause mentioned in the general conditions of the insurance policy as/and based on the provisions

of article 750/4 of the Egyptian Civil Code" is an exclusive legal license for the insured or the beneficiary , a token by the course of which the insurer's initiation of such a plea shall be deemed non-admissible .

7) In examining the regulations governing the conflict of laws to decide upon the applicable law , the arbitral tribunal resorts to five criteria, which are : the place of arbitration, the place of signing the contract ,the residence of the parties to the contract, the country of performing the contract and finally the language of the contract or the language of the arbitration in case of having a different language for each .

8) If the arbitral tribunal views no slight effect of the challenge against forgery on the dispute in question then it has jurisdiction to decide the non-suspension of the arbitration proceedings .

9)According to the Egyptian Law of Arbitration , parties have full and free will to decide upon the language of arbitration and the selection of arbitrators without the least restriction upon their nationalities .

10)*Pacta Sunt Servanda* as parties to a valid contract abide by all contractual obligations. Neither party has right to launch any sole act of violation or amendment . Established practices go as far as to deny this right to the judge who is only entitled to interpreting the substance of contract by reverting to the intentions of the contracting parties .

⁶ The Article Reads as follows :

The following conditions in a policy of insurance are void :

1) 2) 3)

4) An arbitration condition included in the general printed conditions of the policy and not as a special agreement distinct from the general conditions;

11) Regardless of the intentions of the parties to a contract, a contractual fault is deemed to be existing only when the debtor either commits partial or complete failure of contractual obligations or make a defective or a delayed performance thereof.

12) A criminal action has the force of suspending the proceedings of a civil one only if it is deemed virtually filed, a prerequisite realized by the completeness of all relevant proceedings.

III) ORGANISATION OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS.

III.a) Past Events

The CRCICA Calendar of Events of the past year breaks through the barriers of what is usual touching upon new subjects of current significance and introducing new venues in neighboring lands . To achieve consistency , it was similarly important to keep on registering recent changes in matters introduced before but keep on acting on , and interacting with , the surrounding investment-related environment and so the calendar also marks new rounds in biennial and annual events . The following brief highlights in chronological order the events held since the issuance of the last report to the Thirty Sixth Session :

A) Entry and Fellowship Training Program of the London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIA) .

Held on : 12 - 18 June , 1997

At : Nile Hilton Hotel , Cairo / Egypt

Jointly with : → The London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators .

→ The United Nations Commission on International

Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

Significance & Outcome : Increase in the numbers of CIA Regional Members and agreement to hold the Cairo-seated Courses on semi-annual basis .

B) Training Program on International Commercial Arbitration

Held on : 4 - 7 August , 1997

At : Al Hekma University , Beirut / Lebanon

Jointly with :

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

→ The London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)

→ The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

→ The American Arbitration Association (AAA)

→ The Arab Arbitration Association , Paris

→ The Lebanese Arbitration Association

Significance & Outcome : Introducing the role of the Cairo Centre in a region of promising investment-related future .

C) International Conference on : "Build-Operate-Transfer(BOT) Projects"

Held on : 7 - 9 October , 1997

At : Heliopolis Sheraton Hotel , Cairo / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ International Law Institute of Washington (ILI)

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

→ The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

→ The International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Significance and Outcome : Introducing the works of the three major entities in the field on the legal , financial and industrial levels with the prospect of adapting local and regional circumstances to the international environment .

D) International Conference on " The Settlement of International Maritime Disputes"

Held on : 14 - 16 October 1997

At : Al Montazah Sheraton Hotel , Alexandria / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ The Mediterranean Maritime Arbitration Association (MMAA)

Significance and Outcome : Strengthening the ties of cooperation between the Centre and the Mediterranean Maritime Arbitration Association the representatives of which “unanimously decide to strengthen the relationship with the (Cairo Centre) , Alexandria Branch and authorize the (Secretary-General) to establish relevant contacts.”⁷

E) International Arbitration Training Program

Held on : 4- 15 November , 1997

In : Kampala / Uganda

Jointly with : The International Law Institute

Significance and Outcome : The Centre’s having for the first time a pivotal role in qualifying arbitrators and arbitrators-to-be in an important spot in the African Part of the World (See item VI.b/1 below).

⁷ See the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association held in Alexandria (Egypt) on the 15th of October , 1997 .

F) International Conference on : “ Arab Arbitration Institutions
between present Challenges and Future Perspective”

Held on : 23 - 25 November , 1997

At : Arab League Premises , Cairo / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ Arab League

In Cooperation with :

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial
Law (UNCITRAL)

→ The London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)

→ The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

→ The American Arbitration Association (AAA)

→ The Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC)

→ The Euro-Arab Arbitration Association

* The Conference was honored by the participation of H.E. the Secretary-
General of the AALCC in inaugurating the event.

Significance & Outcome :

Promoting the decentred character of arbitration with the
prospect of enhancing inter-Arab arbitral relations and sweeping across
geographical borders to reinforce relations with non-Arab fora .

Establishing the General-Secretariat of Arab Centres and
Institutions under the presidency of the Director of the Cairo Centre as of
25 November, 1997 .

G) Entry and Fellowship Training Program of the London Chartered
Institute of Arbitrators (CIA) .

Held on : 12 - 17 December , 1997

At : The Centre's New Premises , Cairo / Egypt

Jointly with : The London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators .

Significance & Outcome : Establishing in Cairo a CIA Branch under the
auspices of the Centre .

H) International Conference on : Procurement Rules and Regulations

Held on : 11 - 12 February, 1998

At : Isis Island Hotel , Aswan / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial
Law (UNCITRAL)

→ The World Trade Organization (WTO)

Significance & Outcome : Composing a committee of selected conferees
to prepare a formal memo with suggested amendments to the current
Egyptian Procurement Law no. 9/83 .

D) International Seminar on : Intellectual Property Licensing and Dispute Resolution

Held on : 9 - 10 March , 1998

At : Marriott Hotel , Cairo / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

Significance & Outcome :Eliminating the problems that used to arise in Intellectual Property Licensing Practices and in contracts of technology transfer with special emphasis on the developing countries .

III.b) Forthcoming Events

A) International Conference on “ Recent Trends in Oil & Gas Agreements and the Settlement of relevant disputes” .

To be held on : 20 - 21 May , 1998

At : Hurghada Hilton Plaza , Hurghada / Egypt

Jointly with :

→ The World Bank

UNEP → The Egyptian Ministry of Petroleum

In Cooperation with :

→ The Arab League

B) International Conference on “ WTO Agreements and their impact on the economies of the Region”

To be held in November , 1998

In Cooperation with :

→ The World Trade Organization (WTO) and other International Entities .

C) Third International Conference on “ Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Projects .

To be held in : October 1998

Jointly with :

→ International Law Institute of Washington (ILI)

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

→ The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) (under confirmation)

→ The International Finance Corporation (IFC) (under confirmation)

D) International Conference on “ FIDIC Contracts and settlement of relevant disputes”

To be held in : October , 1998

Jointly with :

→ Federation of International Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) and other international bodies .

→ The United Nations Commission on International Commercial Law (UNCITRAL)

E) Round - Table Meetings :

e1) Meeting on “ The Proposed Amendments of the Egyptian Law of Arbitration no. 27/94”

To be held on : April the 28th , 1998

At : The Premises of the Cairo Centre

e2) Meeting on Euro-Arab Economic Relations in preparation of the third International Conference on same subject .

Date & Place : to be determined later after consultation with the Arab League and the European Unity .

F) Second International Conference on “ Arab Arbitration Institutions
between present Challenges and Future Perspective”

To be held in November 1999 .

Jointly with : → The Arab League and other Entities .

G)Third International Conference on “The Effects of the European Unity
on the Economies of the Arab Countries”

To be held in December 1999 . Exact date will be fixed after consultation
with the Arab League and the European Unity .

Jointly with : The Arab League, the European Unity and other
International Bodies

IV) CRCICA SOCIETY OF ARAB AND

AFRICAN ARBITRATORS

..... MAKING GREAT STRIDE

The previous few months witnessed a remarkable expansion in the membership of the CRCICA Society of Arab and African Arbitrators (SAAA) and it gets therefore necessary to effect a concomitant expansion in the scope of services offered by the Society in so far as the qualification of arbitrators is concerned . A trend upon which, the SAAA Cultural Committee has been announced established as early as February 1998. The Committee plans a full Cultural Programme including , among other things, the organisation of quarterly seminars focusing on specialized arbitration areas as detailed in the following calendar :

Date	Event
Monday , 15 June 1998	Seminar on The Settlement of Banking Transactions Disputes
Wednesday , 15 July 1998	Seminar on Settlement of Insurance Disputes
Monday, 7 September 1998	Seminar on Settlement of Stock Exchange Disputes

Thursday , 15 October 1998	Seminar on Settlement of Disputes According to the Rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
Sunday , 15 November 1998	Seminar on Settlement of Technology Transfer Disputes

Beside the issuance of quarterly newsletters and supplying information sources, the Committee would provide vocational training for arbitrators, lawyers as well as technical and legal consultants and whoever is likely to contribute to the arbitral process at any of its various stages . It is noteworthy that the announcement of the detailed SAAA Cultural Programme receives remarkable encouragement and approvals from members all over the Afro-Arab Region .

According to the
 (S. R. S.)

V) CRCICA ASSOCIATIONSHIPS

...EXPANDED

V. a) Establishing the General Secretariat of Arab Arbitration Centres

Upon the recommendations concluding the Arab Arbitration Institutions Conference (November 1997) , the General Secretariat of Arab Arbitration Centres was established since then by the membership of various arbitration experts from all around the Arab World and under the presidency of the Director of the CRCICA. The Secretariat aims at unifying arbitral trends in the whole Arab region as well as enhancing means of inter-Arab cooperation in the field of ADR Techniques . To this end, the Secretariat, in its latest meeting of 9 March 1998, announces establishing the Federation of Arab Arbitration Institutions (hereinafter FAAI) as patterned in form on the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI) . All Arab Centres and Institutions were invited to join in as were the Arab Chambers of Commerce and the Federations of Commercial and Industrial Chambers having affiliated arbitration departments . Promising responses indicate that the year 1998 may not pass by without witnessing the first FAAI General Assembly Meeting .

V.b) Hosting the Cairo Branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators , (London)

Since 1995, the CRCICA has held six training programs qualifying interested men of law of the region for either the membership or the fellowship of the London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIA) . It gets necessary for those who have passed assessments to have an in-region authorized body to adhere to instead of having every now and then to fly across continents to contribute to the works of the Institute .

Well cognizant of this , the CRCICA holds negotiations with the London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators to establish a Cairo Branch thereof under the administration of the Cairo Centre . The membership board of the prospective Branch will include members and fellows from the whole region . The CIA Council is expected to give its final approval shortly to give birth by so-doing to the first CIA Branch in the Region to be seated in Cairo and administered by the CRCICA .

VI) CRCICA PUBLICATIONS

VI.a) CRCICA Awards Published Overseas

Pub. Material	Publisher
Compilation of the most important CRCICA Arbitral Award since early inception up to 1996.	Kluwer Law Pub.
Final and Partial Award issued in bilingual cases under the auspices of the Centre	International Arbitration Periodicals Including ICCA Publications

VI.b) CRCICA Contributes to Regional Field Work and International Research Conduct

Research Paper titled :	For Presentation at / Submission to:
1.a) Principles of Modern Arbitration 1.b) Elementary-Level Mock Case	ILI Training Program , Kampala / Uganda , November 1997
2) The New Trends in the Field of Disputes Resolution in the Middle East	American Bar Association's Conference on Resolving Disputes Techniques , Washington , April 1998
3) The Enforcement of Foreign Awards in Egypt ... (1)	International Law Association's Conference , Taiwan , May 1998

4) The Enforcement of Foreign Awards in Egypt ... (2)	Forty-Fifth Anniversary of the Court of International Commercial Arbitration , Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania .
5) Judicial Application of the New York Convention	New York Day organized by the UNCITRAL , New York , June 1998
6) Quarterly Report on Developments in the Laws and Practices of Arbitration in Egypt	International Committee of the London Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, England .

VII) THE THIRTY-SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT.... SCORED

Since issuance of the last report , the Centre has entered into three more international cooperation agreements and so reached a total number of thirty-seven cooperation agreements, the three last ones were concluded with:

- 1.London Court of International Arbitration on April 14 , 1997
- 2.Douala Arbitration Committee / Cameroon on May 22, 1997
- 3.Arbitration and Mediation Centre of the World International Property Organization (WIPO) on October 27 , 1998

3. Appreciating the report presented by the Director of the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (hereinafter the Director) on the progress made by the Centre during 1997/1998.
4. Commending the speedy progress which the Centre has made to provide West Asia and Africa with an efficient, expeditious, fair and cost-effective system for the settlement of commercial disputes promoting in sodoing alternative Dispute Resolution techniques other than arbitration such as conciliation, mediation and technical expertise.
5. Esteeming the Centre's other activities and endeavours to qualalify Asian and African Arbitrators and to provide *through its pioneering Insitute of Arbitration and Investment* a pivotal regional contact-point for all international investment-related progression by organizing international seminars and conferences as well as providing a new computerized system for a trilingual storage of all arbitral information.
6. Viewing with appreciation the Centre's tremendous financial efforts exerted for more appropriation of its owned Headquarters in Cairo.
7. Encouraging the promotion of the above mentioned Asian African integrated Scheme for the settlement of commercial disputes.

In Witness thereof;

The Committee requests and extends recommendations to :

1a- All the AALCC Member Governments to recommend to proper entities and parties in their respective countries to include an arbitration clause in each agreement or contract referring the settlement of all disputes related to these agreements or contacts to the Centre .

1b-To fully support the growing activities of the Centre , to benefit from it and to consider consolidating its finances through regular annual and/or Ad Hoc contributions to assist and help it implement its ambitious plans of activities , services and expansion .

2-The Committee Secretary-General to kindly lend his valuable assistance and dynamic contacts to the Centre to this effect.

3-The Secretary-General and the Director to report to the AALCC coming 38Th Session the continuing progress of the work of the Centre.

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VIII) CRCICA ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

..... *I M P R O V I N G*

VIII.a) Data Bank ..More Progress

Establishing the CRCICA electronic data bank aims at keeping a comprehensive database for local, regional and international laws, conventions and agreements related to investment in the broadest sense. To achieve this goal at the best possible performance rate, the CRCICA has recently begun to update its hardware systems with more modern and efficient machines. The old, relatively large Mini-computer is now replaced by a PentiumII-300 processor and the 486 PC's in most offices are now substituted by PC of the Pentium 233 level or above. The Databases are being updated to the new Database management software systems running on the new machines and additional databases will be designed and implemented. This will expedite the storage, search and retrieval of all information and provide better reporting mechanisms.

VIII.b) CRCICA On The World Wide Web

Since March 17th, 1998, the CRCICA has published its own home page on the web site <http://www.crcica.org.eg>. In addition to the basic information, the home page includes the Centre's Arbitration, Conciliation, Mediation and Rules for Technical Expertise as well as its code of Ethics .

IX) DRAFT RESOLUTION
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADOPTION BY
THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
AALCC

1. In lieu of the decisions taken at the AALCC (hereinafter the Committee) Baghdad and Doha Sessions, held in February 1977 and January 1978 respectively, bringing into existence an Asian African integrated scheme for the settlement of commercial disputes.
2. Recalling the agreements concluded between the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the AALCC on January 28th , 1979 and November 15th , 1983, March 30 and June 3rd , 1986, May 24Th , 1987 and July 24Th , 1989 concerning the establishment and functioning of the AALCC Centre in Cairo (hereinafter the Centre) .
3. Appreciating the report presented by the Director of the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (hereinafter the Director) on the progress made by the Centre during 1997/1998.
4. Commending the speedy progress which the Centre has made to provide West Asia and Africa with an efficient, expeditious, fair and cost-effective system for the settlement of commercial disputes promoting in sodoing alternative Dispute Resolution techniques other

than arbitration such as conciliation, mediation and technical expertise.

5. Esteeming the Centre's other activities and endeavours to qualify Asian and African Arbitrators and to provide *through its pioneering Insitute of Arbitration and Investment* a pivotal regional contact-point for all international investment-related progression by organizing international seminars and conferences as well as providing a new computerized system for a trilingual storage of all arbitral information.
6. Viewing with appreciation the Centre's tremendous financial efforts exerted for more appropriation of its owned Headquarters in Cairo.
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