

28 April 2020

Arbitration at SIAC during COVID-19

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to update you on recent developments and future events at SIAC.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, SIAC continues to provide uninterrupted and world-class administration of international arbitrations. Efficient and effective case management continues to remain our first priority. In particular, SIAC has been fully operational over the past weeks, including the SIAC Court of Arbitration and the Secretariat.

We continue to handle a record number of disputes, including filings in substantial numbers of new matters. Arbitral tribunals and emergency arbitrators in SIAC arbitrations have conducted multiple hearings, procedural conferences and other meetings with parties and arbitral awards have been scrutinised and notified to the parties. We are grateful that users from around the world continue to entrust us with the resolution of their disputes, even as COVID-19 raises new legal challenges and disputes for businesses and users across sectors and is compelling the legal profession to adapt to dispute resolution under these unprecedented conditions.

We understand that many users have questions about how arbitrations will proceed over the coming weeks and months. We have therefore compiled a list of Frequently Asked Questions concerning COVID-19, which is attached and will be made available on the SIAC website.

We are also designating and training a number of counsel in the Secretariat as Remote Technology Specialists and introducing a Live Help Desk feature on the SIAC website for ease of contacting the SIAC Secretariat during the period of workplace closure in accordance with applicable COVID-19 measures. Should you have any additional queries or require direct communication with the Secretariat, a member of the SIAC Secretariat is available to respond in real time during business hours.

In addition to our case administration work, we will also be hosting a series of monthly webinars entitled “A Dialogue on COVID-19 with the Secretariat” to address questions about the impact of COVID-19 on any aspect of SIAC arbitrations. The series will include Q&A sessions with the Secretariat, periodic panel discussions on best practices for virtual hearings and related issues, mock virtual hearings and other events. Further information on these webinars can be found here: <https://www.siac.org.sg/events/event-calendar>. These webinars will be recorded and made available on the SIAC website and SIAC’s other social media channels, such as YouTube and WeChat.

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, we will continue to keep our users updated through timely announcements, which will be made available on the SIAC website and emailed to SIAC users.

Thank you for your continued trust in SIAC during these difficult and uncertain times. I wish you and your families good health and safety.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Born
President of the Court of Arbitration
Singapore International Arbitration Centre

2020年4月28日

新冠肺炎疫情期间的SIAC仲裁

各位同仁：

这封公开信旨在向各位介绍SIAC的最新发展及未来事件。

尽管发生了新冠肺炎疫情的大流行，SIAC仍将持续提供世界一流的国际仲裁案件管理服务。确保高效且有效的案件管理仍然是我们的首要任务。特别是，SIAC（包括SIAC仲裁院和秘书处）在过去几周保持了全面运转。

我们继续处理数量再创新高的争议案件，包括大量新提交的案件。SIAC仲裁案件的仲裁庭和紧急仲裁员与当事人进行了多次开庭、程序会议和其他会议，仲裁裁决也已经过仔细的审阅并通知当事人。我们非常感谢世界各地的用户继续将其争议交给我们解决，即使新冠肺炎疫情给不同行业的企业和用户造成了新的法律挑战和争议，并迫使法律专业人士适应这种前所未有的情况下的争议解决。

我们了解到，许多用户对未来几周和几个月内如何进行仲裁存有疑问。因此，我们整理了一份与新冠肺炎疫情相关的常见问题清单，该清单已附上，并将在SIAC网站上公布。

我们还将指定和培训秘书处的多名顾问作为远程技术专家，并在SIAC网站上引入实时服务台功能，以便在工作场所根据适用的疫情防控措施关闭期间，用户可与SIAC秘书处联系。如果您有任何其他疑问或需要与秘书处直接沟通，SIAC秘书处的一名成员可在工作时间内实时答复。

除了案件管理工作外，我们每个月都将举办题为“A Dialogue on COVID-19 with the Secretariat (与秘书处就新冠肺炎疫情相关问题进行对话)”的系列网络研讨会，以解答关于新冠肺炎疫情对SIAC仲裁影响的问题。该系列研讨会将包括与秘书处的问答环节，关于网络庭审的最佳实践及相关问题的定期小组讨论，模拟网络庭审以及其他活动。有关这些网络研讨会的更多信息，请参见：<https://www.siac.org.sg/events/event-calendar>。您也可以通过SIAC网站和SIAC的其他社交媒体（例如YouTube和微信）观看这些网络研讨会的录播。

随着新冠肺炎疫情形势的进一步发展，我们将继续通过及时发布公告向我们的用户更新最新进展。这些公告将在SIAC网站上发布并通过电子邮件发送给SIAC用户。

感谢您在此困难和不确定的时期对SIAC的持续信任。谨祝您和家人健康平安。

此致，



Gary Born

仲裁院院长
新加坡国际仲裁中心