

17 November 2015

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION TO RELEASE NEW ARBITRATION RULES

ACICA is pleased to announce that, following an extensive review and consultation process, the new ACICA Arbitration Rules and Expedited Arbitration Rules have been formally approved and adopted by the ACICA Board. The new Arbitration Rules and Expedited Arbitration rules will come into effect on 1 January 2016.

ACICA has revised its Rules to reflect developments in international arbitration. The new Rules build on ACICA's established practice of providing an effective, efficient and fair arbitral process. Developments of note include provisions on consolidation and joinder, appointment of experts by the tribunal and the conduct of legal representatives, along with the introduction of an expedited procedure for lower value or urgent matters commenced under the Arbitration Rules. The amendments improve the existing Rules and strengthen ACICA's position as a leading provider of international arbitration services in the Asia Pacific region.

ACICA President, **Alex Baykitch**, welcomed the adoption of the new version of the Rules: *ACICA is dedicated to providing high quality arbitration services to the global business community. The review and release of the updated Rules, which provide enhanced processes for the efficient resolution of disputes, is an important part of this service.*

ACICA Director and Chair of the ACICA Rules Committee, **Malcolm Holmes QC** commented: *The Rules Committee had the benefit of being able to draw on the wide international arbitration experience of its members based in Europe, the Middle East and Asia, as well as input from leading Australian academics, in preparing the new Rules. The Committee was also able to have regard to the considered views of the users of the Rules in ensuring that the new Rules reflect current best practice.*

ACICA's Secretary General, **Deborah Tomkinson**, recognised the dedication of the ACICA Rules Committee throughout the review and drafting process and expressed the institution's gratitude to all who provided assistance with this important initiative.

The new Rules are being launched at a breakfast event on 26 November 2015 at the Australian Disputes Centre during Sydney Arbitration Week and will be available on the ACICA website at www.acica.org.au.

Media Enquiries

Deborah Tomkinson, Secretary General
t. +61 2 9223 1099
e. dtomkinson@acica.org.au