

# ISMAIL SELIM – FCIARB

## DIRECTOR OF CRCICA - ARBITRATOR



Egyptian



1 Al Saleh Ayoub St. – Zamalek 11211 – Cairo - Egypt



Director of CRCICA, as of January 1, 2017



Arabic, English, French (Fluent) — Chinese (Basic)

### PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

#### **DIRECTOR OF CRCICA (2017-Present)**

Appointed Director of Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (**CRCICA**) as of January 1, 2017, reappointed for a second mandate of four years, as of January 1, 2021 which was extended for a final transition year as of January 1, 2025 until December 31, 2025. Administered more than 600 arbitration cases, including few arbitrations filed by employees against their employer.

#### **INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL AND SPORTS ARBITRATOR (2010-Present)**

Appointed as presiding arbitrator, sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator under various rules, including the **ICC, DIAC, DIFC-LCIA, ADCCAC, BCDR, UNCITRAL, CAS, LAMC, Swiss Rules, (and CRCICA prior to 2017)** in various fields. The applicable laws in these arbitrations were respectively, Egyptian, English, UAE, Qatari, Saudi, Bahraini, DIFC, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, Lebanese and Swiss Laws. Provides expert opinions on Egyptian, Libyan, Yemeni and Kuwaiti laws in international arbitrations and international litigation proceedings.

**ARB, Enrolled Arbitrator** - Court of Arbitration for Sport, CAS.

**ARB, Investment Arbitrator** - BAC/BIAC, Beijing Arbitration Commission.

**ARB, Panel of Arbitrators** - CMAC-China (China Maritime Arbitration Commission)

**ARB, Roster of Sports Arbitrators** - BCDR (Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution)

#### **LEGAL COUNSEL (“Lawyer before the Courts of Appeal” Syndicate) (2009-2016)**

**Partner and Head** of Dispute Resolution, **Founder** of the Cairo Office of **Al Tamimi & Company**, from May 2015 to December 2016, acting in arbitration and litigation including employment disputes.

**Partner and Leading Member**, and before Senior Associate of the International Arbitration Group **Zulficar & Partners Law Firm**, from December 2009 to April 2015, acting in arbitration and post-arbitral litigation procedures.

#### **JUDGE AND PUBLIC PROSECUTOR (1998-2009)**

Including, serving as **Civil Judge** at Mansoura Primary Court, 2007 to 2009.

Serving as **Senior Public Prosecutor** in the Cabinet of the Attorney General of the Republic of Egypt, in charge of **international judicial cooperation**, extradition and human rights matters.

## SELECTED RECENT EXPERIENCE AS ARBITRATOR

### INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** by the Respondent, in an ICC arbitration seated in Paris concerning a half a billion USD dispute between a state owned entity and a natural gas distribution company arisen from a contract for the supply of natural gas governed by Swiss law.
- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** by the Claimant, in an ICC arbitration seated in Dubai concerning a dispute between the UAE affiliate of a healthcare multinational company and a UAE hospital arisen from a Supply Service Contract governed by the laws of the UAE.
- Appointed as **Sole Arbitrator** by the ICC Court, in an arbitration under the Expedited Procedure Rules of Appendix VI of the ICC Rules seated in Dubai between a Bahraini and Turkish parties and arising out of a construction agreement governed by English law.
- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** by the ICC International Court of Arbitration in an ICC arbitration seated in Geneva, concerning a dispute arising out of a contract for the supply of hydrogen plant governed by the laws of Iraq.
- Serving as **Co-Arbitrator** in an ICC arbitration seated in Cairo Egypt and concerning a dispute arising out of four contracts for the construction and landscape of a real estate complex in Egypt between an Egyptian contractor and UAE owner and governed by Egyptian Law.
- Appointed as **Sole Arbitrator** by the ICC International Court of Arbitration on an ICC arbitration seated in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia concerning two subcontract agreements in relation to the construction of a refinery and utility project in KSA and governed by KSA laws
- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** by the ICC International Court of Arbitration in two consolidated ICC arbitrations seated in London concerning two subcontracts regulating the construction of an oil refinery in Iraq and governed by English Law.
- Party-Appointed **Co-Arbitrator** in an ICC case filed by a leading European supplier of cement equipment and services against a State owned entity and another Egyptian joint stock company concerning a dispute arising out of a technical management contract for cement production governed by Egyptian law.
- Party-Appointed **Arbitrator** in an ICC arbitral case seated in Cairo Egypt concerning a dispute arising out of a construction Agreement for the design and construction of civil works relating to a factory in Egypt between an Egyptian Contractor and a European Company and governed by Egyptian law.
- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** by the ICC International Court of Arbitration in ICC arbitral proceedings seated in Qatar and pertaining to a Contingency Fee Agreements between a law firm based in Qatar and its clients and governed by the laws of Qatar.
- Appointed as **Sole Arbitrator** in a Securities dispute arising out of the issuance of senior secured non-convertible bonds governed by Lebanese law, referred under the rules of the Lebanese Arbitration and Mediation Centre LAMC and seated in Beirut.
- Appointed as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** (by the co-arbitrators), in an arbitration under DIAC Rules seated in DIFC concerning a commercial dispute arising out of a shareholders agreement governed by DIFC as the applicable law.
- Appointed as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** (by the co-arbitrators), in an arbitration under DIAC Rules seated in DIFC concerning a commercial dispute arising out of a shareholders agreement between a German party and a UAE party governed by DIFC as the applicable law.

- Appointed as **Co-arbitrator** in an Engineering dispute, subject to the laws of the Kingdom of Morocco, referred to arbitration in Casablanca under CIMAC Rules
- Appointed as **Sole Arbitrator** by the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution (BCDR) in an arbitration seated in Bahrain concerning a dispute arising out of a real-estate management contract governed by Bahraini law.
- Appointed as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** by the co-arbitrators to serve in an ADCCAC arbitration seated in Abu Dhabi, concerning a dispute arising out of a subcontract agreement relating to the Construction of Roads and Infrastructure Works, governed by the laws of the UAE.
- Appointed as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** by the co-Arbitrators to decide upon a dispute arising out of a design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing, commissioning, training and startup agreement for civil maintenance facilities governed by UAE laws and referred to arbitration seated in Abu Dhabi under the rules of ADCCAC.
- Appointed as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** by ADCCAC to decide upon a 70 million AED dispute arising out of a Sub-contract agreement relating to a major mixed-use development project (design development, supply, and installation of electromechanical works) governed by UAE laws and referred to arbitration seated in Abu Dhabi under the rules of ADCCAC.
- Appointed as **Sole Arbitrator** by the LCIA Court in DIFC-LCIA arbitral proceedings pertaining to a settlement agreement seated in Dubai and governed by the UAE laws.
- Prior to 2017, acting as **Co-Arbitrator** in a dispute between a major Egyptian Constructor of Oil and Gas infrastructure and a Spanish supplier in relation with a contract for supply of check valves referred to Arbitration under CRCICA Rules and governed by Egyptian law.
- Acting as **Sole Arbitrator** in a dispute between a British Company and an Egyptian public entity arising out of a service agreement governed by Egyptian Law and referred to *ad hoc* arbitration under the UNCITRAL Rules seated in Cairo Egypt.
- Acting as **Chairperson of the Arbitral Tribunal** in a multimillion Egyptian Pounds dispute to be decided *ex aequo et bono and* referred to *ad hoc* arbitration seated in Cairo Egypt involving a governmental research centre and a major multinational construction company.

## RECENT EXPERIENCE AS SPORTS ARBITRATOR IN LAUSANNE AND TOKYO

- Appointed as **Co-Arbitrator** in several Appeal Proceedings before CAS.
- Appointed as **Arbitrator** by the CAS (Court of Arbitration for Sports) in its Ad Hoc Division for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

## SELECTED EXPERIENCE AS COUNSEL (until end of 2016)

### ARBITRATION

- **Representing a major advertising company** in a multimillion dispute arising out of the breach of a management agreement referred to arbitration under CRCICA rules and in parallel proceedings before North Giza Primary Court.
- An **Egyptian Distributor** in a multi-million dollars dispute arising out of a Distribution Agreement governed by Swiss law made with a German supplier and referred to arbitration under the Swiss Rules of International Arbitration of the Zurich Chamber of Commerce (SCAI).
- A major **Energy Investor** in a multi-million dollars energy dispute relating to a power generation facility annexed to a cement factory referred to *ad hoc* arbitration proceedings governed by Egyptian Law.
- A major **Telecommunications Investor** against a State owned Landline Operator in a 12 billion Egyptian Pounds telecommunication dispute in a CRCICA administered arbitration proceedings governed by Egyptian Law.
- A major **Mobile Operator** against another major mobile operator in a 400 million Egyptian Pounds interconnection dispute in a CRCICA administered arbitration proceedings governed by Egyptian Law.
- **Egyptian Fertilizers Company** (EFC wholly owned by OCIN.V.), a major multimillion USD gas supply dispute relating to the contract's price revision against GASCO and IGAS in arbitration proceedings under CRCICA Rules and in the setting aside proceedings of the arbitral award filed by GASCO and IGAS before Cairo Court of Appeal.
- **International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)**, defending the ICC in two lawsuits filed before the Egyptian courts in 2013 relating to disputes arising out of the implementation and interpretation of its arbitration rules.

### LITIGATION

- **A major mobile operator**, in several cases before two regions' Egyptian Misdemeanour Courts concerning alleged violation of the Environment Law and Telecommunication Law and in a one billion Egyptian Pounds Interconnection Dispute against the National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority before the *Conseil d'Etat*.
- **Representing a major advertising company** in a multimillion dispute arising out of the breach of a management agreement referred to the Dispute Settlement Committee of the Media Industry Chamber.
- **Qsoft, in a major mediatised** setting aside proceedings filed before Cairo Court of Appeal against an arbitral award rendered in a major multi-party media dispute involving the famous Egyptian satirist Bassem Youssef and the CBC Satellite Chanel — On 5 January 2016, the Court of Appeal rendered its decision in favour of Qsoft and Bassem Youssef.
- **Global Energy SAE**, a multimillion Egyptian Pounds energy dispute against South Valley Cement and relating to a power generation facility — The dispute was referred to the Dispute Settlement Committee of the Electricity Regulatory Authority of the Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy.
- **El Guezira Construction and Engineering**, in a series of Employment Contracts lawsuits filed before 6 of October First Instance Court.
- **L'Oréal Egypt** in a dispute with the Social Security Authority involving both criminal and civil proceedings.
- **Air Products Gases S.A.E** in a challenge filed before the Administrative Court against an administrative decision regarding sales tax.

## **PROFESSIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Lexology Index** - (Arbitration 2024) recognised me stating that *"Ismail Selim works extremely hard to make sure that Centre (CRCICA) remains a shining beacon in arbitration"*, and *"He has a fantastic reputation in the market"*.

**WWL** - (Arbitration 2023) recognised Ismail Selim as *"one of the best specialists in arbitration law in Egypt"* and stated that Peers and Clients say that *"his contribution to the arbitration scene in Egypt is invaluable"*, and *"he manages his matters with care and skill"*.

**GAR** - (2019) Under the Directorship of Ismail Selim, the CRCICA won the **GAR Award** for Regional Arbitration Institution that *"most impressed"*.

**Legal 500** - (2016) ranked Ismail Selim amongst the Leading Individual Dispute Resolution Lawyers in Egypt and stated that clients opined that *"Very knowledgeable and strategic"* former civil judge Ismail Selim, who has acted in many high-value arbitrations, is *"talented, sharp, prompt, and effective."*

**Legal 500** - (2015) stated that clients opined that *"Former civil judge Ismail Selim, who joined Al Tamimi & Co from Zulficar Law Firm, 'has all encompassing experience'."*

**AfAA** - (2020) **African Arbitration Association** acknowledged the CRCICA under Ismail Selim's directorship in 2019 and 2020 (multiple Awards).

## **MEDIATOR EXPERIENCE**

- Accredited Mediator of the London School of Mediation (LSM), as of May 2019.
- Serving as mediator under the Rules of the Investors Disputes Settlement Centre in a dispute involving Chinese vs. Yemeni shareholders of a company.

## **LEGAL EXPERT BEFORE COURTS & ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL**

- **Supreme People's Court of China – As of 2018, Present**  
China International Commercial Court, 2<sup>nd</sup> mandate as Member of the [International Expert Committee](#).
- **Queen's Bench Division, Commercial Courts - Punctual**  
Queen's Bench Division, Commercial Court (London) — Expert opinions on Egyptian and Libyan civil laws matters, notably in a series of disputes arising out of a series of structured transactions between European Investment Banks and a Libyan State Owned Corporation referred to litigation before the High Court of Justice.
- **Queen's Bench Division, Criminal Courts - Punctual**  
**High Court of London (London)** — Rendering Expert Legal Opinion on Egyptian Tortious and Constitutional Law in a matter submitted to the High Court of London.
- **Kuwaiti Courts - Punctual**  
Kuwaiti Court of Appeal (Kuwait) — Expert opinions on Civil and Procedural Kuwaiti Law, as relate to arbitration proceedings and jurisdiction.
- **UNCITRAL Arbitration - Punctual**  
Seat of Arbitration (London) — Expert Report on Civil and Procedural Kuwaiti law, especially Subcontractor's direct action, res judicata, enforcement of foreign arbitral awards.
- **California Courts - Punctual**  
California Courts (U.S) — Expert opinions on Egyptian arbitration laws in international proceedings

- **ICC Arbitration - Punctual**  
Yemeni Applicable law — Expert Report on Civil and Commercial Yemeni law.

## **ACADEMIC HISTORY**

### Dijon Doctoral School of Bourgogne University – **DIJON, FRANCE**

- Graduate studies, Bourgogne University, France, Ph.D. in International Commercial Arbitration, entitled “International Public Order *in favorem Arbitrandum*”, dir. E. LOQUIN, 2009 (Mention *très honorable avec les félicitations du jury à l’unanimité*).

### National School of Administration (E.N.A) – **PARIS, FRANCE**

- Master’s Degree in Public Administration (M.P.A), National School of Administration, France, 2001

### Institute for International Business Law of Paris 1 Pantheon - Sorbonne (IDAI) – **CAIRO, EGYPT**

- Master’s Degree in International Business Law, Institute of International Business Law (IDAI), Grade “Very Good”, Egypt, 1999.

### National Centre of Judicial Studies – **CAIRO, EGYPT**

- Graduate of the National Centre of Judicial Studies, Honours, 1999.

### Faculty of Law - Cairo University – **CAIRO, EGYPT**

- LLB (Bachelor’s Degree of Arts), Faculty of Law, Cairo University, 1997.

### Collège de la Sainte Famille Jésuite and Alliance Française – **CAIRO, EGYPT**

- Senior High-School Education.
- French Alliance (Linguistic Diploma), 1992.

### Collège Jean Mermoz – **ABIDJEAN, CÔTE D’IVOIRE**

- Junior High-School Education.

### French School of Beijing – **BEIJING, CHINA**

- Primary Education

### Queen Mary University School of Arbitration – **LONDON, U.K.**

- Certificate in “International Commercial Arbitration”, School of Arbitration, Queen Mary University, London, 2005 (Distinction).

### American University in Cairo (A.U.C) – **CAIRO, EGYPT**

- Certificate in “Construction Contracts” CLAC 25, American University in Cairo (AUC), 2011.

### London School of Mediation (LSM) – **LONDON, U.K.**

- Accredited Mediator of the London School of Mediation (LSM), as of May 2019.

## **LEADING POSITIONS & MEMBERSHIPS TO COMMITTEES**

- **International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI)**, President.
- **African Arbitration Association (AFAA)**, Vice-President.
- **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators** Egypt Branch, Chairman.
- **International Commercial Expert Committee** of the Supreme Court People’s Court of China, Expert.
- **UNESCO Conciliation and Good Offices Commission**, Commissioned Member.



- **Egyptian German Joint Arbitration Group**, Co-Chair.
- **FRANCARBI**, Board Member.
- ‘Groupe Egypte’ of the **Association Henri- Capitant des Amis de la Culture Juridique Française**, Board Member.

## **INTERNATIONAL & INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMISSIONS**

- Appointed in 2024 as **UNDP legal expert** to review and refine **Iraq’s Draft Law on Arbitration**.
- Appointed as member of the Committee entrusted with the mission of discussing the **amendments to the Egyptian Arbitration Law** by virtue of the **Decision of the Minister of Justice** No. 8 for the year 2022.
- Appointed member of the Committee of the **OECD Investment Policy Review-Egypt** in 2020.
- **UNCITRAL Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform)** on behalf of CRCICA, Observer, Thirty-fourth session, Vienna, November 2017.
- Counsel for Supervision of mentally ill defendants at the **Ministry of Health**, Representative of the Public Prosecution, 2003 to 2007.
- Governmental Commission of Human Rights at the **Ministry of Justice**, Representative of the Public Prosecution, 2004 to 2006.
- **UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**, Representative of the Public Prosecution, Sixteenth session, Vienna, April 2007.
- **French Court of Cassation Seminar on Competition**, Representative of the Public Prosecution, Paris, 20 & 21 November 2006.
- **French-Egyptian Bilateral Anti-Terrorism Meeting**, Representative of the Public Prosecution, July 2005.

## **RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS & ACADEMIA**

### Conferences

- Has intervened regularly in conferences worldwide, especially on the theme of arbitration, and commercial law including Sao Paolo, ...

### Lecturer

- **Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University (IDAI)** (Prior in 2011, 2018-Present)
- British University of Egypt (BUE) (2020-2024)
- **LL.M Business Law-Middle East and Arab Worlds** of Paris 1 (2018-2022)
- **CIArb Diploma** in International Commercial Arbitration on “Global Harmonisation and Statutory Approaches from Common and Civil Law Jurisdictions and Soft Law” at **University College, Oxford** (2019-2022), also Module 1 and 2 of **CIArb Training Course and CCATP** (Comparative Commercial Arbitration: Theory and Practice) (2017-2023)
- Ain Shams University (throughout 2006-2013)
- Beni Suef University (2010-2011)
- **American Bar Association** (2009-2011)

### *Subjects:*

- Private International Law (Conflict of Laws & Conflict of Jurisdictions)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (Mediation & Dispute Boards)
- Arbitral Procedure (International Arbitration Proceedings ad hoc & Institutional),

- International Litigation, Disputes and Compliance
- International Trade Law (Advanced Course on WTO System)
- International Arbitration and ADR (Special focus on Dispute Boards)
- Comparative International Arbitration Law
- Civil Law
- Private International Law

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (Sample)**

- “Les Institutions sont-elles des Régulateurs Légitimes du Système Arbitral?” [“*Are arbitral institutions legitimate regulators of arbitral justice*”], published article in *Revue de l’arbitrage* 2024 - N° 2, pp. 499-515, (in French).
- “The Synergy between Common Law and Civil Law under UNCITRAL and CRCICA Rules”, *The Plurality and Synergies of Legal Traditions in International Arbitration, Looking beyond the Common and Civil Law Divide*, Kluwer Law International, Chapter 8, 2024, pp. 89-101.
- “The Dichotomy of Competence to Decide upon Challenges against Arbitrators between National Courts and Arbitral Institutions”, International Journal of Arab Arbitration”, published article in *the International Journal of Arab Arbitration; International Journal of Arab Arbitration 2023*, Volume 15, Issue 2, Kluwer Law International, pp. 11 – 40.
- “Egypt” in *Arbitration 2021 - Getting the Deal Through*, dir. S. WILSKE and G. WEGEN, Lexology, pp. 73-83.
- “Chapitre 4. La nouvelle Constitution Égyptienne à la suite des révolutions des 25 janvier 2011 et 30 juin 2013” [“*The new Constitution of the Republic of Egypt following the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 revolutions*”], in *Émergence de nouveaux modèles de démocratie constitutionnelle : Afrique, Proche-Orient*, dir. P. CHARLOT and C. KLEIN, Mare & Martin, 2019, pp. 73-96 (in French).
- “The Synergy between Common Law and Civil Law under UNCITRAL and CRCICA Rules”, *International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management*, CIArb, Vol. 83/No. 4/November 2017, pp. 402-411
- “Recent Developments of Judicial Control over the Arbitral Awards Compliance with Public Policy in Egypt and France”, the Universal Journal of Arbitration, Vol. 29, January 2016 (in Arabic).
- “Overriding Mandatory Rules in Commercial Arbitration”, *The Arab Journal of Arbitration*, Vol. 27, December 2016.
- Egypt Report on Public Policy Exception in the New York Convention, *IBA Sub-Committee on Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Award*, October 2015.
- “Arbitration in Egypt in the Realm of the Arab Spring”, Korean Association of Arbitration Studies (KAAS), *Journal of Arbitration Studies*, Vol. 23/No. 3/September 2013, pp. 169-183.
- “Amendment Project of the French domestic and International Law”, *The Arab Journal of Arbitration*, Vol. 10, September 2007.
- “Recent developments of Arbitration before the ICSID”, *The Arab Journal of Arbitration*, Vol. 8 & 9 August 2005 & 2006.



- “Breaking up the Conflict of Domestic Laws Regulating Enforcement of Arbitral Awards”, *The Arab Journal of Arbitration*, August 2005
- “The Role of Public Prosecution in Protecting Human Rights, 2004” *Public Prosecution Review*, October 2004.

### **AUTHOR/DIR.**

- *L'ordre public in favorem arbitrandum : Étude de droit comparé*, Université Européenne, 2012, 564 pages.

*26 Jan. 2025*