



# The Status of Arbitration in the UAE

By

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## Introduction

While arbitration is becoming a popular form of dispute resolution in the UAE, the UAE does not have an arbitration law, save for a limited number of provisions within the Civil Procedure Law (see below under 9.2). Apart from specific regulations relating to disputes arising out of dealings in securities and commodities in the Dubai Financial Market and the Abu Dhabi Securities Market,<sup>1</sup> there has not been any serious attempt to introduce an independent arbitration law under any model in the UAE.

Although arbitration in the UAE is still in its infancy, there are two arbitration centers located in the Emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai respectively. In 1993, the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry established an arbitration center called the Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Center to settle commercial disputes through conciliation or arbitration.<sup>2</sup> The Center introduced procedural rules and a schedule of costs for conducting an arbitration in the UAE. These rules deal with local and international arbitration and arbitration cases have already been conducted under these rules.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Arbitration Regulations No. 1 for the year 2001 were passed pursuant to the Stocks and Commodities Law No. 4 of 2000 providing that a dispute arising out of dealings in securities and commodities whether in the Dubai Financial Market or the Abu Dhabi Securities Market must be determined by arbitration. The regulations set out the procedural requirements for such arbitration.*

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.adcci.gov.ae>