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Thailand Arbitration Process in the cases of disputes not exceeding 20 Million Baht

The Arbitration Institute has issued the Arbitration Rules in the case of smaller amounts of disputes B.E. 2560 (“**Rules**”) which came into force starting from 1 October 2017. The Rules were issued in order to make the Arbitration process quicker, saving cost and facilitating fairness to the Parties that have disputes that involve smaller amounts. A summary of the key elements is as follows:

- In case that the amount of dispute and counterclaim does not exceed 20 Million Baht in total;
- Upon acceptance of the statement of claim by the Registrar, another Party to the dispute (“**Respondent**”) must submit a counterclaim to the claimant within 15 days after receiving of the copy of statement of claim;
- The Arbitration Tribunal shall consist of 1 arbitrator who shall be appointed by the Registrar within 30 days from the date of initial of the arbitration procedure;

- The Registrar shall arrange the Parties to the dispute and the arbitrator as soon as possible to determine an effective and suitable procedure by imposing a timeframe and recording a course of proceedings;
- The Arbitration Tribunal shall issue an award within 120 days after the initial of the proceedings. If necessary, the Arbitration Committee may extend the period of finalizing the award but not exceeding an additional 30 days. However, a valid reason for such an extension is required to be informed to the Registrar;
- Within 30 days after an award reaches the parties, a Party may submit a request to the arbitrator to proceed as follows:
 - minor amendment of mistake, error of number calculation or minor deviation of the award;
 - Interpretation of the award;
 - Additional award in relation to a claim that was not decided in the award.

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