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CENTRE FOR AMICABLE
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

2014

الريادة في عمل المحاكم
PIONEERING IN COURT WORK

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Dubai Courts has developed a center entrusted with tasks of settling disputes amicably, before referring them for trial through communication with the parties to the conflict, and finding a settlement based on the regulations and legal systems in order to achieve justice and ensure the rights of all the parties by mutual consent. The dispute is considered by a number of experienced mediators under the supervision of the competent judge. Lawsuits that fall under the jurisdiction of the center are not registered at the courts unless they are submitted to the center and a judgment to refer the dispute to the specialized Court is issued. Discontinuance of the legal periods for case hearings will become effective. Also, periods of lapse and finality prescribed in the law are valid from the date of registration of at the center until the date of referral and registration of the case in the specialized court. The center aims at reaching an amicable solution for the parties within a month of the first session with the mediators. This period may be extended by the judge's order. If the disputants reach a settlement, it is proved by a reconciliation agreement signed by the disputants and attested by the competent judge. This signed agreement is a legally enforceable document. Upon reaching a settlement, 50% of the registration fee is refunded. If a settlement is not feasible amicably, the case is referred to the specialized court.

The center aims at supporting the economic and social stability in Dubai through:

- 1 Providing an alternative path of amicable settlement of disputes before resorting to litigation with reduced costs.
- 2 Providing a quick mechanism for the documentation of settlements and making them legally enforceable immediately.
- 3 Developing the Courts' contribution in supporting the economic and social stability in Dubai.

Specialization of the Centre for Amicable Settlement of Disputes:

Upon the decree of His Highness the Ruler of Dubai Courts, the center considers the following disputes:

- Distribution of undivided property.
- If the value of the original debt in the dispute does not exceed AED 50,000.
- Consider the lawsuit in the First Instance, Commercial, Civil, Real Estate Courts upon the request of the parties after the approval of the head of the competent circuit.
- If one of the parties is a bank.
- Request to commission an expert either individually or related to another request

The following do not fall under the jurisdiction of the center:

- 1 Temporary and Summary actions and orders.
- 2 Lawsuits where the government is one of disputing parties.
- 3 Lawsuits which are outside the Courts' jurisdiction.
- 4 Lawsuits registered at the court before the application of the provisions of this law.
- 5 Labour disputes.
- 6 Personal Status related disputes.

Requirements for the registration of Settlements:

- 1 Two copies of the statement of dispute written according to Article (42) for the year 1992 including the names of the parties to the dispute, their correct addresses, the facts and demands.
- 2 An extra copy of the statement of dispute in case of multiple adversaries.
- 3 The documents that initiated the dispute to include a first copy of the request given to the center and enough copies for the number of disputants. If the document is in a foreign language, a legal translation of the document must also be submitted.
- 4 If the document is issued from outside the country in a foreign language, it must be legally translated and attested from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice.
- 5 Presences of disputant or their legal representative the guardian, custodian, trustee, the owner of an organization or the manager of the company.
- 6 Attested Power of Attorney or documents proving legal representation.

Settlement procedures:

- 1 Submitting the statement of dispute and its related documents to the Registration Department and following-up with the center.
- 2 Collection of legal fees. The center considers the disputes and the requests exempted from legal fees.
- 3 Registration of dispute and setting a hearing to announce the disputing party.
- 4 Announcing the disputed against in the set hearing and contacting them by all means including sending of summons.
- 5 The dispute is reviewed until a decision is reached either to reconcile or refer it to the specialized court according to the circumstances of each dispute.

The electronic services on Dubai Courts website can also be useful.
For more information call: +971 4 3030800 / +971 4 3347777