



INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN ARBITRATION COMPETITION (CAAI)

organized by

**THE AFRICAN ACADEMY OF THE PRACTICE OF INTERNATIONAL
LAW (AAILP)**

THIRD EDITION

Mauritius, 11 - 13 June 2024

RULES

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: ORGANISATION

1. The purpose of the International African Arbitration Moot Competition (hereinafter the "competition") is to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge and the promotion of excellence in the field of international arbitration law, as well as to the training of the next generation of arbitration law practitioners in Africa.

The competition is an activity of the African Academy of the Practice of International Law. This document constitutes the rules for the third edition of 2024.

2. These rules set out all the rules governing the organization of the competition. These rules govern, among other things, the formation of the teams, the production and marking of the briefs, the conduct of the pleadings before the arbitrationtribunal, the assessment of the teams by the arbitration tribunal and the presentation of the prizes at the end of the competition.

3. An Organizing Committee (hereinafter the "organizing committee") has been set up to run the competition. It can be contacted at the following e-mail address: africamoot.court@aailp.org. No member of the Organizing Committee may be a member of the jury or take part in the competition.

Article 2: COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

1. The teams are formed within the law faculties of the universities. Each university may be represented by a maximum of two teams. Each team must consist of a minimum of two candidates and a maximum of four candidates, with the option for each team to include a support team. However, the support team will not be directly involved in writing the dissertation or assisting the team members during the oral arguments.

2. The competition is open to students providing proof of admission to a university (or similar institution) with a view to preparing a law degree of at least Master 2 level. The competition is also open to people who have already obtained one of the above-mentioned diplomas and are training for a legal profession, in particular as a lawyer or magistrate.

Students practicing as lawyers are only authorized to take part in the competition. The same applies to current and former members of the Organizing Committee.

3. The internal organization, both for the drafting of briefs and for oral arguments, is specific to each team.

Article 3: REGISTRATION

1. To enter the competition, complete an entry form on the competition website www.caaif.fr. The closing date for entries is indicated in the competition calendar, which can be consulted at www.caaif.fr.

2. Entry to the competition is free. However, teams are responsible for organizing their participation and financing the costs incurred by their participation in the competition. These include travel costs (including plane or train tickets), accommodation and food for team members and/or supervisors.

3. Each team must designate a reference member who will receive information on behalf of his or her team throughout the competition. Each team must choose a name that will enable it to be identified throughout the competition.

4. A team that decides to withdraw from the competition may do so by sending an e-mail to the Organizing Committee no later than 15th January 2024. Any failure or withdrawal by a team member must be reported immediately to the Organizing Committee.

Article 4: LANGUAGES

1. The languages of the competition are English and French. When registering, teams must indicate on the registration form the language they wish to use throughout the competition.

2. This choice is final once the applications have been validated. The teams will then be ranked by section: the French-speaking section and the English-speaking section.

3. These rules govern the organization of the two competition sections. They are available in English and French.

Article 5: THE PRACTICAL CASE

1. The competition is organized around a practical case that will be available on the competition website (www.ccai.fr) from 10th October 2023. It is a statement of facts that teams cannot modify.
2. Any questions of clarification relating to the practical case may be sent to the competition Organizing Committee no later than 17:00 GMT on Saturday 3rd February 2024.
3. Requests for clarification should be sent by e-mail.
4. Questions for clarification must be precise, brief and limited to ensuring that the text is clearly understandable.
5. Contact persons should ensure that the question is accompanied by a precise reference to the passage in the text (page, quotation of passage if applicable).
6. Questions for clarification must not aim to answer an aspect of the legal problem posed in the case study. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to assess the closeness of any answer to the question to the solution to the legal problem. It may therefore decide not to follow up the question as it stands.

CHAPTER 2: THE MAIN STAGES

Article 6: THE WRITTEN PROCEDURES

1. Each participating team is required to write a brief on behalf of one of the parties to the dispute set out in the practical case.
2. Statements of case and defense must be submitted by the deadline specified on the competition website: www.ccai.fr or by filling an e-mail to africamoot.court@aailp.org
3. Each team's dissertation must consist of a text written in French or English of no more than thirty pages without annexes or other attachments. A summary of the

dissertation, a table of contents, a bibliography (maximum 10 pages) and a table of contents may be included, but will not be included in the thirty-page limit.

4. In addition to the subdivisions marked by headings, the body of the dissertation must be well structured with numbered paragraphs and, where appropriate, footnote references.

All briefs must comply with the following formal requirements:

Font: Times New Roman,

Size: 12

Spacing: 1.5 Alignment:

Justified A4 format

Margins: 2.5 on each side

6. Submissions already sent to the Organizing Committee may not be modified after the deadline set in the competition timetable.

Article 7: ORAL PROCEDURES

1. The oral phase of the competition consists of the closing arguments. Teams selected for the semi-final stages take part. Two mooting sessions are organized before arbitration tribunals for the teams selected for the semi-final phase and for those who have successfully passed this phase.

2. During the hearings at which the teams plead, each team is expected to present a high-quality oral argument. Each team is allowed a time limit set by the arbitral tribunal (20 minutes by way of indication). It will also be invited to answer the tribunal's questions and, if the tribunal so decides, any arguments raised by the opposing party (for guidance: 15 minutes). The arbitration tribunal will ensure that the teams have equal speaking time. Each team is responsible for organizing its members so that they can present their case, respond to the opposing party's arguments and answer the tribunal's questions.

3. Teams taking part in the oral phase are not allowed to use any means of communication or electronic devices (telephone, computers, tablets, etc.) during their oral submissions that would enable them to complete their submissions or seek answers to the questions put to them.

4. The pleadings will take place at **the Mauritius International Arbitration Centre (MIAC)** from 12th to 13th June 2023. The order in which the teams shall appear will be specified in a procedural order sent to the teams concerned via the Organizing Committee.

5. Arbitral tribunals are set up for the pleadings phase only. Each arbitration tribunal will be made up of at least three arbitrators, chosen from among lawyers, academics or arbitrators. Before each arbitration panel, the order in which the two teams will make their oral presentations will be decided by the members of the arbitration panel, after consultation with the Organizing Committee (the panel may draw lots).

6. The Organizing Committee will send the arbitration tribunal the competition rules (including any subsequent clarifications), the case study and any responses to requests for clarification, a proposed analysis of the case study and the dispute oral evaluation forms.

7. The hearings are open to the public. They may be audio and video recorded and images taken by the Organizing Committee for the purposes of archiving and communicating about the competition, unless the arbitration tribunal expresses an objection.

CHAPTER 3: EVALUATION

Article 8: EVALUATION

1. The briefs will be assessed by academics, experts and lawyers appointed by the Organizing Committee.

Only the four teams with the best briefs will be admitted to the oral proceedings. At this stage, they will be definitively informed whether they will be the plaintiff or the defendant in the rest of the competition.

2. Each piece of written work is assessed on a scale of 1-25 points. The material part of the written work accounts for approximately 80% and the formal part

for approximately 20% of the assessment.

3. A mark will be awarded for each team's presentation, accounting for 50% of the final mark, which will be used to rank the teams and determine the best team. Each litigant will also be individually marked on their oral performance and their answers to any questions from the members of the jury.

4. The following elements in particular will be taken into account in the assessment of the pleadings: presentation, rhetorical force and eloquence, structure and relevance of the arguments, and the ability to respond to the opposing party's arguments and the jury's questions. Pleading without using the text is positively taken into account in the assessment.

5. The score for the team presentation will be established on a scale of 1 to 50, taking into account the following factors:

-A maximum of 5 points for preparation for the audition (i.e. the team's ability to present itself at the oral tests as if it were a real audition).

-A maximum of 10 points for the organization of the argument (ability of the team to follow a structure, present conclusions, etc.).

-A maximum of 10 points for knowledge of the case (the team's ability to make references to the case, to find the right part of the document to which it refers, to guide the arbitrators through the relevant documents, etc.).

-A maximum of 10 points for the legal study (the team's ability to refer to case law, legal doctrine and relevant legal documents).

-A maximum of 5 points for persuasion in the presentation of arguments.

-A maximum of 5 points for time management.

-A maximum of 5 points for handling referee questions.

Consequently, the maximum number of points for the two written papers, as for the oral submissions, is 100 points.

6. At the end of the final phase, after deliberation, the arbitration tribunal will announce the winning team for the 2024 edition of the competition.

Article 9: PENALTIES

1. Unless there is a valid reason, as assessed by the Organizing Committee, a team's absence from a session is deemed to be a default. A team is deemed to have participated if at least two members of that team are present.
2. In the event of late submission of briefs or non-compliance with the rules, the Organizing Committee in the written procedure and the court in the oral phase will withdraw points. The maximum number of points that may be deducted is 15% of the overall score (out of 100 points).

CHAPTER 4: PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

Article 10: PRIZES FOR THE BEST TEAMS

Three (3) prizes will be awarded to the best three (3) teams. The prize awarded to the winning finalist team consists of a Lex Climatica trophy and a cash prize of Three Thousand (3000) Euros. The second and third prizes consist of cash sums of One Thousand Five Hundred (1500) Euros for the second best team and One Thousand (1000) Euros for the third best team.

Article 11: PRIZE FOR BEST PLAYER

1. A single prize will be awarded to the best litigant. It consists of a LEX CLIMATICA trophy.
2. In addition, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to decide to award additional special prizes in the light of the circumstances surrounding the competition and the performances of the teams and team members.

Article 12: CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

All candidates selected to submit defense briefs will receive a certificate of participation in the competition.

CHAPTER 5. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 13.

The timetable, the case study, the evaluation grids and any clarifications to these rules that are or will be available on the competition website form an integral part of these rules.

Article 14.

The competition Organizing Committee shall ensure that these rules are applied. Requests for interpretation of the rules may be addressed to this committee.

Article 15.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to revise these rules by amendment if necessary.