

## INFORMATION RELEASE

The Sri Lanka National Arbitration Centre (SLNAC) is the oldest Institution in the country in the administration of arbitrations for the resolution of commercial disputes having been established and incorporated in the year 1985.

The Arbitration Centre's future role includes efforts to attract international arbitrations to Sri Lanka as a service provider and to make commercial dispute resolution by arbitration expeditiously, cost effective under due process of law.

SLNAC consists of several distinguished Members of the legal community and several Institutional Members.

### **Institutional Members of the Centre include:**

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| 1. Mr. Sujeiva Samaraweera,               | Chairman National Chambers of Commerce               |
| 2. Mr. Romesh de Silva,                   | President's Counsel /Life Member                     |
| 3. Mr Hiran de Alwis,                     | FCIARB, Attorney-at-Law /Life Member                 |
| 4. Mrs.Piyumini Cooray Ranasinghe,        | Attorney-at-Law                                      |
| 5. Mrs. Ranee Ratnayake,                  | Life Member  |
| 6. Mr. H.D. Chandrasena,                  | Cost Consultancy Services (Pvt) Ltd.                 |
| 7. Mr S. T. S. Arulanathan,               | The Ceylon Hardware Merchant Association             |
| 8. Mr. Jayasiri Samaratunga,              | Life Member  |
| 9. Mr Prasanna Ranil de Silva,            | Attorney-at-Law, Bar Association of Sri Lanka        |
| 10. Eng. (Dr.) Ananda Ranasinghe,         | Institute of Engineers                               |
| 11. Prof. Chithra Wedikkara,              | Architect/Quantity Surveyor / Member                 |
| 12. Ms. Chaturi Priyadarshika Ranasinghe, | Women's Chamber of Industry & Commerce               |
| 13. Mr. Thilak Theja Silva,               | Sri Lanka Bankers' Association (Gte) Ltd.            |
| 14. Archt. H.F. Russell Dandeniya,        | Sri Lanka Institute of Architects                    |
| 15. Mr. Sohan Wijesekera                  |  |
| 16. Mr. Gamini Gunasekera,                | Ceylon National Chamber of Industries                |
| 17. Ch. QS Mr Nadun Fernando,             | Institute of Quantity Surveyors of Sri Lanka /Member |
| 18. Ms. Nirmala Sonali de Mel,            | Attorney-at-Law                                      |
| 19. Mr. Chrisantha Siriwardena,           | National Construction Association of Sri Lanka.      |

The fundamental responsibility of the Centre is to popularize the operation and practice of arbitration functioning as a facilitator, registrar and coordinator providing accommodation, secretarial services and other attendant facilities. Three fully air conditioned chambers are available for the conduct of sittings

with adequate modern comfortable seating along with suitable table arrangements. A lobby, pantry, washrooms and ample parking space for vehicles are the other additional facilities at hand. For instance, if five star hotel accommodations are requested for hearing of International Arbitrations, arrangements are made providing all services.

The Centre is fully operational with an efficient computerized Secretariat manned by the Registrar, Operations Officer and support staff for correspondence and accounts. Minor staffs are also employed. A pool of experienced English stenographers is available for speedy and accurate secretarial services if needed within 24 hours and normally documentation is done within 5 working days. The recording of the proceedings are taken in shorthand and taped by the use of electronic recorders. The services of Sinhala stenographers and Interpreters are also arranged when required.

Due to the current COVID 19 pandemic situation in the country, the Center has introduced virtual Zoom facilities and video conferencing to hear local and international Arbitrations for the convenience of our clients which has gained much popularity.

The documentation of the arbitral hearing is safely preserved and systematically maintained by the Registrar, and certified copies of these documents could be produced for Court hearings and similar purposes.

A singular and recognized achievement of the Centre is the timely dispatch of the records of proceedings to the Arbitrators, Counsel and parties, within a week from the date of sitting, ensuring accuracy, speed and complying with directions and instructions.

On an average the Centre conducts approximately 20 arbitration sittings per week and on a monthly basis the arbitration hearings total to a near 100

The Sri Lanka National Arbitration Centre has co-operation agreements with other arbitration centres.

Several new initiatives to make the arbitral process more efficient to assist the business community and the public to resolve commercial disputes and thereby the country to benefit by its dispute resolution mechanism is envisaged.

For further information or assistance you may contact:

Mr. Vino Jesudian  
Operations Manager

Registrar

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