

# **Commencing Arbitration at ICSID**

Meg Kinnear, Secretary-General, ICSID

November 16, 2012

Kiev Arbitration Days



### **ICSID PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Convention**

(Both disputing parties from ICSID Contracting States)

- Conciliation
- Arbitration

#### **Additional Facility**

(One disputing party from Contracting States)

- Conciliation
- Arbitration
- Fact-finding

#### **Other**

(Need not be from Contracting State)

- Case administration under other Rules or Treaties (e.g.: UNCITRAL investment cases; State-to-State cases)
- Other functions on consent of parties (e.g.: Fact-finding, Mediation)



#### SPECIAL FEATURES OF ICSID

- Self-contained
- Immunity for participants
- Cost-effective
- Expertise of Secretariat
- Transparent



# SPECIAL FEATURES OF ICSID - AWARDS

- State obligation to comply with awards
- Member States must recognize monetary awards without further process
- Monetary award enforceable as a final judgment in any Contracting State



# IS ICSID AVAILABLE? CONTRACT, TREATY OR LAW

Example of a BIT arbitration clause:

Article 25(1) U.S. Model BIT 2012

"Each Party consents to the submission of a claim to arbitration under this Section in accordance with this Treaty."



# **CONDITIONS FOR ICSID JURISDICTION - Article 25(1) of the ICSID Convention**

- Legal Dispute
- Arising Directly out of an Investment
- Between a Contracting State
- And National of another Contracting State
- Consent in Writing



### PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Budget
- Legal & client team
- Collect documents/identify witnesses
- Settlement considerations



# FILING THE REQUEST FOR ARBITRATION

- The process of filing a request is governed by the Institution Rules
- May be filed by the investor or the State (or in some circumstances a subdivision or agency of a State)
- A non-refundable lodging fee of 25,000 USD is paid by the requesting party



## CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED INFORMATION

- 1. Name and contact details of all parties
- 2. Nationality of the requesting party on the date of consent
- 3. Individual must confirm that he/she does not have the nationality of the State party to the dispute



### CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED INFORMATION

- 4. Company with host State nationality must evidence the parties' agreement to treat it as a national of another State
- 5. If one of the parties is a constituent subdivision or agency of a State, evidence that it has been designated to ICSID and that the State has approved its consent



### CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED INFORMATION

- 6. Date of consent and instrument(s) in which it is recorded
- 7. Information concerning the issues in dispute
- 8. Evidence that the requesting party has taken all necessary action to authorize the request
- 9. Power of Attorney for counsel



# ON RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FOR ARBITRATION:

- ICSID sends an acknowledgement to the requesting party
- ICSID transmits a copy of the Request to the other party after lodging fee is paid



### REVIEW OF THE REQUEST

- ICSID reviews the request
- The dispute is registered unless it is "manifestly outside" the jurisdiction of the Centre (Article 36(3) ICSID Convention)





### REGISTRATION OF A REQUEST

- The Secretary-General must issue a notice of registration or refuse to register
- Registration process usually takes less than 4 weeks
- No appeal against the registration decision



# No Agreement of the Parties – Timeline Article 38 of the ICSID Convention and Arbitration Rule 4(1)

• If the Tribunal is not constituted within 90 days after registration of the request, either party can request that the Chairman appoint the arbitrator(s) not yet appointed



### **ICSID**

1818 H Street N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20433

Tel: (202) 458-1534

Fax: (202) 522-2615

www.worldbank.org/icsid