



DR. ASEEL ZIMMO

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Being the senior advisor to the Chief Justice and the Minister of Justice in Bahrain allowed me to draft many legislations and regulations as well as develop the judicial court procedures. My work as an advisor has given a unique understanding of the working of the regional legal systems. I been working in the region for over 15 years.

Since 2017, I sat as an arbitrator in disputes under GCC Commercial Arbitration Centre rules as well as ad hoc and issued awards in both Arabic and English. I am a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

I completed an LLM from King's College London and PhD in international commercial arbitration from LSE. I am a qualified lawyer in both New York and Jordan and therefore familiar with both civil and common law systems. I regularly train practitioners in mediation and arbitration through the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute and spoke on panels in Dubai Arbitration Week and London International Disputes Week.

My experience includes:

As arbitrator:

- Ad hoc proceeding as a sole arbitrator relating to two construction contracts between a main and subcontractor for the construction of a multi-million-dollar island (final award rendered in English)
- Ad hoc proceeding as co- arbitrator relating industrial lease (final award rendered in Arabic)
- GCCAC proceedings (150/2022) as co- arbitrator relating commercial contract (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceeding as co- arbitrator relating commercial lease (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceeding as a sole arbitrator relating to management of a company (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceeding as a sole arbitrator relating to construction contracts between a main and subcontractor (case settled)
- Ad hoc proceeding as a presiding arbitrator relating to dispute between Telecommunication regulator and licensee (case settled)
- GCCAC proceedings (104/2017) as co- arbitrator relating commercial contract (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceeding as a sole arbitrator relating to construction contracts between a main and subcontractor (case settled)
- Ad hoc proceeding as a co-arbitrator relating to construction contracts between a employer and main for a multi-million- dollar project (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceeding as co- arbitrator relating commercial lease (final award rendered in Arabic)
- Ad hoc proceedings as co- arbitrator relating commercial contract (case settled)
- Ad hoc proceeding as co- arbitrator relating commercial lease (final award rendered in Arabic)

As counsel:

- Represented the government of Jordan in the largest PPP in Amman, worth US\$850 million
- Represented Municipality of Greater Amman in PPP projects such as the street furniture contract, IRBID vegetable market and GAM BRT as well as a \$166 million credit facility from AFD
- Represented one of the largest foreign investors in Jordan on Telecommunication Construction Project worth \$500 million
- Represented investor in due Diligence for global takeover of a major animal feed manufacturer worth \$1.9 billion

As tribunal Secretary:

- Construction Arbitration award \$20 million
- International Commercial arbitration award \$300 million
- Construction of Hospital arbitration award \$500 million
- Dam construction arbitration award \$10 million

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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| September 2015 – December 2023 | Judicial Strategy and Reform Advisor, Supreme Judicial Council, Bahrain |
| June 2018 – December 2023 | Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Justice, Bahrain |
| August 2012 – August 2015 | Legal Consultant, Middle East & North Africa Division, American Bar Association Gulf Rule of Law Initiative, Bahrain |
| September 2011 – December 2013 | General Counsel, Mulberry Consulting Group, New York, USA |
| January 2008 – September 2011 | Senior Associate, A&T Najdawi Law Office, Amman, Jordan |
| 2008 – 2009 & 2002 – 2006 | Assistant Lawyer, Law and Arbitration Center, Amman, Jordan |
| January 2004 – December 2004 | Assistant Lawyer, M.E, Bundukji & Associates, Amman, Jordan |
| 1998 – 2008 | Paralegal, Various Law firms, London, UK |

EXPERIENCE IN ACADEMIA

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| September 2021- January 2023 | Assistance Professor in commercial law, Bahrain American University, Bahrain |
| January 2013 – June 2017 | Assistance Professor in civil and commercial law, Royal Women University, Bahrain |
| February 2014 – August 2017 | Assistance Professor in commercial law, University of Bahrain, Bahrain |
| 2005 – 2008 | Commercial Law Lecturer and LLM Advisor, London School of Economics, UK |

EDUCATION

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| 2004-2008 | PhD, Law, London School of Economics, ‘Competing Rationalities: The evolution of arbitration in commercial disputes in modern Jordan’ |
| 2005-2007 | Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education, London School of Economics |
| 2001-2002 | LLM, Kings College London, including Law of International Finance and International Construction: Contracts and Arbitration |
| 1997-2001 | LLB (Hons), Brunel University |

PUBLICATIONS

- “Women Employment Rights in the GCC” presented at International Women’s Day Celebration at Royal Women University, April 2013
- “Wasta in Jordan: A distinct feature of (and benefit for) Middle Eastern Society” Arab Law Quarterly (2008) Vol. 22 No. 1 p. 35
- “Sulh: A Crucial part of Islamic Arbitration” in LSE Law, Society and Economy Working Paper Series, July 2008