



Georgian Association of Arbitrators Action Plan for 2018

Table of Contents

Introduction and Background	2
Action Plan for 2018	3
I. Accreditation System.....	3
II. Web-page and Facebook update	3
III. Drafting of Consumer Arbitration Guidelines.....	4
IV. Cycle of Meetings.....	4
V. MoU with GAA: Electronic Journal	4
VI. PR Strategy	5
VII. Arbitration Statistics	5
VIII. Disciplinary Commission	5
IX. Regional Workshops	6

Introduction and Background

Georgian Association of Arbitrators (GAA) is a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity founded in 2013. GAA aims to raise public trust in and awareness of arbitration, create a continuing education system for arbitrators, and establish efficient self-regulatory mechanism for arbitrators. This shall contribute to the development of arbitration as an effective mode of dispute resolution in Georgia. GAA adopted the Code of Ethics for arbitrators in Georgia in 2013, and subsequently the Charter on the Disciplinary Responsibility of Arbitrators and the Disciplinary Procedures in 2017. It submitted initiatives on the amendment of the law of Georgia on arbitration in 2015, held up to 10 conferences for its members, organized 4 workshops with judges, translated into Georgian the IBA Guidelines on Conflict of Interest and the Rules on the Taking of Evidence in International Arbitration.

In 2018 GAA adopted a new charter which provides new opportunities for GAA's sustainable and systemic development.

GAA's essential priority for 2018 is to establish an accreditation system for arbitrators and design continuing education for its members. The qualitative development as well as quantitative enlargement is major focus point for the organization.

Action Plan for 2018

I. Accreditation System for arbitrators

Description: One of the main goals of GAA is to serve as a union of qualified professionals who individually as well as jointly will develop the field. Establishing an accreditation system shall assure the creation of arbitration quality standards, increasing the number of professional arbitrators and developing the arbitration community in Georgia.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
• Drafting accreditation scheme	April-July 2018
• Creating continuing education modules	April-July 2018
• International Expertise of the accreditation scheme and continuing education modules	August 2018
• Presentation of the accreditation scheme and continuing education modules	September 2018

II. Web-page and Facebook update

Description: Ultimately, a website as well as Facebook page, is one of the most important platforms for introducing an organisation to public. Keeping the website and Facebook updated plays a significant role in the success of the organisation. Therefore, GAA has upgraded these platforms and their features for better engagement of online visitors.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
• Updating Georgian, English and Russian Version of the web page	March-December 2018
• Updating Facebook page	March-December 2018

III. Drafting of Consumer Arbitration Guidelines

Description: Consumer arbitration guidelines are important means for informing the consumers, assuring minimum standards for procedural justice and increasing trust in arbitration. GAA starts working to produce consumer arbitration guidelines.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaborating principles for consumer arbitration guidelines 	March-December 2018

IV. Cycle of Meetings

Description: Consumers of and stakeholders in arbitration represent a wide scope of community. It is crucial for GAA to have a direct communication with these communities in order to keep them up to date about arbitration news and GAA’s work in general. The cycle of meetings with different interest groups will help GAA introduce the organization, gather information about consumers’ and stakeholders’ needs and establish collaboration with the groups for the sake of mutual benefit.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of managing board with law firms; 	March-December 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of managing board with judges; 	March-December 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of managing board with business associations; 	March-December 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of managing board with law faculties; 	March-December 2018

V. MoU with GAA: Electronic Journal

Description: GAA is planning to conclude the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with Arbitration Initiative Georgia for future cooperation and joint activities. One of the most important aspect of the collaboration shall be launching the Electronic Journal on recent ADR matters. The Journal will focus on key issues of international arbitration, reviews, case law analyses, as well as relevant national developments.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concluding of the MoU; 	April, 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching the electronic journal; 	September, 2018

The Journal shall be essential reading for anyone involved in commercial dispute resolution - whether as international arbitrator, party representative, mediator, adjudicator or in-house lawyer.

VI. PR Strategy

Description: For the development of GAA it is of utmost importance to raise public awareness about an arbitration and the work and plans of the GAA in general. Elaborating the GAA's PR Strategy shall insure consistent promotion of an arbitration and the organization activities as a whole.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting GAA's PR Strategy 	February-March 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of arbitration and GAA 	March-December 2018

VII. Arbitration Statistics

Description: Arbitration has been actively developing in Georgia over the last two decades. In order to have a full picture of challenges and trends of the field, it is essential to gather statistical data on an annual basis.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishing annual statistics 	May 2018/December 2018

VIII. Disciplinary Commission

Description: The General Meeting of GAA adopted the 'Charter on the Disciplinary Responsibility of Arbitrators and Disciplinary Procedures'. The document establishes the types of responsibilities and the rules of their appliance in case of a breach of the Code of Ethics. The document aims to maintain high ethical standards among arbitrators. GAA plans to elect the members – an organ which will capable of adjudicating the cases.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="272 268 1117 352">• Electing members of the Disciplinary Commission 	March 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="272 363 1117 436">• Trainings for newly elected members of the Commission 	April 2018

IX. Regional Workshops

Description: Sharing an institutional knowledge with lawyers is one of key components for long-term success. GAA plans to conduct regional workshops to discuss the relevant peculiarities of arbitration with lawyers working in the regions (outside the capital city) of Georgia.

Key Milestones	Milestone Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="272 848 1117 884">• Conducting regional workshops 	March 2018