

SCCA unveils new board

Alison Ross

03 March 2025



Shutterstock, Chaudhary Umair Ahmad

The Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration – SCCA – has reformed its board of directors, which remains led by **Walid Abanumay** as chairman and **Toby Landau KC** as vice chair.

The centre announced during Riyadh International Disputes Week that a royal decree had been issued reconstituting the 10-strong board for the fourth time since the centre's creation in 2014. The newly formed board replaces a board announced in 2021. Its members will serve until February 2028.

Saudi national Abanumay, who continues to lead the board, is chairman of the Abanumay Industrial Company and director of the Samba Financial Group, which is listed on the Saudi stock exchange, and two investment companies listed on the Egypt stock exchange. He also serves on the boards of unlisted companies across the world.

He has a PhD in business administration from Southern Illinois University, where he majored in finance.

He is assisted by vice chair Landau, a British arbitration practitioner who has been in private practice at the English bar since 1994 and at the Singapore bar since 2017, operating originally from Essex Court Chambers in London and now from Duxton Hill Chambers in Singapore.

Other board members who stay in place are: **Georges Affaki**, a French-Syrian practitioner, professor of law at the University of Paris II, justice of the Qatar International Court and an ICSID arbitrator who has served on the ICC Court of Arbitration for two terms; **Abby Cohen Smutny**, a US practitioner and the Washington, DC-based global head of international arbitration at White & Case; **Mohamed Abdel Raouf**, an Egyptian practitioner, head of international arbitration at Abdel Raouf Law Firm in Cairo and associate professor at University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne; **Saud Al-Ammari**, a Harvard-educated Saudi lawyer and arbitrator, former general attorney at Saudi Aramco and legal advisor to the Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral resources; and **Abdullah Alajlan**, a former Saudi judge and shariah compliance officer at Bank Al-Bilad who is now partner and head of litigation and dispute resolution at Clifford Chance's Saudi joint venture partner AS&H Law Firm in Riyadh.

Three new board members include French-Chinese arbitrator **Jingzhou Tao** and Saudis **Abdulaziz Mohammed Al-Subeaei** and **Musaab Al Muhaidib**.

Tao is a Beijing-based arbitrator operating through Arbitration Chambers and former partner or managing partner at law firms including Coudert Brothers, DLA Piper, Jones Day and Dechert. He has arbitrated over 200 cases at major institutions and is a member of the advisory committee of CIETAC and the international advisory committee of the HKIAC. He has also appeared in the Paris Court of Appeal.

He is assistant professor at Peking University Law School, Tsinghua University School of Law and of the MBA programme at China University of Political Science and Law. He is also vice chairman of the IBA Arbitration Committee.

Al-Subeaei, who has a bachelor's degree in administration from King Saud University in Riyadh, is board member of Mohammed Alsubeaei & Sons Investment Company (MASIC), vice chairman of Jadwa Investment Company and board member of Fajr Capital Company.

Al Muhaidib, who has a masters in business administration from the University of Liverpool, is a member of the board of directors of the Al Muhaidib Group (AMG), a general trading company set up by his family that branched into food, manufacturing, building materials, real estate and construction. He is CEO of its entertainment department.

Both Saudis are also on the board of other profit and non-profit organisations in Saudi Arabia.

The three new board members replace three Saudis who are retiring: **Sulyman Abdulaziz Almajed**, chairman of the board of directors of Maharah Human Resources Company and board member of various Saudi investment companies; **Abdullah Al Hashim**, a partner at AL-Jadaan & Partners Law Firm in Riyadh and former director of legal affairs at Saudi Electricity Company; and **Ali Al Sowailam**, an arbitrator and law firm founder in Riyadh.

Previous boards of the SCCA were constituted in 2014 (two years before the centre's official launch) and in 2017.

Riyadh International Disputes Week took place from 23 to 27 February.

Alison Ross

alison.ross@lbresearch.com

[View full biography](#)

Copyright © Law Business Research Company Number: 03281866 VAT: GB 160 7529 10