



محكمة قطر الدولية
ومركز تسوية المنازعات
QATAR INTERNATIONAL COURT
AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTRE

PRACTICE DIRECTION ON ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

(No. 1 of 2023)

Power to Issue Practice Directions

1. This Practice Direction is issued pursuant to article 37.2 of the Regulations and Procedural Rules of the Court and article 26.2 of the Regulations and Procedural Rules of the Regulatory Tribunal.

Access to Documents and Confidentiality

2. The Registrar may, unless the parties to the case make an application to the Court to the contrary at any time up to 14 days after the expiry of the time for filing a defence, answer any request by a person other than the parties for the provision of the names of the parties to the proceedings.
3. Until the commencement of the trial, the pleadings and other documents filed with the Court or exchanged between the parties remain confidential, subject to exceptional circumstances when an application may be made to the Court. The documents in relation to proceedings in the Tribunal will at all times remain confidential.
4. At the hearing of the trial, the documents before the Court will remain confidential, subject to the power of the Court, of its own motion or at the request of the parties or any other person, to provide to any person other than the parties such documents as it considers may be necessary to understand the proceedings before the Court. The documents before the Tribunal will remain confidential save as to what is said during the hearing or in the published decision.
5. At any time whether prior to the commencement of the hearing of the trial or after the conclusion of the trial, the Court or Tribunal may on the application of a party or of its own



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motion seal the relevant court file for such period of time and on such terms as the Court or Tribunal considers appropriate.

6. Within 6 months after the publication of the judgment in any case before the Court or Tribunal, the Court or Tribunal may, on the application of any party or any person, make available such documents as the Court or Tribunal considers, in the interests of justice, it is appropriate to provide.
7. Notwithstanding the provisions of any rule or practice direction, the Qatar Financial Centre Authority ('QFCA') and the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority ('QFCRA') may apply to the Court or Tribunal for the provision to the QFCA or the QFCRA for the purpose of the discharge of their regulatory duties of:
 - i. further details in respect of the parties to any case;
 - ii. information about the timeline of the proceedings; and
 - iii. the pleadings filed with the Court/Tribunal.

Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd
President of the Qatar International Court

Sir William Blair
Chairman of the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Tribunal

1 July 2023