



PRACTICE DIRECTION ON THREE-JUDGE PANELS

Adopted at the Fourth Plenary Meeting in New York
pursuant to art. 36.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Dispute Tribunal

1. The purpose of this Practice Direction is to assist the parties in understanding the Dispute Tribunal's procedures concerning consideration of a case by a three-judge Panel. See, in particular, art. 10.9 of the Statute and art. 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Tribunal.
2. The information contained in this Practice Direction is subject to the Dispute Tribunal's Statute and Rules of Procedure, or any direction given by a Judge in a particular case.
3. A judge may request the President of the Dispute Tribunal (President) to seek authorization from the President of the Appeals Tribunal to refer the case to a panel of three judges (panel).
4. Upon receiving the authorization and after consultation with the judges, the President will make an Order appointing the panel members. If the concerned case is assigned to the President, the other full-time judge at the President's duty station will appoint the members.
5. The judge to whom the case is assigned shall act as the presiding member of the panel.
6. Following the appointment of the panel members, the panel shall decide on the most appropriate means of deciding any interlocutory matter.
7. All panel members shall be physically present during the oral hearing on the merits and subsequent deliberations.
8. Judgments of the panel will be drafted by the presiding member and will be signed by all members.