In Focus - Litigation

March 2011

Resolving disputes is a vital component of corporate risk management and strategy. The speed and force of commercial globalization and the unprecedented expansion and growth of the Middle East market is resulting in increasing numbers of domestic and cross-border disputes, which require high quality, strategic and coordinated advice and expertise.

Al Tamimi & Company boasts the largest, strongest and broadest dispute resolution practice in the Middle East. Our team comprises dispute resolution lawyers based in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait and Iraq with experience resolving disputes in the UAE courts of each of the Emirates, as well as the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts that is second to none.

Led by Hassan Arab who is one of the leading and most respected dispute resolution practitioners in the region, our team of highly qualified and experienced practitioners from the Middle East, Europe, Australia, Africa and North America brings a breadth and depth of legal expertise and experience that is unequalled in the UAE and Gulf. Our lawyers include a team of UAE nationals with rights of audience to appear before all Courts of law in the UAE as well as a number of solicitors and barristers qualified in other jurisdictions registered to appear before the DIFC Courts.

The teams' success is recognised by the leading independent directories, Legal 500 and Chambers, who place the UAE Dispute Resolution practice in Tier 1. Chambers Global in 2010 stated "This firm has a practically unmatched dispute resolution capacity in the Middle East" whilst Legal 500 said "Al Tamimi & Company has a great reputation for local court work and a number of really good practitioners."

Our clients rely on our global perspective and our in-depth knowledge and understanding of local and regional laws. We advise and represent clients involved in local, DIFC, regional and international commercial disputes. Our familiarity with federal and local government, federal and local laws, the laws and regulations of the Free Zones, and with the many Courts and tribunals operating across the UAE, enables our clients to conduct their affairs with increased certainty and efficiency.

In addition to the UAE litigation practice, Al Tamimi has one of the largest and leading DIFC Courts practice groups in the UAE led by Rita Jaballah. Al Tamimi was actively involved in the establishment of the DIFC Courts and we sit on the DIFC Courts' Users' Committee and DIFC Court Rules Sub-Committee. To date we have been involved in some of the leading DIFC Court of First Instance and the DIFC Court of Appeal cases to come before the DIFC Courts.

What distinguishes Al Tamimi & Company's Dispute Resolution practice from others, though, is that, as part of the local community, we understand the local culture. Emphasis on local knowledge and abilities has been and will continue to be a key characteristic of the practice. Having international skills and talent while remaining a local firm is one of the pillars of our success.

For more information please contact:

Hassan Arab Head of UAE Litigation p: +97143641723 E: h.arab@tamimi.com

Rita Jaballah Head of DIFC Litigation p: 97143641526

E: <u>r.jaballah@tamimi.com</u>