



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

Guidance on Skeleton Arguments

1. Skeleton arguments provided to the Court before trial are an integral part of the process. They will allow the Court – who have already received pleadings and E-Bundles (which will have included witness statements, disclosure etc) – to have the main points a party wishes to raise at trial in a single document.
2. A skeleton argument is intended to identify both for the parties and the Court those points which are, and are not, in issue and the nature of the argument in relation to the points in issue.
3. A skeleton argument is not a script and lawyers should be prepared fully to argue each proposition.
4. It must:
 - a. Make it clear what is sought.
 - b. Identify concisely:
 - i. The case of the party in question, and must only cite background facts where they are relevant to the issues before the Court.
 - ii. The legal points that the party wishes to raise with reference to the legislation and caselaw.
 - iii. The propositions of fact that the party intends to be made with references to the evidence (and cross-referenced to the E-Bundles).
5. It must not contain:
 - a. Protracted recitation of the case for the particular party.
 - b. Protracted quotation from or other reproduction of the evidence.
 - c. Protracted citation from legislation or the authorities. Any citations from legislation or the authorities must be as brief as possible and should be restricted to the relevant sections to which it is intended to draw the Court's attention at an oral hearing.

6. The following formatting standards must be followed for a skeleton argument:
- a. The document must be in numbered paragraphs and state the name of the lawyer who prepared it, along with the date of its completion at the end.
 - b. The document must be prepared in Times New Roman font size 12, with 1.5 sized-spaces between each line.
 - c. It must comply with the limits on length as directed by the Court.
 - d. The document must be provided to the Court both in MS Word and in PDF form.
7. The guidance above is subject to any order that the Court may make in a particular case.

Qatar International Court

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