

SCMA SMALL CLAIMS PROCEDURE

Did you know that Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration has an expedited Small Claims Procedure?
Here are **10 facts** about this Procedure.



Auto-application

If parties agree to SCMA Arbitration and the claim is within the threshold amount, the Small Claims Procedure **automatically applies**, unless otherwise agreed.

Threshold Amount

Currently fixed at **USD 150,000**. However, parties are free to use this procedure for larger claims as well.



Number of Arbitrators

Default position for this procedure is for a **sole arbitrator** to be appointed unless otherwise agreed, thereby saving costs for the parties.

Time Abridgement

Time Limit for submitting case statements is **14 days**, which ensures efficiency.



Oral Hearings

Default position is **no oral hearing**, unless required by the Tribunal. Oral hearings are meant only for arguments and not evidence.

Award

To be made within **21 days** of receiving all the case statements or closure of oral hearing.



Arbitrator's Fees

Capped at **USD 5,000** or in the event of a counterclaim, **USD 8,000**.

Recoverable Costs

Capped at **USD 7,000** or in the event of a counterclaim, **USD 10,000**.



Efficiency

Over the last 10 years, the average duration for Small Claims cases from commencement of arbitration to the final award has been **16 weeks** and the average time from appointing an arbitrator to final award has been just **9 weeks**.

Possible Raising of Threshold

We are considering increasing the threshold for Small Claims cases to **USD 400,000**. If this happens, the capped fees and costs may be adjusted accordingly.



**SCMA delivers a Commercially Focused,
Independent & Neutral and Cost-Effective
resolution to your Maritime and Trade Disputes**