**Time-Framed Process for Arbitration of Construction Disputes**

**Main Table**

| **Step** | **Stage / Question** | **Code** | **Time Frame** | **Action / Outcome** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Initiation of Arbitration | A1 | 1–2 weeks | Claimant submits Notice of Arbitration; respondent acknowledges receipt. |
| 2 | Appointment of Arbitrator(s) | A2 | 2–4 weeks | Parties nominate arbitrators; if no agreement, institution appoints. |
| 3 | Preliminary Meeting / Case Management Conference | A3 | 1–2 weeks after appointment | Tribunal + parties set timetable, rules, disclosure scope, preliminary issues. |
| 4 | Statement of Claim | A4 | 2–4 weeks after preliminary meeting | Claimant submits detailed statement (facts, legal arguments, evidence). |
| 5 | Statement of Defense & Counterclaim | A5 | 4–6 weeks after claim | Respondent files defense, addresses allegations, and any counterclaims. |
| 6 | Reply by Claimant | A6 | 2–3 weeks after defense | Claimant replies to defense/counterclaim. |
| 7 | Rejoinder by Respondent | A7 | 2–3 weeks after reply | Respondent files rejoinder addressing claimant’s reply. |
| 8 | Document Production & Disclosure | A8 | 4–8 weeks | Parties exchange documents; tribunal sets deadlines for requests/objections. |
| 9 | Interim Measures / Preliminary Applications (if applicable) | A9 | As needed (parallel) | Parties may apply for interim relief; tribunal decides. |
| 10 | Exchange of Witness Statements & Expert Reports | A10 | 4–6 weeks before hearing | Parties submit witness statements and expert reports. |
| 11 | Pre-Hearing Conference | A11 | 1–2 weeks before hearing | Tribunal + parties finalize logistics, procedure, translations, schedules. |
| 12 | Arbitration Hearing | A12 | 1–2 weeks (depending on complexity) | Oral arguments, witness testimonies, cross-examination, expert evidence. |
| 13 | Post-Hearing Submissions | A13 | 2–4 weeks after hearing | Parties may file briefs or summaries as requested. |
| 14 | Tribunal Deliberation & Drafting of Award | A14 | 6–12 weeks after hearing | Tribunal deliberates and prepares draft award. |
| 15 | Issuance of Final Award | A15 | 1–2 weeks after deliberation | Tribunal issues binding award with written reasons. |
| 16 | Correction or Clarification of Award (if requested) | A16 | 2–4 weeks after award | Parties may seek corrections/clarifications; tribunal responds. |
| 17 | Enforcement or Challenge (if applicable) | A17 | Varies (1–3 months typical) | Winning party seeks enforcement; losing party may challenge under law. |

**Summary Timeline**

| **Stage** | **Duration** |
| --- | --- |
| Pre-Arbitration Phase | 1–2 months |
| Pre-Hearing Stage | 3–4 months |
| Hearing Phase | 1–2 weeks |
| Award Phase | 1–2 months |
| Post-Award Phase | Varies |

**Notes & Explanations**

1. **Flexibility** – Timelines can shift depending on case complexity, rules of the arbitration institution (ICC, AAA, etc.), and jurisdictional requirements.
2. **Automatic Updates** – A rule-based expert system should dynamically update deadlines as submissions and rulings occur.
3. **Alerts & Notifications** – Automated reminders are critical to avoid missed deadlines and procedural breaches.
4. **Record Keeping** – Every procedural step (notices, submissions, tribunal orders) should be logged for transparency and accountability.
5. **Complex Cases** – Multi-party disputes, heavy document production, or numerous interim applications may extend the process up to **18 months or more**.
6. **Endpoints** – The process concludes either with enforcement of the award or with appeal/challenge proceedings, depending on jurisdiction.