Summary of BI (No. 5) v. The World Bank Group (Preliminary Objection), Decision No. 564 [2017]

The Applicant challenged the denial of her claim under the World Bank Group's Workers' Compensation Program.

In February 2014 the Applicant filed a Workers' Compensation Claim seeking benefits under Staff Rule 6.11. On 18 September 2014, the Claims Administrator denied the Applicant's claim finding that the Applicant's alleged illness did not arise as a direct result of her employment. On 4 November 2014, the Applicant requested reconsideration of the denial of her claim by the Claims Administrator. The request for reconsideration was denied by the Claims Administrator on 12 December 2014.

On 27 January 2015, the Applicant filed a Request for Administrative Review with the Workers' Compensation Administrative Review Panel (ARP). On 1 October 2015, the ARP affirmed the determination of the Claims Administrator and denied the Applicant's claim, finding that "the evidence in this case fails to establish that the conditions of which the Claimant complains were either caused by or arose out of her employment."

On 2 October 2015 the Applicant received notice of the decision of the ARP by email and on 5 October by mail. On 26 July 2016 the Applicant filed an Application with the Tribunal.

The Tribunal addressed the Respondent's preliminary objection in this judgment. The Tribunal held that the Applicant's challenge to the ARP decision was not filed in a timely manner and the delay was not excused by exceptional circumstances. Her Application should have been filed within 120 days from the date that she received notice of the ARP decision to deny her Workers' Compensation claim.

Decision: The Tribunal found that since the Applicant filed her Application more than five months after the deadline, her Application was inadmissible.