



## COURT ANNEXED MEDIATION: SUCSESSES, CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES

### 20 and 21 JULY 2016 CONFERENCE

With litigation becoming increasingly costly and time consuming access to justice is denied to the majority of South Africans, particularly poor and marginalised communities. Mediation offers parties an option to resolve disputes expeditiously. This gives parties ownership of the outcome of the dispute and restricts the number of cases inflicted upon an overburdened judiciary. The overall objective of the conference is to promote mediation and specifically to support the Department of Justice's court annexed mediation project.

Papers are to be presented by speakers from Africa and Australia where successful court annexed mediation processes have been implemented. A further conference aim is to learn about best practices in these countries in order to improve court annexed mediation in South Africa.

The following aspects will be discussed and debated :

- Why we have court annexed mediation in South Africa and what the Rules require
- A critique of the South African Court Annexed Mediation Rules
- Lessons from Africa (Namibia, Nigeria and Uganda)
- Lessons from Australia
- Enhancing quality – regulation of the mediation profession
- Mediation and the legal profession

The conference is aimed at practitioners working in the fields of mediation, arbitration and conciliation, attorneys and advocates, academics, and justice system employees.

#### Confirmed speakers include:

- Mr Kehinde Aina, Partner, Aina Blankson LP, Nigeria
- Professor Laurence Boulle, Australian Catholic University
- Mr John Brand, Director, Conflict Dynamics
- Dr Mohamed Alli Chicktay, Senior Lecturer, Wits School of Law
- Deputy Chief Justice Tileinge Damaseb, Supreme Court of Namibia
- Dr Wesahl Domingo, Associate Professor, Wits School of Law
- Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire, Judge East African Court of Justice (Appellate Division)
- Adv Hendrik Kotze, Chair, South African Dispute Settlement Accreditation Council (DiSAC)
- Mr Steve Lancken, Mediator, Steve Lancken Negocio Resolutions, Australia
- Dr Shaheda Mahomed, Adjunct Professor, Wits School of Law
- Adv Afzal Mosam, Johannesburg Bar
- Ms Thandi Orleyn, Chairperson, Tokiso Dispute Settlement
- Mr Ebrahim Patelia, Director, Patelia Attorneys
- Judge Cassim Sardiwalla, Chairperson, Minister's Advisory Committee on Court Annexed Mediation
- Ms Varsha Sewlal, Project Leader (Transformation of State Legal Services), Department of Justice
- Ms Felicity Steadman, Director, Conflict Dynamics
- Mr Nic Swart, Director: Legal Education and Development, Law Society of South Africa.

**Date and Time:** Wednesday 20 July and Thursday 21 July 2016, 08h00 – 16h30

#### Cost:

**REGISTRATION FROM 13 JUNE – 30 JUNE 2016** is R3250 per delegate.

10% discount applies for 3 or more people registering from the same organisation.

Candidate attorneys and registered students qualify for a 50% discount.

**Closing date** for registration is 30 June 2016.

The conference will be held at the **Chalsty Teaching and Conference Centre, Law School Building, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.**

The conference is endorsed by DiSAC (the South African Dispute Settlement Accreditation Council).

**Please contact** 011 7178468 or [Mandela-Institute-Events@wits.ac.za](mailto:Mandela-Institute-Events@wits.ac.za) to register for this conference.

#### Conference Benefits

Participation in the conference will provide you with an opportunity to network, to influence policy changes and define the future of mediation in the court annexed system.

