#### PNG CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION FOR

#### **MEDIATION & COMMERCIAL LAW**



By Ambeng Kandakasi, CBE Deputy Chief Justice

### WORLD TRENDS

- Modern forms of ADR & Mediatin
   Started in the USA
- UN General Secretary 's Circular
- EU Directive
- Others
  - Canada
  - Australia
  - New Zealand
  - PNG

# ADR Drivers Delays & Backlogs



Delay + Costs = Losses & endings



# Too costly



Self help takes over = victims



## Winners & losers a constant reality



## **Mediation - PNG Experience**



# Mediation - PNG style



# PNG's Mediation Experience

- Chief Justice and Judges led based on
  - Legislation & Rules
    - Order 2, Rule 2 (3) (b)
  - Judicial pronouncements & case law
  - Training & awareness
  - Support facilities and resources
  - Over 157 Mediators

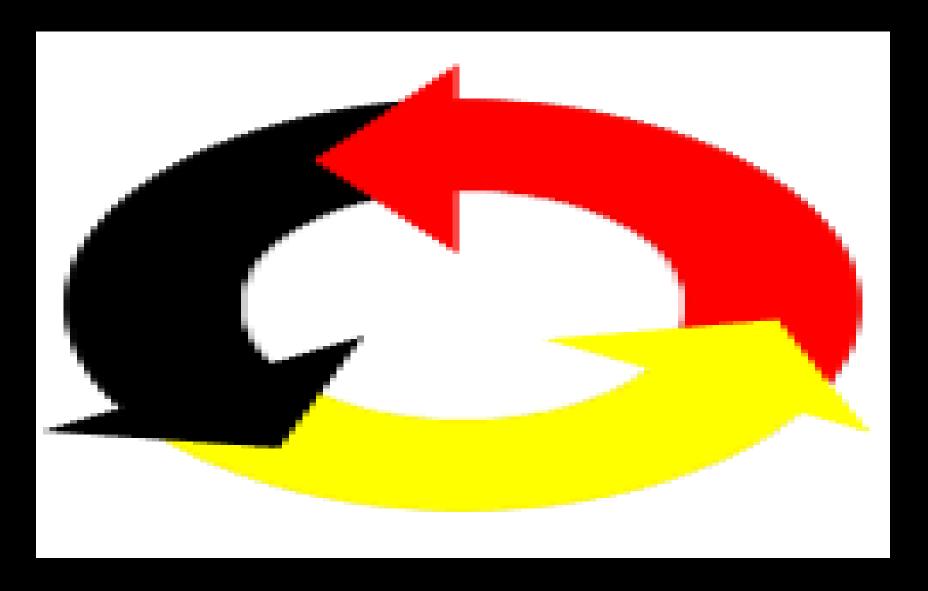
#### Feedback from users

- Sample survey of 96 users said:
- 73.33% increased trust and confidence in the court system;
- 98.80% Courts should support and use mediation more;
- 97.44% mediation was safe, comfortable, user friendly and more secure;
- 95.79% use mediation again;

#### Feedback from users cont'd

- 98.97% recommend mediation to others;
- 93.94 % assisted in identifying the real issues;
- 97.89 % assisted in understanding the other party's views well;
- 92.78% gave them opportunities to develop options for settlement;
- Costs saved, funds freed up and value of projects affected ran into millions of Kina or dollars.

# Finality an elusive dream



# Clients' preferences



## Many ways to Justice









#### **Consequence of overloading**



## Consider

#### FORMAL COURTS

- ✓ Impartial
- ✓ Fair
- > Prompt??
- Less costs ??
- > Equality in:
  - Access??
  - Participation??
- ➤ Finality ??

#### **MEDIATION**

- ✓ Impartial
- ✓ Fair
- ✓ Prompt
- ✓ Less costs
- ✓ Equal in:
  - ✓ Access
  - **✓** Participation
- ✓ Finality

# Mediation & ADR Friends Ready to Share and Lighten Our Burdens

#### **Courts**

- Interpretation of:
  - Statutory
  - Contract
  - Other documents
- Precedent setting
- Conflicting authorities
- Public sanction
- Protective orders
- Preliminary Issues

#### **Mediation**

• Every thing missing on the Courts' list

#### Result

- No delays
- Prompt resolutions
- No backlog
- Less costs
- Less harm and less damage
- Equality in:
  - Access to justice
  - Participation
- Finality

- Confidence and trust
- Better choice
- Better outcomes
- More time for:
  - Business
  - Nation building
- Peaceful nations world and peoples

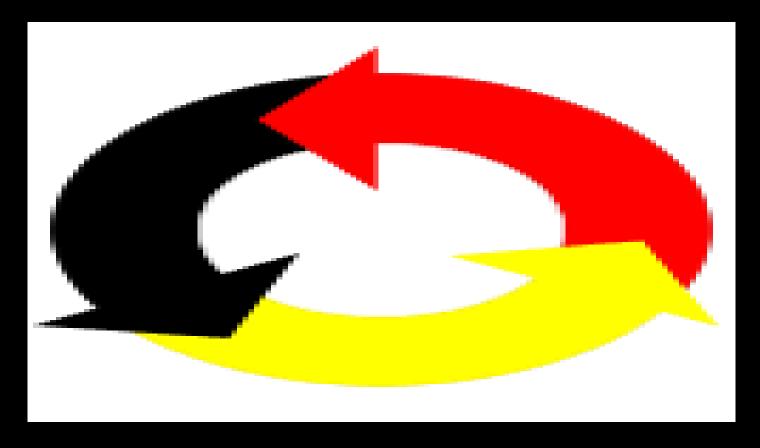
#### **Broader Role – Peace & Nation Builders**



## Conclusion

- Mediation process/tools to share and lighten our burdens.
- Courts, lawyers & parties use them to their advantage
- Failure to use mediation & ADR
- = Decision to retain delays, back logs and associated problems.
- Commercial lawyers in better place to encourage and enable clients to use mediation & ADR more.

### Be rest assured



Its about doing our jobs smartly and being on top of our lists