



Office Instruction Number ... of 2017
(Issued under Article 133 (1) (b) of the Constitution)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CIVIL PROCEDURE

REVIEW COMMITTEE

1.0. Introduction and Background

The Civil Procedure Rules have been identified by various stakeholders and the Case Backlog Reduction Report (2017) as one of the major causes of delay, case backlog and the high cost of civil justice. The Rules have also been blamed for promoting protracted trials, uncertainty and for failing to limit the abuse of interim orders and exploitation of the vulnerable. The Civil Procedure Rules are handmaidens of justice instead of being a bar to sound administration of justice and it is, therefore, important, that they are reviewed to facilitate the expeditious disposal of cases through reducing steps in litigation, preventing wastage of judicial time, promoting effective case management, simplification and effective allocation of scarce resources.

2.0. Establishment of the committee

The Civil Procedure Review Committee hereinafter called the "Committee" is hereby established.

3.0. Terms of Reference:-

The Committee shall review the Civil Procedure Rules with the overall objective of:

- (a) Expediting the disposal of civil cases;
- (b) Ensuring adequate preparation of cases before trial;
- (c) Reducing delay of cases and maximising judicial time;
- (d) Re-engineering business processes for civil justice;
- (e) Improving access to justice for unrepresented litigants;
- (f) Simplifying the procedures and practices;
- (g) Improving and streamlining case management;
- (h) Prevent abuse of interim orders;
- (i) Giving judicial officers greater powers to expeditiously dispose of cases and administer substantive justice;
- (j) Reviewing the powers of Registrars; and
- (k) Carrying out any other functions as may be assigned to the Committee by the Chief Justice.

4.0. Composition of the Committee

The committee will be comprised of the following persons:

- (i) The Hon. The Principal Judge, Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine - Chairperson
- (ii) Hon. Justice Egonda -Ntende (Justice of the Court of Appeal) – Deputy Chairperson
- (iii) Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire (Justice of Court of Appeal) – Member
- (iv) Hon. Justice D.K. Wangutusi (Judge of the High Court) – Member
- (v) Hon. Justice Stephen Musota (Judge of the High Court) – Member

- (vi) Hon. Justice Christopher Madrama (Judge of the High Court) – Member
- (vii) Hon. Justice Flavia Senoga Anglin (Judge of the High Court) – Member
- (viii) Hon. Justice Andrew Bashaija (Judge of the High Court) – Member
- (ix) Hon. Justice Patricia Basaza Waswa (Judge of the High Court) – Member
- (x) Mr. Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa (Chief Registrar) – Member
- (xi) The President Uganda Law Society – Member
- (xii) The Director Civil Litigation, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs – Member
- (xiii) Ms. Sarah Langa (Deputy Registrar) – Secretary
- (xiv) Mr. Andrew Khaukha (Technical Advisor Judiciary)- Resource/ Technical Person

5.0. Methodology

The Committee shall review the report of the Committee to review Civil and Criminal Laws impacting on the administration of justice and the report of the Committee on review of Interim Orders. In addition, the Committee may refer to previous studies on the Civil Procedure Rules, carry out field studies, consultations, focused group discussions, desk studies and the Hon. Justice J.W.N. Tsekooko (Rtd JSC), the Consultant engaged by the Judiciary to review Civil and Criminal laws impacting on the administration of justice.

6.0. Duration of the Assignment

The Committee will carry out the assignment in sixty days except that the Chief Justice may extend the time.

7.0. Deliverables

The Committee shall make the following deliverables:

- An interim report covering the Committee's work for the first month.
- End term report with draft amendments to the Civil Procedure Rules.

8.0. Reporting

The Committee shall report to the Hon. The Chief Justice.

9.0. Funding

The Permanent Secretary/Secretary to the Judiciary shall provide adequate resources to facilitate the work of the Committee.

This Office Instruction is issued this *21st* day of *July* 2017.



Bart M Katureebe

CHIEF JUSTICE