



**UPDATED INVITATION TO ATTEND
AN IN-PERSON WORKSHOP ON PROJECT 94: ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
RESOLUTION - A MEDIATION ACT FOR SOUTH AFRICA
FOCUSSING ON
COMMUNITY MEDIATION
facilitated by the South African Law Reform Commission in
Durban on 5 May 2025, and
Polokwane on 22 May 2025
from 9h00 to 14h00**

The South African Law Reform Commission (the Commission) cordially invites you to attend an in-person workshop on the Project 94: Discussion Paper 168 Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Mediation Act for South Africa and the draft Mediation Bill contained therein.

The aim of the discussion paper and draft Mediation Bill is to regulate civil, commercial and community mediation. The draft generic Bill seeks to minimise citizen frustration and delays in justice delivery by providing a standard legal framework for the fair and efficient settlement of disputes through mediation; promote and encourage mediation as an appropriate method of dispute resolution; afford parties the opportunity to resolve their disputes expeditiously and cost-effectively; provide for the regulation of the mediator profession; provide for the regulation of the procedure for the referral of disputes to mediation; direct the mediation process; and provide for the enforcement of international commercial mediation settlement agreements under the rules of procedure and the conditions laid down in the Singapore Convention.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings is to discuss the proposals contained in Discussion Paper 168: Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Mediation Act for South Africa and the draft Mediation Bill with a focus on community mediation and the need to regulate the same.

Delegates from civil society, government officials, NGOs, and affected or interested members of the public are invited to attend one of three in-person workshops as follows:

**5 May 2025 in Durban at Archie Gumede Conference Centre in Mayville, and
22 May 2025 in Polokwane at Mankweng Court,
from 9h00 to 14h00**

Attendance is limited to 80 people. The Commission will consider inputs made and use insights gained during the deliberations to assist with the drafting of its report and revised draft Mediation Bill. A copy of the provisional programme is included below.

Kindly return the populated form by way of confirmatory email to DClark@justice.gov.za; VuMavuso@justice.gov.za or JaKabini@justice.gov.za to

RSVP by 28 April 2025 for Durban and **9 May 2025** for Polokwane. You may also contact Dr Clark on (012) 622 6307 or Mr Mavuso on (012) 6226353 or Mr Kabini on (012) 6336346.

Workshop participants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

A paper copy of the discussion paper is available on request from the South African Law Reform Commission or may be accessed directly on the following link: <https://www.justice.gov.za/salrc/dpapers/DP168-Mediation-Jan2025.pdf>.

Submissions on the draft proposals are due by 30 May 2025.

We look forward to engaging with you at one of the meetings!

Yours sincerely

FOR THE SECRETARY, S A LAW REFORM COMMISSION, CENTURION

DATE: 24 April 2025



DRAFT PROGRAMME
IN-PERSON COMMUNITY MEDIATION STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION:
A MEDIATION ACT FOR SOUTH AFRICA
Discussion Paper 168

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Arrival and registration | All |
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Opening and Welcome | Project Leader |
| 9:15 – 9:30 | SALRC Overview, context and process | Researcher |
| 9:30 – 10:30 | Background to Project 94 Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Mediation Act for South Africa & draft recommendations focusing on community mediation | Advisory Committee |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | COMFORT BREAK & TEA | |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | Stakeholder dialogue and proposals on community mediation | All |
| 12:30 – 13:15 | COLLABORATIVE LUNCH | |
| 13:15 – 13:55 | Stakeholder dialogue and proposals on community mediation | All |
| 13:55 – 14:00 | Concluding remarks and closure | Project Leader |
| 14:00 | DEPARTURE | |

RSVP

**RE: SOUTH AFRICAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION PROJECT 94 IN-PERSON
WORKSHOPS ON COMMUNITY MEDIATION**

FOR ATTENTION:

D Clark, V Mavuso or J Kabini:

Email: DClark@justice.gov.za; VuMavuso@justice.gov.za **and**
JaKabini@justice.gov.za

Telephone: 012 6226307; 012 6226346

Name:

Organisation:

Tel:

E-mail:

**I would like to attend the stakeholder engagement on Community Mediation
(please indicate your preference)**

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| 5 May 2025 in Durban | |
| 22 May 2025 in Polokwane | |
| Virtual wrap up workshop – date to be confirmed | |
| I will not be able to attend but my recommended substitute's contact details are the following: | |

Name:

Organisation:

Tel:

E-mail: