

**REPUBLIC OF VANUATU**



**CHIEF JUSTICE'S CHAMBERS**

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**PRACTICE DIRECTION No.01 OF 2006**

Unadmitted persons Appearing and Acting as Barristers and Solicitors before the Supreme Court and Subordinate Courts of Vanuatu

It is of great concern to the Supreme Court and subordinate Courts and those involved with the Courts that the number of unadmitted persons appearing and acting as barristers and solicitors is increasing, contrary to the provisions of the Legal Practitioners Act [CAP.119] and the ethical standards of the practice of the law.

The following Practice Direction is issued to address that concern:

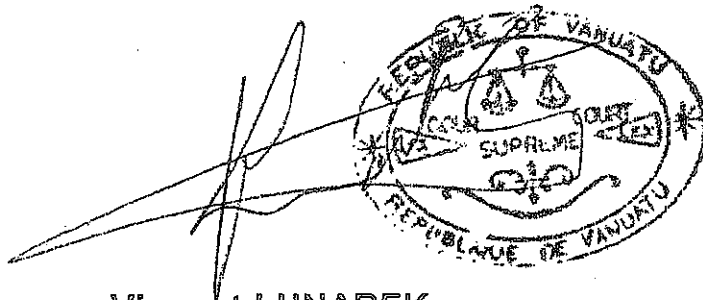
1. No person shall be able to appear and act as a barrister and solicitor before the Supreme Court and subordinate Court unless:-
  - (a) He or she has been admitted and act as a barrister and solicitor in the Republic of Vanuatu; and
  - (b) His or her name is on the roll of barristers and solicitors of the Republic of Vanuatu; and
  - (c) He or she has in force a certificate issued by the Law Council or the Chief Justice in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Practitioners Act [CAP.119] authorizing him or her to practice as a barrister and solicitor.

2. Clause 1 above does not affect the right of: -

- (i) A party before the Courts to have the assistance of a Mackenzie Friend or a Friend of Court or an Agent in the Magistrates Courts. However, a Mackenzie Friend or a Friend of Court or an Agent is not entitled to charge any legal fees or costs; and
- (ii) A legal officer appointed under section 17 of Part IV of the State Law Office Act No. 4 of 1998; and
- (iii) A state prosecutor appointed under section 22 (1) (c) of the Public Prosecutor's Act No. 7 of 2003.

3. This Practice Direction comes into force on the date of its execution.

Dated at Port-Vila this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006



Vincent LUNABEK  
Chief Justice