

NATIONAL COURT (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) RULES 2021

I, Chief Sir Gibuma Gibbs Salika GCL KBE CSM, Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, certify that, pursuant to Section 184 of the *Constitution* and Section 8 (*rules of Court of the National Court*) of the *National Court Act* (Chapter No 38) and all other powers enabling, the following Rules, described as “*National Court (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules 2021*”, amending the *National Court Rules 1983*, have been made by the Judges at a meeting of the Judges on 17 December 2020 and shall come into force on a date to be determined by the Chief Justice by notice published in the *National Gazette*.

Dated this 8th day of February 2021

Chief Sir Gibuma Gibbs Salika GCL KBE CSM, Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea

* Editorial note: The date on which the *National Court (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules 2021* shall come into force is 1 November 2021 (as determined by the Chief Justice and published in *National Gazette* No G380 of 10 June 2021).

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1. Amendment of Order 12, Rule 6(2)

Order 12, Rule 6(2) of the *National Court Rules* is amended by inserting between the words “Sub-rule (1) is” and the words “8% yearly”, the words “subject to the *Judicial Proceedings (Interest on Debts and Damages Act 2015)*”.

2. New Divisions 2.8 and 2.9

Order 2 of the *National Court Rules* is amended by inserting the following new Divisions 8 and 9 after Rule 54:

“Division 8 – Court dress

55. Court dress

Counsel shall appear in court wearing a long-sleeved clean ironed opaque white shirt or blouse with collar (a collarless blouse or shirt is not acceptable) closed at the throat and dark blue or black trousers or skirt and black business shoes or dark blue or black sulu and black sandals with counsel’s gown and white bib (tabs). A wig is optional.

56. Interpretation

In Rule 55 “Counsel’s gown” means a black gown reaching to the knees with the material gathered/pleated across the shoulder blades, open at the front and generously loose long sleeves with the sleeve material gathered at the inner bend of the forearm, generally in a design worn in similar jurisdictions or approved by the Council of the Law Society.

Division 9 – Practice directions

57. Practice directions

The Registrar may, in consultation with the Chief Justice, issue a practice direction in relation to any matter concerning these Rules to clarify the procedure and application or to otherwise explain or regulate any matter concerning the Rules.