



Supreme Court of Mauritius

COMMUNIQUE II

Pursuant to the coming into operation of the Children's Court Act 2020, the Children's Act 2020 and the Children's Court on 24 January 2022 the public and members of the legal profession are hereby advised of the following.

The Children's Court shall consist of a Protection Division and a Criminal Division.

The Protection Division shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any application under Part IV of the Children's Act 2020 and such other matters as the Chief Justice may direct.

The Criminal Division shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine in the case of a child victim any criminal offence specified in Part I of the Schedule of the Children's Court Act which is committed on the child, in the case of a child witness any criminal offence specified in Part II of the Schedule to the Children's Court Act where the child is a witness, in the case of a juvenile offender any criminal offence committed by the child other than an offence specified in Part III of the Schedule to the Children's Court Act, such other matter as the Director of Public Prosecutions may, depending on the seriousness of the case and where he considers it to be in the best interests of a child victim, child witness or juvenile offender, lodge before it and such other matter as may be prescribed.

Any trial in relation to any offence specified in the Schedule to the Children's Court Act which has started prior to the commencement of the Act and is pending before the Intermediate Court (Criminal Division) or a District Court shall be continued and determined by that Court.

Any trial in relation to any offence specified in the Schedule to the Children's Court Act which has not been started before the Intermediate Court (Criminal Division) or a District Court prior to the commencement of the Act, shall, on the commencement of the Children's Court Act be transferred to, heard and determined by, the Criminal Division of the Children's Court.

Any order or application made under the repealed Child Protection Act and Juvenile Offenders Act and which is still valid or pending before the commencement of this Act shall, on the commencement of this Act, be deemed to have been made under the Children's Act and shall be dealt with in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Children's Act and by the Children's Court.

Officers of the Child Development Unit and the Probation Unit shall be posted at the Children's Court.

All payments pertaining to matters before the Children's Court are to be made at the cash office at the New Court House, Pope Hennessy Street, Port Louis.

The Chief Court Officer/Court Manager of the Children's Court can be reached on the following phone number and email address:

CCO/CM: 201 2229

Email address: childrenscourt@govmu.org

W. V. Rangan
Ag Master and Registrar

22 January 2022