



Australian Dispute Resolution Association Inc.

Supporting and transforming the community of dispute resolution practice By providing leadership, direction and growth.

ABN 75 535 099 840 ADRA is not registered for GST

ADRA acknowledges the traditional owners of this land and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

ADRA DRAFT Minutes for Planning Meeting, Tuesday 24 October 2023

ADRA - Australian Dispute Resolution Association Inc. is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic

Sylvia Garabaldi - How to run your online Mediation Business.

Time

Oct 24, 2023 **10:00 AM** Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Meeting ID: 893 2784 5779

Security: checked Waiting Room

Invite Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89327845779>

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CPD Participants:

Katherine Johnson, Arti Yagnik, Abe Quadan, Peter Hanson, Beth Barclay, Mark Brady, Dennis Nolan Lian Neisller, Lisy De La Chaise.

Apologies:

Helen Meidzinski , Patrick Black, Jean-Marcel Malliate, Ann-Marie Collins, Jane Houselander

Topic

ADRA CPD Event - **Accredited Divorce Coaching**

Time: Oct 24, 2023 **04:30 PM** Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Meeting ID: 876 2390 6304

Security: checked Waiting Room

Invite Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87623906304>



CPD2 Participants:

Katherine Johnson, Margaret McCue, Anne-Marie Cade, Peter Hansen, Cheryl Duffy, Jeane Lynch, Elizabeth Rosa. Geoff Charlton, Margaret McCue, Dennis Nolan, Briget Gerton, Ilknur Bayari, Josephine Reyes, Victor Berger, Mark Rogers, Peggy Lim, Bec Foley, Ruwan Wathukarage, Mark Brady, Marilyn Waugh.

Apologies:

Helen Meidzinski, Patrick Black, Jean-Marcel Malliate, Ann-Marie Collins.

Meeting attendees:

Katherine Johnson, Dennis Nolan, Margaret McCue, Josephine Reyes, Mark Brady, Geoff Charlton, Victor Berger, Ruwan Wathukarage, Peggy Lim, Marilyn Waugh, Mark Rogers, Abe Quedan, Ilknur Bayari.

Apologies: Helen Meidzinski, Patrick Black, Jean-Marcel Malliate, Ann-Marie Collins.

ADRA Board resolved that:

1. Approval of MINUTES for 26 September 2023:

Welcome to the new Executive members for 2023-June 30, 2024.

Katherine Johnson:	President
Helen Miedzinski and Josephine Reyes:	Vice presidents
Katherine Johnson:	Secretary
Abe Quedan:	Assistant Secretary
Margaret McCue:	Treasurer
Andrew Wong:	Assistant Treasurer
Dennis Nolan:	Membership Officer
Geoff Charlton:	Accreditation Officer
Josephine Reyes	Assistant Accreditation officer
Marilyn Waugh:	Social media Officer

Board Members:

Jane Houselander, Ruwan Wathukarage, Mark Rogers.

A special welcome to new Board member **Abe Quedan** who agreed to be the assistant Secretary and to the **Additional Attendees** to Board Meetings:

Patrick Black, Jean Marcel Malliate, Victor Berger, Mayo Materazzo, Peggy Lim, Ilknur Bayari,

A very special thanks to **Mayo Materazzo, Victor Berger** and **Peggy Lim** for their willingness to still participate on the Board but who graciously made room for other Board members. Their input over the years has been highly valued and ADRA thanks them for their continued support. We look forward to the input from Jean-Marcel Malliate and Patrick Black and welcome them to ADRA.

Moved: Margaret McCue
Seconded: Mark Rogers

2. President's Report:

ADRA warmly thanks *both Sylvia Garabaldi and Jeane Lynch & Co. for their presentations*, and thanks Jeane and Co for permission to record their talks for the benefit of ADRA members. The talks will appear on the ADRA website under *recordings*. Sylvia has requested that her talk not be recorded. For those in Queensland who have missed Sylvia's talk due to time differences please feel free to contact Sylvia directly on sgandassociates@rogers.com for any content of her talk.

- ADRA wishes to thank Sylvia for her very generous offer to ADRA members for a four-week intensive course designed to suit the building of their online business for \$400.00 US. This is a very good offer particularly for our younger members. Sylvia's offer will be placed on the ADRA website under NEWS for those interested.

- **Divorce Coaching an Accreditation:**

The ADRA Board thanks Jeane and Co. for their presentation and suggestion that ADRA should accredit Divorce Coaches as part of ADRA's Dispute Resolution Services. The Board agreed that steps should be taken for ADRA to include Divorce Coaches as Dispute Resolvers and it was further agreed to form a subcommittee involving Geoff Charlton, Jeane, Cheryl, Anne-Marie and Katherine which would meet after 1 December 2023 to decide on the criteria required to accredit divorce coaches. The subcommittee's findings would be presented to the Board in February 2024.

- **Mediator Standards Board.**

Katherine has sent the email for consultations from MSB to the ADRA Board for its proposal to have extra mediator categories added to the MSB criteria and has registered to attend a consultation session at 10.00am on 30 October 2023, representing ADRA.

Katherine has also voted at MSB's AGM as the President of ADRA and has listed Christopher Boyle as the proxy to vote on other MSB matters as requested.

- **Changes to Accreditation forms:**

Changes have been finalized and Trender has been paid for the amendments. Geoff and Josephine now have a list of members who will be supervised for their upcoming accreditation. Please note that the names of applicants for accreditation are automatically sent to the MSB before final assessment of their application forms for accreditation or reaccreditation but MSB does not list the names upon receipt. Instead, it lists the name once a certain number of names are attained, so that even if you have been accredited by ADRA your name may not appear until MSB lists it on their site. **"If on final assessment, a member is advised that the information does not fully satisfy NMAS and further action is needed, their name will be withdrawn from the MSB until that action is taken"**.

- **Email re Organizational Membership**

With the upcoming International Conference, we may receive more applications for organizational membership, and this will assist ADRA's funds.

Josephine confirmed that \$100 AU was too much for Asian Not-for-profit countries to pay so, after some Board discussion it was agreed that \$25.00 AU would be sufficient in the hope of receiving turnover. Josephine confirmed that overseas **for-profit organizations** that wish to join as AFFILIATE members of ADRA could pay an affiliate fee of \$100.00 AU/annum and could also pay a further \$70.00/annum to be listed under our *Mediator Profile directory*. Josephine will send a confirmed list of ASIAN organizations wishing to participate.

To date the organizations that may be interested are:

- **PIARB** (Philippine Institute of Arbitrators Incorporated)
- **Adventist University**, Philippines.
- **World Mediation Organization**
(Josephine to complete the Affiliate membership for WMO)
- **Med-NET** (Mediators Network) (Philippine Court Annexed Mediators)
- **ALSA** - Australian Law Student Association **ALSA** -(ASIA)
Association of Law Students of Asia \$100AUD.
- **INDIA** Chapter and Universities' Chapters.
- **Thammasat University** / Thailand)

Students from the various Law Schools may also become affiliate members for \$25.00AU

- **Mongolia project. Katherine to discuss with Kristan and Tony** how best to display the Mongolia Project on the website, given the on-going training from Katherine and Enkhee with the Mongolian Mediators.

On 24 October, 2023 Katherine received an email from the Head of the *Family Youth and Child Development Authority* in Mongolia that the lobbying for a separate Family Court in Mongolia over the last few years since the ADRA training in 2019 has been successful resulting in the development of an independent Family Court in Mongolia following the example of the Family Court in Australia. This is a wonderful achievement for the Mongolian Court and another feather in ADRA's cap! The Mongolia project will continue as a project for 2024 and may also present at the international conference.

- **International Mediation Conference, Sydney 2024:**

Josephine confirmed that the source of funding for the international conference in Sydney in 2024 can be generated from the proceeds of early registrations and from the Comprehensive training that will be provided by WMO months before the event. Daniel will be sending advance study material and a Manual for the Comprehensive Mediation Course (40 Hours Equivalent counting the pre-attendance preparations and completions of study Tasks). Of course, the estimates for funding are not yet finalised but the aim is to MAKE the international conference in Sydney AFFORDABLE compared to the fees charged by the NMC (all these past years editions) and even the APMF (Asia Pacific Mediation Forum).

The events for the international conference will be hosted by ADRA who can aid in kind via its volunteers. A steering committee has already been formed and the first meeting with Daniel Erdmann, Head and Founder of the *World Mediation Organization* will occur on Wednesday **25 October at 5.00pm** AEST via zoom. to assist with the organization of the international conference with about 100 attendees as well as 3 proposed dispute resolution competitions.

The conference dates have been proposed as 31 October, 1 November, and 2 November 2024. It is hoped that affiliate organizational, and affiliate personal memberships from students, training events, souvenir programs, etc. may contribute to ADRA's funds in this joint project.

- **World Law Alliance:**

Katherine has contacted WLA to ask if they will become an Affiliate member of ADRA but no response. Abe has been asked to follow through to seek a reciprocal arrangement from WLA as an affiliate member of ADRA.

The WLA asked ADRA to rejoin for \$250 AUD which Katherine has now paid so ADRA is a paid member of WLA.

- **CADR:**

Katherine will contact Kristan and Tony to ensure that the history of CADR is to be placed on the ADRA website as a project for 2024.

- **Website Business:**

The board agreed that Executive members who have been **regularly attending for more than 6 years** – ie only missing no more than **three out of 10** meetings per year unless otherwise excused could have their profiles listed for free at least for the first year and then another decision made by the Board thereafter in June 2024. It is hoped that the international conference in 2024 may also increase the numbers in the Mediator Profile Directory for \$70.00 Au /annum.

ADRA is pleased to announce that Trender has decided to continue hosting our website with the assistance of Abe Quadan and Marilyn Waugh as the Administration officers who will be taught the back-end functions with which to assist our members. Many special thanks to Marilyn, Abe and to Trender.

Moved: Ruwan Wathukarage

Seconded: Margaret McCue

3. Mediator Practice Network (MPNs) sessions.

The GALA event on 29 September was a great success. There were 16 in person attendees and 14 attendees online. The feedback we received was very positive but unfortunately the whole program was not recorded – only the section about Trender's involvement was recorded which has now been placed on the ADRA website.

There were many suggestions about how best to recruit younger members, but this will be an ongoing project for 2024 depending on how successfully ADRA hosts the international conference.

Marilyn suggested that she could edit the notes taken from the event and have them placed on the ADRA website in place of the lack of recording. Many thanks, Marilyn.

Moved: Marilyn Waugh

Seconded: Abe Quadan

4. Treasurer's Report: Statement from 11 September 2023 to 10 October 2023:

The latest figures up to 10 October 2023 are **\$9,469.03** in our Society cheque account and **\$46,012.50** in our Term Deposit. Our PayPal and Stripe funds are transferred to the cheque account monthly. This equates to a total of **\$55,481.53**.

Moved: Ruwan Wathukarage

Seconded: Geoff Charlton

5. Membership Officer's Report: Dennis Nolan:

Richard Curie appeared by email on 13/10/2023 from ADRA as 'New subscription renewal order (12764). He is the only new member for October and there were no membership renewals for October.

Moved: Margaret McCue

Seconded: Peggy Lim

6. Accreditation Officer's Report: Geoff Charlton and Josephine Reyes

MAUREEN DUNCAN, from Drummoyne Sydney NSW

Date Started with ADRA Accreditation was October 2021.

Renewal initiated and received on Oct 1, 2023, at 07:44PM

Renewal until October 2, 2025 As it is on an Automated system,

Josephine has not seen documentations submitted or CPDs from Maureen for the last 2 years.

In Geoff's absence from 28 August to 8 October 2023, the following renewals were approved by Josephine Reyes as Accreditation Officer:

Robert Boyle

Salli Browning

Michelle Riethmuller.

There are four persons who have paid the fee for renewal of accreditation but have yet to forward the Renewal Application. They were reminded to do so yesterday by Geoff. Geoff to follow through.

Moved: Margaret McCue

Seconded: Peggy Lim

ADRA thanks Josephine for her time as accreditation officer.

7. Governance Report:

The duties for the various executive positions are specified in the Constitution but may need to be upgraded to include social media engagement etc. The Board resolved to set up a steering committee to complete this task for the Constitution and the Governance Manual in 2024

Moved: Margaret McCue

Seconded: Mark Rogers

8. Secretary's Report:

Correspondence covered by the President's report.

Moved: Ruwan Wathukarage

Seconded: Margaret McCue

9. General Business:

• **Clare Fowler: Mediate.com**

Katherine and Clare spoke via Zoom at **9.15 am on Friday 13 October** on how the two organizations can assist each other. Katherine mentioned the relationship it has with VADR where members of each organization can attend each other's functions for free and suggested a similar arrangement to which Clare agreed in principle. Clare mentioned that she would be happy to market the international conference for ADRA in 2024 and in that Mediate.com would be happy to post articles or functions on its website for ADRA. More details to follow later.

- **November:** *Xmas Party has been changed to 5 December as Katherine and Helen will both be unavailable on 28 November.*
- There being no further general business the meeting concluded at 6.45pm
Moved: Margaret McCue
Seconded: **Peggy Lim.**

Minute Taker: **Dr Katherine Johnson,**
PhD (Law).