

SHARING ON MEDIATOR-ASSISTED FINANCIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION(MFDR) HIS HONOUR JUDGE C K CHAN, PRINCIPAL FAMILY COURT JUDGE

27 July 2022

Mediator-assisted FDR (MFDR)

•Mediator-assisted CDR (MCDR)

### Statistics (from 2019 to 2022)

- 19 MFDR: 2 (HCMC) 17 (FCMC)
- 12 full settlements
- 2 partial settlements
- 2 no agreement
- 3 on-goings
- (12+2)/16 = 88% settlement rate

• 2 Special Features:

(1) High settlement rate (88%)

(2) Relative small number of cases (19 cases)

# • LLC v LMWC [2019] HKFLR 74 Lam Acting CJHC (now Lam PJ): to draw on the synergy of mediator and Family Judge

• First ever MFDR: taking 4 sessions before full settlement

#### Reasons for low figures

• Public health situation disrupting court proceedings

Accommodation constraints

Need more-ready acceptance by practitioners

#### Points to Note

- (1) Choice of cases: may not be suitable for LIP or small value of claims
- (2) Prior mediation sessions: cases could be settled or issues narrowed down
- (3) Prior communication between mediator and Judge: waiver on the issue of confidentiality

#### **Court Process**

- Seating arrangement for Mediator
- Order of speeches
- Court giving views
- Mediator and parties reporting back
- After MFDR

#### Way Forward for CDR and FDR

• Further reform before FPR

• CDR to be without prejudice?

• CDR to be heard together with FDR?

## Thank You