



Supporting Effective Dispute Resolution
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பயனுறுதியிக்கவகையில் பிணக்களை
தீர்ப்பதற்கு ஆதரவளித்தல்

Supporting Effective Dispute Resolution

SEDR Symposium Agenda (Draft)

Time	Symposium Activity
Monday 28 April 2025 – Day 0	
14:00	Arrival and registration of participants travelling from outside Colombo. Venue: The Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo
Tuesday 29 April 2025 – Day 1	
08:30	Registration Venue: The Oak Room Foyer
09:00 – 09:45	Opening, Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">Call to Order, Lighting of the Lamp: Ms. Savithri Rodrigo, Mistress of Ceremonies (MC)Welcome message: Mr. Scott McDonald, Chie Executive, British Council (Video message)Opening Remarks: Dr. Johann Hesse, Head of Cooperation, European Union DelegationOpening Remarks: Ms. Ayesha Jinasena PC, Secretary, Ministry of Justice, and National IntegrationIntroduction to SEDR: Mr. Jacques Carstens, SEDR Team Leader, British Council

Part of the programme



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Time	Symposium Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Agenda & House Rules: Ms. Savithri Rodrigo, MC <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
09:45 – 11:00	<p>Thematic Session 1: Future-Ready Mediation – Strengthening Skills & Expertise</p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Chandula Kumbukage, Programme Manager, The Asia Foundation (TAF)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Mr. Jinendra Kothalawala, Independent Consultant • Speaker: Mr. Johann Rebert, Country Representative, TAF • Presenter: Mr. Jonathan Bartsch, CDR Associates (Via video-link) • Presenter: Ms. Gayathri Lokuge, Researcher, Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA) <p><i>(Session organised by: The Asia Foundation)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
11:00	Tea & Networking - Venue: The Oak Room Foyer
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Thematic Session 2: The use of artistic expression in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)</p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Nathalie Johnston, Independent Arts Curator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Mr. Sandev Handy: Senior Curator, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art • Panellist: Ms. Sharmini Pereira: Chief Curator, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art • Panellist: Ms. Jasmine Nilani Joseph, Artist <p><i>(Session organised by: The Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
12:30	Lunch - Venue: The Atrium
13:30 – 14:30	<p>Thematic Session 3: Improving Access to Justice: Why Specialized Mediation Boards Matter</p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Chandula Kumbukage, Programme Manager, TAF</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Ms. Suhashana Wijyaratna, Programme Officer, TAF • Panellist: Ms. Dhara Wijayatilake, Attorney-at-Law & Director IADR Centre • Panellist: Ms. Thilini Ratnasuriya, Secretary, Mediation Boards Commission <p><i>(Session organised by: The Asia Foundation)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Thematic Session 4: The role of Youth in community level ADR</p> <p><u>Sub-theme 1: Our Journey: the power of Youth Voice through Social Action</u></p> <p><i>Facilitator: Ms. Dishani Sisupalan, SEDR Active Citizen, Ampara</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant: Mr. Arulnesarasa Anushan, Active Citizen, Northern province • Participant: Mr. Lakshitha Theeksanuwan, Active Citizen, Eastern province • Participant: Ms Rukshan Nancy, Active Citizen, Uva province

Time	Symposium Activity
	<p><u>Sub-theme 2: Building a cadre of future mediators – School Mediation</u></p> <p><i>Moderator: Dr. Dayani Panagoda, Independent Consultant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Ms. Thushari Balasuriya, Mediation Programme Officer • Panellist: Ms. Thilini Ratnasuriya, Secretary, Mediation Boards Commission • Panellist: Ms. Vasana Wickramasinghe, Add. Sec. (Reforms), Ministry of Education • Panellist: Mrs. W.A. Menaka Weththasinghe, Principal, Kegalle, Swarnajayanthi Vidyalaya <p><i>(Session organised by: British Council)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
16:00	Tea & Networking - Venue: The Ivy Room entrance
16:00 – 17:30 The Ivy Room	<p>Partner Café: Engagement & Networking Session</p> <p>Concurrent session with static partner tables/booths, visited by participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muslim Aid Sri Lanka (MASL) • Chrysalis: • Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA) • Uva Shakthi Foundation (USF) • Search for Common Ground (SfCG) • Federation of Institutions for Rural Management (FIRM) • The Asia Foundation (TAF) • Jaffna Social Action Centre (JSAC) <p><i>(Session organised by: British Council)</i></p>
17:30	Session Break
18:30 – 20:30	<p>Reception & Networking event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome & Cultural Performance: Mr. Orlando Edwards, Country Director, British Council, Sri Lanka • Legacy booklet Handover: Ms. Kate Joyce, Director: Cultural Engagement, British Council, South Asia <p>Reception & Networking: finger-food and drinks are served.</p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room Foyer</p>
Wednesday 30 April 2025 – Day 2	
08:30	<p>Arrival and registration of participants</p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room Foyer</p>
09:00 – 09:15	<p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-cap of Day 1 & Agenda: Ms. Savithri Rodrigo (MC) <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
09:15 – 10:30	<p>Thematic Session 5: Building ADR partnerships</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Indika Perera, Key Expert (ADR), SEDR British Council</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panellist: Ms. Ashika Gunasena, CEO: Chrysalis

Time	Symposium Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panellist: Mr. Nawaz Mohammed, Country Director: Search for Common Ground • Panellist: Mr. Faizer Khan, Country Director: Muslim Aid • Panellist: Mr. Nadesan Suresh, CEO: Uva Shakthi Foundation <p><i>(Session organised by: British Council)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
10:30	Tea & Networking - Venue: The Oak Room Foyer
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Thematic Session 6: Women’s Representation in Mediation Matters: Barriers, Solutions, and Intergenerational Perspectives</p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Chandula Kumbukage, Programme Manager, TAF</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Dr. Ramani Jayasundere, Director: Justice & Gender, TAF • Presenter: Ms. Suhashana Wijayaratna, Programme Officer, TAF • Presenter: Ms. Nilakshi de Silva, Consultant, b-Potential • Panellists: x4 Women Mediators <p><i>(Session organised by: The Asia Foundation)</i></p> <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
12:30 – 13:00	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-cap of the Symposium: Ms. Savithri Rodrigo, (MC) • Closing Remarks: Ms. Helen Sylvester, South-Asia Regional Director, British Council (Video Message) • Closing Remarks: Mr. Edoardo Spacca, Deputy Head of Cooperation: European Union Delegation • Closing Remarks: Ms. Krishanthi Meegahapola, Additional Secretary (Reforms), Ministry of Justice and National Integration • Online Evaluation of the Symposium: Ms. Savithri Rodrigo, (MC) • Vote of Thanks: Dr. Farah Altenberg, Senior Project Manager, SEDR: British Council <p>Venue: The Oak Room</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<p>Lunch & Networking, Venue: The Atrium</p> <p>Departure</p>