

GRAND COURT PRACTICE DIRECTION NO. 4/99**INDICTMENTS****1. Application and Commencement**

- 1.1 This practice direction applies to all committals for trial to the Grand Court in accordance with Part V of the Criminal Procedure Code (Law 13 of 1975) (the "Code").
- 1.2 This practice direction shall come into force on 1st June 1999 (the "commencement date")

2. Introduction

- 2.1 Section 106 of the Code requires that a signed indictment be filed in the office of the Grand Court.
- 2.2 The code specifies that a copy of the indictment shall be served on the accused at least three days before the day of the trial. There are no directions in the Code to specify when the indictment shall be filed.

3. New Practice

- 3.1 This Practice Direction requires that all indictments with the exception of those specified in paragraph 3.2 shall be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court within seven days of the date of committal for trial.
- 3.2 Where the prosecution are unable to file an indictment within the seven days specified in paragraph 3.1 it shall be the duty of the prosecution to bring this to the attention of the Listing Officer of the Grand Court within seven days of the date of committal for trial. The Listing Officer will then fix a mention date for a judge to give directions.

4. Plea & Direction Forms

- 4.1 As a consequence of the above, plea and direction forms are to be filed by the defence within seven days of the filing of the indictment.

Dated this 26th day of June 1999

Anthony Smellie, QC
Chief Justice