

Annex III

Biographical data form of candidates to human rights treaty bodies (Please respect the specified amount of lines when completing this form)

Name and first name:.....Nelson, Clarence Joseph
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Date and place of birth:....22 December 1955, Apia, Samoa
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Working languages:.....English; Samoan
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Current position/function:
(5 lines maximum)

Justice of the Supreme Court of Samoa; ad-hoc Justice of the Samoa Court of Appeal and
Judge of the Land & Titles Court (Appellate Division)
National Co-Ordinator, Samoa for the Pacific Judicial Development Programme (PJDP)
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Main professional activities¹:
(10 lines maximum)

As a sitting judge, adjudication of all disputes (civil, criminal, Constitutional or otherwise)
that come before the Supreme Court, the highest trial court in Samoa
Also trained to engage in other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution such as mediation
Active supporter of Samoa Victim Support Group and its activities
Assisting in the development of the Olomanu Juvenile Facility
Chairing various statutory committees and tribunals as and when required
Conducting coronial inquests into unnatural deaths and the causes thereof
Co-ordinating and undertaking in-country and regional training workshops for the PJDP
Planning and implementing as National Coordinator for PJDP judicial and other training
activities including those for the establishment of new Therapeutic Courts for Samoa
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Educational background:
(5 lines maximum)

1971 – graduated Proxime Accessit, St. Josephs College, Apia, Samoa
Awarded NZ Govt Scholarship to undertake further studies in New Zealand
1977 – Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
2002 – Youth Justice Training, Suva, Fiji
2009 – Certified national & regional Trainer for the Pacific Judicial Development Programme
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Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:
(10 lines maximum)

Patron – Pacific Island Lawyers Human Rights Network
Mentor – Samoa Victim Support Group
Advocate for childrens rights & protection of young victims of sexual violence
Served 5 years as Member, South Pacific Council of Youth & Childrens Courts
Involved in creation and set-up of the Olomanu Juvenile Facility, a minimum security facility specifically designed for the housing of juvenile offenders
Established and ran for a number of years the 1st Youth Court in Samoa including assisting in drafting and implementation of its enabling legislation the Young Offenders Act 2007
Presented and facilitated at in-country and international workshops on Human Rights Issues in particular on the UN CROC and the rights of children in the Pacific

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List of most recent publications in the field:
(5 lines)

Landmark court decision in Police v Vailopa [2009] WSSC 69 (special requirements for Police interviews of child suspects)
Role of the media in the Youth & Family Courts of Samoa, IAYFJM Chronicle, July 2013 p38
Support from the CRC, IAYFJM Chronicle January 2010 p16

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¹ It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Rights of the Child requires participation in three (winter, spring and autumn) sessions of three weeks duration each per year; in addition, pre-sessional working groups are held immediately after each session during five working days in order to prepare the following session. The total number of weeks during which the Committee meets in Geneva therefore amounts to 12 weeks per year.