

CURRICULUM VITAE

1. PERSONAL DETAILS:

NAME : CATHERINE ANNE DAVANI

DATE OF BIRTH : 3rd June 1960.

PLACE OF BIRTH : Wau, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.

VILLAGE &
HOME PROVINCE: Dorom Village, Rigo Sub Province, Central
Province, Papua New Guinea.

MARITAL STATUS : Married to John Arthur Davani with 4 children
namely:

REGINALD CARLOS DAVANI, male born on 05.02.80
PETER GEORGE DAVANI, male, born on 08.07.81
CECIL EDO DAVANI, male, born on 12.12.82
ALEXANDER JOHN DAVANI, male, born on 17.08.85

OCCUPATION : Judge, since March 2001. Prior to that, practised as a
Lawyer since November 1984.

HUSBAND'S
OCCUPATION : Training Officer, Papua New Guinea Waterboard

2. ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

1976 - 1977 Grades 11 & 12: Kerevat National High School, Rabaul
East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea.

1978 to July
1982 University of Papua New Guinea
Attained a degree in law.

Feb. 1984 to
Nov. 1984 Completed post-graduate legal training at Legal Training
Institute, Gordons, Port Moresby. This is the post-admission

course that must be completed by all lawyers in PNG before they are fully admitted to the bar.

In November 1984, admitted to the National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea as a Lawyer.

Feb. 1987 to Nov. 1988	Post graduate qualification - Completed a Masters Degree in law at the University of Sydney, Australia.
Jan. 1988 to Dec. 1988	- Completed Certificate in Law from College of Professional Studies, Sydney.

3. *EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:*

Practised law since graduation from Legal Training Institute in 1984. As Papua New Guinea has a "fused" profession, practitioners are referred to as "Lawyers" as opposed to "Barristers" and "Solicitors" in other commonwealth countries. Lawyers perform a variety of legal work including preparing and conducting trials in court.

Nov. 1984 to Jan. 1987	Public Solicitor's Office, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. I was employed in the civil section of this office which is the equivalent of the "Public Defenders" office.
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Jan. 1987 to Dec. 1988	2 years break for studies in Sydney, Australia.
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Jan. 1989 to Jul. 1990	Namaliu & Co. Lawyers, Port Moresby.
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Jan. 1991 to Feb. 1994	Gadens Ridgeway Lawyers, Port Moresby.
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Mar. 1994 to Feb. 2000	Senior Associate, Shepherds Lawyers, Port Moresby.
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Feb. 2000 to
Mar. 2001 Senior Associate, Blake Dawson Waldron Lawyers, Port
Moresby.

Mar 2001
to date Judge, National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea

Throughout my years of practice, I practised as a litigation (court room) lawyer (since 1984) both in the lower and higher Courts of Papua New Guinea. My practice covered Family Law, Commercial Law, Employment Law, Debt Recovery, Judicial Review, Compensation claims (Accidents, Natural disasters, Police raids, etc), Wrongful Dismissal Claims, Conveyancing, Probate, General advising on all areas of the law, Forestry and Fisheries claims, Defamation claims, Industrial Disputes, Criminal Law, Employment Law and Constitutional Law. I conducted and handled trials, which sometimes ran for two to three weeks.

4. *PREVIOUS AFFILIATION TO PROFESSIONAL BODIES PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT AS A JUDGE*

1985 to
1986 A member of the Law Tok Editorial Committee, a PNG Law Society
annual publication.

1995 to
Mar 2001 A member of the Lawyers Statutory Committee, a quasi - judicial body,
that dealt with complaints against lawyers.

1998 to
Mar 2001 A member of the PNG Law Society Council, a body that controlled and co-
ordinated law practice in Papua New Guinea.

Jan 1991
to 1999 A member of the PNG Law Society's Legal Aid Committee, a body that
decided and deliberated on applications for legal aid.

1999 to
Mar 2001 Chairperson of the PNG Law Society's Legal Education Committee,
the body that controls and co-ordinates continuing legal education
for lawyers in Papua New Guinea.

- 1994 to
1995 PNG Representative to LAWASIA Family Law Council. This council is represented by practising lawyers and judges from countries around the South Pacific and Asia. This committee focused on the development of family law in the Asia/Pacific region including discussions on the many Treaties and Conventions governing women, children and the family.
- 1995 to
1996 Board Member of the PNG Sports Commission, the governing body for sports in Papua New Guinea.
- 1993 to
1995 Vice President of PNG Football (Soccer) Association.
- 1993 to
Mar 2001 Member of PNG Sports Federation. During 2000, I was the legal officer for the PNG Sports Federation. This body controlled and co-ordinated all sports in PNG more specifically team participation overseas. This included liaising with the International Olympic Committee and all Sports federations in the South Pacific including Australia and New Zealand.
- 1989
to 2004 Executive Member of the PNG Football (Soccer) Association

5. PAPERS PRESENTED

- 1990 to i. During the period 1990 to March 2001, on invitation, I attended legal conferences in the South Pacific and overseas. I presented papers at those conferences including conferences in Papua New Guinea. Focus was usually on the rights of children, women and the law, the family and the law and the rights of aggrieved parties in Divorce, maintenance and custody cases.

I also assisted unemployed women by providing free legal advice and representation in court.

I have also, in my capacity as an executive member of the PNG Football Federation, attended conferences and meetings in Prague (1990), Los Angeles (1994) and Auckland (1999).

- Assisted with the drafting of the PNGFA Constitution.
- Also, actively involved in sports and sports administration in Papua New Guinea.

- 2001 to date ii. Since my appointment to the bench, I have been invited to numerous conferences both in PNG, Australia and other Commonwealth countries. I have also been the guest speaker of various government, schools and NGO groups in PNG and overseas.

6. **PARTICIPATION IN SOCCER (FOOTBALL)**

I played soccer extensively both at club level, nationally and internationally. Since 1979, when I began to play serious soccer, and which was also when women's soccer was first played at club level in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, I cultivated an interest and passion for the game of soccer which has remained with me ever since.

Since 1994 I represented PNG at 3 Oceania Football Confederation World Cup qualifiers, and 6 other one off international matches. I was Captain of the PNG team at the 1994 and 1998 OFC World Cup qualifiers.

7. **FIFA and OFC**

I am very familiar with FIFA and OFC as I have dealt with them, particularly OFC, on many occasions.

8. **OTHER REPRESENTATIONS**

Nov 2001 Invited by the South Pacific Forum Secretariat to observe and report on the general elections in the Solomon Islands. Other members of the Observer team were the Ombudsman of Samoa who was the Chairman of the group and the former Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia. We were assisted by members of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Feb 2002 Appointed chairperson of the Family Courts restructuring programme. Was nominated by the British High Commission in Papua New Guinea to conduct a study of the Family Courts in England which I did in February 2002.

I was also assisted by a visit to Sydney, Australia in May 2001 for the 25th Anniversary of the Family courts in Australia.

9. **JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT:**

Appointed in March 2001.

I presently sit on the National and Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea and preside over both civil and criminal cases.

10. FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN SPORT

My family which includes my husband and all four (4) sons, are all actively involved in sports and have all represented and played for PNG in various sports at various tournaments including the South Pacific Games. Husband John was the coach for the PNG National (Senior) men's team for a period of 4 years. Sons Reginald and Alexander have also represented Queensland (Australia). They both were considered to play for Australia but could not as they were not Australian citizens.

11. COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT

2001 - Was appointed member of the Chamber of International
To date Arbitration for Football. It later merged with the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). I am the PNG representative on CAS.

12. JUDICIAL COMMITTEES

March 2001 I am a member of several judicial committees and am
To date presently, the Chairperson of the Judges Rules Committee, which drafts and promulgates Judge made rules.

13. FINANCE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

2007 - I was a member of the above inquiry which investigated large
2009 fraudulent payouts by the Government of Papua New Guinea to individuals and companies or corporations. The Commission of Inquiry was established under instrument executed by the present Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea on 29th October, 2009.
