

Irish economy set to save €120 million a year as CEDR Ireland officially launches mediation services with series of events

Submitted by: Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

Thursday, 20 October 2011

The figure of €120 million in savings for the Irish economy was given at an event last night at the Ormond Meeting Rooms, in Dublin, the new base of CEDR Ireland (http://www.cedr.com/about_us/products/), attended by guests from across the South and North of Ireland. The event was the culmination of a series of events where CEDR Ireland officially launched its full panel of 35 mediators along with new low-cost mediation and arbitration services for legal claims under €125,000 (or £125,000 in Northern Ireland).

Dr Karl Mackie CBE, Chief Executive of CEDR (<http://www.cedr.com>) (Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (http://www.cedr.com/about_us/products/)), the international commercial conflict specialist, said of mediation “we could promise in Ireland, if people take this seriously, there is over €120 million of savings a year available from using ADR (<http://www.cedr.com/solve/>) effectively.” This amount is based on CEDR’s existing calculations on the current saving in the UK economy made by using commercial mediation and extrapolated to the economy of the Republic of Ireland. Dr Mackie went on to say that, in addition to the savings to management and legal costs made by mediating rather than pursuing litigation, that the State would also make substantial savings by this change in practice.

Guest of honour at the event was Mr Justice Peter Kelly of the High Court, who said, “I’m delighted to speak on this, the opening of CEDR’s permanent home in this jurisdiction and I wish it well.” Mr Justice Kelly stated, “I have become a strong supporter of mediation, and I have become a convert, because I have seen how effective it is as a way of resolving disputes. I have seen what appeared to be the most intractable of disputes being resolved, very effectively.”

Mr Justice Kelly also cautioned “I have had a few occasions upon which persons who called themselves mediators became embroiled in the process. Like bulls in china shops! They had no skills, they had no experience, and it was a disaster all round. So it is important that if people are consigning their disputes to a mediator that the mediator has training in the skill... ..So I hope that the services will be availed of, not merely by lawyers, but persons who belong to other disciplines because mediation will be useful, not merely in the context of litigation, but in the context of other disputes that break out, in the engineering field, in the architectural field, the accountancy field.”

Other events that took place in Dublin on 18th October included a Breakfast Briefing by Dr Mackie and a Lunchtime Seminar by Eileen Carroll, leading mediator and CEDR’s Deputy Chief Executive. On the 17th of October the British Ambassador, Julian King, kindly hosted a reception at his official residence in Dublin for Irish and British Business leaders to hear about the launch of CEDR Ireland.

The 35 mediators on the CEDR panel come from a range of backgrounds, to meet the differing needs of the Irish marketplace, all with experience of working in commercial disputes in Ireland. Panel members are: Alva Brangam QC, Andy Grossman, Aoife Gaughan, Austin Kenny ,Christopher Ennis, Colm O hOisin SC, Dorcas Crawford, Duncan Campbell, Eileen Carroll, Eileen Roberts, Emma Moroney, Fiona Barron, Heather Allen, Helen Kilroy, Jarleth Heneghan, Joe Kelly, John O’Connor, Karl Mackie, Max Duthie, Michael Cover, Michael Tuite SC, Patrick Hanratty SC, Pauline McHenry, Peter McInnes, Ronan Geary, Sarah Conway, Siobhán Hayes, Siobhan Kirrane, Sir Henry Brooke, Stephen Ruttle QC, Stuart Margetson, Thomas O’Malley, Tony Allen,

William Aylmer, William Lister. More details on the panel and the mediation and arbitration services can be found on the website www.cedrsolve.ie.

Full text of the speeches from the event at the Ormond Meeting Rooms can be read on the CEDR website: www.cedr.com/articles/?297.

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Notes to Editors:

The Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution is the leader in the development of neutral-assisted dispute resolution. It is a non-profit organisation and its mission is to encourage and develop cost effective dispute prevention and dispute resolution in commercial and public sector disputes and in civil litigation. CEDR operates in the UK and internationally and has been instrumental in helping to bring mediation into the heart of business practice and into judicial systems. CEDR Mediator Accreditation is recognised as an international standard.

In 2011 CEDR became part of the Northern Irish Mediation Council and Gregory Hunt, Director of CEDR Solve, became a Council Member of the Irish Commercial Mediators Association.

CEDR Solve (<http://www.cedr.com>), Europe's leading commercial mediation provider, is CEDR's dispute resolution and prevention service and has managed over 16,000 dispute cases covering every industry sector and a wide-ranging cross section of disputes and case values. More information is available on CEDR's websites www.cedrsolve.ie and www.cedr.com.

Ormond Meeting Rooms (OMR) was founded in 2009 and is Ireland's first dedicated ADR Centre. Based in the Ormond Building in proximity to the Four Courts, OMR offers all required facilities and services for carrying out dispute resolution in a fresh, modern environment. The building is designed specifically for purpose, with flexible room layouts, high acoustic reduction measures and is fully accessible for all users. A dedicated Centre Manager, supported by an experienced team, is on hand to ensure all client expectations are exceeded from initial enquiry stage through to conclusion of the process, however long or late that may be. OMR provides a full catering service and a range of in-house secretarial services including the provision of their own full Stenography service for arbitrations and legal disputes - see www.omr.ie.

For more information or photographs of the events please contact:

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