

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2013

(Act 24 of 2013)

I assent

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J. A. Michel President

31st December, 2013

ANACT to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

ENACTED by the President and the National Assembly.

1. This Act may be cited as the Criminal Procedure Short title Code (Amendment) Act, 2013.

Amendment of Cap 54

2. The Criminal Procedure Code is amended by inserting after section 179 the following new section—

"Use of video link facilities for accused on remand 179A.(1) In this section "live television link" means an arrangement for an accused person, in custody at the time of a hearing to which this section applies, to attend the hearing through a two-way simultaneous video and audio link, from the place where he is kept in custody.

(2) Where—

- (a) an accused is in custody;
- (b) his case is brought before the court for a hearing specified in subsection (3);
- (c) the court is of the opinion that it is desirable and practicable that the accused person attend the hearing before the court under this section; and
- (d) the arrangement would not unfairly prejudice a party to the proceedings,

then the court may order that the accused person shall attend the hearing through a live television link.

(3) This section applies to—

(a) any hearing in the proceedings held before the start of the trial;

- (b) any hearing in the proceedings at which the accused person is brought before the court for the issue of remand to be considered, either before or during the course of a trial; or
- (c) any other hearing as directed by any court.
- (4) The accused person shall be treated as present in court when, by virtue of an order under this section, he attends a hearing through a live television link.
- (5) The court may, at any time, of its own motion or on the application of a party to the proceedings, vary or revoke an order made under subsection (2)."

I certify that this is a correct copy of the Bill which was passed by the National Assembly on 18th December, 2013.

Azarel Ernesta

Clerk to the National Assembly