**GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN CITIZENS MEDIATION**

The Citizens Mediation Centre is a legal entity established for free alternative dispute resolution services to indigent members of the public. The idea of access to justice for this class of people had previously been promoted by special television programs. Complaints and requests for the free mediation services of the centre from members of the public increased from. The Citizens Rights Department has a number of highly trained mediators.

The centre was set up to actualize the access to justice program of the Lagos State Government. The centre thus created the opportunity for cases to be diverted from the court system and enabled the decongestion of the judge’s docket and thereby creating peace and harmony among participants in the Mediation Process.