

33. Status hearings

- (1) If on the first occasion the accused is required to plead to a charge in an indictment, the accused enters any plea other than a plea of guilty, the proceedings may be adjourned to a status hearing.
- (2) If a new trial is ordered (whether at trial or on appeal) the court may order that a status hearing be held.
- (3) The court must fix the time and place for a status hearing.
- (4) A judge must preside at a status hearing.
- (5) At a status hearing the court shall inquire into these matters —
 - (a) whether every requirement imposed by or under the CPA to lodge and serve a document has been complied with;
 - (b) whether there are any matters that should be dealt with at a pre-trial hearing;
 - (c) whether the case is ready to go to trial;
 - (d) the dates when the parties will be available for a trial.
- (6) At a status hearing the court may —
 - (a) act under the CPA section 93;
 - (b) deal with any application under the CPA section 89, 90, 97, 118, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136 or 138;
 - (c) exercise any of its powers in those sections if it can do so on its own initiative;
 - (d) exercise any of its powers in the CPA section 98 or 137;
 - (e) adjourn the status hearing from time to time;
 - (f) order that a pre-trial hearing be held to deal with specified issues and fix the time and place for it;
 - (g) fix the date of the trial.
- (7) At the conclusion of a status hearing the proceedings must be adjourned to the date of a pre-trial hearing or to the date of the trial, as the case requires.