

## **Chapter 5**

### **Conclusion**

The original goal of this text was to provide a clear and accessible statement of the general laws of evidence of Seychelles. It has served that purpose well. That the changes brought to this edition are minor, in relation to matters of substance, is testament to the fact that the current law of evidence of Seychelles has its base in well-accepted clear decisions of the highest courts of Seychelles. This is complemented by the Legislature, by constitutional status deemed to know the existing law, which for its part has not seen fit to amend the law radically even though the English law on which the Seychelles law is based has changed over the years. There is therefore stability in the field of the law of evidence.

Two important factors of relevance are suggested for the future of the Seychelles law of evidence. The first is that any change to the substantive base of the law of Seychelles should be made judiciously, with circumspection. It is not in the interests of the rule of law that settled principle should be disturbed without serious reason. Any substantial change from the known best lies with the Legislature. The second is that because Seychelles is one of the few Commonwealth common law countries not to have its law of evidence codified and in statutory form and because the local law has been stable for many years, now may be the appropriate time for the Legislature to take advantage of the situation and to legislate the known and accepted principles, reforming as necessary to meet unmet needs. This would be a clear patriation of the law of evidence, and be consistent with the status and development of its law by the independent state of Seychelles.