NEW MAINTENANCE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

(A) APPLICATION

1. Application

- Applicant ("A") files a maintenance enforcement application on the Family Justice Court's ("FJC") iFAMS (https://ifams.judiciary.gov.sg/).
- A may also apply online for financial assistance under the ComCare Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance Scheme.

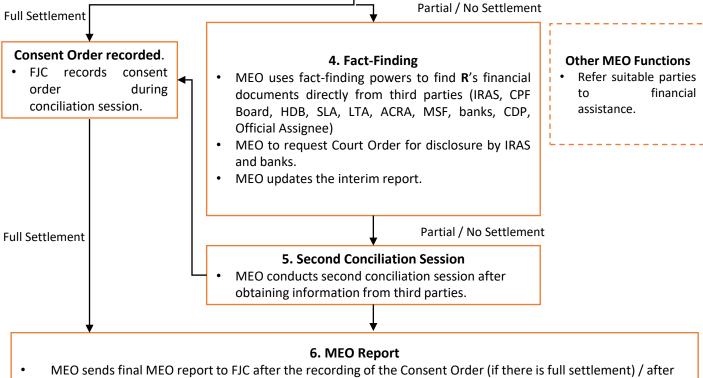
2. Service & Directions to submit information and attend conciliation

- FJC serves on the Respondent ("R") with summons, and directs parties to submit documents to the Maintenance Enforcement Officers ("MEOs") via the Maintenance Enforcement Division's ("MED") internet portal (https://go.gov.sg/<<placeholder>>).
- FJC refers the application to MED.
- A to submit computation of arrears and bank statements (if not already provided in application), and **R** to submit documents on income and assets before deadline stated in the summons and directions.
- FJC directs parties to attend conciliation before an MEO.

(B) CONCILIATION, FACT-FINDING & REPORTING BY MEOS

3. First Conciliation Session

- MEO sends draft interim report to parties before the first conciliation, and conducts first conciliation session (inperson or online via Zoom), even if parties had not submitted all documents.
- MEO recommends solutions for parties' consideration and facilitates agreement.



second conciliation session (if there is no full settlement)

(C) HEARING IN FJC

FJC will consider the MEO report and fix the hearing date.

7a. Hearing (Full Settlement)

- In addition to the Consent Order already recorded, FJC may make any of the following enforcement orders:
 - Show Payment Order and specify an imprisonment term in default
 - b. Warrant to Levy
 - c. Attachment of Debt Order
 - d. Banker's Guarantee
 - e. Financial Counselling
 - f. Community Service Order
 - g. Attachment of Earnings Order

7b. Hearing (No Full Settlement)

- FJC must make an order:
- a. Declaring the amount of arrears;
- b. Ordering **R** to make payment in lump sum or instalments;
- c. Requiring that **R** show payment. The Show Payment Order will specify an imprisonment term in default.
- In addition, FJC <u>may</u> make any of the following enforcement orders:
 - d. Warrant to Levy
 - e. Attachment of Debt Order
 - f. Banker's Guarantee
 - g. Financial Counselling
 - h. Community Service Orderi. Attachment of Earnings Order
 - j. Imprisonment for failure to pay maintenance arrears

(D) POST-HEARING

Within 6 months

Within 1 year

After 1 year

8. R breaches Show-Payment Order (Show Payment is typically for 6 months from the date of the hearing)

- If R does not show good cause for his breach, FJC may sentence R to imprisonment. FJC may additionally make one or more enforcement orders.
- If R does not attend before FJC to show proof of payment, FJC will issue a Warrant of Arrest.
- 9. R fails to pay maintenance within 1 year of the Hearing and after period of the Show-Payment Order has ended.
- A files a maintenance enforcement application.
- Process immediately proceeds to (C) Hearing in FJC.
- Where appropriate, the court may rely on MEO's report submitted in previous proceedings to make the necessary enforcement orders, without having to call for further evidence.

10. R fails to pay maintenance <u>after</u> 1 year of the Hearing and after the period of any Show-Payment Order has ended,

 A files a maintenance enforcement application. Parties go through the full enforcement process.