



## Ms. Elisabeth Mends

Attorney & Mediator

Ms. Elisabeth Mends is an attorney with an incisive legal mind complemented by profound knowledge and a rich, diverse legal experience to guide critical management and policy decisions. She is also a certified mediator. Elisabeth has a long and varied experience in the practice of law, both litigation and transactional. She has practiced law in the private sector, with major corporations, (one of which was a Fortune 100 company) and in the public sector, with the United Nations.

She has cross cultural experience from having worked in Africa, Europe and in North America including a four -year tenure with the United Nations as the Legal Officer with its Peace Keeping Mission in Sierra Leone. In that capacity she worked with others to resolve highly sensitive diplomatic, development and complex legal issues.

She is passionate about women's issues. As a Ghanaian woman, she is aware of, and sensitive to the customs and cultural traditions of Ghana and other countries. She brings great sensibilities to them, while her international experiences enable her to bridge and transcend them. Working with the United Nations in Sierra Leone, in that country's post-conflict development also gave her an opportunity to see the role of the law in restoring rights, dignity and humanity to people who were literally starting life over. She is most proud of her work in the area of women's issues. She believes that making women aware of their rights and giving them access to knowledge bring lasting economic and social change; thus women should sustain an income, women should maintain good health, women should be decision-makers and women should have social networks and safety nets.