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The Lawyer as Rule-of-Law Activist: Activating the Next Generation

**DAY 1**

**Wednesday, 11 October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Group Visits and Law Firm Meetings</strong>&lt;br&gt;Meetings with partners at law firms and other legal institutions.&lt;br&gt;Locations to be shared with registered participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 - 6:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>High-Level Cocktail Reception</strong>&lt;br&gt;Webber Wentzel&lt;br&gt;90 Rivonia Rd, Sandhurst, Sandton, 2196</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 - 7:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 - 7:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Welcome Remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Hon. George Daniels&lt;/strong&gt;, senior Federal Judge,&lt;br&gt;United States District Court, Southern District of New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 - 7:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Conversation</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Judge President Dunstan Mlambo&lt;/strong&gt;, Judge President of the Gauteng&lt;br&gt;Division of the High Court of South Africa,&lt;br&gt;in conversation with&lt;br&gt;&lt;strong&gt;Hon. Loretta E. Lynch&lt;/strong&gt;, former United States Attorney General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Cocktail Reception and Networking</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>Book on Sale – Raising the Bar, Portraits of Corporate Law Excellence in South Africa</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hon. George B. Daniels
United States District Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
Member, Vance Center Committee

Judge Daniels was appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York on February 24, 2000. With the support of both New York Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Charles E. Schumer, Judge Daniels was nominated by President Clinton for the Federal bench on August 6, 1999.

Judge Daniels is a 1971 graduate of Suffield Academy. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in American Studies from Yale University in 1975. He obtained a law degree in 1978 from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, and has been admitted to practice law as a member of the New York, California, New Jersey, and District of Columbia Bars.


In 1989, Judge Daniels was appointed a Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York by Mayor Edward I. Koch. In 1990, Judge Daniels stepped down from the bench to serve as Counsel to the Mayor of the City of New York David N. Dinkins. In 1993, Judge Daniels was reappointed to the Criminal Court of the City of New York by Mayor Dinkins. In 1995, Judge Daniels was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

Judge Daniels is an adjunct professor of law at Brooklyn Law School. He has also served as a trial advocacy instructor at the United States Attorney General’s Advocacy Institute, Hofstra Law School, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Tanzania, for lawyers and magistrates in Liberia, and has taught intellectual property to Judges from the South African region in Namibia.

Judge Daniels currently serves as a committee member of the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice of the New York City Bar Association. He is also a member of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities of the New York State Unified Court System, and a member of the Suffield Academy Board of Trustees. He is a former Vice President of the New York City Bar Association and served on the Board of Directors of the New York City Bar Fund.
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SPEAKER BIOS

Christo Els
Senior Partner
Webber Wentzel

Christo specialises in mergers and acquisitions (M&A), corporate finance, equity capital markets and securities regulation law. He has advised on a number of large, transformational and cross-border transactions in Sub-Saharan Africa. His matters include advising on the African aspects of AB InBev’s take-over of SABMiller; the unbundling of Naspers’ international internet assets into a Dutch listed controlled company named Prosus; Woolworths’ ZAR 23 billion takeover of David Jones in Australia; Mercer Africa’s acquisition of a 34% interest in the Alexander Forbes Group; Walmart’s purchase of a majority stake in Massmart; Vodafone’s acquisition of a majority interest in Vodacom; and Gutsche Family Investments on the creation of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa. Other complex deals include advising Al Noor Hospitals Group Plc on the combination of Al Noor and Mediclinic International Ltd; Oceana Group on the acquisition of Daybrook Fisheries in the USA; Tsogo Sun in respect of the ZAR 11 billion disposal by SABMiller plc of its 39.6% stake in Tsogo Sun; and the Industrial & Commercial Bank of China in respect of its ZAR 37 billion acquisition of 20% of Standard Bank. He has advised on a number of listings on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, including the listings of AB InBev (ZAR 3 trillion secondary inward listing), Ethos Capital, Life Healthcare, Mondi, Mpact and Vodacom Group.

Tholinhlanhla Gcabshe
Partner, Co-Head of M&A
Bowmans

Tholinhlanhla (Tholi) Gcabshe is the Co-Head of M&A in Bowmans’ Johannesburg office.
He specialises in domestic and cross-border private mergers and acquisitions and general corporate and commercial matters, and has also been part of many high-profile M&A transactions in South Africa’s telecommunications, insurance, investment and property industries.
Tholi has an LLB from the University KwaZulu-Natal and a Certificate in Banking and Financial Markets from the University of the Witwatersrand. In 2021, he successfully completed the Leading Professional Services Firms Programme run by Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom.
Loretta E. Lynch
Former U.S. Attorney General
Partner, Paul, Weiss

Loretta E. Lynch, the former United States Attorney General, is a partner in the Paul, Weiss Litigation Department. Ms. Lynch advises clients on government and internal investigations and on high-stakes litigation and regulatory matters. Ms. Lynch’s legal career has included both private law practice and public service, including three presidential appointments. Ms. Lynch served as the U.S. Attorney General from 2015-2017, where she was appointed by President Barack Obama. As Attorney General, Ms. Lynch oversaw more than 100,000 employees across numerous agencies and offices, including the 93 U.S. Attorneys; major investigative agencies, including the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); the U.S. Marshals Service; the Bureau of Prisons; the National Security Division; and the Office of the Solicitor General, among others. Ms. Lynch has been named one of Benchmark Litigation’s “Top 250 Women in Litigation.” Additionally Ms. Lynch has been recognized by Chambers in the Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations (New York) category. Ms. Lynch received her J.D. and her B.A. in American Literature from Harvard University.

Justice Dunstan Mlambo
Judge President
Gauteng Division of the High Court of South Africa

The Honourable Justice Dunstan Mlambo is currently Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court of South Africa. He has three decades of experience as a distinguished lawyer and judge, and served as the chairperson of Legal Aid South Africa from 2002 to 2019.

Justice Mlambo has played a pivotal role in expanding access to justice around the world, chairing the UNODC Expert Group that approved the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems in 2011. He also chaired the UNODC expert group that revised the Nelson Mandela Rules, setting United Nations standards for the treatment of prisoners. Justice Mlambo holds a law degree from the University of the North and is a trustee of the Legal Resources Centre in South Africa.
Inosi M. Nyatta
Partner, Sullivan & Cromwell
Chair, Africa Sub-Committee, Vance Center Committee

Inosi Nyatta is a partner in Sullivan & Cromwell’s Finance & Restructuring Group and co-head of the Firm’s global Project Development & Finance practice. Her award-winning work for clients on a broad range of financing transactions, including project financings, capital markets offerings and cross-border financings, has resulted in her recognition as a “Dealmaker of the Year” by The American Lawyer, a “Project Finance Lawyer of the Year” by Euromoney’s Women in Business Law Awards, a “Project Finance MVP” by Law360 and as one of Crain’s “Notable Diverse Leaders in Law” and “Notable Women in Business”.

Inosi has acted for a cross-section of sponsor, financial institution and corporate clients in oil and gas, power, financial, mining, infrastructure, consumer and other sectors in the U.S., Europe, Africa, Latin America and elsewhere. She has experience in a range of corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity investments, joint venture arrangements and project development arrangements. Her securities offering experience includes debt and equity offerings under Rule 144A and Regulation S, 4(a)(2) private placements, exchange offers and project bonds.

Inosi was the pro bono coordinator in the firm’s London office and is a member of the Firm’s Diversity Committee and Women’s Initiative Committee. She has participated in numerous pro bono projects through the Vance Center and her firm, including assisting in establishment of non-for-profit organizations involved in charitable activities in the U.S. and Africa, providing advice to the African Freedom of Information Center for a submission to the ECOWAS states and providing advice to the Kenya Human Rights Commission on International Criminal Court proceedings involving Kenyan individuals.

Judge Taswell Papier
Judge
Western Cape Division of the High Court

Judge Taswell Papier was permanently appointed to the Western Cape Division of the High Court in South Africa in November 2017, after acting since April 2017.

Prior to that, he practised at his own law firm in the field of Human Rights and litigation for approximately 17 years. He joined the firm ENSafrica as a director in 2004, where he specialised in corporate and commercial law for about 13 years.

Judge Papier holds a BProc from the University of the Western Cape, an LLM in Human Rights from Harvard Law School and an LLM in Commercial Law from the University of Cape Town. He has held various other positions, including chairing the Cape Law Society Pro Bono Committee and President of the University of Cape Town Appeals Board. He was the Cape Law Society’s president for two terms beginning in 2002.
Full Day Event

Webber Wentzel
90 Rivonia Rd, Sandhurst, Sandton, 2196

8:00 - 9:00 am  Registration and Breakfast

9:00 - 9:20 am  Welcome Remarks
Meluleki Nzimande, Partner, Webber Wentzel
Edwin S. Maynard, Vance Center Executive Committee

9:20 - 9:50 am  Keynote Address
Justice Bernard Makgabo Ngoepe, Former Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court of South Africa and Tax Ombudsman

10:00 - 11:00 am  Panel Discussion Session 1
The role of the private sector and the legal profession in securing the rule of law and combatting corruption.

Ibi Ogunbiyi, Partner, Olaniwun Ajayi LP | Nigeria
Lindi Atieno Vundla, Senior Corporate Counsel - Head of Legal, Sub-Saharan Africa, Amazon; African Legal Fellows Alumni | RSA
Steven Powell, Head of Forensics Practice, ENSafrica | RSA
Ayanda Ngubo, Partner, Webber Wentzel | RSA
Tshepo Legodi, Divisional Executive: Legal & Compliance, Industrial Development Corporation | RSA

Moderators
Antonia Stolper, Of Counsel, Shearman & Sterling; Vance Center Committee
Ope Osinubi, Senior Associate, Clifford Chance
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Thursday, 12 October

**DAY 2**

11:00 - 11:15 am
Break

11:15 am - 12:15 pm
Panel Discussion Session 2
Pro Bono Practice in Africa: Challenges and prospects.

Assunta Ndami, Team Lead, The Dispute Resolution Hub; Pro Bono Institute of Kenya | Kenya
Funmi Ayeni, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Partnership | Nigeria
Fatima Laher, Head of Pro Bono, Bowmans | RSA
Odette Geldenhuys, Partner, Webber Wentzel | RSA
Andrés Nieto, International Partner, Norton Rose Fulbright | Mexico

**Moderators**
Edwin S. Maynard, Of Counsel, Paul, Weiss; Vance Center Executive Committee
Adaobi Egboka, Africa Program Director, Vance Center

12:15 - 1:15 pm
Lunch

1:15 - 1:45 pm
Keynote Address
Rorisang Mzoxoyana, Senior Legal Counsel, African Legal Fellows Alumni and AWW mentor
Panel Discussion Session 3
African women in the legal profession: Advancing opportunities and addressing challenges.

Ursula Fikelepi, Consultant, PPM Attorneys | RSA
Wangui Kaniaru, Partner, Anjarwalla & Khanna (ALN Kenya); Co-Chair WIP Kenya | Kenya
Patricia Menendez Cambo, former Managing Partner + Deputy General Counsel of SoftBank Group International and General Counsel of SoftBank Latin America Fund; Member, WIP International Steering Committee | USA
Lulu Ng’wanakilala, Chief Executive Officer, Legal Services Facility | Tanzania
Lerisha (Lee) Naidu, Managing Partner, Baker McKenzie | RSA

Moderators
Inosi Nyatta, Partner, Sullivan & Cromwell; Chair, Africa sub-Committee, Vance Center Committee
Zodwa Velleman, Group Executive, Oceana Group

2:45 - 3:00 pm
Break
Panel Discussion Session 4
An organized Bar as a bulwark for a democratic and pluralist society.

Donald Deya, Chief Executive Officer, Pan African Lawyers Union | Tanzania
Sheila Boston, Partner, Arnold & Porter; Immediate Past President of the New York City Bar Association | USA
Stanley Nyamanhindi, Chief Executive Officer, SADC Lawyers’ Association | Zimbabwe
Kaajal Ramjathan-Keogh, Director, Africa Regional Programme, International Commission of Jurists | RSA
Adv Kameshni Pillay, Commissioner, Judicial Services Commission; Legal Practice Council | RSA

Moderators
Lorraine McGowen, Partner, Orrick; Co-Chair, Vance Center Committee
Masechaba Makgolane, Head of Legal, Thungela

Closing Remarks
Alexander Papachristou, Executive Director, Vance Center
Nontuthuzelo Made, Chairperson, African Legal Fellows Network

Networking
The Lawyer as Rule-of-Law Activist: Activating the Next Generation

DAY 3
Friday, 13 October

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Group Visits and Law Firm Meetings
Meetings with partners at law firms and other legal institutions.
Locations to be shared with registered participants

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Justice Bernard Makgabo Ngoepe  
**Tax Ombudsman of South Africa**  
**Former Judge President, Gauteng Division of the High Court**

Justice Bernard Makgabo Ngoepe is Tax Ombudsman of South Africa and the former Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court.

Justice Ngoepe holds graduate (B.Juris) and post-graduate (LLB) law degrees. He practised law for more than 20 years in various fields, including human rights, before his appointment as a Judge of the High Court in 1995, and Judge President of the same Court in 1999. Justice Ngoepe has also acted as Justice of both the Supreme Court of Appeal and the Constitutional Court of South Africa. He was among the inaugural Judges of the African Court, first elected in 2006 for a two-year term and re-elected in 2008 for a six-year term. In September 2013, he was elected Vice President of the Court. Justice Ngoepe is Chairperson of the Appeal Panel of the Press Council of South Africa, and Chairperson of the Appeal Board of the Medical Schemes Council of South Africa. He has also served as a member of the executive committee of the International Association of Refugee Law Judges and Chancellor of the University of South Africa. He has received several awards in recognition of his contribution to the field of human rights, including three honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD).

Rorisang Mzozoyana  
**Senior Legal Counsel**  
**CEO, Of Counsel Ltd.**

Rorisang Mzozoyana is a Senior Legal Counsel (Banking) and CEO of Of Counsel Pty Ltd. She has over 15 years’ practical legal experience, having worked as an attorney for international corporate law firms in New York, Johannesburg and Cape Town and for South African investment banks. She lectured law at the University of Witwatersrand and is the founder and CEO of Of Counsel (Pty) Ltd, a company with the ambitious goal of reshaping how we think about, learn about and practise law. She regularly provides legal training and facilitates workshops and webinars for different organisations.

She is an admitted attorney of the High Court of South Africa and holds an LLM (Corporate Law) from the University of the Witwatersrand, a BA LLB from Rhodes University and a certificate in Training and Development Management from UCT (in collaboration with GetSmarter) amongst other qualifications. She was selected as one of the Mail & Guardian’s 200 Young South Africans (2017).
Adaobi Egboka
Africa Program Director
Vance Center

Adaobi Egboka joined the Vance Center in September 2018 as Africa Program Manager and became Africa Program Director in 2022. She has overall responsibility for the Vance Center’s Africa Program, managing the African Legal Fellows program, including the Power Africa Legal Fellows program, and the Women in Profession program in Africa, and liaising with the directors of the pro bono representation program and the pro bono partnerships program in developing pro bono practice in selected African countries, as well as supporting the Africa Sub-Committee of the Vance Center Committee.

Ms. Egboka has more than ten years of experience in access to justice, rule of law, and good governance and over seven years’ experience in NGO management, project coordination, fundraising, stakeholder management and team/capacity building. She started her professional career in 2007 as legal officer at Legal Defence and Assistance Project (LEDAP), a leading Nigerian human rights NGO, where she rose to the position of the Executive Programmes Director. Her work focused on innovative leadership and the effective application of international and human rights treaties and standards through capacity building, strategic litigation, and advocacy. She also focused on full implementation of laws on justice sector reform and prohibition of Gender Based Violence and on initiating and coordinating pro bono partnerships such as managing the duty solicitor scheme of LEDAP in partnership with the Law Society of England and Wales in 2009. She managed the West African Focal Point of the Coalition for Effective African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights and served as an expert on electoral violence mitigation at The Electoral Institute, Abuja, from February 2015-2016. Ms. Egboka has also served as the Technical Assistant on Police Reform for the Rule of Law Advisory Team in the office of the Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Ms. Egboka received her LLM in Sustainable International Development Law in 2018 from the University of Washington School of Law, graduating with distinction and awarded the Roy Prosterman Leadership Award. Previously, she graduated from the University of Lagos and Nigerian Law School. She was a Barer and PILnet fellow, serving as a visiting scholar at Columbia University Law School and interning at the Center for Reproductive Rights. She also interned at the America Civil Liberties Union of Washington, Columbia Legal Services, and North-West Justice Project, all in Seattle, Washington State.
Edwin S. Maynard
Of Counsel, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison
Outgoing Chair, Vance Center Committee

Of Counsel, retired partner Edwin S. Maynard concentrated primarily on corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions, with an emphasis on crossborder transactions. Prior to his retirement, Ted advised numerous issuers, underwriters and placement agents in connection with cross-border offerings made in Canada and the United States. Ted regularly advised U.S., Canadian and other non-U.S. public companies with respect to cross-border mergers and acquisitions and on their U.S. reporting obligations. He was recognized as a leading lawyer in the area of Capital Markets by Chambers Global, The Legal 500, The Best Lawyers in America and Who’s Who Legal.

Ted spoke frequently on a range of securities law and mergers and acquisitions topics, most often on the effects of legal developments in the U.S. on Canadian companies and their underwriters/agents. For three years, he served as the sole American representative on the Securities Advisory Committee of the Ontario Securities Commission.

A member of the Executive Committee of the Vance Center, Ted recently completed his term as Chair of the Vance Center Committee. Ted has been active in the Vance Center’s work for over two decades, including playing a key role in efforts that led to the 2008 launch of the Pro Bono Declaration of the Americas which commits signing law firms and other legal institutions throughout the Americas to do pro bono work.
Meluleki Nzimande specialises in all aspects of international trade and investment law across a range of sectors including steel, poultry, chemicals, paper, electronics and cement. His work has involved various investigations into customs duty amendments, including anti-dumping, safeguard and other trade remedy investigations conducted in terms of South African law, World Trade Organisation (WTO) law and international agreements such as the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, and the Southern African Customs Union Member States and Mozambique. He also has expertise in matters relating to mergers and acquisitions, anti-corruption law and general commercial law. Meluleki is the former Chief Commissioner of the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC). As Chief Commissioner, he was involved in negotiation of various sector masterplans, including the Sugar masterplan; the Retail, Clothing, Textile, Footwear and Leather masterplan; and was part of the team that spearheaded introduction of export taxes on scrap metal. He has advised on various aspects of international trade agreements, including preferences and rules of origin under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement and Economic Partnership Agreements which the European Union has concluded with various African countries. Meluleki has addressed workshops and seminars in Southern, East and West Africa on the AfCFTA Agreements. Meluleki is a Fellow of the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice, having spent a year working in the corporate department of Skadden Arps, in New York, as part of the Vance Center’s African Legal Fellows Program. Meluleki is a former assistant editor of the South African Journal on Human Rights and former chairperson of the National Democratic Lawyers Association, Johannesburg Branch, and has acted as external examiner to the University of the Witwatersrand’s Law School.
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SPEAKER BIOS

Alexander Papachristou
Executive Director
Vance Center

Alexander Papachristou joined the Vance Center as Executive Director in January 2012. He directs the organization’s overall operations and focuses on its programmatic and institutional initiatives, as well as fundraising. He co-founded Reporters Shield and leads the legal work of that global program to defend public interest journalism. Mr. Papachristou serves as the board secretary of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, board member of Bard College Berlin, and member of the advisory boards of the Prison Journalism Project and the Environmental Reporting Collective. He recently served on the European Commission Anti-SLAPP Working Group. Mr. Papachristou previously was president of the Near East Foundation, a participatory, community-based economic and social development organization working in Arab and African countries. For the preceding 18 years, Mr. Papachristou engaged in cross-border corporate finance in advisory and proprietary roles: he served as managing director and general counsel at NCH Capital, which invests in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; he lived in Russia from 1989 to 1993, where he opened and ran the Moscow office of White & Case. Mr. Papachristou also worked in the law firm of Clifford & Warnke in Washington, DC and was policy assistant to New York Governor Mario Cuomo. He served as law clerk to US District Judge Myron H. Thompson in the Middle District of Alabama. In 2011, The New Press published Blind Goddess: A Race and Justice Reader, which Mr. Papachristou edited. Mr. Papachristou received an LLM and JD from Harvard Law School and an AB from Princeton University, as well as Arabic language training at the American University in Cairo.
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PANEL 1

Tshepo Legodi
Divisional Executive: Legal and Compliance (General Counsel)
Industrial Development Corporation

Tshepo Legodi is a business executive with more than 20 years' experience in providing bespoke commercial legal solutions. She specialises in Corporate Law, Commercial Law, Compliance and Regulatory Management, Corporate & Project Finance, Business Rescue and Litigation Management. In her current role, she is responsible for developing, managing and implementing the Legal and Compliance strategy in line with the Corporation’s investment decisions, ensuring effective financial, reputational, and strategic risk mitigation.

Ayanda Ngubo
Partner
Webber Wentzel

Ayanda Ngubo specialises in civil law and matters relating to socio-economic rights with a major focus on HIV and gender discrimination. She has substantial experience in matters relating to access to justice, administrative law, traditional authorities and constitutional law. Ayanda has assisted various non-profit organisations to incorporate as non-profit companies, trusts or non-profit organisations with the Department of Social Development. She has also helped several non-profit organisations to re-structure for effective governance and has gained vast experience in the healthcare sector.

Ibi Ogunbiyi
Partner
Olaniwun Ajayi

Ibi Ogunbiyi is a Partner in the Power and Infrastructure team of the Firm (widely regarded as Nigeria’s flagship power practice). She has amassed several years of cross-disciplinary experience advising on banking and financial regulation, corporate restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, insolvency, corporate and commercial law. Ibi has been integral to many of the Firm’s notable transactions in complex project financings, power and infrastructure project developments, power sector advisory, public-private partnerships, concessions, and corporate financings. She routinely provides general corporate commercial advisory to a myriad of clients in various sectors of the economy. Ibi was a multiple prize winner and the top graduating student of her class at the University of Ibadan.
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PANEL 1

Ope Osinubi
Senior Associate
Clifford Chance

Ope Osinubi is a Senior Associate in Clifford Chance’s Energy & Infrastructure Group in London. Ope is qualified in New York and Nigeria. Ope is a finance lawyer with experience in project, acquisition and general financing across Africa, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. He is passionate about natural resources and infrastructure and interested in financing sustainable enterprises.

Steven Powell
Executive, Forensics
ENSafrica

Steven Powell is Head of ENSafrica’s Forensics practice. He is a renowned specialist white-collar crime prosecutor and forensics lawyer. Steven specialises in leading financial crime investigations that result in successful disciplinary and criminal proceedings as well as the recovery of losses from offenders in both civil and criminal matters. Steven has been appointed to act for the South African Asset Forfeiture Unit to execute a multitude of restraint and forfeiture orders to recover the proceeds of crime flowing from corporate fraud, drug and abalone smuggling. He has performed investigations in, amongst others, the financial, oil and gas, mining, insurance and retail sectors in multiple jurisdictions in Africa. Steven’s experience also includes anti-fraud and corruption matters and assisting clients to meet the anti-corruption compliance requirements in the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the UK Bribery Act, as well as the South African Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act. Steven also assists clients with anti-fraud and anti-bribery risk assessments, training, due diligence and compliance programmes. Steven has been commended for his contribution to the work of the judicial enquiry into State Capture led by Judge Raymond Zondo in South Africa. He was recognised as the Financial Crime Investigator of the year for 2022 by the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators (IAFCI) at their annual award ceremony in Washington, DC. Steven is frequently invited to present on white-collar crime, fraud and corruption issues throughout Africa and lectures on these topics at local universities.
Antonia E. Stolper  
Of Counsel, Shearman & Sterling  
Vice Chair for Latin America, Vance Center Committee  

Antonia Stolper is Of Counsel in Shearman & Sterling’s Capital Markets – Americas practice group after retiring as a partner of Shearman & Sterling for 25 years at the end of 2020.  
Antonia represents Latin American corporate and sovereign issuers and their underwriters in debt and equity securities offerings and issuers, dealer managers and creditors on restructuring transactions in Latin America. In addition, she advises a number of Latin American issuers on their ongoing SEC reporting requirements and corporate governance matters. Antonia represents corporate, financial institution and sovereign clients, including Ecopetrol, Intercorp, Banco de Chile, and Trinidad & Tobago. Antonia has been representing The Nature Conservancy pro bono in the debt for nature swaps in support of marine conservation carried out by Belize, Barbados and most recently Gabon.  
She is Vice-Chair for Latin America of the Vance Center, where she has worked closely with the Women in the Profession project and in expanding pro bono practice of private lawyers, particularly in Latin America. She is one of two U.S. members of the Vance Center’s Lawyers Council for Civil and Economic Rights.

Lindi Atieno Vundla  
Senior Corporate Counsel - Head of Legal: Sub-Saharan Africa  
Amazon  

Lindi Vundla is a legal professional with experience across Africa in the aviation, educational publishing, and technology sectors. She is a continental legal lead with in-depth experience in commercial, corporate, competition/antitrust, anti-bribery and corruption (UK Bribery Act/FCPA), corporate governance, and general advisory law. Lindi has also represented the South African aviation industry at IATA and the technology industry at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Africa. She has a special interest in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, with a particular focus on socioeconomic equality.
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**Funmi Ayeni**  
**Executive Director**  
**The Public Interest Law Partnership**

Funmi Ayeni is a passionate public administrator specialising in Public Law and Policy. Since 2012, she has been the pioneer Executive Director of the Public Interest Law Partnership (PILP) initially running the project from the State’s Attorney General’s office by implementing policies aimed at enhancing access to justice and developing the culture of pro bono in the country. She has since developed the public-private partnership into an NGO, working with the Vice President of Nigeria’s office to expand its operations to a national scale. She founded the PILP Pro Bono Week which includes the Governor’s Pro Bono Awards as well as legal clinics and conferences. Under her leadership, the PILP has grown to a network of over 300 partner law firms and NGOs providing pro bono services to the underserved. She consistently designs and facilitates cross-border projects aimed at amplifying pro bono work locally and internationally. Prior to PILP, she was an associate at Banwo & Ighodalo. She holds an LL.B and LL.M. degree from the University of Warwick, UK and University of California, Berkeley, USA respectively. She has a certificate in Public Interest and Social Justice from the latter and is a member of the Nigerian Bar.

**Odette Geldenhuys**  
**Partner**  
**Webber Wentzel**

Odette’s expertise is broadly in the field of public interest law with an overarching career interest in access to justice. As a documentary filmmaker and a participant in the independent film industry, she has also advised on aspects of entertainment law. She founded the first pro bono clearinghouse in South Africa in 2006. Prior to that she was responsible for implementing the Justice Centre model for Legal Aid South Africa. Odette held a leadership position with the Legal Resources Centre and a project officer position with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.
Fatima Laher
Head of Pro Bono
Bowmans

Fatima Laher is a practising attorney in South Africa. She has a B.Proc and LLB degrees from the University of Witwatersrand. She is the Head of Pro Bono at law firm Bowmans, a position she has occupied for 12 years. Her work entails the oversight, management and coordination of Bowmans pro bono work across its 7 offices in Africa, giving her unique insight into the pro bono work undertaken on the continent. Over the past ten years Bowmans has received a number of international and international accolades for the pro bono work the firm undertakes. Previously she worked for Legal Aid South Africa, in its Impact Litigation Unit, funding and undertaking public interest litigation in favour of those unable to afford lawyers. Fatima has a career devoted to helping those who would otherwise find it difficult to access the justice system to exercise their rights.

Assunta Ndami
Partner and Team Lead, Full Circle Centre LLP
Consultant, Pro Bono Institute of Kenya

Assunta Ndami, based in Nairobi, is an Access-to-Justice Enthusiast and Dispute Resolution Practitioner with a passion for alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Having studied and worked in Kenya, the UK and France, she has carved a niche in the practice of commercial law and ADR. Her expertise extends to domestic and international commercial arbitration, where she has served as a sole arbitrator and acted as a Tribunal Secretary, and has successfully conducted over 50 mediations as a sole mediator. Fluent in English, Swahili, and French, Assunta is dedicated to promoting ADR awareness through her work as Team Lead of the Full Circle Dispute Resolution Hub, which offers affordable ADR services in Kenya and builds societal awareness of ADR. In 2023, the DR Hub won the Grassroots Innovator Challenge, recognized as an access to justice innovator using basic technological infusions to promote online resolution of community disputes. For her legal aid work with Qlegal (UK) and input towards Queen Mary CCLS partnership with Strathmore University to establish an Entrepreneurship Law Clinic, she won the Commitment to CCLS, Queen Mary Award 2022. Since 2022, Assunta has spearheaded the establishment of Kenya’s first Clearing House (now known as the Pro Bono Institute of Kenya) which aims to support the increasing demand for legal aid from civil society organizations. As the Institute’s implementation consultant, she developed and implemented a study to assess and document legal needs of diverse stakeholders, including vulnerable populations and civil society organizations. She has also developed and managed relationships with law firms and companies for the Institute to set up a sustainability structure.
Andrés Nieto
International Partner
Norton Rose Fulbright

Andrés Nieto is an International Partner in Norton Rose Fulbright’s Mexico City office. With more than 20 years of experience in Mexico, New York and Latin America, Andrés has a multidisciplinary practice, with an emphasis on banking and finance law, capital markets, fintech, corporate law, contracts, mergers and acquisitions, private equity, arbitration and alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Andrés has advised Mexican and foreign companies in their most important and strategic operations in Mexico and Latin America. His clients’ portfolio includes regional and multinational companies, as well as financial institutions, listed in the Fortune 50 and Fortune 500, as well as the Dow Jones, S&P 500, DAX, TSX and the Nikkei.

Since the beginning of his professional career, Andrés has actively participated in pro bono initiatives, as well as in programs to support diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Specifically, Andrés was distinguished as a “pro bono fellow” at Columbia Law School, is the former secretary of the Board of Directors of the Mexican Pro Bono Foundation, the former vice-chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the International Law Section of the American Bar Association, a member of the Mexican Pro Bono Standards, and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Centro Pro Bono Mexico (one of the most renowned pro bono clearinghouses in Mexico and member of the Pro Bono Network of the Americas (an initiative promoted by the Vance Center). In addition to his private practice, Andrés is a professor of capital markets and fintech at the Universidad Panamericana.
Ursula Nobulali Fikelepi
Consultant
PPM Attorneys

Ursula has 23 years PQE, having practised at Webber Wentzel in Johannesburg and Sullivan & Cromwell in New York City. Her experience includes in-house legal counsel experience at Goldman Sachs (as a visiting lawyer) and as Deputy Director-General at the Department of Public Enterprises, Chief Operations Officer at Absa Group Legal and General Counsel at South African Airways (SoC) Ltd. Ursula’s focus areas are legal services and support in mergers and acquisitions, banking and finance, corporate governance, public administration law, intellectual property law and commercial law. Ursula is the managing director of Emmaus Holdings, an owner-operated boutique legal and corporate advisory consultancy. She advises stock-exchange listed clients on company secretarial, legal and compliance matters and transactions. She was a director on the board of directors of SA Corp, a JSE-listed real estate investment trust from 2018-2019 and TransnetSoC Ltd from 2018 - 2023, a national freight logistics state-owned company, the custodian of ports, rail, and pipelines in South Africa. Ursula holds a BA (Rhodes University), an LLB (University of Cape Town), an LLM in Intellectual Property Law (University of New Hampshire, USA), an MBA (GIBS) and a Masters in Divinity (Regent University, USA). Ursula is a Fulbright Scholar, a Life fellow of the Southern Africa-United States Centre for Public Values and a fellow of the Cyrus R. Vance Center of the New York City Bar Association.

Wangui Kaniaru
Partner
ALN Kenya | Anjarwalla & Khanna

Wangui Kaniaru is a Partner at ALN Kenya | Anjarwalla & Khanna and a member of the Corporate department. Her practice primarily focuses on corporate law, where she advises acquiring firms and targets in commercial transactions, including structuring joint ventures in multiple jurisdictions, asset purchase acquisitions, disposals of businesses, share purchase acquisitions which require due diligence investigations and group restructurings in regulated and unregulated industries. She has also advises on telecommunications and data protection matters. Prior to working at ALN Kenya and ALN, an alliance of independent top tier African law firms, she worked as an Associate at Clifford Chance in New York. Wangui also co-authored the 2015 Kenya chapter on mergers and acquisitions for publicly listed companies published by the International Financial Law Review (IFLR), touching on national and regional capital markets trends and issues. She is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a Member of the New York State Bar.
The Lawyer as Rule-of-Law Activist: Activating the Next Generation

PANEL 3

Patricia Menendez Cambo
Formerly Managing Partner & Deputy General Counsel
SoftBank

Patricia Menendez Cambo was formerly Managing Partner and Deputy General Counsel of SoftBank Group International and Board Member and General Counsel of the SoftBank Latin America Fund and SB Opportunity Fund. Patricia was also a member of the Board of Directors and the Investment Committee of SBLA, a registered investment advisor.

Prior to joining SoftBank, Patricia was the Vice Chair of Greenberg Traurig and a member of the Executive Committee. During her tenure at Greenberg Traurig she held numerous positions, including Chair of the Global Corporate Practice.

Patricia previously served as Subdirector General for Telefonica S.A. She was a member of the Board of Directors and General Counsel to several of Telefonica’s global new technology subsidiaries operating in over 15 jurisdictions.

Patricia is a member of several boards, including the Latam Strategic Advisory Board of Itaú Unibanco, the Advisory Board of the Woodrow Wilson Center/Latin American Program, the Americas Society/Council of the Americas, where she was a Cofounder of the COA Women’s Hemisphere Network, the Board of Advisors for the University of Pennsylvania Law School and a member of The Board of Trustees for The University of Miami. Patricia was selected as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum and has received various awards such as “Visionary Leader of the Year” at the 2018 BRAVO Business Awards and “Leader in the Women in the Profession Program” from the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice in 2022. Patricia also currently serves as an independent director for public and private boards.
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PANEL 3

Lulu Ng’wanakilala
Chief Executive Officer, Legal Services Facility (LSF)
Board Chairperson of the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (Tawla)

Lulu Ng’wanakilala is a seasoned expert in Leadership, Management, Women Rights and Access to Justice, Gender and development programs. Most recent position is the CEO of the Legal Services Facility (LSF), a Basket Fund, providing Access to Justice for all, in particular women. She was previously Country Representative of Engender Health, a global gender and public health organization, the Executive Director of UMATI, The Family Planning Association of Tanzania, and is a fully accredited member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). She has been working in Leadership and Senior Management positions for over 15 years, in which she has led teams focusing on; Public Health, Women and Girl’s Rights and Empowerment, Youth, Access to Justice and Human Rights, both in Tanzania and internationally. She has in total over 20 years working in Leadership, specifically on Women’s Rights, Gender and Development programs. She is the Board Chairperson of the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA), Vice Chairperson of the Tanzania Forestry Fund (TaFF), the Vice Chairperson of Tanzania Start ups Association (TSA) and International Board Chairperson of Railway Children Africa (RCA). She is a Non-Executive Board Director of ABSA Bank, a founding and Board member of the Tanzania Center for Communication and Development (TCDC), an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, and a Board Member of the East African Philanthropic Network (EAPN).

Ms Ng’wanakilala holds a Masters degree (LLM) in International Law and Human Rights from the University of Liverpool, UK; a Bachelor’s degree (LLB) in Law from the University of Dar es Salaam, an Executive MBA from NIPD and University of Chester, UK. She also has a Management qualification from the Chartered Institute for Personnel and Development (CIPD), UK; a Postgraduate in Business and Management from the Liverpool John Moores University in the UK; Leadership in Strategic Health Communication (LSHC) from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Communication Programs (CCP), USA.
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PANEL 3

Lerisha (Lee) Naidu
Managing Partner
Baker McKenzie

Lerisha (Lee) Naidu is the managing partner and head of Baker McKenzie’s Antitrust & Competition Practice Group in Johannesburg. She practices across the spectrum of antitrust law, taking on mandates for key clients in Africa. She advises and represents international and domestic clients in mergers and acquisitions, prohibited practices (including cartel-related matters), and compliance and risk mitigation. She has appeared before the Competition Tribunal of South Africa in merger proceedings, and has also worked on matters relating to clients involved in Tribunal proceedings. Lee provides pro bono assistance to non-profit organisations such as Lawyers Against Abuse, Bomakoti Bewundlu Praying and the Johannesburg Pride Foundation. She has delivered numerous presentations on empowering young leaders and championing inclusion and diversity. Lee led the team representing the South African Human Rights’ Commission in Caster Semenya v Switzerland before the European Court of Human Rights. In September 2023, Lee won the African Legal Awards Partner of the Year award for Southern Africa for her legal excellence, innovation and leadership.

Zodwa Velleman
Group Executive, Corporate & Regulatory Affairs
Oceana Group

Before joining Oceana, Zodwa was the CEO of the Vaping Products Association of SA (VPSA). Prior to her role at VPSA Zodwa was Board Member, Legal, Corporate Security and Corporate Affairs Executive Director for HEINEKEN SA. She also served as Company Secretary & Executive Director responsible for Legal and Corporate Security, Brandhouse JV (a Diageo led JV with Heineken Plc and Namibia Brewery Ltd). Zodwa is an admitted attorney of the High Court of South Africa with international experience in litigation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, corporate and commercial law across a range of industries including Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), petrochemical, fishing and pharmaceuticals. She served her articles and also worked for Edward Nathan Sonnenberg Africa before moving to Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, based in New York City. Zodwa obtained her B Juris and LLB from the University of the Western Cape and also studied at UCT and Stellenbosch Universities. She is a registered LLM (Environmental Law) student at WITS. Zodwa graduated Cum Laude in a Gibs Leadership Development Programme and recently completed a course in Public Policy with LSE.
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Sheila S. Boston
Partner, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
Immediate Past President of the New York City Bar Association

Sheila S. Boston is a litigation partner at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP. She is a trial lawyer and litigation strategist who defends clients from initiation of the case through trial and/or settlement. A member of her law firm’s Product Liability Group and Complex Commercial Litigation Department, Sheila has successfully litigated before both state and federal courts, with significant MDL experience in mass tort actions. An active participant in her firm, she serves on both the Policy and Pro Bono Committees, and is an elected Ombudsperson at the firm.

Sheila has been recognized by Who’s Who Legal in Product Liability Defence every year since 2012. Sheila frequently represents pro bono as well as corporate clients and is active in several bar associations. In recognition of her service, she was on City & State New York’s Law Power 100 List in 2021 and 2022. Sheila has received other accolades including The American Lawyer’s Northeast “Trailblazers” list in 2021; a National Law Journal 2020 Litigation Trailblazer award; 2019 New York City Legal Services Honoree; 2015 Most Influential Black Lawyers recognition by Savoy Magazine; and a New York Law Journal’s 2014 Lifetime Achievement award. She was honored in 2021 by her alma mater, the Columbia Law School Alumni Association, for her “contributions to Columbia Law School and to the legal community [that] have been of inestimable value.”

Sheila is the Immediate Past President of the New York City Bar Association, an organization comprising about 24,000 members and which has over 150 committees, tasks forces and working groups. Her presidency had notable historical importance, as Sheila was the first woman of color to serve as the organization’s President in its over 150 years of existence. In October 2022, she was awarded the John J. McCloy Memorial Award by The Fund for Modern Courts for her commitment to improving the NY Judicial System. Appointed by the Chief Judge of the Second Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, Sheila is currently serving her second term on the Court’s Committee on Admissions and Grievances. She also serves as the Chair of DRI’s Drug and Medical Device Committee.

A passionate advocate of diversity, equity and inclusion, Sheila has won several awards for her efforts including the prestigious Chambers Diversity Awards USA 2016 inaugural award for her “Outstanding Contribution to Furthering the Advancement of Diversity in the Legal Profession, Private Practice.” She has also been recognized by entities including the Judicial Friends with the 2021 Jane Bolin Award; the Corporate Counsel’s Women Influence & Power In Law; the National Bar Association; the New York State Unified Court System’s Black History Month Committee; and Columbia Law School’s Black Law Student Association.

Sheila received her A.B. in the School of Public and International Affairs from Princeton University in 1990, and her J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1993. She is admitted to practice law in New York State Courts, the SDNY, the EDNY, the NDNY, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States.
Donald Deya
Chief Executive Officer
Pan African Lawyers Union

Donald Deya is the Chief Executive Officer of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU), based in Arusha, Tanzania. He was previously Chief Executive of the East Africa Law Society and, before that, Acting CEO of the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists, and Deputy CEO of the Law Society of Kenya. He has keen interest in—and has researched, spoken and written on—continental and regional integration; constitutionalism; democracy and good governance; the just rule of law and promotion and protection of human rights and access to justice; HIV, Human Rights and Legislation; the interface between law, human rights and information and communications technologies (ICTs); and, lately, international criminal justice in Africa. He is Councillor of the African Forum of the International Bar Association (AfriBA) and former Secretary of its Executive Committee. Don is also a member of the International Bar Association; International Law Association; Society for International Development; Commonwealth Lawyers’ Association; International Commission of Jurists; East Africa Law Society; Southern African Development Community Lawyers’ Association; Law Society of Kenya; and several other non-profits.

Masechaba Makgolane
Head of Legal
Thungela

Masechaba Makgolane has more than 15 years’ experience in the legal profession. Early in her career, Masechaba specialised in private equity mergers and acquisitions and general commercial work, but over the years, she has developed a range of generalist expertise, stretching across several sectors and disciplines, such as the financial services industry and the public sector. In her current role, Masechaba is responsible for developing, maintaining and revising the overall legal strategy and approach for Thungela, in accordance with evolving legislative requirements in mining. She also provides support on significant or high value commercial transactions. She’s a permanent invitee on Thungela’s Audit Committee, Risk and Sustainability Committee and Social and Ethics Committee. She also serves as a trustee on the board of trustees of Thungela’s Sisonke Employee Empowerment Scheme, and a trustee on the board of trustees of the Witbank Coalfield Medical Aid Scheme, a restricted membership scheme which services Thungela’s employees and other associated employer groups. In 2018, she began a full-time international MBA program from IE Business School in Madrid, Spain, and was awarded the African Talent Fellowship. Masechaba is a wife to a supportive partner that consistently champions her success, and a mother to their precocious 20-month old daughter.
Lorraine McGowen
Partner, Orrick
Co-Chair, Vance Center Committee

Lorraine McGowen is a leading bankruptcy and restructuring attorney, a well-known advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in the legal profession, and a leader with more than 15 years of board and management experience. Lorraine has 30+ years of legal experience in bankruptcies, out-of-court restructurings, sovereign debt restructurings and creditors’ rights controversies. She interfaces with auditors, government regulators, investment bankers and others, and develops and implements mediation and litigation strategies, and negotiates reorganization plans and complex corporate and finance documents. She also regularly provides commercial law and bankruptcy advice in connection with securitization, M&A, energy & infrastructure and general corporate transactions.

Lorraine has represented various stakeholders in bankruptcies, workouts, distressed debt transactions, sovereign debt restructurings, bankruptcy litigation, derivatives, and distressed acquisition matters such as Suriname, Belize, Puerto Rico, Takata Corporation, Windstream, GTT, Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Lehman, MF Global, Indiana Toll Road, Chemtura Corporation, Tronox Incorporated, South Bay Expressway, American Dream School, Detroit, General Motors, and Stone & Webster.

Lorraine is a member of Orrick’s Management Committee and is Partner in Charge of its global DEI Initiatives. She previously served two terms on the firm’s 11-member Board of Directors and also previously chaired its Restructuring Group. As a leading DEI advocate, Lorraine creates programs for the legal profession and the community. She was selected as a 2019 Rainmaker by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association (MCCA) and as one of Savoy Magazine’s Most Influential Black Lawyers for 2018 and 2015 and received Legal Outreach’s Pipeline to Diversity 2017 Champion Award and the New York City Bar Association Diversity and Inclusion 2012 Champion Award. She is a frequent speaker and author on bankruptcy and insolvency and diversity and inclusion. She is a former Vice President and Board Member of the New York City Bar Association and currently co-chairs the City Bar’s Digital Assets Task Force. She is Chair of Board of Directors for the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest and Co-Chair of the Vance Center Committee. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession and on the Advisory Committees for Legal Outreach.
Stanley Nyamanhindi
Chief Executive Officer
SADC Lawyers Association

Stanley Nyamanhindi is the Chief Executive Officer of the SADC Lawyers Association, and also serves as the CEO of the Arbitration foundation of Southern Africa’s SADC Division.

Stanley is a Pan African Human Rights Lawyer and Development Practitioner with vast experience working at the intersection of civic society, business, and government at national, regional and international levels; in particular, policy development, harmonization and alignment in human rights, rule of law, democracy, governance, and regional economic integration. Stanley is mediator and arbitrator and administers the first ever Southern African Regional Seat for international Commercial Arbitration and Investment Dispute Resolution initiative.

Stanley has led regional mediation and regional election observer missions in SADC and played a central expert role in the drafting and operationalisation of key policies, protocols and sector specific regulatory frameworks for the SADC region. He has a passion for promoting access to justice and currently spearheads three key initiatives to enhance access to justice and regional economic integration in the SADC Region. (i) The establishment of the SADC Regional Seat for International Commercial Arbitration and Investment Dispute Resolution, (ii) the institutionalisation of a Regional Support fund for independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession in SADC, and (iii) coordination of the establishment of a regional pro bono and public interest law network. Key policies developed include the Pan African Model Gendered Electoral Law and guidelines to implementation of the SADC Model Law on Elections.

Stanley holds an LLB from the University of Zimbabwe and a Master’s in Public Policy and Governance from Africa University. He is a Final Year Candidate for the Master of Laws in Multidisciplinary Human Rights at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria and has completed the AFSA Advanced Master Class in Advanced Arbitration with focus on International Commercial Arbitration.
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PANEL 4

Adv Kameshni Pillay
Member, Legal Practice Council

Kameshni Pillay SC was admitted an advocate at the Johannesburg Bar in 2001 and was confirmed as senior counsel in 2014. She represents Advocates for Transformation on the Judicial Service Commission and is a member of the Legal Practice Council. Adv Pillay holds a BA, LLB and LLM from Wits University. She has acted as an evidence leader for the Marikana Commission of Inquiry as well as the Commission for Fee Free Higher Education and Training. She has also practised as an attorney at the Legal Resources Centre, and served as a Board member for Legal Aid South Africa and Equal Education Law Centre.

Kaajal Ramjathan-Keogh
Director, Africa Regional Programme
International Commission of Jurists

Kaajal Ramjathan-Keogh holds the B.Proc LLB degrees from the University of Kwa Zulu Natal. She is the Director of the Africa Programme at the International Commission of Jurists. She was employed at Lawyers for Human Rights (South Africa) from 2002-2014 where she initially headed the Immigration Detention Monitoring Unit and thereafter as Manager of the Refugee and Migrants Rights Programme. She was the Executive Director of the Southern Africa Litigation Centre from 2015–2020, where she led many strategic litigation cases focusing on various human rights issues and in particular judicial independence, rule of law, international criminal justice, freedom of expression and association. She has significant experience and expertise in the fields of asylum and refugee protection, migration, citizenship, and statelessness. She also has experience in international criminal justice and freedom of expression. Kaajal sits pro bono on several boards of non-profit organisations. She was previously Board Chair of the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa from 2007-2011. She was also Board Chair of Freedom House’s Advancing Rights in Southern Africa Programme. She sat on the board of the Southern African Human Rights Defenders Network, South African History Archive and Sonke Gender Justice. She currently sits on the boards of the Centre for Child Law, Centre for Environmental Rights, Lawyers for Human Rights and the International Detention Coalition.