

## INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW SYMPOSIUM IAFL WITH EALS AND CLA

Trademark Hotel, Village Market, Nairobi

Program as at 16 July 2025

Tuesday 2 September	
09:00 - 09:15	<b>INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME</b> <b>Moderator: Patricia Mundia, IAFL</b> <b>Faith Odhiambo</b> , President, Law Society of Kenya <b>Ramadhan Abubakar</b> , President, East Africa Law Society (Kenya) <b>Maria Mbeneka</b> , Treasurer, Commonwealth Lawyers Association (Kenya) <b>Rachael Kelsey</b> , President, International Academy of Family Lawyers (Scotland)
09:15 - 09:30	<b>SESSION 1</b>
	<b>GENDER INEQUALITY IN FAMILY LAWS IN AFRICA: An Overview Of Key Trends in 20 African Countries</b> <b>Moderator: Pat Moodley, IAFL</b> <b>Esther Waweru</b> , Senior Legal Adviser, Equality Now (Kenya)
09:30 - 10:30	<b>SESSION 2</b>
	<b>CROSS BORDER AJS AND NCDR</b> <b>Moderator: Patricia Mundia, IAFL</b> <b>Speakers:</b> <b>Chacha Odera</b> (Kenya)

	<p><b>Florida Kabasinga</b> (Rwanda)</p> <p><b>Anthony Asimwe</b> (Uganda)</p> <p><b>Meseret Bahiru Temesgen</b> (Ethiopia)</p> <p><b>Efe Etomi</b> (Nigeria)</p>
<b>10:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>Tea and Networking</b>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<b>SESSION 3</b>
	<p><b>AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD (ACERWC)</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Pat Moodley, IAFL</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Honourable Anne Musiwa Rapporteur of ACERWC (Zimbabwe)</b></li> </ul>
<b>11:15 - 13:00</b>	<b>SESSION 4</b>
	<p><b>HAGUE CONVENTIONS IN AFRICA: Adoption, Abduction and Child Support Conventions</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Maria Mbeneka, Commonwealth Lawyers Association</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Hon. Judge Constance Baratang Mocumie, Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal (South Africa)</b></li> <li>• <b>Phillipe Lortie</b>, First Secretary, Hague Conference on Private International Law HCCH (Netherlands)</li> <li>• <b>Adelaide Benneh Prempeh</b> (Ghana)</li> <li>• <b>Leah Kiguatha</b> (Kenya)</li> <li>• <b>The Hon. Lady Justice Fiona Mwale (Malawi)</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Hon. Associate Chief Justice Gwen Hatch</b> of the Court of King's Bench (Family Division) (Manitoba, Canada)</li> <li>• <b>Joëlle Schickel-Küng</b> (Switzerland)</li> </ul>
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00 - 15:15</b>	<b>SESSION 5</b>
	<p><b>CHILD RIGHTS' IMPLEMENTATION, DATA, IDENTITY AND PROTECTION</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja</b>, Child Justice Adviser to the Chief Justice of Kenya (Kenya)</p> <p><b>Speakers :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mia Dambach</b>, Executive Director, Child Identity Protection (Switzerland)</li> <li>• <b>Diahann Gordon Harrison</b>, Children's Advocate of Jamaica (Jamaica)</li> <li>• <b>Rachael Kelsey</b>, IAFL and CLA Family Law Committee Member (Scotland)</li> </ul>
<b>15:15 - 16:15</b>	<b>SESSION 6</b>
	<p><b>SURROGACY AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Patricia Mundia</b>, IAFL</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Hon. Millie Grace Akoth Odhiambo Mabona</b>, Member of Parliament (Kenya)</li> <li>• <b>Karabo Ozah</b>, Director of the Centre for Child Law (South Africa)</li> <li>• <b>Prof Jens Scherpe</b>, Aalborg University (Denmark)</li> <li>• <b>Prof Julia Sloth-Nielsen</b>, (South Africa)</li> </ul>

<b>16:15 - 16:45</b>	<b>SESSION 7</b>
	<p><b>CRADLE-</b> A Celebration</p> <p>Chaired by <b>Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja</b>, Child Justice Adviser to the Chief Justice of Kenya (Kenya)</p>
<b>16:45 - 17:00</b>	<p><b>Close</b></p> <p><b>Rachael Kelsey</b>, IAFL (Scotland)</p>
<b>17:00 – 18:30</b>	<b>Drinks Reception</b>