

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW SYMPOSIUM IAFL WITH EALS AND CLA

Trademark Hotel, Village Market, Nairobi

Program as at 22 August 2025

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

	Anthony Asiimwe (Uganda) Prisca Chogero (Tanzania) Meseret Bahru Temesghen (Ethiopia) Efe Etomi (Nigeria) Dr Joseph Yav (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
10:30 - 11:00	Tea and Networking
11:00 – 11:15	SESSION 3
	UN COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF CHILD Moderator: Pat Moodley, IAFL Speaker: Timothy Ekesa, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child; Director, Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children
11:15 - 13:00	SESSION 4
	HAGUE CONVENTIONS IN AFRICA: Adoption, Abduction and Child Support Conventions Moderator: Maria Mbeneka, Commonwealth Lawyers Association Speakers: • The Hon. Judge Constance Baratang Mocumie, Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal (South Africa) • Phillipe Lortie, First Secretary, Hague Conference on Private International Law HCCH (Netherlands) • Adelaide Benneh Prempeh (Ghana) • Leah Kiguatha (Kenya) • The Hon. Associate Chief Justice Gwen Hatch of the Court of King's Bench (Family Division) (Manitoba, Canada)

	• Joëlle Schickel-Küng (Switzerland)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:15	SESSION 5
	CHILD RIGHTS' IMPLEMENTATION, DATA, IDENTITY AND PROTECTION Moderator: Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and Lecturer, Kabarak University, School of Law (Kenya) Speakers : • Nankali Maksud, Child Protection Regional Advisor, UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Office (Kenya) • Mia Dambach, Executive Director, Child Identity Protection (Switzerland) • Everlyne Simiju, Directorate of Strategy, Planning & Organizational Productivity, Judiciary of Kenya (Kenya) • Diahann Gordon Harrison, Children's Advocate of Jamaica (Jamaica) • Rachael Kelsey, IAFL and CLA Family Law Committee Member (Scotland)
15:15 - 16:15	SESSION 6
	SURROGACY AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS Moderator: Patricia Mundia, IAFL Speakers: • The Hon. Millie Grace Akoth Odhiambo Mabona, Member of Parliament (Kenya) • Karabo Ozah, Director of the Centre for Child Law (South Africa) • Prof Jens Scherpe, Aalborg University (Denmark)

16:15 - 16:45	SESSION 7
	CRADLE- A Celebration Chaired by Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and Lecturer, Kabarak University, School of Law (Kenya)
16:45 - 17:00	Close Rachael Kelsey, IAFL (Scotland)
17:00 – 18:30	Drinks Reception