

A conference co-presented by the IBA African Regional Forum and the Rwanda Bar Association, supported by the IBA Law Firm Management Committee and the East Africa Law Society



the global voice of
the legal profession



Biennial IBA African Regional Forum Conference: future-proofing the African legal profession:

meeting the opportunities of regional
integration, technological disruption and
fostering sustainability



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13–15 September 2023, Kigali, Rwanda

Topics include:

- Regional integration: prospects for the successful implementation of AfCFTA
- Technological disruption in the African legal sector
- The ESG agenda in Africa: from people, business and legal perspectives
- Opportunities and challenges for regulating new tech players in African services sectors
- Mapping international arbitration in Africa: what has changed in the last decade?
- Data protection and privacy: the art of risk-management
- Is the future of international criminal law domestic?
- Training the future lawyer: is current legal education fit for 21st century purpose?
- Making a success of the post-pandemic law firm
- The evolution of Force Majeure clauses in commercial contracts to address emerging global treats

Young Lawyers Seminar and Bar Leaders Summit on 13 September 2023

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Programme

Conference Co-Chairs

Florida Kabasinga *East Africa Law Society, Arusha*

Nankunda Katangaza *Hook Tangaza, London; Advisory Board Member, IBA African Regional Forum*

Victor Mugabe *Kigali International Arbitration Centre, Kigali*

Caliis Nii Oman Badoo *Securities & Exchange Commission Legal & Enforcement Department, Accra; Chair, IBA African Regional Forum*

Wednesday 13 September

1900 – 2100 **Opening cocktail**

Thursday 14 September

0800 – 1430 **Registration**

0900 – 0915 **Welcome address and introduction to Keynote speaker**

Almudena Arpon de Mendivil *Gomez Acebo & Pombo, Madrid; IBA President*

Moïse Nkundabarashi *Trust Law Chambers, Kigali; President, Rwanda Bar Association*

Carola Van den Bruinhorst *Loyens & Loeff, Amsterdam; Chair, IBA Legal Practice Division*

0915 – 0945 **Keynote speaker**

Dr Emmanuel Ugirashebuja *Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Kigali*

0945 – 1100 **Plenary session**

Regional integration: prospects for the successful implementation of AfCFTA

- What do new free trade agreements between African states and the UK or US mean for African regional integration?
- Do trends from outside the continent such as Brexit and the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement have any lessons for African agreements?
- The lessons from cross border legal services in regional blocs before the African Continental Free Trade Area (what new approach is expected?)
- What are the experiences of pan-African law firms thus far?

Moderator

Daniel Omoro Achach *Regiolex, Nairobi*

Speakers

Beatrice Chaytor *African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat, Accra*

David Ofosu-Dorte *AB & David, Accra*

Michael Sudarkasa *Africa Business Group, Johannesburg*

1100 – 1130 **Coffee/tea break**

Conference dinner sponsor



BOWMANS

1130 – 1300 Breakout sessions

Breakout session 1

Are we ready? Technological disruption in the African legal sector

- What are the technology needs for African law firms – does size matter?
- Can technology improve access to justice?
- How to implement the most effective technology strategy for your firm or legal department
- Managing cybersecurity and new risks
- The impact, value and challenges of data as an asset on the legal services market – how law firms and other entities that render legal services should consider the use of data to enhance their business strategies

Moderator

Isioma Idigbe *Punuka Attorneys, Lagos; Membership Officer, IBA African Regional Forum*

Speakers

Steven De Backer *Afriwise, Brussels*

Robert Muoka *MyShamba Digital, Nairobi*

Alice Namuli-Blazevic *Katende Ssempebwa & Co Advocates, Kampala*

Moïse Nkundabarashi *Trust Law Chambers, Kigali; President, Rwanda Bar Association*

Breakout session 2

The ESG agenda in Africa: from a people, business and legal perspectives

- The role that Africa's minerals resources will play in the green energy transition
- The management of relationships with local and indigenous communities
- Addressing the causes and impact on sustainability of forced migration and people trafficking
- The legal mechanisms used by governments, development finance institutions, civil society organisations, and the private sector to establish and promote sustainable practices
- What the world could (and should) learn from Africa on the regulation and implementation of sustainability

Moderator

Nana Ama Botchway *N Dowuona & Company, Accra*

Speakers

Moses Okoth Nyabanda *PwC, Kigali*

Adeola Olumeyan *Channels TV, Lagos*

Daudi Ramadhani *Rex Attorneys at Law, Dar es Salaam*

Mickael Vogel *Hawilti, Lagos*

Robert Wabunoha *UN Environment Programme, Nairobi*

1300 – 1430 Lunch

1430 – 1600 Breakout sessions

Breakout session 3

From M-Pesa to Jumia: opportunities and challenges for regulating new players in the African services sectors

- How best should regulators support innovation whilst ensuring consumer protection?
- How to regulate life of civil society in this new age?
- What will be the most efficient way for law and regulation to close the gap and catch-up with the realities of disruptive technologies?
- In light of recent legislation, international developments and the recent COMESA Competition Commission's ruling on Jumia, is the gig economy already under threat in Africa?

Moderator

Caliis Nii Oman Badoo *Securities & Exchange Commission Legal & Enforcement Department, Accra; Chair, IBA African Regional Forum*

Speakers

Jennifer Chimanga *Clifford Chance, London*

Alex Ntale *Rwanda ICT Chamber, Kigali*

Chukwudi Ofili *Renew Capital, Addis Ababa*

Breakout session 4

Mapping international arbitration in Africa: what has changed in the last decade?

- From available data: are we there yet or are African arbitrations still taking place mostly outside the continent? Was it enough to establish new centres in the continent and other initiatives to keep disputes resolution in the continent?
- What are the challenges and opportunities?
- Can the AfCFTA bring international arbitration home – especially investment arbitration?

Moderator

Thierry Gakuba Ngoga *Legal Line Partners, Kigali; Advisory Board Member, IBA African Regional Forum*

Speakers

Francoise Ingabire *Kigali International Arbitration Centre, Kigali*

Helena Prata Ferreira *ALC Advogados, Luanda*

Conference supporter



0900 – 1430 **Registration**

0930 – 1100 Plenary session

Data protection and privacy: the art of risk management

- Extraterritorial and national regulations in Africa – how law firms can ensure compliance and protect themselves and clients
- How personal data regulations change business processes in Africa
- How bar associations and regulators can support their members to implement the new regimes
- Can the impact of fake information through social networks, internet and messaging applications be managed by data privacy regulations or are new frameworks required?
- What should an African data protection framework look like in light of the AfCFTA?

Moderator

Catherine Kariuki Mulika *Tripleoklaw, Nairobi*

Speakers

Isobel Acquah *Certa Foundation, Kigali*

Ridwan Oloyede *Tech Hive Advisory, Ibadan*

Alan Raubenheimer *Cenfri, Kigali*

1100 – 1130 **Coffee/tea break**

1130 – 1300 Breakout sessions

Breakout session 5

Is the future of international criminal law domestic?

20 years on from the signing of the Rome Statute, with the winding down of the UN International Criminal Tribunals and the emergence of calls for new hybrid or special criminal tribunals (eg, for ISIS, for Syria) and the proliferation of attempts to bring war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide cases before domestic courts, this panel will analyse the challenges and obstacles that criminal justice currently faces at the international level, and whether the future of international justice lies on an international, hybrid or domestic trajectory.

Moderator

Florida Kabasinga *Certa Law, Kigali*

Speakers

Peace Malleni *UN Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials, Phnom Penh*

Sternford Moyo *Scanlen & Holderness, Harare; Chair, IBA Nominations Committee*

Takeh Sendze *UN Mechanism for International Tribunals, Arusha*

Abdoulaye Seye *International Criminal Court ICC, The Hague*

Dr Charity Wibabara *Rwanda National Public Prosecution Authority, Kigali*

Breakout session 6

Training the future lawyer: is current legal education provision fit for 21st century purpose?

- With regional integration becoming a reality on the continent, how can law schools ensure they are producing lawyers that can operate cross-border?
- Harmonisation/mutual recognition of training standards and curricula – is this the way to go?
- How can legal education provision in Africa innovate to meet the needs of firms and the wider market and economies of the future?

Moderator

Nankunda Katangaza *Hook Tangaza, London; Co-Chair, IBA Regional Fora Coordination Committee*

Speakers

Tobenna Erojikwe *The Law Crest, Lagos*

Mary Mugure *Council of Legal Education, Nairobi*

Ziyanda Ntshona *Johannesburg; Scholarship Officer, IBA African Regional Forum*

Emmanuel Sebijjo Ssemanda *International University of East Africa, Kampala*

1300 – 1430 **Lunch**

1430 – 1600 Breakout sessions

Breakout session 7

What have we come back to? Making a success of the post-pandemic law firm

- Reshaping workplace culture and expectations
- Managing the hybrid team and tracking performance
- Addressing diversity and equity gaps
- Strategies for ensuring well-being and wellness of the team

Moderator

Dolapo Kukoyi *Detail Solicitors, Lagos*

Speakers

Feizin Amlani *Excellent Consulting, Lisbon*

Michael Burke *Arnall Golden Gregory, Washington, DC*

Alan James Keep *Bowmans, Johannesburg; African Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Law Firm Management Committee*

Wangoko Njoroge *Wangoko & Company Advocates, Nairobi; Advisory Board Member, IBA Law Firm Management Committee*

Friday continued

Breakout session 8

The evolution of force majeure clauses in commercial contracts to address emerging global threats

- Exploring how courts and arbitral tribunals are interpreting force majeure (FM) clauses beyond severe economic injury
- Analysing how the Covid-19 pandemic and the current geopolitical climate is impacting the interpretation and enforcement of FM clauses
- Understanding the varying approaches taken by courts across jurisdictions to determine whether unforeseeable events, such as pandemics, geopolitical shifts or cyber-attacks, fall under the FM umbrella
- Assessing the impact of FM clauses on international trade and investment agreements in light of the rapidly changing global and political landscape, including economic sanctions

Moderator

Tsegaye Laurendeau *Signature Litigation, London*

Speakers

Luisa Cetina *Anjarwalla & Khanna, Nairobi*

Dr Sally El Sawah *Junction, Paris; Member, IBA Diversity & Inclusion Council*

Gabriel Lansky *Lansky Ganzger & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH, Vienna*

Jamsheed Peeroo *36 Stone Buildings, London*

1600 – 1615 **Closing address by Conference Co-Chairs**

1900 – 2200 **Closing dinner**

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

IBA Harassment Policy

IBA conferences provide unrivalled professional development and network-building opportunities for international legal practitioners and their professional associates. The IBA values the participation of every delegate and member of the IBA and wants all attendees to have an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. Accordingly, all conference attendees are expected to show respect and courtesy to other attendees, IBA staff and those involved with hosting the events throughout the conference and at all conference events, receptions, and parties, whether officially organised by the IBA or others. All delegates, guests, attendees, speakers, exhibitors, staff and volunteers at any IBA event are required to conform to the IBA Harassment Policy.

See www.ibanet.org/conferences/harassment-policy.aspx

Continuing Professional Development / Continuing Legal Education

For Conference delegates from jurisdictions where CPD/CLE is mandatory, the IBA will provide a Certificate of Attendance for the Conference. Subject to CPD/CLE requirements, Conference delegates can use this to obtain the relevant number of hours' accreditation. The number of CPD/CLE hours available may vary depending on the rules applied by the members' bar association/law society on time recording criteria.

A Certificate of Attendance is available to Conference delegates on request. Please ask at the IBA conference registration desk for information on how to obtain the certificate.

Information

Date

13–15 September 2023

Venue

Kigali Convention Centre
Kimihurura Roundabout - PO Box 662
Kigali, Rwanda
Tel: +250 (252) 252 252
Website: www.kcc.rw

Language

All conference working sessions and conference materials will be in English.

How to register

Register by **1 September** at <https://biennialibaabc09.ev.smartevent.rw/>. You should receive emailed confirmation of your registration within two weeks; if you do not please contact sao.paulo@int-bar.org.

Fees payable by credit card

Online registrations received:

	on or before 11 August	until 1 September
IBA member	US\$365	US\$515
Rwanda lawyer	US\$365	US\$515
IBA corporate group member*	US\$275	US\$385
Non-member**	US\$590	US\$740
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	US\$275	US\$740
Academics/judges (full time)	US\$275	US\$740
Public lawyers	US\$275	US\$740
Corporate counsel	US\$330	US\$740

* The IBA Corporate Group Member is a reduced rate offered to the in-house legal department of international corporations. This rate is only applicable if your company has a corporate group membership with the IBA.

** By paying the non-member fee, we welcome you as a delegate member of the IBA for the year in which this conference is held, which entitles you to the following benefits:

- (1) Password access to certain parts of the IBA website.
- (2) Receipt of *IBA E-news* and access online versions of *IBA Global Insight*.
- (3) Pay the member rate for any subsequent IBA conference registrations for this calendar year.
- (4) Take advantage of IBA Special Offers.

If you would like to become a full or general member of the IBA, which includes membership of one committee or more – and inclusion in and access to our membership directory – we encourage you to do so now in order to register for this conference at the member rate. Full details of how to join can be found at www.ibanet.org

A reduced rate is offered to lawyers who are over the age of 65, have been an IBA member for more than 20 years and are no longer practising law.

Full payment must be received in order to process your registration.

Fees include:

- Attendance at all working sessions on 14 and 15 September
- Conference materials, including any available speaker's papers presented at the conference
- Access to the above conference working materials from the IBA website (www.int-bar.org) approximately seven days after the conference
- Lunches on Thursday and Friday
- Coffee/tea during breaks

- Attendance at Opening cocktail on 13 September
- Attendance at Closing dinner on 15 September

Please note that registrations are not transferable.

List of participants

In order for your name to appear in the list of participants, which will be made available seven days prior to the conference, your registration form must be received by **1 September** at the latest.

Live delegate search

Delegates are able to use the live delegate search via the IBA website, in order to use this function delegates will need to be logged into their MyIBA. This will allow search access to up-to-date attendance lists.

Photography and filming

Certain sessions and/or social functions may be photographed and/or filmed and some of this content may be used for future IBA marketing materials, member communications, products or services. Should you have any concerns with regard to this, or do not wish to be featured in any of these materials please contact the IBA Marketing Department on ibamarketing@int-bar.org

Promotional literature

Please note that no individual or organisation may display or distribute publicity material or other printed matter during the conference, unless by prior arrangement with the IBA. Organisations and companies wishing to discuss promotional opportunities should contact the Sponsorship Department at sao.paulo@int-bar.org

No deductions or withholdings

All fees payable to us by you in accordance with the terms contained in this 'Information' section shall be paid free and clear of all deductions or withholdings whatsoever. If any deductions or withholdings are required by law to be made from any fees payable to us by you under the terms contained in this 'Information' section you shall pay such sum as will, after the deduction or withholding has been made, leave us with the same amount as we would have been entitled to receive in the absence of any such requirement to make a deduction or withholding.

If we obtain the benefit of any tax credit or other relief by reference to any such deductions or withholdings, then we shall repay to you such amount as, after such repayment has been made, will leave us in no worse position than we would have been had no such deductions or withholdings been required.

Conference sell-outs

The IBA places its conference in venues of a suitable size for the event; however there are times when our conferences may sell out. Should this happen, prospective delegates will be informed and a waitlist will operate. The waitlist will function on a 'first come, first served' basis, subject to receiving registered delegate cancellations. The IBA will not be liable for any travel or accommodation expenses incurred by an individual who travels to the conference without a confirmed place at the event.

The organisers may at any time, with or without giving notice, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, cancel or postpone the conference, change its venue or any of the other published particulars, or withdraw any invitation to attend. In any case, neither the organisers nor any of their officers, employees, agents, members or representatives shall be liable for any loss, liability, damage or expense suffered or incurred by any person, nor will they return any money paid to them in connection with the conference unless they are satisfied not only that the money in question remains under their control but also that the person who paid it has been unfairly prejudiced (as to which, decision shall be in their sole and unfettered discretion and, when announced, final and conclusive).

Cancellation of registration

If cancellation is received in writing at the IBA office by **11 August 2023**, fees be refunded less a 25 per cent administration charge. Refunds will be made minus any monies owed to the IBA. We regret that no refunds can be made after this date. Registrations or social function bookings received after 11 August will not be eligible for any refund of fees.

Should you have difficulties in obtaining your visa and are not able to attend the Conference this cancellation policy will still apply.

Travel arrangements and visas

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. It is recommended that you check your visa requirements with your local embassy or consulate. **We are unable to dispatch visa invitation letters to support your visa application prior to receipt of your registration form and full payment of registration fees.**

Please apply for your visa in good time.

Hotel accommodation

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Radisson Blu Hotel Kigali and at the Lemingo Hotel for the nights of 13, 14 and 15 September.

Radisson Blu Hotel Kigali

KG2 Roundabout
Kigali, Rwanda
Tel: +250 (252) 252 252
Website: www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-convention-kigali

The following rates are per room, per night and inclusive of breakfast. Service charges and local taxes are not included.

Standard room - single	US\$200
Standard room - double	US\$250

Reservations are subject to availability.

Please contact reservation.kigali@radissonblu.com or call +250 (252) 252 252 and mention the promo code **IBA2023** to make your reservation under the discounted fee. The hotel requires the guarantee through a credit card to secure your reservation, in case of no show and late cancellations.

Any cancellation or modification must be made until 13 August 1 month prior arrival to avoid any penalty charge of 1-night stay. The same applies for no-shows. Any bookings received after 13 August will be subject to availability and at a higher rate.

Lemigo Hotel

PO Box 2770
Kigali, Rwanda
Tel: +250 (784) 040 924
Website: www.lemigohotel.com

Social programme

Wednesday 13 September

1900 – 2200

Opening cocktail

Provided you have cancelled your registration to attend an IBA Conference in accordance with the terms of the 'cancellation of registration' clause included in the 'Information' section of the relevant Conference programme, you must then confirm to us in writing at the IBA office as soon as possible, but in no event later than one year (12 calendar months) from the date of any such Conference, all necessary details to enable any reimbursement owed to you to be paid. We regret that no refunds will be made after the date that is one year (12 calendar months) after the date of the relevant Conference.

Airport

Kigali International Airport (KGL) is located approximately 4,9 miles from Kigali Convention Centre.

The following rates are per room, per night and inclusive of breakfast. Service charges and local taxes are not included.

Standard room - single	US\$150
Standard room - double	US\$180
Deluxe room - single	US\$200
Deluxe room - double	US\$230

Reservations are subject to availability.

Please email reservation@lemigohotel.com or call +250 (784) 040 924 and mention you are attending the **IBA African Regional Forum Conference** to make your reservation under the discounted fee. The hotel requires the guarantee through a credit card to secure your reservation, in case of no show and late cancellations.

Any cancellation or modification must be made 7 days prior arrival to avoid any penalty charge of 1-night stay. The same applies for no-shows.

Delegates are responsible for making accommodation reservations and entering into an agreement with the hotel regarding credit card guarantees, cancellation terms and conditions, and room rates (should these differ from the special IBA rate). The IBA cannot accept responsibility for hotel accommodation disputes between a delegate and the hotel.

Unauthorised accommodation agents

The IBA is not using any travel or accommodation agents for this conference. To make your reservation please contact any of the two hotels directly. Those are the only official accommodation booking systems.

Disabled access

The Radisson Blu Hotel Kigali and the Lemigo Hotel are wheelchair accessible. Please notify us if you require special assistance.


Friday 15 September

1900 – 2200

Closing dinner

Dates to remember

- 11 August** is the date by which your registration form and payment must be received at the IBA office if you are taking advantage of the early registration fee and is the date by which any cancellation must be received at the IBA office in order for fees to be refunded, less a 25 percent administration charge. No refunds can be made after this date
- 1 September** is the date by which your payment must be received at the IBA office in order for your name and company to be included in the list of participants, which will be made available seven days prior to the conference. After this date no registration forms can be accepted at the IBA office – please therefore register at the conference.



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International Bar Association

the global voice of the legal profession

The International Bar Association (IBA), established in 1947, is the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations, law firms and law societies.

The IBA influences the development of international law reform and shapes the future of the legal profession throughout the world. It has a membership of more than 80,000 individual lawyers and more than 190 bar associations and law societies spanning over 170 countries.

Inspired by the vision of the United Nations, the IBA was founded in the same spirit, just before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed in 1948.

The IBA covers all practice areas and professional interests, providing members with access to leading experts and up-to-date information, enabling them to better represent their clients' interests.

Through its various committees, fora and task forces, the IBA facilitates the exchange of information and views among its members as to laws, practices and professional responsibilities relating to the practice of law around the globe.

IBA African Regional Forum overview

These are exciting times for our Forum! With the primary objective of the enhancement of the value and significance of the Forum to all members globally, we have established various Working Groups which function alongside a panel of distinguished Advisory Board members.

The problems facing African lawyers are different from those affecting lawyers in other regions. To this end, the African Regional Forum was created to identify and address these problems.

Rwanda Bar Association

The Bar Association in Rwanda is a legal professional organisation that was created by an act of parliament in 1997 (Law N° 03/97). This law was amended by Law No 83/2013 of 11/09/2013, the law establishing the bar association in Rwanda, determining its organisation and functioning. Having started with 37 lawyers, after twenty five years, the bar's current membership exceeds 1450 lawyers after fusion of former Judicial Defenders Association and former Kigali Bar Association. The membership is made up of all practicing lawyers, as required by law, and the interns who aspire to be enrolled after 2 years of internship. The bar association fulfills the role of legal representation and regulation for its members and plays a key role in the administration of justice for a strengthened rule of law in Rwanda.

Contact information

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