

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW SYMPOSIUM IAFL WITH EALS AND CLA
Tuesday 2 September 2025, Trademark Hotel, Village Market, Nairobi

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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
	<p>CROSS BORDER AJS AND NCDR</p> <p>Moderator: Patricia Mundia, IAFL</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Chacha Odera (Kenya)</p> <p>Anthony Asimwe (Uganda)</p> <p>Prisca Chogero (Tanzania)</p> <p>Efe Etomi (Nigeria)</p> <p>Dr Joseph Yav (Democratic Republic of the Congo)</p>
10:30 - 11:00	Tea and Networking
11:00 – 11:15	SESSION 3
	<p>UN COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF CHILD</p> <p>Moderator: Pat Moodley, IAFL</p> <p>Speaker: Timothy Ekesa, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child; Director, Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children</p>
11:15 - 13:00	SESSION 4
	<p>HAGUE CONVENTIONS IN AFRICA: Adoption, Abduction and Child Support Conventions</p> <p>Moderator: Maria Mbeneka, Commonwealth Lawyers Association</p>

	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hon. Judge Constance Baratang Mocumie, Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal (South Africa) • Hon. Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch EBS,CBS (Rtd) Judge of the High Court of Kenya and inaugural head of the Family Division of the High Court of Kenya • Philippe 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
	<p>CHILD RIGHTS' IMPLEMENTATION, DATA, IDENTITY AND PROTECTION</p> <p>Moderator: Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and Lecturer, Kabarak University, School of Law (Kenya)</p> <p>Speakers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nankali Maksud, Child Protection Regional Advisor, UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Office (Kenya) • Mia Dambach, Executive Director, Child Identity Protection (Switzerland) • Everlyne Simiyu, 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
	<p>SURROGACY AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS</p> <p>Moderator: Patricia Mundia, IAFL</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
	<p>CRADLE- A Celebration</p> <p>Chaired by Ruth Juliet Nyambura Gachanja, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and Lecturer, Kabarak University, School of Law (Kenya)</p>
16:45 - 17:00	<p>Close</p> <p>Rachael Kelsey, IAFL (Scotland)</p>
17:00 – 18:30	Drinks Reception