

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW SYMPOSIUM IAFL WITH EALS AND CLA 2 September 2025

Session Resources Pack Introduction and Welcome

*Tuesday 2 September 2025
09:00 – 09:15*

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 - Patricia Mundia, IAFL (Kenya)
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 - Rachael Kelsey, President, International Academy of Family Lawyers (Scotland)

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PATRICIA MUNDIA

**PWM Advocates
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Patricia Wanjiru Mundia is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, founder of PWM Advocates, Chairperson of the East Africa Law Society Family Law Committee and Partner at Ngigi Mundia Advocates LLP.

She possesses over 12 years of specialized experience and dedicated legal support in family law. Her expertise extends beyond borders.

She represents the Law Society of Kenya as a member of the NCAJ Standing Committee on Access to and Administration of Justice for Children in Kenya.

A certified professional mediator, she is currently exploring innovative approaches to family law particularly what is proposed through alternative justice systems.

FAITH MONY ODHIAMBO

**President
Law Society of Kenya
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Faith Mony Odhiambo is a partner at Ombok & Owuor Advocates LLP. She practices in diverse legal areas, including Company, Competition, Telecommunications, and Banking Law, and Alternative Dispute Resolution. Her knowledge and experience have established her as a respected figure in the legal profession.

Faith serves as a lecturer at the University of Nairobi. Her academic contributions have been instrumental in shaping future legal professionals. Faith has served as a council member and board secretary for FIDA-Kenya and is currently the 51st President of the Law Society of Kenya. Her contributions to the dispensation of justice and practice of law have earned her several honors, including: listing in Top 50 Women in Law in Kenya – 2024, second Runner-Up for Legal Trailblazer of the Year - 2024 (East Africa Women of Excellence).

RAMADHAN ABUBAKAR

President, East Africa Law Society

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Ramadhan is a seasoned litigator with 13 years' experience in legal practice. Admitted to the bar on 3rd April 2012, and now running his own law firm Ramadhan Mukira & Company Advocates. He is also a certified mediator having attended training at the Mediation Training Institute East Africa in July 2018 at Nairobi.

On 10th December, 2019 Amnesty International and the Law Society of Kenya awarded Ramadhan with the prestigious Public Interest Litigation Jurist of the Year 2019 for his pro bono work in Constitutional law, Land Rights and protection of Human Rights.

On 29th November 2024 Ramadhan was elected as the President East Africa Law Society a premier bar with over 45,000 lawyers.

Ramadhan has also served as Tribunal member in the Kenyan judiciary.

MARIA MBENEKA

Treasurer, Commonwealth Lawyers Association

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Managing Partner at Mbeneka Advocates LLP Maria Mbeneka has extensive experience in Family Law, Tech Law, Conveyancing, Intellectual Property Law and Litigation.

She has served as a member of the Cooperative Tribunal well as the Industrial Property Tribunal.

She was elected Vice President of the East Africa Law Society (EALS) (2016 -2018) and, (2018-2020) a council member at the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) Treasurer & General Member Representative; Convener of the ICT/IP Committee.

She currently serves as the Hon Treasurer, Council member for Kenya and Co-Convenor at the Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA). She has served on several boards of organisations some of which include the Loisaba Conservancy, Ecocapp Capital Ltd, Lawyers Hub among others.

She is the Chair of the board of Ghetto Radio Limited and served as the Chairperson of the County First Ladies Association (Kenya) from 2020 -2022; an organisation of spouses of Governors of the 47 Counties in Kenya.

RACHAEL KELSEY

IAFL President

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Rachael is President of the IAFL- the first Scot and the only woman from the UK in the thirty-nine year history of the Academy. She is a founding Partner of SKO Family Law Specialists, which is the largest niche family practice in Scotland. She is the only 'Star Individual' in Scotland in Chambers and Partners and the only Scottish lawyer in Band 1 of the UK-wide HNW Guide. She was the recipient of the 'Private Client Lawyer of the Year 2023' Award at the Legal 500 Scottish Law Awards, from a shortlist of ten lawyers including tax, rural property and family law specialists.

Rachael currently sits on the Family Law Committee of the Scottish Civil Justice Council, having been appointed by the Lord President to sit for a third term, and is the only Scot to sit on the UK Ministry of Justice International Family Law Committee. She splits her time between Edinburgh and London.