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21-22 October, 2011

## **The International Criminal Court (ICC) in a Politically Divided World**

Africa Legal Aid (AFLA) in cooperation with the Commonwealth Secretariat and International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC) will convene a high level conference to engage stakeholders, including African State Parties to the ICC, the African Union and sub-regional bodies, and human rights and justice sectors in Africa in Dialogue on the evolving regime of international criminal justice and the work of the ICC. The conference will be held on 21-22 October, to coincide with Africa Day of Human Rights on 21 October. Gaborone, Botswana has been chosen as the venue for this conference because of Botswana's principled stance on international criminal justice and the work of the ICC.



The forthcoming conference complements AFLA's longstanding track record of contributing much needed African perspectives to international criminal justice. This engagement is designed to increase support for the ICC in Africa, and will ultimately contribute to conflict prevention in Africa. The galaxy of participants includes: H.E. Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor of the ICC and the African endorsed candidate for the next ICC Prosecutor, who will present the Keynote Address. Other high level officials, who will attend to speak on their countries' commitment to the ICC, include Honorable Githu Mugai, Attorney-General of Kenya, Ambassador Kwesi Quartey of Ghana's Mission to Addis Ababa, Justice Elizabeth Nahamya of the War Crimes Division (WCD) of the High Court of Uganda, and Hon. Dr. Athaliah Molokomme, Attorney-General of Botswana, who will also deliver the Opening Address.

Evelyn Ankumah, Executive Director of Africa Legal Aid had this to say: "The forthcoming conference provides opportunity for dialogue on Africa's contribution to the International Criminal Court. There is this perception that Africa does not support the ICC, and that the ICC is targeting Africans. In fact, Africa supports the Court, and many of the cases before the ICC were referred by African States. Yet, there are important points of critique to be addressed to bring the ICC closer to Africa and its people."

The conference will conclude with an update and brainstorming session on the forthcoming ICC elections, chaired by Ambassador Mirjam Blaak of Uganda. These include election of the next Prosecutor, election of Judges, and election of the members of the Committee for Budget and Finances (CBF).



*Conference Venue: Gaborone International Convention Centre*

\*Click [here](#) to view the Program\*

\*For more information on the conference, contact [program@africalegalaid.com](mailto:program@africalegalaid.com)\*

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ACCRA - HERITAGE TOWER, AMBASSADORIAL ENCLAVE, OFF LIBERIA RD., RIDGE. P.O. BOX: P.M.B., TUC  
ACCRA, GHANA

THE HAGUE - ZEESTRAAT 100, 2518 AD, THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

PRETORIA - 287 SKINNER ST. PRETORIA, TSHWANE. METRO CITY. P.O. BOX 392. UNISA 0003

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