



Making
Human Rights
a Reality

Universalizing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court: The Symposium

04-06-2015

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As a follow up to its 2014 conference on "Africa and the International Criminal Court (ICC): Lessons Learned and Synergies Ahead", Africa Legal Aid (AFLA) convened a Symposium from 18 -19 May 2015. Like the 2014 conference, the follow-up Symposium: "Universalizing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court" was held at the Auditorium of the Webber Wentzel Law Firm in Johannesburg. This firm spared no effort in supporting and hosting the Symposium.

During the opening ceremony, Ben Ferencz, Last Surviving Prosecutor of the Nuremberg Trials addressed participants through a Video message. [Click here](#) to watch the *Law not War Greeting* by Ben Ferencz. Password to watch the Video Greeting is Nuremberg.

The Report of the Symposium will be issued soon.



From left to right Don Ferencz (Son of Ben Ferencz), Convener of the Global Institute for the Prevention of Aggression; Professor Shadrack Gutto, Centre for African Renaissance Studies, University of South Africa, Chair of AFLA Governing Council; Justice Richard Goldstone, First Chief Prosecutor, United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and Rwanda (ICTR); Former Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa; Judge Sanji Monageng, President, Appeals Division of the International Criminal Court (ICC); Christo Els, Senior Partner, Webber Wentzel; and Evelyn A. Ankumah, Executive Director of AFLA.

Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC); Phakiso Mochochoko, Head of the Jurisdiction, Complementarity and Cooperation Division of the ICC; Judge Sanji Monageng; Sam Sasan Shoamanesh, Senior Special Assistant to the ICC Prosecutor.

The intervention was part of AFLA's ongoing efforts to engage civil societies, legal fraternities, government representatives, diplomatic spheres, and academics in a series of lessons learned capacity building exercises on the evolving regime of international justice. The meeting addressed topical and under-treated areas of international criminal justice including: Criminalizing the Illegal Use of Force (Crime of Aggression); Complementarity; Sexual

and Gender Based Crimes; Victims, Witnesses and Defense; and Re-engaging Africa in the ICC.



Ambassador Mirjam Blaak-Sow, Ambassador of Uganda to the Benelux with Justice Richard Goldstone.



Agnes Kanengoni, Programme Associate, AFLA; Florence Butegwa, Regional Advisor on Governance and Leadership, UN Women Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa; Judge Daniel Nsereko, Appeals Division, Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL).



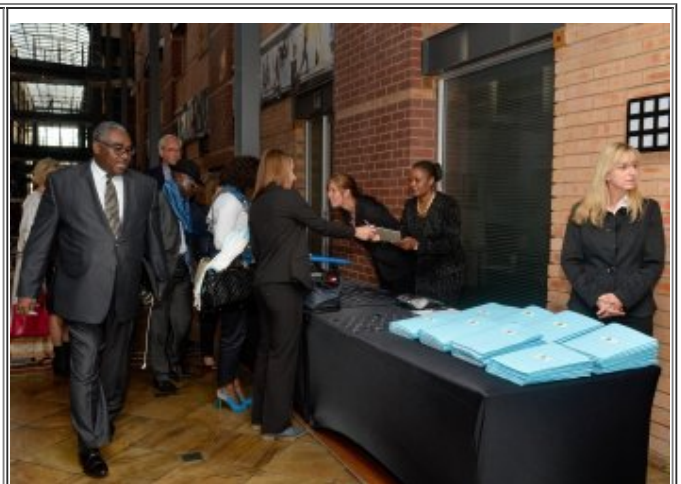
Professor Shadrack Gutto addressing the Symposium



Jean-Pierre Kilenda, Lead Defence Counsel for Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui, First Acquitted Person before the ICC, and Saskia Ditisheim, President, Avocats Sans Frontieres Suisse.



Adv Shaun Abrahams, Office of the National Director of Public Prosecutions, National Prosecuting Authority, South Africa; Dr. Hannah Woolaver, Senior Lecturer in Public International Law, University of Cape Town; Angela Mudukuti, International Criminal Lawyer, Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC); Dr. Torie Pretorius, Priority Crimes Litigation Unit, National Prosecuting Authority, South Africa.



Roland Amoussouga, Former Coordinator, United Nations International Commission of Inquiry on the Central African Republic; Former Head of External Relations and Spokesperson of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).



Kim Thuy Seelinger, Director, Sexual Violence Program, Human Rights Centre, University of California, Berkeley School of Law, and Madeleine Rees, OBE, Secretary-General, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.



Participants listening at the Symposium. Front row: Dr. Tony Aidoo, Ghana's Ambassador to the Netherlands, Evelyn A. Ankumah, ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda, Sam Sasan Shoamanesh, Susana Caputi, Hon. Consul of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Judge Ngoepe.



Don Ferencz and Ambassador Christian Wenaweser, Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the United Nations, and Former President of the Assembly of State Parties (ASP) of the ICC.



Xavier Jean Keita, Principal Counsel, Office of Public Counsel for Defence, ICC.



Professor William Schabas, Professor of International Law, Middlesex University, London; Professor of International Human Rights Law, Leiden University, The Netherlands; Immediate Past Chair of the UN Commission of Enquiry into Gaza.



AFLA's Executive Director, Evelyn A. Ankumah with students from the University of Johannesburg.



Makhumbo Munthali, Coordinator, International Criminal Justice Advocacy, Centre for Human Rights & Rehabilitation (CHRR), Malawi, chats with Jutta Betram-Nothnagel, Director of the Relations with International Organizations, International Association of Lawyers (UIA).



Judge Ngoepe, Former Member of the African Court on Human and People's Rights.



Justice Richard Goldstone; Elise Keppler, Associate Director of International Justice Program, Human Rights Watch; Allan Ngari, Researcher, Transnational Crime Division, Institute for Security Studies, and Richard Shilamba, Executive Director, Children Education Society (CHESO).



Saskia Ditisheim chats with Manuel Ventura, Director, Peace and Justice Initiative, The Hague; Adjunct Fellow, University of Western Sydney.



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