



UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE



African Regional Conference on the HCCH Children's Conventions

University of Western Cape (UWC), South Africa, 2-3 April 2019

Day 1 – Tuesday 2 April 2019

Last updated: 28 March 2019

8h30-8h45: Registration

8h45-9h15: Opening and welcome (Deputy Minister of Justice, RSA, The Honourable John Jeffery): Challenges in implementing the Hague Children's Conventions

9h15-9h30: Welcome and introduction to UWC (UWC executive)

9h30-10h00: Introduction to the work of the HCCH (Philippe Lortie, HCCH)

10h00-10h30: Introduction to the Hague 1993 Intercountry Adoption Convention (Laura Martinez-Mora, HCCH)

10h30-10h45: Questions and answers from the floor

10h45-11h00: Tea

11h00-11h30: Introduction to the Hague 1996 Child Protection Convention (Gérardine Goh Escolar, HCCH)

11h30-11h45: Questions and answers from the floor

11h45-12h45: Panel session – Child Protection in Africa: Challenges implementing the 1993 and 1996 Conventions in Africa

- Panellists (10 minutes max. per panellist) :
 - Dr Tebogo Mabe (South Africa)
 - Mantey Akos Keyibue (Ghana)
 - Maximilian Bwalya (Zambia),
 - Judge Bekele, Federal Court of Ethiopia

12h45-13h00: Questions and answers from the floor

13h00-14h00: LUNCH

Concurrent Workshops – Free Choice of Participants

Workshop 1: Hague 1993 Intercountry Adoption Convention (Laura Martinez-Mora, HCCH)

14h00-15h30: Hypothetical cases

15h30-15h45: Tea

15h45-16h45: Questions and answers from the floor; discussion of practical issues

Workshop 2: Hague 1996 Child Protection Convention (G rardine Goh Escolar, HCCH)

14h00-15h30: Hypothetical cases

15h30-15h45: Tea

15h45-16h45: Questions and answers from the floor; discussion of practical issues

16h45-17h00: Close for the day

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Day 2 – Wednesday 3 April 2019

8h30-8h45: Wrap up of previous day, and setting objectives for Day 2: Judge (Ret.) Belinda van Heerden

8h45-9h15: Overview of the Hague 1980 Child Abduction Convention (Barbara Connolly QC and Makiko Mazuuchi (Japan))

9h15-9h30: Introduction to the Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) (Lesley Kaufman, Central Authority, Israel)

9h30-10h00: Introduction to the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) and Direct Judicial Communications (DJC) under the 1980 Convention (Philippe Lortie, HCCH and Judge MR Ravenstein, Netherlands member of the IHNJ)

10h00-10h30: Overview of the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention (Philippe Lortie, HCCH)

10h30-10h45: Introduction to the Guide on the Recognition and Enforcement of Agreements in Family matters including children (Justice Connie Mocomie, South Africa)

10h45-11h00: Tea

Concurrent Workshops – Free Choice of Participants

Workshop 1: Hague 1980 Child Abduction Convention and DJC (G rardine Goh Escolar, HCCH and Leslie Kaufman)

11h00-12h15: Hypothetical cases

12h15-13h00: Questions and answers from the floor; discussion of practical issues

Workshop 2: Mediation in cross border child-related disputes: Prof Marilyn Freeman, Prof Nicky Taylor and Judge MR Ravenstein (Netherlands member of the IHNJ)

11h00-11h30: Introduction by Prof Marilyn Freeman, Prof Nicky Taylor and Judge MR Ravenstein

11h30-12h30: Panel discussion – Challenges in developing mediation structures:-
Chair: Rachael Kelsey, IAFL
(Adv Petunia Seabi, Chief Family Advocate, Zenobia du Toit, Prof Leenjtje de Jong,)

12h30-13h00: Questions and answers from the floor; discussion of practical issues

13h00-14h00: LUNCH

14h00-14h30: The HCCH Parentage project (Karabo Ozah, Centre for Child Law and Laura Martinez-Mora, HCCH)

14h30-15h00: International surrogacy and implications for Africa (Barbara Connolly QC and Julia Sloth-Nielsen, UWC)

15h00-15h15: Tea

Concurrent Workshops – Free Choice of Participants

15h15-16h30 - Workshop 1: Factors and challenges implementing the Hague Conventions in Africa

Chair: Violet Odala, ACPF, Addis Ababa

15h15-16h30 - Workshop 2: Taking specific conference themes forward in regional and continental context

Chair: Karabo Ozah, Centre for Child Law

16h30: Closure of the Conference: Dr Clement Mashamba, Solicitor General of Tanzania and Member, African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child