A conference presented by the IBA African Regional Forum

# Biennial IBA African Regional Forum Conference

Future-proofing the African legal profession: meeting the opportunities and challenges arising from innovation, technological disruption and integration



the global voice of the legal profession°



1–3 April 2020
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
(UNECA) Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

#### 2-3 April 2020 sessions include:

- African regional and continental integration in a post-Brexit and post-North American Free Trade Agreement world: free trade or protectionism?
- Disruptive innovation and the role of lawyers in Africa
- From M-Pesa to crowdfunding: opportunities and challenges for regulating new players in the African financial services sector
- Roundtable discussion: what do 21st century clients expect from external counsel?
- The art of risk management and data privacy regulations: local versus exterritorial laws
- The domestic future of international criminal law
- Training the future lawyer: are current frameworks fit for 21st century purposes?
- What will remain unchanged in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution?

1 April 2020: IBA Young Lawyers' Training

1 April 2020: IBA African Bar Leaders' Conference



### Programme

#### **Conference Co-Chairs**

Anthony Atata Hallblack Law Firm, Lagos; Co-Chair, IBA African Regional Forum
Pieter Steyn Werksmans Attorneys & LexAfrica, Johannesburg; Co-Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

#### **Organising Committee**

Babatunde Ademola Ajibade SAN SPA Ajibade & Co, Lagos; Vice Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

Oyeyemi Aderibigbe Templars, Lagos

**Anthony Atata** Hallblack Law Firm, Lagos; Co-Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

Linda Chishimba Kasonde Mulenga Mundashi Kasonde Legal Practitioners, Lusaka; Vice Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

Nankunda Katangaza Hook Tangaza, London

Yvonne Kose Chilume Independent practitioner, Gaborone Kimathi Kuenyehia Kimathi & Partners Corporate Attorneys, Accra; Member, IBA Young Lawyers' Committee Advisory Board Manyawkal Mekonnen Ethiopian Lawyers Association, Addis Ababa

Caliis Nii Oman Badoo Securities & Exchange Commission, Accra; Conference Coordinator, IBA African Regional Forum Vulindlela B Sibanda MawereSibanda Commercial Lawyers, Harare; Conference Quality Officer, IBA African Regional Forum Pieter Steyn Werksmans Attorneys & LexAfrica, Johannesburg; Co-Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

### Wednesday 1 April

0900 – 1745 IBA Young Lawyers' Training

Further details to follow

All delegates registered for the African Regional Forum Conference are welcome to attend

0930 - 1600 IBA African Bar Leaders' Conference

Further details to follow

All delegates registered for the African Regional Forum Conference are welcome to attend

1800 – 2000 Welcome cocktail

### Thursday 2 April

0800 - 1600 Registration

0900 - 0905 Opening remarks by the Conference Co-Chairs

0905 - 0915 Welcome remarks

**Horacio Bernardes Neto** *Motta Fernandes Advogados, São Paulo; IBA President* 

Jon Grouf Duane Morris, New York; Chair, IBA Legal Practice Division

0915 – 0945 **Keynote speech** 

0945 - 1100

### Disruptive innovation and the role of lawyers in Africa

This panel will review how technology is being used in the legal profession to enhance efficiency, security and meet client needs, and will explore whether African law firms are ready to embrace the technology revolution.

Moderator

Babatunde Ademola Ajibade SAN SPA Ajibade & Co, Lagos; Vice Chair, IBA African Regional Forum

Conference welcome reception sponsor



### Thursday continued

Speakers

Soi Kaingu Apptorney, Lusaka

Robert Millard Cambridge Strategy Group Limited, Cambridge Kenneth Muhangi KTA Advocates, Kampala Tewogbade Olatona NextCounsel, Lagos

1100 - 1130 Coffee/tea break

1130 - 1300

## African regional and continental integration in a post-Brexit and post-North American Free Trade Agreement world: free trade or protectionism?

Over the years, through multinational and bilateral treaties, nations have dropped tariffs, duties, import/export restrictions, government costs and technical barriers. This free trade approach has contributed to global economic growth, consumer benefits and competitive opportunities for trade in legal services. However, there now appears to be growing resistance to free trade and a move towards protectionism. Brexit and the NAFTA renegotiation have brought into question the effectiveness and acceptance of free trade and regional integration.

This panel will discuss:

- the provision of cross-border legal services in Africa;
- the harmonisation of business laws (the Organisation for the Harmonisation of Corporate Law in Africa experience);
- harmonisation/mutual recognition of training standards and curricula;
- free movement of persons; and
- what prospects remain for African aspirations?

Moderator

Wamkele Mene MHM Consulting, former Chief Negotiator of Africa Continental Free Trade Area, Johannesburg

Speakers

**Yonov Frederick Agah** Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization, Geneva

Martha Belete Assistant Professor, AAU, Accra

**George Etomi** George Etomi & Partners, Lagos; Co-opted Member, IBA BIC International Trade in Legal Services Division

1300 – 1430 **Lunch** 

#### 1430 - 1600 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### **Breakout session 1**

## From M-Pesa to crowdfunding: opportunities and challenges for regulating new players in the African financial services sector

There has been considerable discussion lately about crowdfunding companies, such as Fintech, investing in start-ups. This panel will review how these entities are competing with banks and credit institutions, and what future financial lawyers see for transactions and financial documents.

Moderator

Nankunda Katangaza Hook Tangaza, London

Speakers

Adeleke Alex-Adedipe Duale Ovia Alex-Adedipe, Lagos Dr Leonard Kalinde General Counsel, Central Bank of Zambia, Lusaka

Sarah Kiarie-Muia Kaplan & Stratton, Nairobi

#### **Breakout session 2**

### What will remain unchanged in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution?

Moderator

Olasupo Shasore SAN Africa Law Practice, Lagos

Speakers

Caroline Edwards Travers Smith, London Noella Lubano Oraro & Partners, Nairobi

Reza Mohtashami QC Three Crowns, London; Vice-Chair, IBA Investment Arbitration Subcommittee, IBA Arbitration Committee Leyou Tameru I-Arb Africa, Addis Ababa

The organisers may at any time, with or without giving notice, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, cancel or postpone the conference, change its venue or any of the other published particulars, or withdraw any invitation to attend. In any case, neither the organisers nor any of their officers, employees, agents, members or representatives shall be liable for any loss, liability, damage or expense suffered or incurred by any person, nor will they return any money paid to them in connection with the conference unless they are satisfied not only that the money in question remains under their control but also that the person who paid it has been unfairly prejudiced (as to which, decision shall be in their sole and unfettered discretion and, when announced, final and conclusive).

### **Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Legal Education**

For conference delegates from jurisdictions where CPD/CLE is mandatory, the IBA will provide a Certificate of Attendance for the conference. Subject to CPD/CLE requirements, this can be used by conference delegates to obtain the relevant number of hours' accreditation. The number of CPD/CLE hours available may vary depending on the rules applied by the members bar association/law society on time recording criteria.

A Certificate of Attendance is available to conference delegates on request. Please ask at the IBA conference registration desk for information on how to obtain the certificate.



0830 - 1600 Registration

0930 - 1100

### Roundtable discussion: what do 21st century clients expect from external counsel?

This panel of general counsels is formed of speakers from African and international companies, as well as smaller start-up types whose needs are atypical.

Moderator

Felix R Ehrat Independent practitioner, Zug

Speakers

**Bidemi Ademola** General Counsel Ghana & Nigeria, Unilever, Lagos

**Genanaw Assefa** Vice President Legal Counsel, Ethiopian Airlines, Addis Ababa

Samallie Kiyingi Director and General Counsel, AFREXIM Bank, Cairo

Augustine Hamwela Regional Head, Compliance, Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Standard Chartered Bank, Lusaka

1100 - 1130 Coffee/tea break

#### 1130 – 1300 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### **Breakout session 3**

### The domestic future of international criminal law

In the 20 years since the signing of the Rome Statute there has been a decrease of United Nations International Criminal Tribunals in favour of calls for new hybrid or special criminal tribunals (for ISIS, for Syria), and attempts to bring war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide cases before domestic courts. In this context, this panel will analyse the challenges and obstacles that criminal justice currently faces at an international level, and whether the future of international justice lies on an international, hybrid or domestic trajectory.

Speakers

Dr Henok Gabisa Washington & Lee School of Law, Washington DC

**Babajide Ogundipe** Sofunde Osakwe Ogundipe & Belgore, Lagos; Secretary, IBA Anti-Money Laundering and Sanctions Expert Subcommittee, IBA Regulation of Lawyers' Compliance Committee

#### **Breakout session 4**

### Training the future lawyer: are current frameworks fit for 21st century purposes?

Moderator

Kimathi Kuenyehia Kimathi & Partners Corporate Attorneys, Accra; Communications Officer, IBA Young Lawyers' Committee Advisory Board

Speakers

Ernest Abotsi Immediate-past Dean, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration Law School, Accra Professor Sam Erugo Dean, School of Law, Abia State University, Lagos

**Sarah Hutchinson** *BARBRI, London; Chair, IBA Section on Public* and Professional Interest

1300 – 1430 Lunch

1430 - 1600

### The art of risk management and data privacy regulations: local versus exterritorial laws

This panel will explore:

- how to be compliant with recently enacted General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and growing local regulations in Africa to continue business;
- how new personal data regulations change business processes in Africa;
- how African countries can implement GDPR and develop their own domestic and regional frameworks; and
- how bar associations and regulators can support their members after the implementation of data privacy regulations?

Moderator

**Teki Akuetteh Falconer** *Nsiah Akuetteh & Co, Accra; African Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Communications Law Committee* 

Speakers

Linda Bonyo Lawyers Hub, Nairobi Tafadzwa Mugabe Senior Fellow, Centre for Technology, Law & Development, Harare

Ridwan Oloyede Tech Hide Advisory, Lagos

1900 – 2100

**Closing dinner** 

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

#### **IBA Harassment Policy**

IBA Harassment Policy IBA conferences provide unrivalled professional development and network-building opportunities for international legal practitioners and their professional associates. The IBA values the participation of every delegate and member of the IBA and wants all attendees to have an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. Accordingly, all conference attendees are expected to show respect and courtesy to other attendees, IBA staff and those involved with hosting the events throughout the conference and at all conference events, receptions, and parties, whether officially organised by the IBA or others. All delegates, guests, attendees, speakers, exhibitors, staff and volunteers at any IBA event are required to conform to the IBA Harassment Policy.

See www.ibanet.org/conferences/harassment-policy.aspx

### Information

#### Date

1-3 April 2020

#### Venue

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Conference Center (UNECA Conference Center) Menelik II Avenue

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Tel: + 251 (11) 544 5000

#### Language

All conference working sessions and conference materials will be in English.

#### How to register

Register online by 19 February at www.ibanet.org/conferences/conf979.aspx and make payment by credit card to avail of the ten per cent online registration discount, or complete the attached registration form and return it to Camila Campelo at camila.campelo@int-bar.org. You should receive emailed confirmation of your registration within five days; if you do not then please contact Camila Campelo.

#### Fees

Online registrations received:

	on or before 19 February	until 25 March
Resident in Ethiopia	US\$250	US\$395
IBA member	US\$295	US\$445
IBA corporate group member*	US\$225	US\$335
Non-member**	US\$520	US\$670
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	US\$225	US\$670
Academics/judges (full time)	US\$225	US\$670
Public lawyers	US\$225	US\$670
Corporate counsel	US\$265	US\$670
Guest fee	US\$60	US\$60

After 25 March registrations must be received in hard copy at the IBA office.

Hard copy registration forms and fees received:

	on or before 19 February	after 19 February
Resident in Ethiopia	US\$275	US\$440
IBA member	US\$330	US\$495
IBA corporate group member*	US\$250	US\$370
Non-member**	US\$580	US\$745
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	US\$250	US\$745
Academics/judges (full time)	US\$250	US\$745
Public lawyers	US\$250	US\$745
Corporate counsel	US\$295	US\$745
Guest fee	US\$60	US\$60

- \* The IBA Corporate Group Member is a reduced rate offered to the in-house legal department of international corporations. This rate is only applicable if your company has a corporate group membership with the IBA.
- \*\* By paying the non-member fee, we welcome you as a delegate member of the IBA for the year in which this conference is held, which entitles you to the following benefits:
- (1) Password access to certain parts of the IBA website.
- (2) Receipt of IBA E-news and access online versions of IBA Global Insight.
- (3) Pay the member rate for any subsequent IBA conference registrations for this calendar year.
- (4) Take advantage of IBA Special Offers.

If you would like to become a full or general member of the IBA, which includes membership of one committee or more – and inclusion in and access to our membership directory – we encourage you to do so now in order to register for this Conference at the member rate. Full details of how to join can be found at **www.ibanet.org** 

#### Fees include:

- Attendance at all working sessions on 2 and 3 April
- Conference materials, including any available speaker's papers presented at the conference

A reduced rate is offered to lawyers who are over the age of 65, have been

an IBA member for more than 20 years and are no longer practising law.

Full payment must be received in order to process your registration.

- Access to the above conference working materials from the IBA website (www.int-bar.org) approximately seven days after the conference
- Lunches on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Coffee/ tea during breaks
- Invitation to the Welcome cocktail on 1 April
- Invitation to the Closing dinner on 3 April

#### Guest fee includes:

- Invitation to the Welcome cocktail on 1 April
- Invitation to the Closing dinner on 3 April

A guest must **not** be a member of the legal profession or seek to use the Conference as a business networking opportunity. Access to working sessions is not permitted for guests. Checks are made to ensure members of the legal profession are not registered as guests, if this is the case, registration will be refused unless the guest registers as a full delegate for the conference. Only registered guests (ie, those paying the guest fee) are eligible to participate in the social programme.

#### **List of participants**

In order for your name to appear in the list of participants, which will be made available seven days prior to the conference, your registration form must be received by **25 March** at the latest.

#### Mobile delegate search application

Delegates are now able to use a mobile delegate search. This application has been developed to aid networking by giving delegates instant access to an up-to-date list of their fellow attendees, and comes with the added benefit of a built-in messaging service. All registered delegates with an internet or Wi-Fi-enabled device will have access, using their IBA username and password. Simply visit: m.ibanet.org/conf979

#### **Registration confirmation**

All documentation regarding your attendance at the conference can now be obtained from the IBA website. Upon receipt of your payment for the conference a confirmation e-mail will be sent containing instructions on how to download the documents. Registration confirmation will not be distributed by post.

#### **Photography and filming**

Certain sessions and/or social functions may be photographed and/or filmed and some of this content may be used for future IBA marketing materials, member communications, products or services. Should you have any concerns with regard to this, or do not wish to be featured in any of these materials, please contact the IBA Marketing Department on **ibamarketing@int-bar.org**.



#### **Promotional literature**

Please note that no individual or organisation may display or distribute publicity material or other printed matter during the Conference, unless by prior arrangement with the IBA. Organisations and companies wishing to discuss promotional opportunities should contact the Sponsorship Department at sao.paulo@int-bar.org.

#### Travel arrangements and visas

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. It is recommended that you check your visa requirements with your local embassy or consulate. We are unable to dispatch visa invitation letters to support your visa application prior to receipt of your registration form and full payment of registration fees.

Please apply for your visa in good time.

#### Weather

The climate in Addis Ababa in early-April is sunny and mild with temperatures averaging 11-24°C (51,8-75,2°F). Rain is not common at this time of year.

#### **Airport**

Addis Ababa Bole International Airport – located about six kilometers (3.7 miles) southeast of the city centre.

#### Taxi

The best form of transport available from the airport to the city centre is the taxi. The journey costs around US\$10 plus tip. It takes approximately 30 minutes

#### Payment of registration fees

**US dollars or Ethiopian Birr:** by bank transfer to a local account, number: 27276628 at the Abyssinia Bank, Filwuha Branch, address Rasdesta Damtew, P.O. Box 12947, Ethiopia.

Please ensure that a copy of the bank transfer details is attached to your registration form.

Please pay all bank charges so that the full amount is invoiced.

Please note that bank transfers are available for Ethiopia delegates only. All other delegates must pay via credit card.

**Credit card payments:** by Visa, MasterCard or American Express. **No other cards are accepted.** 

#### No deductions or withholdings

All fees payable to us by you in accordance with the terms contained in this 'Information' section shall be paid free and clear of all deductions or withholdings whatsoever. If any deductions or withholdings are required by law to be made from any fees payable to us by you under the terms contained in this 'Information' section you shall pay such sum as will, after the deduction or withholding has been made, leave us with the same amount as we would have been entitled to receive in the absence of any such requirement to make a deduction or withholding.

If we obtain the benefit of any tax credit or other relief by reference to any such deductions or withholdings, then we shall repay to you such amount as, after such repayment has been made, will leave us in no worse position than we would have been had no such deductions or withholdings been required.

#### **Conference sell-outs**

The IBA places its conference in venues of a suitable size for the event; however there are times when our conferences may sell out. Should this happen, prospective delegates will be informed and a waitlist will operate. The waitlist will function on a 'first come, first served' basis, subject to receiving registered delegate cancellations. The IBA will not be liable for any travel or accommodation expenses incurred by an individual who travels to the conference without a confirmed place at the event.

#### **Cancellation of registration**

If cancellation is received in writing at the IBA office by **19 March**, fees will be refunded less a 25 per cent administration charge. We regret that no refunds can be made after this date. Registrations received after **19 March** will not be eligible for any refund of registration fees.

Provided you have cancelled your registration to attend an IBA conference in accordance with the terms of the 'cancellation of registration' clause included in the 'Information' section of the relevant conference programme, you must then confirm to us in writing at the IBA office as soon as possible but in no event later than one year (12 calendar months) from the date of any such conference all necessary details to enable any reimbursement owed to you to be paid. We regret that no refunds will be made after the date that is one year (12 calendar months) after the date of the relevant conference.

#### Social programme

Wednesday 1 April

1800 – 2000 Welcome cocktail

Friday 3 April

1900 – 2100 **Closing dinner** 

#### Dates to remember

- 19 March is the date by which your registration form and payment must be received at the IBA office if you are taking advantage of the early registration fee, and is the date by which any cancellation must be received at the IBA office in order for fees to be refunded, less a 25 per cent administration charge. No refunds can be made after this date.
- **25 March** is the date by which your registration form and payment must be received at the IBA office in order for your name and company to be included in the list of participants, which will be made available seven days prior to the conference. After this date no registration forms can be accepted at the IBA office please therefore register at the conference.

#### Hotel accommodation

#### Hilton Addis Ababa Hotel

Menelik II Ave Addis Ababa Tel: +251 (11) 517 0000

#### hilton.com/en/locations/ethiopia

The following rate is per room, per night and inclusive of breakfast. Service charges and local taxes are not included. Service charges and local taxes are not included.

King Single/Double Room

US\$165

Please visit the website to make your reservation.

Please verify with the hotel the cancellation and no-show policies.

#### Radisson Blu Addis Ababa Hotel

Kazanchis Business District Kirkos Subcity 17/18 Addis Ababa

Tel: +251 (11) 515 7600

#### radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blue-addis-ababa

The following rate is per room, per night and inclusive of buffet breakfast. Service charges and local taxes are not included. Service charges and local taxes are not included

Standard Single/Double Room

US\$180

Please visit the website to make your reservation.

Please verify with the hotel the cancellation and no-show policies.

Delegates are responsible for making accommodation reservations and entering into an agreement with the hotel regarding credit card guarantees, cancellation terms and conditions, and room rates (should these differ from the special IBA rate). The IBA cannot accept responsibility for hotel accommodation disputes between a delegate and the hotel.

#### **Disabled access**

The Hilton Addis Ababa and the Radisson Blu Addis Ababa Hotel are wheelchair accessible. Please notify us if you require special assistance.

#### Unauthorised accommodation agents

The IBA is not using any travel or accommodation agents for this conference. To make your reservation please contact the hotel directly.

This is the only official accommodation booking system.

## **IBA App – additional** functionality now added

- available from the App Store and the Google Play Store

The IBA App has been updated to become even more user friendly, providing you with the latest legal news, updates and content while on the move.

All new functionality is now available for the App in both the Apple Store and for the Android version in the Google Play Store.

#### **New functionality:**

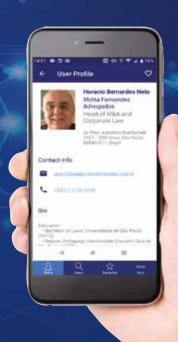
- Access to IBA Digital Content with new articles, stories and items of interest available and updated daily
- The ability to download PDFs and podcasts from the IBA Digital Content library to your mobile device

#### How do I access the App?

- · Simply download the App (search for International Bar Association and download the IBA Members' Directory) via the Apple App Store or Google Play Store
- Login with your IBA membership user ID and password
- Search the full IBA Member Directory or update your My IBA profile









the global voice of the legal profession®

### Registration form

#### **Biennial IBA African Regional Forum Conference**

Future-proofing the African legal profession: meeting the opportunities and challenges arising from innovation, technological disruption and integration

1–3 April 2020, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Please read the 'Information' section before completing this form and return it together with your bank transfer to Camila Campelo at the address overleaf.

REGISTER ONLINE AT **WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCES/CONF979.ASPX** TO MAKE IMMEDIATE AND SECURE PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD AND OBTAIN A TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT ON THE FEES BELOW

PERSONAL DETAILS (Please attach your business card or write in ble	ock capitals)
Title Given name	Family name
IBA Membership number (if applicable)	Date of birth
Firm/company/organisation	
Address	
	Country
Tel	Fax
Email	
Guest name	I profession may be registered as a quest
SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS	. , , , ,
If you have special dietary requirements, due to allergen intolerances, The IBA is unable to cater for dietary requirements other than for the	medical, religious reasons or a life choice, please specify the requirement below. above reasons.
Please tick box if you have allergen intolerances and specify	
Please tick box if your guest has allergen intolerances and specify	у
Please state all other dietary requirements clearly, i.e. I am a vegetaria	n; I do not eat red meat.

Disclosure of dietary information denotes you have agreed to the IBA sharing this information with relevant third parties who are providing catering on our behalf.

TO OBTAIN A TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT ON THE FEES BELOW,
PLEASE REGISTER BY 19 FEBRUARY 2020 ONLINE AT WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCES/CONF979.ASPX
IBA MEMBERS CAN REGISTER ONLINE BY 19 FEBRUARY FOR US\$295
PLEASE SEE 'INFORMATION' FOR FURTHER ONLINE REGISTRATION DETAILS.

HARD COPY REGISTRATION FORMS AND FEES RECEIVED:	on or before 19 February	after 19 February
Resident in Ethiopia	US\$275	US\$440
IBA member	US\$330	US\$495
IBA corporate group member*	US\$250	US\$370
Non-member**	US\$580	US\$745
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	US\$250	US\$745
Academics/judges (full time)	US\$250	US\$745
Public lawyers	US\$250	US\$745
Corporate counsel	US\$295	US\$745
Guest fee	US\$60	US\$60

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS				
Welcome cocktail on 1 April		Number of tickets	_	
Closing dinner on 3 April		Number of tickets	_	
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METHODS OF PAYMENT				
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Please provide further details, q	uoting code (if applicable)			
The International Bar Association	would like to keep in touch with y	ou about relevant news, events, publi	cations and membership. You	can opt out of receiving information
at any time by emailing <b>member</b> want your details to be included in		ly IBA and updating your preferences.	Your details will be included in	the list of participants. If you do not
		net.org/web_privacy_policy.aspx.		

#### PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION LATIN AMERICA OFFICE:

#### **Camila Campelo**

Rua Helena 170, 14° andar, São Paulo, SP 04552-050, Brasil

Tel: +55 (11) 3046 3320 Fax: +55 (11) 3046 3324 Email: camila.campelo@int-bar.org www.ibanet.org



### **International Bar Association**

### the global voice of the legal profession

The International Bar Association (IBA), established in 1947, is the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations, law firms and law societies.

The IBA influences the development of international law reform and shapes the future of the legal profession throughout the world. It has a membership of more than 80,000 individual lawyers and more than 190 bar associations and law societies spanning over 170 countries.

Inspired by the vision of the United Nations, the IBA was founded in the same spirit, just before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed in 1948.

The IBA covers all practice areas and professional interests, providing members with access to leading experts and up-to-date information, enabling them to better represent their clients' interests.

Through its various committees, for a and task forces, the IBA facilitates the exchange of information and views among its members as to laws, practices and professional responsibilities relating to the practice of law around the globe.

#### **IBA African Regional Forum overview**

The problems facing African lawyers are different from those affecting lawyers in other regions. To this end, the IBA African Regional Forum was created to identify and address these problems. The aims of the IBA African Regional Forum are:

- to further enhance the objectives of the IBA by means of cooperation, support of bar associations in developing countries, development of laws and exchange of information and ideals;
- to develop interest about the IBA in Africa and provide information to local lawyers on the work of the IBA;
- to assist new and potential members when attending conferences and becoming involved in committee work;
- to coordinate the various divisions, sections and committees of the IBA by way of hosting regional conferences, workshops, seminars and various study groups in Africa;
- to initiate programmes that will promote specialisation and partnership in the legal profession in Africa;
- to liaise with the other regional fora, enabling members of the African Regional Forum to learn from their counterparts;

- to educate the African society about their rights and duties in their relationship with each other and their governments, creating an awareness of the role of law in democratic societies;
- to provide a forum for the regulation of the profession, training of aspirant practitioners, continued legal education, legal reforms and interaction with government in Africa;
- to produce a regular newsletter and other communications to serve as a channel for information to be exchanged and shared among members;
- to strengthen sub-regional bars in the continent;
- to strengthen the relationship between the bench and bar as well as issues of discipline; and
- to facilitate the exchange of law reports, books, video and other equipment between developed and developing bars.

#### **Contact information**

#### **International Bar Association Latin America Office**

Rua Helena 170, 14° andar, São Paulo, SP 04552-050, Brasil Tel: +55 (11) 3046 3321 Fax: +55 (11) 3046 3324 Email: sao.paulo@int-bar.org www.ibanet.org

#### **International Bar Association**

4th Floor, 10 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4AD, United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)20 7842 0090 Fax: +44 (0)20 7842 0091 Email: member@int-bar.org www.ibanet.org