

The Foundations of the Supreme Law
Conference on the Occasion of the

20th Anniversary of the South African Constitution
(History and Developments)

Venue: Women's Gaol Atrium, Constitution Hill, 11 Kotze St, Johannesburg, 2017
6 – 7 May 2016



#lamConstitution

“ We, the people of South Africa,
recognise the injustices of our past;
honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land;
respect those who have worked to build and develop our country;
and believe that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity.
We therefore, through our freely elected representatives,
adopt this Constitution as the supreme law of the Republic. ”

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CONSTITUTION HILL



INTRODUCTION

On May 8, 1996, a two year mandate came to its fulfillment when the Constitutional Assembly successfully finalized a draft of a new constitution which was signed by Nelson Mandela into law on December 18, 1996.

The “Foundations of the Supreme Law: 20th Anniversary of the Constitution” Conference is hosted by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), the German Institute for Federal Studies (DIF) and the Constitution Hill to commemorate this historical event and milestone for the formation of a democratic South Africa.

The main focus of the conference is strengthening awareness and underlining the importance of the Constitution for democracy and stability in South Africa.

In this sense we invite all participants and guests to be part of an open, fruitful and invigorating discussion.





- 09.00 Registration
- 09.30 Welcome Introduction
Renate Tenbusch
- Followed by Q&A
- 10.00 Keynote: The Making of the Constitution
Albie Sachs
- 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.30 First Panel: The Intent of the Founders
(Conceptual battles during the constitution making process)
Moderator: *Sisi Khampepe*
Presenters: *Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi*
Mac Maharaj
Albie Sachs Mac
- Followed by Q&A
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.30 Second Panel: Bill of Rights
(Human Dignity, Equality and Liberty: Cornerstones of Democracy)
Moderator: *Penny Andrews*
Presenters: *Johann van der Westhuizen*
Sandra Liebenberg
Jacob van Garderen
- Followed by Q&A
- 16.00 Coffee Break
- 16.30 Third Panel: Gender and Customary Law
(Gender, Indigenous Law and Traditional Leaders)
Moderator: *Aninka Claassens*
Presenters: *Sango Phatekile Holomisa*
Nomboniso Gasa
Nomalanga Mkhize
- Followed by Q&A
- 18.00 Reception by the German Embassy

- 09.00 Fourth Panel: Co-Operative Government
(Three Spheres, Intergovernmental Relations, NCOP)
Moderator: *Nico Steytler*
Presenters: *Andries Nel*
Thandi Modise
Adv. S'du Gumede
Hans-Peter Schneider
- Followed by Q&A
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00 Fifth Panel: Guardians of the Constitution
(Constitutional Court, Chapter 9 Institutions)
Moderator: *Hugh Corder*
Presenters: *Thuli Madonsela*
Leon Wessels
Zak Yacoob
Reinhard Gaier
- Followed by Q&A
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Sixth Panel: The South African Constitution – Model for other countries in transition?
(The Influence on Foreign Constitutions)
Moderator: *John Jeffrey*
Presenters: *Nicolas Haysom*
Herta Däubler-Gmelin
Lourens M. Du Plessis
- Followed by Q&A
- 15.00 Endnote: The Future of the Constitution
George Bizos



PRESENTERS



Judge Albert (Albie) Louis Sachs

Albie (Albert Louis) Sachs is an activist and a former judge on the Constitutional Court of South Africa. Albie obtained his BA and LL.B degrees at the University of Cape Town where he was arrested for taking part in Passive Resistance Campaigns. He started practicing as an Advocate at the Cape Town Bar in 1957 working mainly in the civil rights sphere until his detentions without trial by the Security Police.

In 1966 he went into exile in England where he completed a Ph.D at the University of Sussex and taught in the Law Faculty of the University of Southampton. He was the first Nuffield Fellow of Socio-Legal Studies, at Bedford College, London, and Wolfson College, Cambridge. In 1977 he accepted the position as Professor of Law at the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique, and from 1983 served as Director of Research in the Ministry of Justice until his attempted assassination by South African security agents in 1988, when he returned to England.

Albie Sachs became the founding Director of the South Africa Constitution Studies Centre, which moved in 1992 to the University of the Western Cape where he was made Professor Extraordinary and appointed Honorary Professor in the Law Faculty at the University of Cape Town. As an active member of the Constitutional Committee of the ANC he was appointed by President Nelson Mandela to the newly established Constitutional Court. Judge Sachs has written extensively on culture, gender rights and the environment.



Hon Andries Nel, DM

Andries Nel is South Africa's Deputy Minister for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs. Elected to Parliament in 1994 he has been Deputy Minister for Justice and Constitutional Development, Deputy Chief Whip and served on a wide range of portfolio and ad hoc committees. His constituency work has been in Pretoria Central, Centurion; Atteridgeville; Waterberg and Midvaal.

His activism began at high school in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where his parents were part of the diplomatic corps. As a student he participated in the National Union of South African Students and several other organisations. He co-ordinated Lawyers for Human Rights' Capital Punishment and Penal Reform Project between 1990 and 1994 and was a member of the NEC of the ANC Youth League from 1996 to 2001. He is currently the co-ordinator of legal and monitoring on the ANC's National Elections Team.

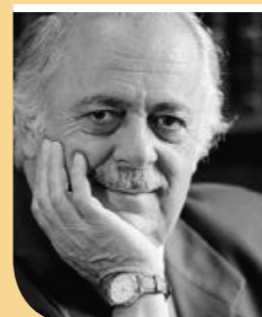
He holds a Bachelor of Civil Law from the University of Pretoria and is married to Kim Robinson, CEO of Renaissance Strategic Solutions.



Dr Aninka Claassens

Aninka Claassens is chief researcher and director of the Land & Accountability Research Centre (LARC) in the Faculty of Law at the University of Cape Town. LARC was previously the Rural Women's Action Research Programme in the Centre for Law and Society at UCT.

Aninka has been a land activist in South Africa for many years. She worked with communities who were resisting forced removals and farm evictions during the 1980s as part of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (TRAC), a project of the Black Sash. Thereafter she worked at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand where she convened working groups that developed drafts for various land reform laws, including the Restitution of Land Rights Act of 1994. She was a technical advisor on land and property rights to the Constitutional Assembly. From 1996 to 2000 she worked for the post-apartheid Ministry of Land Affairs as special advisor to Minister Derek Hanekom and later as a tenure specialist. Between 1999 and 2008 she worked with PLAAS at the University of the Western Cape and the Legal Resources Centre to convene rural consultation meetings about the pending Communal Land Rights Bill and later undertook and co-ordinated research related to land rights and living customary law for the purposes of evidence in litigation. She joined the University of Cape Town in 2009 where she founded the Rural Women's Action Research Programme (RWAR). RWAR has become a leading voice on issues of land, power and custom in the former Bantustans. The programme has grown considerably and is in the process of becoming a separate research Centre in the Faculty of Law.



Adv George Bizos

George Bizos is a Human Rights Lawyer in South Africa. He represented Walter Sisulu and Nelson Mandela in both Treason and Rivonia Trial. Apart from Mandela he appeared in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission representing families of killed heroes of the liberation struggle. He represented the families of Steve Bantu Biko, Chris Hani and the Cradock Four.

He served as an Advocate in Johannesburg until 1990 when he worked as a counsel to 40 lawyers at the Legal Resources Centre and the Constitutional Litigation Unit. During the Apartheid years Bizos dedicated his working life to fight for the basic Human Rights. After the collapse of the Apartheid he turned his fight into ensuring that all South Africans equally enjoy those rights enshrined and guaranteed by the constitution.

Bizos has received a number of awards: Duma Nokwe Human Rights and Democracy Award in 2004, Sydney & Lady Kentridge Award in 2004, Bernard Simon Memorial Award for the Advancement of Human Rights from the International Bar Association in 2004; International Trial Lawyer of the Year Award from the International Academy of Trial Lawyers in 2001; Order for Meritorious Ms Geraldine Fraser Moleketi.



PRESENTERS



Ms Geraldine Fraser Moleketi

Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi is Director of the Democratic Governance Group of the Bureau for Development Policy, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

She has served the South African Government for over 14 years in various positions, most recently as Minister for Public Service and Administration and as a Member of Parliament. As such, in 2007 she played a major role in the Global Forum V on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity, Johannesburg, South Africa. Prior to that, she was Minister of Welfare and Population Development. She has also been a prominent figure within parliament, including as Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Rules of the National Assembly of the Parliament of South Africa. She has been the UNDP Democratic Governance Director in its Bureau for Development Policy (BDP) since 2009.

Ms. Fraser-Moleketi has been instrumental in mainstreaming gender issues in government policies. As a member of the South African Cabinet, she has engaged in various ways with the Organization for African Unity, the African Union and the Commonwealth. As part of a group of African Ministers seeking to implement public administration reform in post-conflict countries, she has chaired the Pan-African Conference on Women's Development, Equality and Peace in Rwanda. Moreover, she was Chair of the Pan-African Ministers of Public Service for more than five years.

Ms. Fraser Moleketi's leadership roles extend far beyond those in the South African government. Currently, she is active in numerous Boards, Committees and African regional institutions. She has also been awarded a fellowship to the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government, U.S.

Ms. Fraser Moleketi holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Pretoria, South Africa.



Prof Hans-Peter Schneider

Prof Schneider is a German constitutional lawyer, former judge, emeritus university professor at the Leibniz University of Hannover and political advisor. He is the Acting Director of the German Institute for Federal Studies (DIF) in Hannover.

In 1975 he was appointed as professor at the Technical University of Hanover in the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, where he remained until his retirement of 2003.

He has served as a member of the Lower Saxony State Court, the Constitutional Court of Saxony, the Constitutional Court of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen and the Executive Board of the Association of the German constitutional lawyer. Furthermore, he was a member of various expert committees of the German Bundestag, the Federal Government, the Federal President and advisor to several foreign governments.

On 26 May 1998 State President Erich Iltgen awarded Prof Schneider the Saxon Constitutional Medal.



Prof Herta Däubler-Gmelin

Professor Dr. Herta Däubler-Gmelin is a former Member of Parliament and Chair of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance Committee of the German Parliament. She studied Law, History and Political Sciences in Tübingen. She completed her Ph.D. dissertation in 1975 and pursued an academic career. Among her achievements she launched and led the process of elaboration and adoption of the German corpus juris to fully implement the Rome Statute of the ICC into national law, including through the pivotal German Code of International Crimes. She also works as a Lawyer in Berlin and has been Honorary Professor of the Otto Suhr Institute of the Free University in Berlin since 1996.

She has been active in numerous NGOs and parliamentary network, one of which is the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), where she served as a Board Member and a Convenor of the International Law and Human Rights Programme in the mid-1990ties. Her leadership in PGA has been an example for many Members of Parliament who joined the global parliamentary campaign for the universality and effectiveness of the Rome Statute of the ICC.



PRESENTERS



Prof Hugh Corder

Hugh Corder has been Professor of Public Law at UCT since 1987 and a Fellow of the University since 2004. A graduate of the universities of Cape Town, Cambridge and Oxford, his main teaching and research interests fall within the field of Constitutional and Administrative Law, particularly judicial appointment and accountability and mechanisms to further administrative accountability. Professor Corder has been widely involved in community work since his student days, concentrating on popular legal education, race relations, human rights and the abolition of the death penalty. He served as a technical adviser in the drafting of the transitional Bill of Rights for South Africa. He has written two books, co-authored two and edited a further seven, and has contributed many articles and chapters in books.



Adv. Jacob Van Garderen

Jacob van Garderen is the National Director of Lawyers for Human Rights. He is responsible for the overall management of the organisation and its six offices and programmes on strategic litigation, refugees and migrant rights, land reform, farmworkers, housing and environmental rights.

During his nearly 15 years at LHR, Jacob has also headed the Refugee and Migrant Rights Programme and Strategic Litigation Unit. Before joining LHR he worked for the Centre for Human Rights.

Jacob earned his BCom and LLB degrees from the University of Pretoria and was admitted as an advocate in 2003. He has since been a member of the Johannesburg Bar.

Jacob has written and lectured extensively on refugee law and practice. He has also served on the boards and advisory committees of various NGOs and research institutions.



Justice Johann van der Westhuizen

Justice Westhuizen was professor in and the head of the Department of Legal History, Comparative Law and Jurisprudence in the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Law, as well as the founding director of the university's Centre for Human Rights. He is currently an honorary professor at the University of Pretoria and a member of the Centre's board of trustees, the Law Faculty Council of the University of Pretoria and council of the Judicial Education Institute of South Africa.

He was admitted as an advocate of the High Court of South Africa and was an associate member of the Pretoria Bar. He acted as counsel in many human-rights matters, and served as a consultant and in-house advocate for the Legal Resources Centre and on the governing body of Lawyers for Human Rights.

During the drafting of South Africa's Constitution he served as a member of the Independent Panel of Recognised Constitutional Experts, which advised the Constitutional Assembly, and of the Technical Refinement Team, responsible for the final drafting and editing.

In 1999 he was appointed by President Nelson Mandela as a judge in the Transvaal Provincial Division of the High Court (now the North Gauteng High Court) in Pretoria. He joined the Constitutional Court of South Africa - the country's apex court - on 1 February 2004.



PRESENTERS



Hon John Jeffery, MP

John Jeffery, MP is South Africa's Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development. Mr Jeffery is an admitted attorney and holds BA and LLB degrees, as well as a postgraduate diploma in environmental law from the University of Natal. He is a member of the ruling party, the African National Congress.

He describes growing up as a white South African in the late 1970s and seeing the injustices and human rights violations under the previous regime as being the driving force in him joining the liberation struggle and becoming actively engaged in politics at university.

After South Africa's transition to a constitutional democracy in 1994, Mr Jeffery became a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature where he chaired the Environment and Conservation Portfolio Committee.

Mr Jeffery has been a member of the National Assembly of Parliament since 1999. He is a former member of the Justice and Constitutional Development Portfolio Committee where he was instrumental in shaping a number of pieces of legislation, such as the Child Justice Act, the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act, the Protection from Harassment Act, the Superior Courts Act, the Protection of Personal Information Act and the Legal Practice Act. He served as Parliamentary Counsellor to the President and the Deputy President from 1999 – July 2013.

Mr Jeffery was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development in July 2013. His constituency is in Kwazulu-Natal.



Prof Leon Wessels

Leon Wessels is the Director of the Centre for Human Rights at the University of the Free State and honorary professor of Public Law at the North West University (Potchefstroom campus).

Previously he was a Member of Parliament for Krugersdorp and served as a Minister in FW de Klerk's Cabinet. He participated in the CODESA-Kempton Park negotiations from 1991 to 1994 and was the Deputy Chairperson of the Constitutional Assembly from 1994 to 1996. Prof Wessels stepped down from parliament and politics at the inception of the final Constitution in December 1996. From 1999 to 2009 he served as the Commissioner in the South African Human Rights Commission.



Prof Lourens Marthinus du Plessis

Lourens Marthinus du Plessis is an extraordinary professor in the Faculty of Law, North-West University, Potchefstroom. He is a legal philosopher who, in his research, specialises in issues of statutory and constitutional interpretation. He also shows a keen interest in South African politics. During July 1987 he was part of the so-called "Dakar Safari" holding talks with members of the then banned ANC. During 1993 he was actively involved in the Multi-party Negotiating Process at the World Trade Centre, Kempton Park, chairing the Technical Committee on Fundamental Rights during the Transition. This Committee drafted South Africa's first Bill of Rights. He was also vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation.



Mac Maharaj

Mac Maharaj became active in the struggle in 1953. He served in the underground structures of the ANC, the SACP and Umkhonto weSizwe. He was imprisoned on Robben Island from 1964 to 1976. From 1977 to 1989 he was the secretary of the Internal Political and Reconstruction Department of the ANC and served on the NEC of the ANC from 1985 to 1990 and from 1991 to 2000 as well as on the Central Committee of the SACP from 1978 to 1990. He was appointed joint secretary of the multiparty negotiations (CODESA and the MPNF) and the Transitional Executive Council. He was Minister of Transport in the government of President Mandela. He served as advisor and spokesperson for President Zuma from 2009 until his retirement in April 2015.



PRESENTERS



Dr Nicholas Hayson

Nicholas "Fink" Haysom serves as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan having previously been Director for Political, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs in the Office of the Secretary-General. He has worked on constitutional reform, electoral reform, conflict resolution, good governance, and democracy-strengthening in several countries in Africa and Asia, most notably in Burundi, Sudan and Iraq.

Mr. Haysom was closely involved in the constitutional negotiations leading up to the interim and final Constitutions in South Africa. He served as Chief Legal Adviser throughout Mr. Mandela's presidency until 1999 and continued to work with Mr. Mandela on his private peace initiatives up to 2002.

Mr. Haysom is a graduate of the Universities of Natal and of Cape Town. He is married with five children.



Prof Nico Steytler

Nico Steytler is the South African Research Chair in Multilevel Government, Law and Policy at the Dullah Omar Institute of Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights of the University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa. He has been involved in the development of the new constitutional order in South Africa for the past two decades. He was a technical advisor to the Constitutional Assembly drafting the 1996 Constitution as well as the Western Cape Provincial Constitution of 1997. He was a member of the Municipal Demarcation Board (2004-2014) and is a commissioner of the Financial and Fiscal Commission (2013-2017).



Dr Nomalanga Mkhize

Nomalanga Mkhize is a History lecturer at Rhodes University South.

Mkhize completed a doctoral thesis in land and agrarian studies at the University of Cape Town. She has a Masters in History from Rhodes University and takes a special interest in 19th century Eastern Cape history.

Outside of her academic pursuits she advocates for equitable access to quality education for all South African children. She is also part of a creative collective that writes children's books in African languages.



Ms Nomboniso Gasa

Nomboniso Gasa is a political analyst, public speaker on gender, politics and culture and a Researcher. Her focus is on the intersection of land, living custom, the construction of identities and traditional leadership.

In the 1990s, she was executive secretary responsible for policy development in the ANC's Commission on the Emancipation of Women. She was closely involved in the ANC's decisive contribution to the negotiation of a new constitution, focusing specifically on gender equality.

Gasa headed the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (I-IDEA) in Nigeria. She conceptualized and drove a massive research program with Nigerian and international scholars. This culminated in a book published by I-IDEA "Democracy in Nigeria: Continuing Dialogue(s) for Nation Building" and multi stakeholder policy dialogues, including politicians, academics, senior religious leaders and civil society. The publication is treated by many Nigerians, other scholars and analysts as seminal work on many contemporary Nigerian issues. Further, her publications include "Women in South African History" (2007, HSRC Press). As an art critic, she has published essays in catalogues and written in popular media. Gasa has been a political activist since her teenage years, which led to her first detention without trial and her torture at the age of 14 in the former Transkei.



Prof Penelope Andrews

A noted human rights scholar and activist and admitted as an advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa, Penelope Andrews is the Dean and Professor at the University of Cape Town (UCT) Faculty of Law. Prior to joining UCT, she was President and Dean at Albany Law School in New York, USA, the first female president and dean for the school since its founding in 1851.

She was previously the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the City University of New York School of Law (CUNY), where she also sat on the Senate. Prior to joining CUNY, she was a Professor of Law and Director of International Studies at Valparaiso Law School in Indiana, USA.

A member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association, she has participated in and has chaired several accreditation site teams for the American Bar Association's section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. She has also consulted for the Ford Foundation, the United Nations Fund for Women, and the Victorian Commissioner for Equal Opportunity in Australia.



PRESENTERS



Justice Reinhard Gaier

Reinhard Gaier is a Justice of the First Senate of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany. Previously he was a judge at the Federal Court, Judge at the Frankfurt/Main Higher Regional Court, Judge in the Regional Court district of Darmstadt and Judge at the Darmstadt Regional Court (Landgericht).

Gaier completed the first state examination in 1980 and the second in 1982. In 1998 he received his doctorate in Dresden. His doctoral thesis was entitled "The statement of facts in a judgment and the principle of orality – On the connection between the recording function of the statement of facts in a judgment and the provisions of the German Code of Civil Procedure on the orality of proceedings".

Since August 20, 2008 he has been an honorary professor at the University of Hannover.



Prof Sandra Liebenberg

Prof Sandra Liebenberg is HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law and Distinguished Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Stellenbosch. She is also Co-Director of the Faculty's Socio-Economic Rights and Administrative Justice Research Project (SERAJ).

She previously served as Chair of the Technical Committee advising the Constitutional Assembly on the drafting of the Bill of Rights in the 1996 Constitution of South Africa. She serves on the editorial boards of a number of human rights law journals in South Africa and abroad as well as on the board of directors of a number of national and international NGOs active in the field of socio-economic rights. She has been involved in supporting public interest litigation and advocacy in the area of socio-economic rights for a number of years. She has published widely in the field of socio-economic rights, and is the author of the monograph, *Socio-Economic Rights: Adjudication under a Transformative Constitution* (2010, Juta & Co) and co-editor of *Law and Poverty: Perspectives from South Africa and Beyond* (Juta & Co, 2011). In December 2014, she received the University of Stellenbosch's top accolade, a Chancellor's Award, for her contribution to community service in the field of law in South Africa. In 2016 she was elected as a member of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the body which supervises compliance by States Parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966).



Hon Sango Phatekile Holomisa, MP

Born 26 August, 1959, Ngqungqu Great Place, Mqanduli, Eastern Cape Sango Phatekile Holomisa is the Deputy Minister of Labour and Advocate of the High Court of South Africa. In addition to this he is;

- An African National Congress Member of Parliament
- Traditional leader of the Hegebe Clan in Mqanduli
- Chairman of the Southern African Development Community Council of Traditional Leaders (SADC – CTL) since 2002

Previously Hon. Holomisa was a Chairperson and member of Parliamentary Committees of Agriculture and Land Affairs, Constitutional Review, Justice & Constitutional Development, Provincial and Local Government. He also served as a member of the University of Transkei (UNITRA, now known as the Walter Sisulu University), Magistrate Commission and various other public bodies.

In 2011, he published a book entitled *A Double-Edged Sword*, which outlines the history and formation of The Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (CONTRALESA).



Adv. Sduduzo S. Gumede

Advocate Gumede is the Ombudsman for the City of Johannesburg. As the city's Ombudsman he investigates complaints of maladministration, human rights abuses and the unfair treatment of citizens and customers by employees and leaders in the City of Johannesburg.

He has over 19 years' experience as a lawyer and has been a member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates ("the Johannesburg Bar") for the past 8 years specializing in commercial and constitutional litigation. As an advocate he has acted for numerous clients both corporate and government. As an advocate he has acted for numerous clients both corporate and government. Was a member of the panel set up by the former Minister of Minerals and Energy Ms. Lindiwe Hendricks to investigate petroleum shortages in the Western Cape in 2005. He co-wrote the final report to the Minister with Advocate Moerane SC. Has recently acted for the Minister of Finance on the legal challenge brought by businessman Mark Shuttleworth to the constitutionality or otherwise of the Currency and Exchanges Act.

For 11 years S'du worked as a Legal Advisor, Senior Legal Advisor and General Counsel (Retail) respectively, at Old Mutual, the Financial Services Board and BP Southern Africa.



PRESENTERS



Justice Sisi Khampepe

Justice Sisi Khampepe obtained her BProc degree from the University of Zululand in 1980 and subsequently obtained her LLM degree at Harvard Law School in 1982. Between 1981 and 1983, she served as a fellow in the Legal Resources Centre. In 1983 she joined Bowman Gilfillan Attorneys as a Candidate Attorney.

After being admitted as an attorney in 1985, she established her own law firm. In 1995 she was appointed by former President Mandela as a TRC Commissioner and in the following year she became a member of the TRC's Amnesty Committee. In 2004, she was appointed to oversee the elections in Zimbabwe. Between April 2005 and February 2006, she was appointed to chair the Commission of Enquiry into the mandate and location of the Directorate of Special Operation. In February 2006, she was seconded as a member of the Commonwealth Observer Group to the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Uganda. She is currently a Justice of the Constitutional Court, a position she took up in October 2009.



Ms Thandi Modise

Thandi Modise is a South African politician, currently serving as chairperson of the National Council of Provinces.

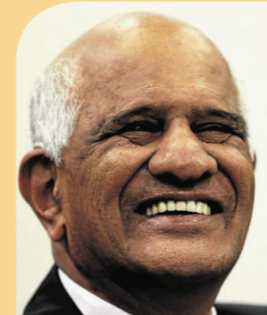
She left South Africa in 1976 to join the African National Congress and received training in Angola. She returned to South Africa in 1978 as an Umkhonto weSizwe operative. She was arrested and imprisoned in 1979, becoming the first woman in South Africa to be jailed for MK activities.

She served as the Premier of North West from 19 November 2010 to 21 May 2014, when she was replaced by Supra Mahumapelo, also from the ANC, after the 2014 general election.



Adv Thuli Madonsela

Thulisile Madonsela is South Africa's Public Protector. She is also a Human Rights Lawyer and Equality Expert. Madonsela is one of the 11 technical experts who helped the Constitutional Assembly draft the final constitution in 1994 and 1995. Previously, she was a member of a Task Team that prepared constitutional inputs for the Gauteng Province of the African National Congress. She presented the final document at the African National Congress' Gauteng Constitutional Conference in 1995.



Justice Zakeria "Zac" Mohammed Yacoob

Justice Zac Yacoob is a former Constitutional Court Judge, ANC underground, anti-apartheid political and community activist. During the transition period, Yacoob served on the Independent Electoral Commission from December 1993 to June 1994 and was a member of the Panel of Independent Experts of the Constitutional Assembly. He also was a member of the Technical Committee on Fundamental Rights in the transitional negotiating process prior to the 1994 democratic elections. He was part of Constitution-making process, and member of the Panel of Experts advised on drafting of the New Constitution.

From 2013 to October 2015 Justice Yacoob chaired South African National Aids Council Trust. He is now President of Kwazulu Natal Blind and Deaf Society; Ombud of the University of KwaZulu-Natal; sits on boards of Section 27, Socio-economic Rights Institute and CAPRISA. He attends various local and international conferences and teaches at local and international colleges of law. Justice Yacoob received honorary doctorate degrees from Universities of Fort Hare and KwaZulu-Natal.