



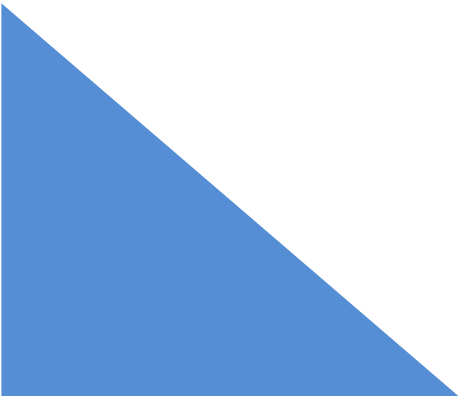
SOUTHERN AFRICAN JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

SAJAA

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Launch of the Southern African Judicial Administrators Association

Swakopmund, Namibia

16th and 17th October 2017



Introduction and Background

Introduction

- **Background**

Contemporary Constitutions are providing for an independent judiciary with the general understanding that the judiciary comprises of courts and judicial officers presiding over those courts.

The functioning of courts is not limited to the independent and impartial judicial officers presiding over courts, but the independent administration of judiciaries is crucial to ensure a true separation of powers. There is thus a need to strengthen the constitutional principle of separation of powers through enhancing the independent administration of judiciaries.

As the nature of democracies evolves, so too must the skills and knowledge of judicial administrators. A focus on judicial administration is needed to streamline judicial administration in order to enhance and strengthen the functional and administrative independence of the judiciary.

In light of this, the development of a **Southern African Judicial Administrators Association** under the auspices of the Southern African Chief Justice Forum (SACJF) would provide a valuable platform in which judicial administrators from around the world could exchange national experiences, identify common challenges and discuss ways to address them and promote good practices.

The network would complement the existing SACJF forum which will also deal with matters on judicial reforms, organizational structures of the courts systems and planning, which also deal with issues that require specific knowledge and raise unique challenges, which require international cooperation. The SAJAA network will seek to cooperate with other existing international networks, of which SAJAA will be the only and first network of its kind with a focus on the Southern African Sub-Region.

Objectives and Primary Focus of the Association

It is proposed that network be established and coordinated under the auspices of the SACJF.

1. The objectives of the proposed Network would be to:
2. Foster co-operation among members on matters of common concern;
3. promote the rule of law, democracy and the independence of the judiciary and its administration;
4. assist in strengthening institutions tasked with judicial administration in member countries;
5. publish a bulletin and to encourage members to contribute to it;
6. arrange platforms including workshops, seminars and colloquia on the maintenance of the rule of law, constitutionalism, good governance, protection of human rights and judicial administration;
7. co-operate with other bodies which have objectives similar to the objectives of the association;
8. generally to promote the interests of judiciaries of member countries.

This proposal therefore, seeks to:

- Bring court management and judicial structures in the SADC regions under umbrella of the SAJAA

- Professionalise court management and administration on the Southern African Sub-Region; and promote good practices, norms and standards developed to assist member states in their efforts to implement their requirements to strengthen judicial administration and independence,
- An annual conference to serve as a hub for the sharing of information on new trends, challenges and good practices in the execution of judicial administration,
- Benchmarking and cooperation programmes will promote regional and international cooperation among in the area of terrorism,
- Exchange programmes will support administrators of judiciaries to share experiences, canvass ideas with peers which will enrich justice delivery, reduce costs and expedite judgments,
- Encourage the dissemination of good practices and lessons learnt; and
- Improve the exchange of crucial information and data efficiently.

Agenda

SAJAA Conference	
<i>THEME: Strengthening financial independence and ethical administration of the Judiciary</i>	
Day One, Sunday: 15 October 2017	
WELCOMING COCKTAIL SWAKOPMUND HOTEL AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE 18:30	
Day Two: Monday, 16th October 2017	
08.00 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 13.00	Attending the GJIN Morning Session (Main Conference Venue)
13:00- 14.15	LUNCH
SAJAA MEETING	
SAJAA Opening Session: DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES: <i>MRS. LINEA KAMATI (DIRECTOR: ADMINISTRATION)</i>	
14.30 – 14.45	Welcoming Remarks <i>Mrs. Rolanda L. Van Wyk, Permanent Secretary, Namibia and Interim Chairperson of SAJAA</i>
14.45 - 15.30	Presentation of overview of the establishment of SAJAA 29-30 June 2017, Windhoek, NAMIBIA <i>Mr. Tousy Namiseb, Deputy Permanent Secretary: Judicial Services, Namibia</i>
15.30 - 15.45	TEA BREAK
15.45 – 16.30	Discussion and way forward
16.30	END OF DAY ONE

Day Three: Tuesday, 17th October 2017 Session 2: Administrative and Financial Independence SESSION CHAIR: Mrs. Nalishebo Imataa, Chief Administrator, Republic of Zambia	
9.00 – 10.00	Strengthening Financial Independence and the Administration of the Judiciary – “Show me the Money!” <i>Ms. Sheryl Loesch, USA</i> Discussions
10.00 – 10.20	COFFEE BREAK
10.20 – 11:20	Financial systems and ethics <i>Adv. Simon Jiyane Vice President of IACA, Africa</i> Discussions
Session 3: Country presentations on judicial reforms focusing on: Financial independence and ethical implications for judicial administration SESSION CHAIR: Mr. Walter Chikwana, Deputy Secretary, Republic of ZIMBABWE	
11.20 – 12.30	<i>Each country delegation will have the opportunity to address the plenary to highlight important steps being taken to enhance financial independence as well as to highlight the ethical implications in their respective jurisdictions.</i> <i>Country representatives will be invited to provide a short (maximum 10 minutes) presentation:</i> Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Seychelles Tanzania Uganda
12.30 - 13.30	LUNCH
14:00 – 15.00	Continuation of Session 3 Zambia Zanzibar Zimbabwe Discussions SAJAA Closing session
15.00	END OF SAJAA CONFERENCE - JOIN GJIN CLOSING SESSION
19:00 CLOSING DINNER (VENUE TBA)	

