

2026
jAW
JOHANNESBURG
ARBITRATION WEEK



**JOHANNESBURG
ARBITRATION WEEK**
Showcasing Arbitration in Africa

Tuesday 5 May 2026 - Thursday 7 May 2026

Presented by



JAW PROGRAMME

THEME : ARBITRATION IN A FRAGMENTED GLOBAL ORDER: THE FUTURE OF TRADE, INVESTMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Monday 4 May 2026

AFSA	AFSA Seminar	09H00 – 13H00
<p>Arbitration in Practice: Bridging Domestic and International Practice in Southern Africa</p> <p>Moderator: Judge Margie Victor (Ret) Moderator: Adv Ntibidi Rampete Moderator: Attorney Abena Osei Presenter: Adv Svetlana Vasileva Guests: Brittany Leroni, Caitlin Leahy and Priyesh Daya</p> <p>Register https://arbitration.co.za/training/arbitration-in-practice/</p>		
		18H00
VIP reception at AFSA (by invitation only)		

DAY 1: Tuesday 5 May 2026

REGISTRATION	PLENARY Venue A	08H00 – 08H30
Registration and refreshments		
WELCOME, OPENING AND THEMATIC REVIEW	PLENARY Venue A	08H30 – 09H00
Choir		
SESSION 1	PLENARY Venue A	09H00 – 09H45
Welcome, Opening and Thematic Review		
SESSION 2	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA Africa Forum
09H45 – 10H30		
<p>Statesmen in Dialogue: Leadership and Dispute Resolution in Africa</p> <p>Moderator: Leslie Mkhabela, Managing Director and co-founder of Mkhabela Huntley Attorneys Introduction: Adv Michael Kuper SC Panellist: HE Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Former President of The Republic of Mozambique Panellist: HE Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, Former President of The Republic of Nigeria Panellist: HE Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, Former President of The Republic of Kenya Panellist: HE Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President of The Republic of Liberia</p> <p>Signing of a Partnership Agreement</p>		
PLENARY Venue A		10H30 – 11H00
<p>Arbitration Through the Eyes of the Bench: Practice Pitfalls and Perspectives</p> <p>Moderator: Adv Lindi Nkosi-Thomas SC, AFSA Vice Chair Panellist: Judge Roland Sutherland DJP (Ret) Panellist: Sir Clive Freedman Panellist: Judge Norman Davis</p>		
TEA BREAK		11H00 – 11H20

SESSION 3	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA	11H30 – 12H30
<p>AFSA@30: Founding and Growth</p> <p>Moderator: Stanley Nyamanhindi, Executive: Business Development, AFSA Panellist: Michael Kuper SC, AFSA Chair Panellist: Adv Des Williams, AFSA Board and Court Member Panellist: Susan Mutangadura, AFSA International and SADC Panel Panellist: James Banda, AFSA International and SADC Panel</p>			
LUNCH			12H30 – 13H30
SESSION 4	PLENARY Venue A	CDH	13H30 – 14H30
<p>BRICS, AfCFTA & the Fading Rules-Based Order: What This Means for Arbitration</p> <p>Moderator: Jackwell Feris, Director & Sector Head, CDH Panellist: Rishaban Moodley, Director & Head of Dispute Resolution, CDH Panellist: Bruno Barata, Senior Partner, BCDM Law Panellist: Arthur Ma, Partner, Dahui Lawyers Panellist: Stanislav Karandasov, Partner, Askari Legal</p>			
TEA BREAK			14H30 – 14H50
SESSION 5	PLENARY Venue A	Webber Wentzel	15H00 – 16H00
<p>Beyond Expropriation: Performance Obligations, Resource Nationalism and Mining Arbitration in Africa</p> <p>Moderator: Prianka Soni, Partner, Webber Wentzel Panellist: Kudakwashe Chitanga, Legal Manager, First Quantum Minerals Panellist: Michael Schottler, Head of Legal: Global Disputes and Interim Head of Legal: South Africa, Anglo American Panellist: Diamana Diawara, Partner, Talex International, AFSA Court member Panellist: Nick Alp - Partner, Webber Wentzel</p>			
SESSION 6	PLENARY Venue A	JSA/AFT	16H00 – 17H00
<p>Reseating Africa: Structural Reform, Judicial Confidence and the Rise of African Arbitral Hubs</p>			
COCKTAIL PARTY			17H00 for 17H30
Bill Gallagher Room			

DAY 2: Wednesday 6 May 2026

SESSION 1	PLENARY Venue A	Bowmans	09H00 – 10H00
<p>Leveraging Opportunities in Times of Uncertainty: Africa's Legislative Modernisation, BITs and Increased Judicial Support for Enforcement</p> <p>Moderator: Clement Mkiva, Co-Head of Litigation, Bowmans Panellist: Gerhard Rudolph, Partner, Bowmans Panellist: Jonathan Barnes, Partner, Bowmans Panellist: John Kawana, Partner, Bowmans Panellist: Brian Mambosho, Partner, Bowmans Panellist: Akshav Mossuddee, Associate, Bowmans</p>			

SESSION 2	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA	10H00 – 11H00
<p>AFSA in the World: The Architecture of International Arbitration Practice</p> <p>Moderator: Prof Lise Bosman, AFSA Court President and Executive Director of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA)</p> <p>Panellist: Diamana Diawara, Partner, Talex International, AFSA Court member</p> <p>Panellist: Jonathan Ripley-Evans, AFSA Court Vice President</p> <p>Panellist: Clement Mkiva, AFSA Court Member and Co-Head of Litigation Bowmans</p> <p>Panellist: Aisha Abdallah, Partner and Head of Disputes at ALN Kenya: Anjarwalla & Khanna LLP</p>			
TEA BREAK			11H00 – 11H20
SESSION 3	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA Initiative	11H30 – 13H30
<p>KALAGADI/IDC: Moot and Judiciary-led discussion and dialogue</p> <p>Judge: Judge Fayeeza Kathree-Setiloane</p> <p>For Kalagadi: Andre Gautschi SC, Senior Counsel, Group 621 Ndumiso Luthuli, Junior Counsel, Group 621</p> <p>For IDC/AfDB: Vlad Movshovich, Partner, Webber Wentzel Ahmed Rajan, Senior Associate, Webber Wentzel Qaasim Ganey, Associate Webber Wentzel and Margeaux Wassenaar, Candidate Attorney, Webber Wentzel Faadhil Adams, Senior Lecturer, UCT</p>			
LUNCH			13H30 – 14H30
SESSION 4	BREAKAWAY 1 Venue B	Webber Wentzel	14H30 – 15H30
<p>The Impact of Sanctions on International Arbitration and Enforcement</p> <p>Moderator: Chandni Gopal, Partner, Webber Wentzel</p> <p>Panellist: Lele Modise, Group Chief Legal and Regulatory Affairs Officer, MTN</p> <p>Panellist: Neil Boyd, Counsel, Linklaters</p> <p>Panellist: Trevor Versfeld, Partner, Webber Wentzel</p>			
BREAKAWAY 2 Venue C		JSA/AFT	14H30 – 15H30
<p>Energy, Infrastructure and Transition Risk: Arbitration at the centre of Africa's Commercial Transformation</p>			
TEA BREAK			15H30 – 15H50
SESSION 5	BREAKAWAY 1 Venue B	CDH	16H00 – 17H00
<p>Critical Minerals, Energy Security & Strategic Supply Chains: Disputes in the New Geopolitical Battleground</p> <p>Moderator: Denise Durand, Director, CDH</p> <p>Panellist: Clive Rumsey, Director & Sector Head, CDH</p> <p>Panellist: Jackwell Feris, Director & Sector Head, CDH</p> <p>Panellist: Vivien Chaplin, Director & Sector Head, CDH</p> <p>Panellist: Burton Meyer, Director, CDH</p>			
BREAKAWAY 3 Venue C		Jus Mundi	16H00 – 17H00
<p>The Use of AI in Arbitration Proceedings</p> <p>Moderator: Sarah McKenzie, Partner, Webber Wentzel</p> <p>Panellist: Alexandre Vagenheim, VP Institutional & Legal Affairs</p> <p>Panellist: Prof Fola Adeleke, Executive Director of the Global Centre on AI Governance, University of the Witwatersrand</p> <p>Panellist: Prof Sylvia Papadopoulos, Associate Professor, Department of Private Law UP, Conduct Authority (FSCA), Consumer Advisory Panel</p>			
GALA DINNER	BALLROOM		18H30 for 19H00

DAY 3: Thursday 7 May 2026

SESSION 1	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA Initiative	09H00 – 09H45
	<p>AFSA and Partners in Africa: Africa Minerals Development Centre (AMDC), African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Moderator: Jackwell Feris, Director & Head of Industrialisation, Manufacturing and Trade Sector, Cliff Decker Hoffmeyer (CDH)</p> <p>Panellist: Deprose Muchena, Director, Resources Future Program, Open Society Foundations (ASF)</p> <p>Panellist: Mkhululi Ncube, Programs Management Officer, Africa Minerals Development Center (AMDC)</p> <p>Panellist: Kossi Toulassi, Head of Industrialization, Trade, Markets & Economic Analysis African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Panellist: Dr. Claude Kabemba, Executive Director, Southern Africa Resource Watch (SARW)</p> <p>Panellist: ALSF Representative</p>		
SESSION 2	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA Initiative	09H45 – 10H30
	<p>AFSA Partnerships in Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Moderator: Evangelista Nashon, Partner Africorp, Tanzania.</p> <p>Panellist: Lauren Hermanus, Co-Founding Director, Southern Transitions</p> <p>Panellist: Aluka Ligonzo, Extractives Sector Specialist – Senior Civil Society, Global Witness</p> <p>Panellist: Mutuso Dhlwayo, Executive Director, Zimbabwe Environmental Law Organisation</p> <p>Panellist: Darlington Muyambwa, Business & Human Rights Consultant, Danish Institute for Human Rights</p> <p>Panellist: Prof David Unterhalter, Supreme Court Judge, SA Supreme Court of Appeal</p>		
SESSION 3	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA Strategic Partnerships/ Signing Ceremony	10H30 – 10H45
	<p>MOU Signing with AUDA-NEPAD and AMDC</p> <p>Signatories: Andile Nikani, AFSA CEO and Adv Michael Kuper SC, AFSA Chair</p> <p>Signatories: Mrs Nardos Bekele Thomas, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD</p> <p>Signatories: Mkhululi Ncube, Head of Programs, AMDC</p> <p>The UCT Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Unit of the Law Faculty of the University Of Cape Town, Cape Town</p> <p>Signatories: Andile Nikani, AFSA CEO and Adv Michael Kuper SC, AFSA Chair</p> <p>Signatories: Dr Faadhil Adams, Cape Town</p> <p>Signatories: Prof Lise Bosman</p> <p>Chamber of Arbitrators, Belarus</p> <p>Signatories: Andile Nikani, AFSA CEO and Adv Michael Kuper SC, AFSA Chair</p> <p>Signatories: Dr Aleksei Korochkin, Chair, Arbitration Chamber, Belarus</p> <p>Russian Arbitration Association</p> <p>Signatories: Andile Nikani, AFSA CEO and Adv Michael Kuper SC, AFSA Chair</p> <p>Signatories: Roman Zykov, Secretary General, Russian Arbitration Association</p> <p>AFSA International Rules Translation</p> <p>Representative: Prof Lise Bosman, AFSA International Court President, France</p> <p>Representative: Rajeev Sharma Fokeer, FTPA Advocats, France</p> <p>Representative: Dimetrio Manjate and Pascoal Bie, Moçambique</p> <p>Representative: Wyne & Associates, Kenya: Dr K. Wyne Mutuma</p>		

TEA BREAK**10H45 – 11H10**

SESSION 4	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA	11H15 – 12H30
<p>Collaborating for Credibility: Institutional Cooperation and the Future of Arbitration in Africa</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Jamsheed Peeroo, Bar of England and Wales (36 Stone), the Mauritian Bar (Peeroo Chambers)</p> <p>Panellist: Adv Svetlana Vasileva, AFSA Secretary General</p> <p>Panellist: Dr Henry Murigi, NCIA CEO</p> <p>Panellist: Dr Dalia Hussein, CRCICA Director</p> <p>Panellist: Victor Mugabe, KIAC Secretary General</p> <p>Panellist: Karim M'ziani, Legal Counsel at the PCA, and the Registrar of the MIAC</p> <p>Panellist: Guillaume Tattevin, Swiss Arbitration Centre</p> <p>Panellist: Korinna von Trotha, Executive Director of ASA and the Swiss Arbitration Centre</p> <p>Panellist: Adv Henk Louw, Chair CI Arb South Africa Branch</p> <p>Panellist: Dr Aleksei Korachkin, Chair Arbitration Chamber, Belarus</p> <p>Panellist: Dr John Nyanje, Africa Germany Arbitration Cooperation (AfGAC), LawCom.Institute</p>			

SESSION 5	PLENARY Venue A	Young AFSA	12H30 – 13H30
<p>Sanctions, trade wars, and geopolitical rivalry make mediation (not arbitration) the only realistic mechanism for resolving cross-border commercial disputes involving African parties caught between competing global blocs.</p> <p>An Oxford-style debate focusing on audience persuasion, with two opposing sides arguing the motion.</p>			

SESSION 6	PLENARY Venue A		13H30 – 14H00
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Conference Theme: Looking to the Future

CLOSING	PLENARY Venue A		14H00 – 14H15
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LUNCH			14H15 – 15H15
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