

2026  
**jAW**  
JOHANNESBURG  
ARBITRATION WEEK



**JOHANNESBURG  
ARBITRATION WEEK**  
Showcasing Arbitration in Africa

Tuesday 5 May 2026 - Thursday 7 May 2026

Presented by



**PROVISIONAL JAW PROGRAMME**

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

## Monday 4 May 2026

<b>AFSA</b>			<b>09H00 – 13H00</b>
	Domestic commercial arbitration training		
			<b>17H00</b>
	VIP reception at AFSA		

## DAY 1: Tuesday 5 May 2026

<b>REGISTRATION</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>08H00 – 08H30</b>
	Registration and refreshments		
<b>OPENING</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>08H30 – 08H55</b>
	Choir		
<b>WELCOME</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>08H55 – 09H00</b>
<b>SESSION 1</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>09H00 – 09H15</b>
	AFSA Opening		
	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>09H15 – 09H45</b>
	Keynote speech		
<b>SESSION 2</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>09H45 – 10H30</b>
	<b>Statesmen in Dialogue: Leadership and Dispute Resolution in Africa</b>		
	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA & Co-hosts	<b>10H30 – 11H00</b>
	<b>Arbitration Through the Eyes of the Bench: Practice, Pitfalls and Perspectives I</b> Judicial Perspectives on Arbitration: Realities from the Bench		
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			<b>11H00 – 11H20</b>
<b>SESSION 3</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA at 30:	<b>11H30 – 12H30</b>
	Founding, Growth, and the Future of Arbitration in Africa		
<b>LUNCH</b>			<b>12H30 – 13H20</b>
<b>SESSION 4</b>	PLENARY Venue A	CDH	<b>13H30 – 14H30</b>
	<b>BRICS, AfCFTA &amp; the Fading Rules-Based Order: What This Means for Arbitration</b>		
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			<b>14H30 – 14H50</b>
<b>SESSION 5</b>	PLENARY Venue A	Webber Wentzel	<b>15H00 – 16H00</b>
	<b>Beyond Expropriation: Performance Obligations, Resource Nationalism and Mining Arbitration in Africa</b>		
<b>SESSION 6</b>	PLENARY Venue A	JSA/AFT	<b>16H00 – 17H00</b>
	<b>Reseating Africa: Structural Reform, Judicial Confidence and the Rise of African Arbitral Hubs</b>		
<b>COCKTAIL PARTY</b>			<b>17H00 for 18H00</b>

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## DAY 2: Wednesday 6 May 2026

<b>SESSION 1</b>	PLENARY Venue A	Bowmans	09H00 – 10H00
	<b>Leveraging Opportunities in Times of Uncertainty:</b> Africa's Legislative Modernisation, BITs and Increased Judicial Support for Enforcement		
<b>SESSION 2</b>	PLENARY Venue A	AFSA International	10H00 – 11H00
	<b>AFSA in the World   AFSA International:</b> Arbitration Without Borders   AFSA: Local Roots, Global Reach		
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			11H00 – 11H20
<b>SESSION 3</b>	PLENARY Venue A	Baker McKenzie	11H30 – 12H30
	<b>The Future of Arbitration Advocacy:</b> AI Assisted Evidence, Virtual Hearings and the Ethics of Tech Augmented Counsel		
<b>LUNCH</b>			12H30 – 13H30
<b>SESSION 4</b>	BREAKAWAY 1 Venue B	Webber Wentzel	13H30 – 14H30
	The Impact of Sanctions on International Arbitration and Enforcement		
	BREAKAWAY 2 Venue B	JSA/AFT	13H30 – 14H30
	<b>Energy, Infrastructure and Transition Risk:</b> Arbitration at the centre of Africa's Commercial Transformation		
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			14H30 – 14H50
<b>SESSION 5</b>	BREAKAWAY 1 Venue B	CDH	15H00 – 16H00
	<b>Critical Minerals, Energy Security &amp; Strategic Supply Chains:</b> Disputes in the New Geopolitical Battleground		
	BREAKAWAY 3 Venue C	Baker McKenzie	15H00 – 16H00
	<b>Patterns in Arbitral Procedure and Decision Making in Sub Saharan Africa:</b> Institutional Practice, Process Design and Outcomes.		
	BREAKAWAY 3 Venue C	Jus Mundi	15H00 – 16H00
	The Use of AI in Arbitration Proceedings		
<b>GALA DINNER</b>	BALLROOM		18H30 for 19H00

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## DAY 3: Thursday 7 May 2026

<b>SESSION 1</b>	PLENARY Venue A KALAGADI MOOT	Webber Wentzel and ENS	09H00 – 11H00
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			11H00 – 11H20
<b>SESSION 2</b>	BREAKAWAY 1 PLENARY Collaborating for Credibility: Institutional Cooperation and the Future of Arbitration in Africa	AFSA Institutional Panel	11H30 – 12H30
<b>SESSION 3</b>	PLENARY Venue A 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.	YAFSA	12H30 – 13H30
<b>SESSION 4</b>	PLENARY Venue A CONFERENCE REVIEW		13H30 – 14H15
<b>CLOSING</b>	PLENARY Venue A		14H15 – 14H30
<b>LUNCH</b>			14H30 – 15H30

## JAW 2026 Speakers

	<p>HE Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Former President Of The Republic Of Mozambique</p> <p>HE Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, Former President Of The Republic Of Nigeria</p> <p>HE Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, Former President Of The Republic Of Kenya</p> <p>HE Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President Of The Republic Of Liberia</p>
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	<p>Judge Sandile Ngcobo CJ (RET)</p> <p>Judge Sutherland DJP (RET)</p> <p>Judge Norman Davis ADJP</p> <p>Judge David Unterhalter</p>
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	James Banda	Jonathan Barnes	Prof Lise Bosman	Vivien Chaplin
	Jackwell Feris	Sir Clive Freedman	Michael Katz	John Kawana
	Dr Aleksei Korachkin	Michael Kuper SC	Henk Louw	Brian Mambosho
	Burton Meyer	Clement Mkiva	Akshav Mossuddee	Victor Mugabe
	Susan Muntangadura	Dr John Nyanje	Andile Nikani	Gerhard Rudolph
	Clive Rumsey	Svetlana Vasileva	Des Williams	