



**SIF-CC**  
Standing International Forum of  
Commercial Courts



**IDLO**  
Creating a Culture of Justice  
International Development Law Organization



## THE JUDICIARY JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

# REPORT OF THE FIRST AFRICA CONTINENT COMMERCIAL COURTS SUMMIT

THEME:

**EFFECTIVE COMMERCIAL DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION FOR AFRICA**

DATE: 23<sup>RD</sup> -24<sup>TH</sup>, MAY 2025

VENUE: SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO, KAMPALA, UGANDA



## REPORT COMPILATION:

### **This report was compiled and edited by: -**

Her Worship Lillian Bucyana—Ag. Registrar, JTI.

Her Worship Koburunga Patience—Magistrate Grade One

Her Worship Mallen Obizu—Magistrate Grade One.

Her Worship Esther Murungi—Magistrate Grade One.

### **Under the guidance and leadership of:**

Hon. Justice Prof. Andrew Khaukha

Executive Director, Judicial Training Institute.



# ACRONYMS

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Full Name</b>
<b>ADR</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution
<b>AJS</b>	Alternative Justice Systems
<b>ACJADRF</b>	Africa Chief Justices' Alternative Dispute Resolution Forum
<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence
<b>COMESA</b>	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
<b>EACJ</b>	East African Court of Justice
<b>Fciarb</b>	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
<b>IDLO</b>	International Development Law Organisation
<b>JTI</b>	Judicial Training Institute
<b>SIFoCC</b>	Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts

# Table of Contents

ACRONYMS.....	1
1.0. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2.0. SCOPE.....	4
3.0. PARTICIPANTS.....	5
4.0. STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE.....	6
<b>DAY ONE: 23<sup>rd</sup> May,2025.....</b>	<b>7</b>
5.0. OPENING CEREMONY.....	8
5.1. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON, GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE OF UGANDA, HON. JUSTICE MIKE CHIBITA-(JSC).....	8
5.2. REMARKS BY THE HEAD OF CIVIL JUSTICE IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND THE 98TH MASTER OF THE ROLLS OF ENGLAND AND WALES) SIR GEOFFREY VOS.....	9
5.3. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HON. THE DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HON. JUSTICE DR. FLAVIAN ZEIJA.....	9
5.4. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HIS LORDSHIP JUSTICE ALFONSE CHIGAMOY OWINY-DOLLO.....	9
5.5. OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HIS EXCELLENCY YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI TIBUHABURWA.....	10
Session 1A: Court Users.....	11
Across the room discussions facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles, Judge with day-to-day responsibilities for SIFoCC; Judge of the Commercial Court of England & Wales.....	11
Session 1B: The Legal Profession.....	12
Session 2A: The Courts, Arbitration and Mediation – An Integrated Relationship. Across the room discussions facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles. ....	13
Session 2B: The Courts, Arbitration and Mediation – An Integrated Relationship; Technology and third-party funding: new resources in commercial dispute resolution?. ....	14
<b>DAY 2: SATURDAY 24 MAY, 2025.....</b>	<b>15</b>
RECAP OF DAY 1.....	16
Session 3: JUDICIAL CASE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING APPEALS).....	17
Session 4: JUDGMENTS.....	18
Across the room, a discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles.....	18
Session 5: APPEALS; Across the room discussion facilitated by Sir William Blair.....	19
Session 6: From Small Business Disputes to Major Multi-Party Disputes; .....	19
Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles.....	19
Session 7: SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR AFRICA Facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles.....	20

6.0.	Closing Ceremony.....	20
7.0.	RESOLUTIONS OF THE FIRST AFRICA COMMERCIAL COURTS SUMMIT HELD IN KAMPALA, UGANDA, ON MAY 23-24, 2025.....	22
8.0.	CONCLUSION.....	25
9.0.	APPENDIX.....	26
	• Highlights from the Dinner.....	26
	• List of participants. ....	27
	• Programme. ....	40





## 1.0. INTRODUCTION

The first Africa Continent Commercial Court's Summit was convened by the Africa Chief Justices Alternative Dispute Resolution Forum (ACJADRF) in conjunction with the Judiciary of Uganda, the International Development Law Organisation (IDLO), the Standing International Forum for Commercial Courts (SIFoCC) and Pepperdine University. The summit commenced on the 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> May 2025, under the theme: "Effective Commercial Dispute Resolution for Africa." It attracted over three hundred participants from eighteen jurisdictions across the world.

ACJADRF initiated the summit at their 2024 Kampala roundtable, when they resolved to meet regularly and to develop a coherent framework for the timely resolution of commercial disputes using ADR. ACJADRF was established by a resolution of sixteen judiciaries on March 5, 2024, at their first Africa Chief Justices Summit held in Kampala. The forum brings together Chief Justices from Jurisdictions across the African Continent to promote and improve the uptake of ADR in the resolution of commercial disputes.



## 2.0. SCOPE

The summit focused on commercial litigation, arbitration and mediation, to develop best practices for improving ADR on the African continent, and globally. The objectives of the summit were to:

1. Discuss the role ADR can play in addressing the shared challenges facing commercial courts.
2. Train legal professionals in all member countries on the basic principles and advantages of ADR so that clients can be advised appropriately.
3. Constitute a faculty that specialises in the development of ADR in Africa with a mandate to develop a curriculum on ADR for African Judiciaries, deliver virtual training sessions for Africa Chief Justices and conduct necessary research on ADR related issues.
4. Encourage member countries to consider law reform that would provide for the use of ADR.

It also underscored the importance of collaboration between jurisdictions in addressing shared challenges, strengthening the Rule of Law, and building commercial court systems capable of supporting sustainable economic growth.



## 3.0. PARTICIPANTS

The two-day forum convened senior judicial leaders, court administrators, legal scholars, Development partners, representatives from the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (SIFoCC) Secretariat, and other judiciaries from 31 countries. It provided a platform for sharing experiences, fostering collaboration, and exploring innovative approaches to enhancing commercial justice across the continent.

The distinguished speakers deliberated on key issues shaping contemporary commercial justice, including the role of artificial intelligence in dispute resolution, the relationship between courts and the bar, arbitration, mediation, corporate activity and the Rule of Law, the place of Small Claims Procedure, class actions, litigation funding, and transnational judicial cooperation.



## 4.0. STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE

The insights generated from these deliberations not only inform national and regional judicial reforms but also contribute to the development of globally aligned, resilient, and innovation-ready commercial court systems.

This collaborative spirit reinforces Africa's role as an active partner in shaping international standards of commercial justice. It opens pathways for sustained engagement with development partners, technical experts, and peer jurisdictions worldwide.



**DAY ONE:**  
23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

## 5.0. OPENING CEREMONY

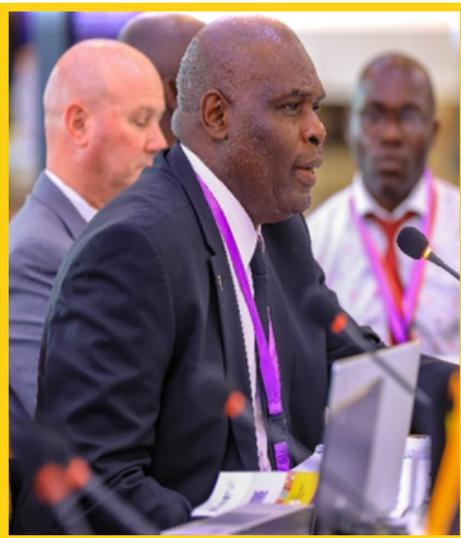
The event opened with remarks by Uganda's judicial leadership and international partners, setting the tone for the Summit's focus on innovation, efficiency, and cooperation.

Her Worship Lamunu Pamela Ocaya, the Ag. Chief Registrar and Master of Ceremonies introduced the high-level participants to the guest of honour, setting the protocol for the sessions that followed.



*HW Lamunu Pamela Ocaya*

### 5.1. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON, GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE OF UGANDA, HON. JUSTICE MIKE CHIBITA-(JSC)



*Hon. Justice Mike Chibita*

Hon. Justice Mike Chibita welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Local Organising Committee. He emphasised Uganda's commitment to effective dispute resolution and its importance as a hub for legal cooperation. He acknowledged the value of collaborative platforms like SIFoCC in strengthening judicial systems. He further acknowledged the invaluable support of development partners, including the International Development Law Organisation (IDLO), Pepperdine University and the South and Eastern African Chief Justices' forum (SEACJF), in enabling the summit to be held.

Justice Chibita who chaired the local organizing committee had earlier received branded material for use in the summit, from the Vice President Pepperdine, University, Mr. Danny DeWalt.



**Heads of Secretariat of the Local Organising Committee and SIFoCC receive conference materials**



## 5.2 REMARKS BY THE HEAD OF CIVIL JUSTICE IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND THE 98TH MASTER OF THE ROLLS OF ENGLAND AND WALES) SIR GEOFFREY VOS

Sir Geoffrey Vos recognised Uganda's hospitality and applauded the uniqueness of this first continental gathering of commercial courts.

He advocated for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in legal processes, highlighted the need for harmonised legal frameworks, and called attention to environmental issues in dispute resolution.



Sir Geoffrey Vos MR

## 5.3 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HON. THE DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HON. JUSTICE DR. FLAVIAN ZEIJA

His Lordship observed the profound impact of commercial disputes on economies, given the high financial stakes involved.

He highlighted Uganda's efforts to integrate ADR, reduce backlog, and promote the Alternative Justice Strategy (AJS)



Justice Dr. Flavian Zeija

## 5.4 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HIS LORDSHIP JUSTICE ALFONSE CHIGAMOY OWINY-DOLLO

The Chief Justice emphasised the significance of ADR in addressing Africa's diverse legal and socio-economic challenges.

He described ADR as not just a tool for reducing caseloads but a transformative strategy that supports investment and growth. He pointed to Uganda's successful ADR week, where 237 cases were resolved, as proof of ADR's potential.



His Lordship Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny-Dollo

## 5.5 OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, HIS EXCELLENCY YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI TIBUHABURWA

Hon. Nobert Mao, Uganda's Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, represented the President of the Republic of Uganda and contextualised Uganda's socio-economic development goals, linking them to legal efficiency.

He stressed the role of technology and court independence in creating an investor-friendly legal environment and lauded SIFoCC's selection of Uganda as the host. With that communication, he officially opened the convention.



Hon. Nobert Mao

---

Delegates during  
one of the sessions  
on Day One

---



# SESSION 1A: COURT USERS

Across the room discussions facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles, Judge with day-to-day responsibilities for SIFoCC; Judge of the Commercial Court of England & Wales

The Speakers emphasised investor confidence, accessibility, and institutional transparency. Sir William Blair, Chief Justice Hassan Bubucar Jallow of Gambia, Chief Justice Gaolapelwe Gee Ketlogetswe of Botswana, Justice Koreen Etambuyu Mwenda-Zambia (Zambia).



Sir William Blair

Lady Justice Monica Kalyegira Mugenyi of Uganda shared developments such as specialised commercial division courts, user committees and strategic roles of regional courts like COMESA and EACJ in enhancing cross-border dispute resolution.



Lady Justice Monica Kalyegira Mugenyi

Reactions to this session underscored the importance of inclusive stakeholder engagement in developing commercial justice reforms. Practical benefits of user committees were noted, particularly in harmonising interest rates through engagement with the banking sector. Broader representation to include chambers of commerce and trade associations was advised.

Sir William Blair emphasised that maintaining user confidence and aligning with international standards should be central to reform efforts.



Delegates during the session

“  
The Speakers emphasised **investor confidence, accessibility, and institutional transparency.**”

# SESSION 1B: THE LEGAL PROFESSION

The speakers centered the discussion on judicial relations with the legal profession. Contributions from Sir Geoffrey Vos, MR, Sir William Blair, and Dr. Pius Bigirimana (Chairperson of Court Administrators in East and Southern Africa) reflected on bench-bar relations, the need for mutual respect, and the elimination of judicial or legal practitioner bullying.

Mechanisms like bar-bench liaison committees were praised for enhancing cooperation. Participants called for codes of conduct, lawyer training in ADR, and more transparent communication between judges and legal practitioners. Their address emphasised the need to embrace ADR and deploy resources towards amicable dispute resolution.

Reactions to these insights highlighted the challenges of maintaining professional balance in court. Justice Kazimbe Chenda-Zambia pointed to the publication of service charters as tools for increasing transparency. Justice Bart Katureebe, Uganda, reminded the audience that judges must always centre the litigant's pursuit of justice.

Contributions from Africa House and Justice Development Partners called for greater engagement with lawyers to increase public trust and investor confidence.

The session concluded with a consensus that mutual respect between the bench and bar is essential to sustain effective commercial courts.



**Justice Robin Knowles- Session facilitator**



**A display of strong delegate involvement during the summit**

“ The speakers centered the discussion on **judicial relations with the legal profession** ”



# SESSION 2A:

## The Courts, Arbitration and Mediation – An Integrated Relationship

### Across the room discussions facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles

The need for a successful integrated relationship among courts, arbitration, and mediation was highlighted by Honourable Justice Bart Katureebe, Chief Justice Emeritus of Uganda, by advocating for court-annexed mediation and greater judicial training in ADR.



Jurisdictions shared models such as: - the Multi-Door Courthouse shared by Justice Patricia Iroawuchi Ajoku of the Nigeria Federal High Court and former Deputy Director of the Multi-Door Courthouse; Hon. Zahra Maruma, Judge in Charge of the High Court Mediation Centre of Tanzania, gave an overview of Tanzania's structured ADR framework.

Honourable Lady Justice Catherine Bamugemereire, Justice of the Supreme Court of Uganda, then made a presentation on appellate mediation, and Mr. Marcus Cato FCiarb from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in Africa presented on construction dispute adjudication with strong calls for capacity building, legal frameworks, and broader public sensitisation on ADR benefits

They highlighted the benefits of broad sensitisation of the business community, as an engagement that enables the business community to understand the benefits of ADR so that they can push their attorneys. The reactions reflected on the integrated relationship between the courts, arbitration and mediation.

The need to deliberately bring about a mindset and cultural shift of the lawyers, judges and litigants was emphasised from the prevalent position and expectation that a dispute will go full term in a rigid adversarial approach to a viewpoint that fosters problem solving.



## SESSION 2B:

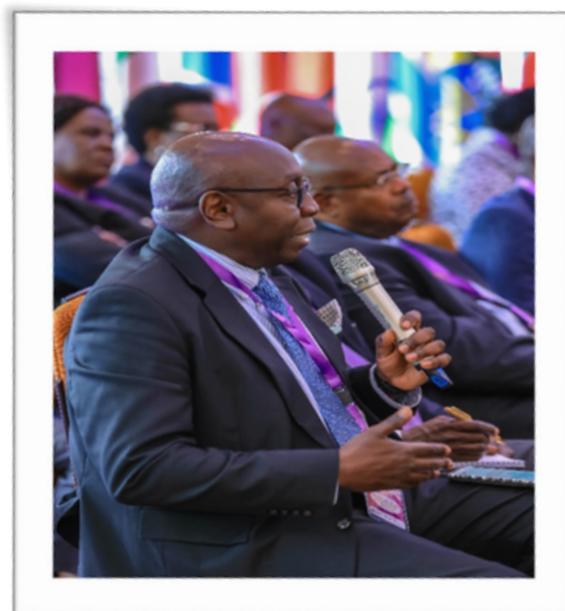
### The Courts, Arbitration and Mediation – An Integrated Relationship; Technology and third-party funding: new resources in commercial dispute

Sir Geoffrey Vos outlined the implications of AI in adjudication and highlighted the need for judicial control over emerging digital platforms. Judicial leaders expressed concern over the reliability and ethical impact of AI tools and AI literacy.

Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire cautioned on AI's limitations in decision-making, emphasizing its role in drafting and research.

Justice Mehta from India, along with other contributors, highlighted the delicate balance between innovation and preserving the moral foundations of justice.

Litigation funding was also flagged as unregulated and contentious, requiring structured dialogue across jurisdictions.



**Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire**

## END OF DAY ONE

**DAY 2:**  
SATURDAY 24  
MAY, 2025

# RECAP OF DAY 1

Honourable Justices from Eswatini, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Uganda, and representatives from Pepperdine University and Nigeria shared experiences arising from the day’s discussions.

Overall, the participants discussed the role of lawyers in mediation with Justice Taylor from Sierra Leone, sharing that mediations in their experience have been more successful when conducted with as little lawyer participation as possible and more involvement of the parties.

Delegates from other jurisdictions disagreed, particularly Sir Geoffrey and Justice Mehta of India, who emphasised the importance of lawyers, especially in complex commercial disputes.

Justice Buteera also highlighted the constitutional right to representation and stated that without their lawyers, the litigants feel defenceless and unprotected.

“  
**The discussions revealed contrasting views on lawyers’ roles in mediation, with some favoring minimal lawyer involvement for party-driven outcomes, while others stressed the necessity of legal representation for fairness, complexity, and constitutional rights.**  
”



# SESSION 3:

## JUDICIAL CASE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING APPEALS)



The session focused on case management systems and addressing backlogs of appeals. Justice Sandeep Mehta presented India's robust mechanisms like the Justice Clock and National Judiciary Data Grid, which track filings and prioritise sensitive cases.

Judge Kazimbe Chenda of Zambia shared SIFoCC's Working Presumptions on International Best Practices on Case Management, highlighting collaborative strategies between judges and legal practitioners.

Justice Vos emphasised permission-based appeals to prevent meritless cases and cited the UK's streamlined process. Sir William Blair encouraged registrars to play a central role in case coordination. Judges from Sierra Leone and South Africa explored appeal reform and the cultural resistance to limiting appeal rights.

Discussions emphasised the value of early case filtering, mediation referrals, and strong appellate court discipline

“  
The session  
focused on case  
management  
systems and  
addressing  
backlogs of  
appeals.  
”

# SESSION 4: JUDGMENTS

Across the room, a discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles

The session addressed judgment writing. Sir William Blair explained the attributes of sound commercial judgments—clarity, coherence, evidence-based reasoning, and, where possible, extemporaneous delivery. Judges reflected on challenges, including heavy caseloads, lack of structure, and misrepresentation by counsel.

Sir Geoffrey stressed the value of concise decisions and discouraged excessive citation. Justice Dr. Nnamdi Dingba of Nigeria emphasised clear, credible reasoning as foundational to judicial legitimacy, especially in high-stakes commercial disputes.



# SESSION 5: APPEALS

## Across the room discussion facilitated by Sir William Blair

The session revisited appeals, focusing on judicial flexibility, fairness, and strategic use of remote hearings.

Judges agreed that appeals should be merit-based, with Justice Vos noting that written reasons for denying permission increase transparency.

Judges from Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia highlighted procedural barriers and experiences with execution against the government. Participants also debated public attacks on judges, frivolous appeals, and whether court rules allow for efficiency without undermining access to justice.



*Ongoing language translation during summit proceedings*

# SESSION 6:

## From Small Business Disputes to Major Multi-Party Disputes; Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles

Justice Abubakar Ahmed Ali Ulusow shared that traditional and religious methods dominate dispute resolution.

Uganda's Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire shared the success of its Small Claims Procedure, highlighting rapid resolution, high compliance, and public service recognition. Justice Kiryabwire noted that since 2012, when the pilot courts started implementing the procedure, the preference rate for the use of the procedure had surpassed the ordinary civil track for cases of a similar value. The small claims procedure is limited to claims of ten million Uganda shillings, but the demand by the court users to increase the monetary jurisdiction was growing. The judge underscored the need for enhanced training for the judicial officers and sensitisation of the lawyers.

Judges from Zambia and South Africa discussed jurisdictional thresholds and limitations. Sir Geoffrey Vos advocated the digitisation of small claims for a broader reach. Participants concluded that fast, cost-effective systems must complement conventional courts, particularly for vulnerable litigants.

# SESSION 7: SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR AFRICA

**Facilitated by Mr. Justice Robin Knowles**

Focus was placed on sustaining and developing effective dispute resolution systems. Chief Justices and judicial leaders emphasised stakeholder engagement, public education, and integration of ADR into legal training.

Judges called for the inclusion of consumer groups in reform design and embedding ADR into early legal education. Namibia, Botswana, and Rwanda shared experiences on involving academia and regulating mediators.

Discussions reiterated the importance of cultural shift, the rule of law, and regulatory alignment across Africa.

## 6.0. Closing Ceremony

Final reflections came from Chief Justices of Malawi, Namibia, Botswana, and Western Sahara. They emphasised trust, innovation, and inclusivity as pillars of commercial justice reform. There was consensus that judicial independence, stakeholder cooperation, and ADR integration would strengthen Africa’s position in global commerce.

Participants praised Uganda for hosting a successful Summit and agreed to collaborate on implementing the insights gained. The call to action included enhancing capacity building, promoting AI and digital solutions, and establishing regional forums to monitor ADR uptake. The Chief Justices concluded that while challenges remain, the Summit offered practical solutions and renewed commitment to delivering timely, fair, and accessible commercial justice in Africa.



In his closing remarks, the Master of the Rolls, Sir Geoffrey Vos, expressed gratitude to Pepperdine University for partnering with SIFoCC and described the summit as a momentous and landmark event, noting the unusually high attendance at the closing ceremony as a testament to the high quality of discussions.

He acknowledged the valuable contributions from various participants. He identified key outcomes, including the need for a modest shift in judicial culture to ensure that court users feel heard, the role of artificial intelligence in enhancing justice systems, and the importance of promoting alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as online mediation, with a call for a cultural shift among lawyers.

He also addressed the implications of litigation funding on African justice systems, suggesting the need for regulation, and raised the potential need to reconsider the requirement for permission to appeal.

Emphasising that court users must remain central to the work of commercial courts, he welcomed the cultural changes needed to enhance access to justice. He commended the twelve resolutions adopted by the Chief Justices, noting their significance in advancing ADR. Sir Geoffrey concluded by thanking the Chief Justice of Uganda, the Judiciary, SIFoCC, all participants, and the organisers.

He appreciated the cultural performance by the Ndere Troupe and the gifts received.

**Chief Justices in a closed-door meeting are discussing the resolutions.**



## **7.0. RESOLUTIONS OF THE FIRST AFRICA COMMERCIAL COURTS SUMMIT HELD IN KAMPALA, UGANDA, ON MAY 23-24, 2025.**

We, the Chief Justices and Heads of Delegations representing Chief Justices from various Judiciaries across the continent of Africa under the umbrella of the Africa Chief Justices' Alternative Dispute Resolution Forum, herein referred to as "ACJADRF", attending the First Africa Commercial Courts Summit in Kampala under the theme " Effective Commercial Dispute Resolution for Africa";

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution, herein referred to as "ADR" in improving Access to Commercial Justice in Africa and the contribution of ADR in achieving sustainable development within Africa's Commercial disputes;

**MOVED** by the deliberations at the First Africa Commercial Courts Summit held in Kampala, Uganda from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2025;

**APPRECIATING** the Global commercial developments that have created the need to promote the use of ADR Mechanisms in the administration of Commercial disputes that are efficient, accessible, faster and cheaper;

**RECOGNISING** that Alternative Dispute Resolution is more effective and efficient where there is a high degree of mutuality and interdependence that seeks to establish and maintain long-term commercial relationships;

**CONSIDERING** the need to empower Parties and increase their autonomy in the resolution of disputes and the advancement of equality and fairness in the successful attainment of the Parties' interests;

**DESIROUS** of protecting the interests of Parties in the resolution of commercial disputes and the need to permit flexibility in dispute resolution processes that can be tailored specifically to fit the nature of each dispute;

**MINDFUL** of the need for African Chief Justices to cooperate and actively promote the use of ADR mechanisms in the administration of Commercial disputes;

**DESIRING** to collaborate in a structured manner to optimally exchange experiences on good practices, benchmark performance, improve cooperation between, and set the strategic direction for commercial dispute resolution through ADR in Africa;

**CONVINCED** that the proceedings and deliberations of the First Africa Commercial Courts Summit will greatly contribute to the efficacy of the administration of Commercial disputes and improved public service delivery in the support of the development of the African continent;

**AIMING** to achieve broad strategic dialogue, both geographically and linguistically, among Chief Justices on the African continent;

**DETERMINED** to adopt the resolutions reached at the First Africa Commercial Courts Summit held in Kampala, Uganda, from 23 to 24 May 2025;

Have agreed to strengthen the role of the judiciary in promoting the use and application of ADR in commercial disputes in Africa as follows;

**KAMPALA SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS 23<sup>RD</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025 AT SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO, KAMPALA- UGANDA**

1. Promote the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in our jurisdictions.
2. Jointly conduct ADR trainings involving all key stakeholders, including judges, practising advocates, and members of the public.
3. Consider the adoption of technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in ADR practice.
4. Conduct ADR advocacy activities, including the development of information, education, and communication materials.
5. Consider holding annual continental summits for commercial courts, hosted in different jurisdictions across Africa.
6. Undertake policy formulation and law reform relating to ADR in the respective Judiciaries.
7. Work closely with court administrators to promote ADR within our judiciaries.
8. Promote judicial expertise in commercial dispute resolution and ensure that such expertise remains current, including at the appellate level.
9. Identify and apply international best practices in ADR.
10. Consider requiring parties to seek permission from the court before filing an appeal and limiting stays of execution pending appeal.
11. Explore the use of appellate mediation.
12. Promote the delivery of ex tempore judgments in interlocutory or interim matters.
13. Collaborate with academic institutions to promote ADR.

**Dated and Signed at Kampala, Uganda on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May,2025**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>
1	Hon. Justice Alfonse Chigamoy Owinny Dollo	Chief Justice of the Republic of Uganda
2	Hon. Justice Hassan B. Jallow	Chief Justice of the Republic of The Gambia
3	Hon. Justice Rizine R. Mzikamanda	Chief Justice of the Republic of Malawi
4	Hon. Justice Dr. Mumba Malila	Chief Justice of the Republic of Zambia
5	Hon. Justice Chan Reec Madat	Chief Justice of The Republic of South Africa
6	Hon. Justice Gaolapelwe Gee Ketlogetswe	Chief Justice of The Republic of Botswana
7	Hon. Justice Peter S. Shivute	Chief Justice of The Republic of Namibia
8	Hon. Justice Mohamed Mbarek	Chief Justice of The Sahrawi Arab Dem. Republic
9	Hon. Justice Nestor Kayobera	President of the EACJ
10	Hon. Justice Francis Gikonyo	Representative of the Judiciary of Kenya
11	Hon. Justice Tawanda Chitapi	Representative of the Judiciary of Zimbabwe
12	Hon. Justice Cyprian Mkeha	Representative from the Judiciary of Tanzania
13	Hon. Justice Abubakar Ahmed Ali Ulusow	Representative from the Judiciary of Somalia
14	Hon. Justice Tijjani Abubakar	Representative from the Judiciary of Nigeria

Chief Justice Alfonse Owinny-Dollo, Chairman of the Africa Chief Justices ADR Forum, on behalf of the Chief Justices, reaffirmed their commitment to implement the above resolutions. The Secretariat of SIFoCC undertook to share materials and reports for reference when resolving commercial disputes.

## 8.0. CONCLUSION

The discussions addressed contemporary issues affecting justice systems, economic development and commercial practice across Africa. The resolutions agreed upon reflected a deep shared commitment from the judicial leaders across the jurisdictions represented to advance ADR as a tool for improvement of commercial justice systems.

The summit marked a significant step towards building a collaborative and innovative judicial ecosystem for commercial dispute resolution, with plans for similar gatherings to be hosted in different jurisdictions in the years ahead. These would act as an evaluative forum for assessing the progress made and sharing best practices.



## 9.0. APPENDIX

- 1) Highlights from the Dinner
- 2) List of participants
- 3) Programme

---

### Highlights from the Dinner

---

A formal dinner hosted by Uganda's Chief Justice celebrated judicial cooperation and cultural exchange. Remarks from regional leaders reinforced the summit's value, while traditional performances and gift exchanges fostered goodwill and collegiality among attendees.





**SIFoCC**  
Standing International Forum of  
Commercial Courts



**PEPPERDINE**  
UNIVERSITY



**IDLO**  
Creating a Culture of Justice  
International Development Law Organization



# REPORT OF THE FIRST AFRICA CONTINENT COMMERCIAL COURTS SUMMIT



## 2. List of Participants



**THE JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE  
PARTICIPANTS LIST FOR SIFoCC (INTERNATIONAL DIGNITARIES).**

<b>ZIMBABWE</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Luke Malaba	Chief Justice
2.	Mr. Walter Tambudzai Chikwana	Secretary, Judicial Service Commission
3.	Hon. Justice Tawanda Chitapi	Judge of the High Court
4.	Hon. Justice Joseph Martin Mafusire	Judge of the High Court
5.	Hon. Lady Justice Vivian Ndlovu	Judge of the High Court
6.	Ms. Anitah Tshuma	Chief Registrar of Superior Courts
7.	Hon. Lady Justice Faith Mushure	Judge of the High Court
<b>BOTSWANA</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Gaolapelwe Ketlogetswe	Chief Justice
2.	Hon. Rtd. Chief Justice Ronnowane Terrence	Chief Justice Emeritus
3.	Hon. Justice Kebuang Tshana Tselapedi	Registrar
4.	Hon. Justice <i>Keborapele Bashi Moesi</i>	Judge of the High Court
5.	Hon. Justice Godfrey Nthomiwa Nthomiwa	Judge of the High Court
6.	Ms. Beulah Kgakgamatso Mguni	Chief Registrar
7.	Hon. Justice Ookeditse Maphakwane	Judge of the High Court

<b>MALAWI</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
8.	Hon. Justice Rizine R. Mzikamanda, SC	Chief Justice
9.	Hon. Justice Dr. Chifundo Jairus Kachale	Judge of the High Court
10.	Hon. Justice Sylvester A. Kalembera	Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeal Bench
11.	Mrs. Florence Msekandiana	Assistant Registrar of the High Court
12.	His Honour Patrick Kamisa	
<b>ESWATINI</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
13.	Hon. Justice Cyril S. Maphanga	Judge of the High Court
14.	Hon. Justice Khontaphi Duduzile Manzini	Judge of the High Court
15.	Hon. Lady Justice Doris Tshabalala	Judge of the High Court
<b>KENYA</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Francis Gikonyo	Judge of the High Court
	Mr. John Ohaga	Advocate Kenya
3.	Hon. Lady Justice Florence Macharia	Judge of the High Court
<b>NIGERIA</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
16.	Justice Nnamdi Dimgba	Judge of the Federal High Court
17.	Hon. Justice Tijjani Abubaka	<i>Justice of the Supreme Court</i>
18.	Hon. Lady Justice Ijeoma Ojukwu	<i>Judge of the High Court</i>
19.	SC Olasupo Shasore San	<i>Advocate, Former AG, Lagos State.</i>

<b>CAMEROON</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Theophilus Tayi Tatsi	Vice President of the South West Court of Appeal
<b>AFRICA HOUSE</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Mr. Emmanuel Finndoro-obasi	Director
<b>RWANDA</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Kadigwa Gashongore	<i>Vice President of the Commercial High Court</i>
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Sir William Blair	<i>Former Judge of London's Commercial Court</i>
2.	Omid Nazan	
3.	Sir Geoffrey Vos	
	Grace Karrass	
<b>SIERRA LEONE</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
20.	Hon. Justice Koba Kamanda	Chief Justice
21.	Hon. Justice Alusine Sesay	Justice of the Supreme Court
22.	Hon. Lady Justice Jamesina King	Judge, Court of Appeal.
23.	Hon. Justice Lornard Michael Taylor	Judge of the High Court
<b>GAMBIA</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Hassan B. Jallow	Chief Justice
2.	Her Worship Kumba Mboge	Magistrate
3.	Rougie Thomasi	
<b>OIC-AC</b>		

	NAME	DESIGNATION
2.	Dr. Umar Oseni	Secretary General
<b>ZAMBIA</b>		
	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Justice Dr. Mumba Malila	Chief Justice
2.	Hon. Justice Kazimbe Chenda	Judge of the High Court
3.	Koreen Etambuyu Mwenda-Zimba	Judge of the High Court
4.	Justice Charles Zulu	Judge of the High Court
5.	Mr. Nyimbiri Sangwani	SEACJF
6.	CHOONGO TERRENCE	SEACJF
<b>WESTERN SAHARA</b>		
	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Brahim Mohamed Limam	Bir Lahlou
2.	Mohamed Bouzid el Hocine	Bir Lahlou
3.	Hassan Saadbuh Alisenad	Bir Lahlou
<b>GHANA</b>		
	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Lady Justice Adelaide Abui Keddey	Judge of the High Court
2.	Hon. Justice Emmanuel Atsu Lodoh	Judge of the High Court
<b>UNITED STATES</b>		
	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Mr. Danny Dewalt	<i>Vice President and Chief of Staff at Pepperdine University</i>
2.	John Napier	<i>ADR Faculty Team, Strauss Institute of Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University.</i>
3.	Corrie Napier	<i>ADR Faculty Team, Strauss Institute of Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University.</i>
4.	Kyle Manley Smith	

5.	Angela Lally Smith	
<b>SIFoCC—UK.</b>		
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
2.	<b>Mr. Justice Robin Knowles</b>	<b>Judge of the Commercial Court</b>
3.	Lord Roger John L. Thomas of Cwmgiedd	President of the Qatar International Court
4.	Ms. Adenike Adewale	SIFoCC
5.	Ms. Lauren Carter	SIFoCC
6.	Ms. Simran Chard	<b>Clerk</b>
7.	Mr. Omid Nazari	SIFoCC
8.	Sir Geoffrey Charles Rob	
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
9.	Hon. Marcus Lekgaloa Senyatsi	Judge of the High Court
10.	Hon. Leicester Rock Adams	Judge of the High Court
11.	Hon. Nelisa Phiwokazi Mali	Judge of the High Court
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Nestor Kayobera	Judge President East African Court of Justice
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Hon. Justice Peter Shivute	Chief Justice
2.	Ms. Alapeje Nambira	Special Assistant
3.	Ms. Suzan Kaapehi	Deputy Registrar, High Court
4.	Mr. Fikameni Shilongo	Personal Assisstant
	Shafimana Ueitele	
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	JUMOKE PEDRO	
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
1.	Mr. Oladikpo Modoukpe Gbemissola Victoire	
2.	Konon Codjo Jonas	

	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Justice Haji Suleiman Khamis	
2.	Mr. Mohamed Kassim Mohamed	
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Abubakar Ahmed Ali Ulusow	Judge of The High Court (Representing The CJ)
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Justice Chan Reec Madut	Chief Justice
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Justice Cyprian Mkehe	Judge of The High Court
2.	Hon. Justice Zahara Maruma J	Judge of The High Court

## REGIONAL DIGINITARIES

### JUDICIARY TOP MANAGEMENT

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Justice Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny – Dollo	CHIEF JUSTICE
2.	Hon. Dr. Justice Flavian Zeija	DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE
3.	Hon. Lady Justice Jane Okuo	AG. PRINCIPAL JUDGE
4.	HW Lamunu Pamella Ocaya	AG. CHIEF REGISTRAR

### JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
5.	Hon. Justice Mike Chibita	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
6.	Hon. Lady Justice Elizabeth Musoke	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
7.	Hon. Justice Stephen Musota	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
8.	Hon. Justice Madrama Christopher Izama	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
9.	Hon. Lady Justice Catherine Bamugemereire	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
10.	Hon. Lady Justice Monica Kalyegira Mugenyi	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

<b>JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF APPEAL/CONSTITUTIONAL COURT</b>		
<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
11.	Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL/ ADMINISTRATOR
12.	Hon. Justice Cheborion Barishaki	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
13.	Hon. Lady Justice Hellen Abulu Obura	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
14.	Hon. Justice Christopher Gashirabake	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
15.	Hon. Lady Justice Eva Luswata	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
16.	Hon. Justice Oscar Kihika	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
17.	Hon. Justice Dr. Asa Mugenyi	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
18.	Hon. Lady Justice Cornelia Kakooza Sabiiti	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
19.	Hon. Justice Musisi John Mike	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
20.	Hon. Justice Byaruhanga Jesse Rugyema	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
21.	Hon. Lady Justice Stella Alibateese	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
22.	Hon. Lady Justice Nakachwa Dollo	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
23.	Hon. Lady Justice Esta Nambayo	JUSTICE COURT OF APPEAL
<b>JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT DIVISIONS</b>		
<b>COMMERCIAL COURT</b>		
<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
24.	Hon. Lady Justice Anne Mugenyi Bitature	Head, HC COMMERCIAL DIVISION
25.	Hon. Lady Justice Susan Abinyo	Judge, HC COMMERCIAL DIVISION

26.	Hon. Lady Justice Patricia Kahigi Asiiimwe	Judge, COMMERCIAL DIVISION
27.	Hon. Justice Ocaya Thomas Ojele Rubanga	Judge, COMMERCIAL DIVISION
28.	Hon. Lady Justice Rubagumya Tumusiime Patience Emily	Judge, COMMERCIAL DIVISION
29.	Hon. Lady Justice Dr Ginamia Melody Ngwatu	Judge, COMMERCIAL DIVISION
30.	Hon. Lady Justice Susan Odongo	Judge, COMMERCIAL DIVISION

#### CIVIL DIVISION

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
31.	Hon. Justice Joyce Kavuma	Head, HC CIVIL DIVISION
32.	Hon. Justice Isaac Teko Bonny	Judge, CIVIL DIVISION
33.	Hon. Justice Simon Peter Kinobe Mutegeki	Judge, CIVIL DIVISION
34.	Hon. Justice Acellam Collins	Judge, CIVIL DIVISION

#### LAND DIVISION

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
35.	Hon. Lady Justice Damalie Lwanga	Head, LAND DIVISION
36.	Hon. Lady Justice Elizabeth Jane Alividza	D/Head, LAND DIVISION
37.	Hon. Lady Justice Kazaarwe Olive Mukwaya	Judge, LAND DIVISION
38.	Hon. Lady Justice Nassuna Flavia Matovu	Judge, LAND DIVISION
39.	Hon. Justice Emokor Samuel	Judge, LAND DIVISION

#### ANTI-CORRUPTION DIVISION

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
-----	------	-------------

40.	Hon. Justice Michael Elubu	Head, ANTI-CORRUPTION
<b>INTERNATIONAL CRIMES DIVISION</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
41.	Hon. Justice Duncan Gaswaga	Judge, INTERNATIONAL CRIMES
42.	Hon. Justice Richard Wejuli Wabwire	Judge, INTERNATIONAL CRIMES
43.	Hon. Lady Justice Alice Komuhangi	Judge INTERNATIONAL CRIMES DIVISION/ Focal Judge-SGBV
<b>FAMILY DIVISION</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
44.	Hon. Lady Justice Elizabeth Kibula Kabanda	Judge, FAMILY DIVISION
45.	Hon. Lady Justice Nagawa Celia	Judge, FAMILY DIVISION
<b>WAKISO HIGH COURT</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
46.	Hon. Lady Justice Sarah Langa Siu	Resident Judge, WAKISO HIGH COURT
47.	Hon. Lady Justice Flavia Grace Lamuno	Judge, WAKISO HIGH COURT
<b>ENTEBBE HIGH COURT</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
48.	Hon. Lady Justice Flavia Nabakooza	Resident Judge, ENTEBBE HIGH COURT
<b>RETIRED JUSTICES &amp; JUDGES</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
49.	Hon. Justice Bart Mugunda Katureebe	CJ Emeritus
50.	Hon. Justice Richard Buteera	DCJ Emeritus
51.	Hon. Justice Steven Kavuma	DCJ Emeritus
52.	Hon. Justice Augustine Nshimiye	Supreme Court
53.	Hon. Justice James Munange Ogoola	PJ Emeritus
54.	Hon. Justice Yorokamu Bamwine	PJ Emeritus.

55.	Hon. Justice Henry Peter Adonyo	HCT
56.	Hon. Lady Justice Angline Senoga	HCT
57.	Hon. Justice Paul Mugamba	Supreme Court
<b>REGISTRARS AND MAGISTRATES</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
58.	Her Worship Ssali Harriet Nalukwago	Registrar Special Duties – Cr’s Chambers
59.	Her Worship Katushabe Prossy	Registrar High Court
60.	His Worship Ereemye Jumire James Mawanda	Registrar Communications And Public Relations
61.	Her Worship Rukundo Allen Owembabazi	Registrar Court Of Appeal
62.	His Worship Edoku John Paul	Registrar Planning, Research & Development
63.	His Worship Festo Nsenga	Deputy Registrar Inspectorate
64.	Her Worship Lillian Bucyana	Ag. Registrar, Human Resource Development & Training.
65.	Her Worship Dr. Gladys Nakibule Kiseka	Deputy Registrar, Judicial Training Institute
66.	Her Worship Patricia Amoko	Deputy Registrar, Private Legal Secretary to Chief Registrar
67.	His Worship Julius Mwesige	Personal Assistant to Deputy Chief Justice
68.	His Worship Mushabe Alex Karocho	Deputy Registrar, Private Legal Secretary to Deputy Chief Justice
69.	Her Worship Zulaika Nanteza	Ag. Registrar, ADR
70.	Her Worship Jessica Chemeri	Deputy Registrar, Commercial Court.
71.	Her Worship Kahunde Khadija	Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
72.	Her Worship Esther Rebecca Adonyo	Chief Magistrate Judicial Training Institute

73.	Her Worship Mallen Obizu	Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
74.	Her Worship Nakato Josephine Dembe	Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
75.	Her Worship Murungi Esther Bigabwa	Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
76.	Her Worship Pamella Karamagi	Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
77.	His Worship Joel Wegoye	Senior Magistrate Grade One, Judicial Training Institute
78.	His Worship Peter Lochomin	PA to Chief Justice
79.	Her Worship Jemima Aciro	Research Magistrates.

#### JUDICIARY SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS

	NAME	DESIGNATION
80.	Ms. Maureen Kasande	Under Secretary
81.	Eng. Priscilla Nakiboneka	Principal Eng. Engineering & Technical Services
82.	Ms. Apophia N. Tumwine	Comm. HR Management
83.	Mr. David Kikabi	Principal Info. Technology Officer

#### MINISTERS AND PERMANENT SECRETARIES

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
84.	Hon. Nobert Mao	Minister of Justice & Constitutional Affairs
85.	Col. Nakalema Edith	Head of the State House Investors Protection Unit

#### DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS & CEOs of CORPORATIONS

	NAME	DESIGNATION
--	------	-------------

86.	Barbara Kilei	Country Director, IDLO
87.	Samson Asiimwe	Field Program Manager(UG), IDLO
<b>JTI GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
88.	Hon. Lady Justice Nakachwa Dollo	Justice of the Court of Appeal
89.	Hon. Justice Prof. Andrew Khauka	Judge of the High Court/ED JTI/Secretary
90.	Dr. Pamela Tibikirra Kalyegira	Director of Law Development Center
91.	Mr. Omunyokol George	Law Council
<b>ADVOCATES</b>		
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
92.	Mr. Martin Mwambutsya	Director Civil Litigation
93.	Maria Nassali	M. Nassali & Co. Advocates.
94.	Nsangi Hady Promise	Kintu, Nteza & Co. Advocates
95.	Kafuko Nicholas Paul	Kintu, Nteza & Co. Advocates
96.	Mr. Tony Kalungi	URA, Legal Department
97.	Ms. Tumusime Doreen	KCCA Legal Department
98.	Ms. Namulinda Peace	Peace & Co. Advocates
99.	Ms. Mutesi Buteera	Advocate
100.	Ms. Namyalo Shamim	Advocate
101.	Mr. Mutabingwa Maxim	Advocate

102.	Mr. Mukulu Victor	Advocate
103.	Dr. David Mushabe	Advocate
104.	Dr. Henry Onoria	Advocate
<b>JUDGES OF THE INDUSTRIAL COURT</b>		
<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
105.	Hon. Lady Justice Linda Lillian Tumusime Mugisha	CHIEF JUDGE
106.	Hon. Justice Anthony Wabwire Musana	JUDGE
<b>INTERN STUDENTS</b>		
<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
107.	Mr. Joel Ariko	Student Intern
108.	Mr. Joshua Mutuma	Student Intern
109.	Ms. Ann Matsanga	Student Intern
110.	Albert Okalasa	Student Intern
111.	Melody Namutebi	Student Intern
112.	Victor Mukulu	Student Intern
113.	Lisa Akatukwasa	Student Intern
114.	Bazirake Aggrey	Student Intern
115.	Akankwatsa Isabel	Student Intern

## PROGRAMME

### DAY 1: FRIDAY 23 MAY, 2025

	Anthems
	<b>Welcome remarks</b>
	■ Justice Mike Chibita, Justice of the Supreme Court of Uganda; Chairperson Local Organising Committee
	■ Sir Geoffrey Vos MR, Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice, England & Wales, Member of SIFoCC's international Steering Group
	<b>Opening remarks</b>
	■ Justice Dr. Flavian Zeija, Deputy Chief Justice of Uganda
	■ Chief Justice Alfonse Owiny - Dollo, Chief Justice of Uganda, Chairperson of the Africa Chief Justices ADR Forum
	<b>Address</b>
	The Minister of Justice of Uganda, Hon. Norbert Mao
<b>10:00</b>	Photograph
	Tea and Coffee

<b>11:00</b>	<b>Session 1A: COURT USERS</b>
--------------	--------------------------------

*Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles, Judge with day-to-day responsibility for SIFoCC; Judge of the Commercial Court of England & Wales.*

**Short contributions**

**a. Achieving Effective Commercial Dispute Resolution:** Sir William Blair, former Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court of England & Wales; Justice of the Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre, member of SIFoCC's international Steering Group [5 mins]

**b. Introducing a new Commercial Division in The Gambia:** Chief Justice Hassan Jallow, Chief Justice of The Gambia [5 mins]

**c. The Zambia Commercial Court Users Committee:** Justice Koreen Mwenda-Zimba, Judge of the High Court (Commercial Division) of Zambia [5 mins]

**d. A Perspective with reference to the COMESA Court of Justice (the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa):** Lady Justice Monica Mugenyi, Supreme Court of Uganda: [5 mins]

**Particular issues**

- Confidence of commercial users, including investors
- Involving users
- Collaboration between courts (including regional and national) in Africa as an investment destination
- Role of others in promoting ADR

<b>11:45</b>	<b>Session 1B: THE LEGAL PROFESSION</b>
--------------	---

**Short contributions**

**a. Examples of the judiciary working with the legal profession:** Sir Geoffrey Vos MR [5 mins]

**b. Examples of the judiciary keeping up to date with the help of the legal profession:** Sir William Blair [5 mins]

**c. The legal profession working with the Court Administration:** Dr Pius Bigirimana, Chairperson of Court Administrators, Southern and Eastern Africa Chief Justice Forum (SEACJF) [5 mins]

<b>12:15</b>	<b>Session 2A: THE COURTS, ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION – AN INTEGRATED RELATIONSHIP</b>
--------------	---

*Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles.*

**a. A successful integrated relationship between courts, arbitration and mediation:** Hon Bart Katureebe, Chief Justice Emeritus of Uganda, Arbitrator and Mediator, Member of SIFoCC Steering Group [5 mins]

**b. Approaches to mediation by Courts, including on appeal:** Sir Geoffrey Vos MR [5 mins]

	<b>c. Appellate mediation in the Supreme Court:</b> Lady Justice Catherine Bamugemereire, Justice of the Supreme Court of Uganda [5 mins]
	<b>d. The Mediation Centre of Tanzania:</b> Hon Zahra Maruma, Judge in Charge of the Mediation Centre of Tanzania [5 mins]
	<b>e. A perspective from Benin:</b> Justice Codjo Jona Konon, Judge of the Cotonou Commercial Court [5 mins]
	<b>f. Enforcement of awards, judgments and mediated settlements; SIFoCC Multilateral Memorandum on Enforcement of Commercial Judgments for Money:</b> Sir William Blair [5 mins]
	<b>g. Regional and global instruments in promoting ADR in settling commercial disputes:</b> Justice Nestor Kayobera, President of the East African Court of Justice: [5 mins]
	<b>h. A guest perspective: An integrated relationship in Construction and Infrastructure Disputes, including a focus on Adjudication:</b> Mr Marcus Cato FCIarb, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in Africa [5 mins]
	<b>Particular issues</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Experience on the uptake of ADR</li> <li>■ Public and user awareness of forms of commercial dispute resolution including ADR</li> <li>■ The role of traditional forms of mediation</li> <li>■ Leadership in championing ADR</li> <li>■ Resource allocation</li> <li>■ Oversight, interpretation, recognition, enforcement</li> <li>■ Particular cases: competition, investment, tax, Islamic finance</li> <li>■ Adjudication in construction disputes</li> </ul>
	<b>Short closing observations</b>
	Hon Justice Sandeep Mehta, Judge of the Supreme Court of India [5 mins]
	Chief Justice Mumba Malila, Chief Justice of Zambia [5 mins]
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1400</b>	<b>Session 2B: THE COURTS, ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION – AN INTEGRATED RELATIONSHIP (contd)</b>
<b>15:20</b>	<b>Short address</b>
	<b>Technology and third party funding: new resources in commercial dispute resolution?</b> Sir Geoffrey Vos MR [10 mins]
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Tea</b>

<b>16:00</b>	<b>Session 3: JUDICIAL CASE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING APPEALS)</b>
<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Sir Willaim Blair</i>	
	<b>Short contributions</b>
	<b>a. The SIFoCC Working Presumptions on International Best Practice on Case Management:</b> Judge Kazimbe Chenda, Judge of the Commercial Court of Zambia [5 mins]
	<b>b. Rules and Guides:</b> Mr Justice Robin Knowles [5 mins]
	<b>c. Case management on Appeal:</b> Sir Geoffrey Vos [5 mins]
<b>1645</b>	<b>Final Q&amp;A</b>
<i>Across the room, including guests, facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles</i>	
<b>1715</b>	<b>Short closing observations from Day 1</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Chaired by Chief Justice Owiny - Dollo, with observations from: Chief Justice Mumba Malila, Chief Justice of Zambia [5 min]</li> </ul>
<b>17:30</b>	<b>Finish</b>
<b>19:00</b>	<b>Dinner</b>

## DAY 2: SATURDAY 24 MAY, 2025

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Coffee and Conversation</b>
<b>09:30</b>	<b>Reinforcing Day 1</b>
<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles</i>	
	<b>Short observations on points raised on Day 1:</b>
	Chief Justice Rizine Robert Mzikamanda, Chief Justice of Malawi [5 mins]
	Chief Justice Peter Shivute, Chief Justice of Namibia [5 mins]
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Coffee</b>



<b>11:30</b>	<b>Session 4: JUDGMENTS</b>
<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles</i>	
	<b>Introduction:</b> Sir William Blair [5 mins]
	<b>Short closing observations:</b> Justice Nnamdi Dimgba, Justice of the Court of Appeal of Nigeria [5 mins]

<b>12:30</b>	<b>Session 5: APPEALS</b>
<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Sir William Blair</i>	
	<b>Introduction:</b> Sir Geoffrey Vos MR [5 mins]
	<b>Short closing observations:</b> Justice Mohamed El Hocine, President of the Constitutional Council of Western Sahara [5 mins]

<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
--------------	--------------

<b>14:00</b>	<b>Session 6: FROM SMALL BUSINESS DISPUTES TO MAJOR MULTI-PARTY DISPUTES</b>
--------------	--

<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles</i>	
	<b>Particular issues</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Access</li> <li>■ Expertise</li> <li>■ Technology – feasibility and potential</li> <li>■ Avoiding delay</li> <li>■ Small claims courts; disputes in microfinance</li> <li>■ Cross border disputes</li> </ul>
	<b>Short contributions</b>
	<b>Lessons from the Fast Track Commercial Court in Sierre Leone:</b> Justice Lornard Taylor, Judge of the Commercial Court of Sierra Leone [5 mins]
	<b>a. The Small Claims Court of Uganda:</b> Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire, Uganda [5 mins]
	<b>b. Civil Justice reform and digitalisation in Ethiopia:</b> Justice Abebe Solomom Tsegaye, Judge of the Commercial Bench Division; and Mr. Namo Adugna Jibat, Head of the Administrative Wing of the Federal Supreme Court of Ethiopia [5 mins]
	<b>c. Handling major disputes:</b> Sir William Blair [5 mins]
	<b>Short closing observations</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Chief Justice Gaolapelwe Gee Ketlogetswe, Chief Justice of Botswana [5 mins]</li> </ul>

15:15	Tea
1545:	<b>Session 7: SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR AFRICA</b>
<i>Across the room discussion facilitated by Mr Justice Robin Knowles</i>	
	<b>Short contributions</b>
	<b>a. Making the most of academic and other available support:</b> Mr Danny Dewalt, Vice President of Pepperdine University [5 mins]
	<b>b. Engagement in judicial education and training:</b> Professor Justice Andrew Khaukha, Uganda [5 mins]
	<b>c. A perspective from Rwanda:</b> Justice Valens Nkurunziza, Inspector General of the Courts of Rwanda [5 mins]
	<b>d. Making the most of SIFoCC:</b> Ms Adenike Adewale, Head of Secretariat of SIFoCC, with Ms Simran Chard, SIFoCC Secretariat, with Justice Anna Bitature, High Court of Uganda and SIFoCC Observation Programme alumnus [6 mins]
	<b>Short closing observations</b>
	Justice Tijjani Abubakar, Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria [5 mins]
16:45	<b>Closing ceremony</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Chief Justice Alfonse Owiny - Dollo, Chairman of the Africa Chief Justices ADR Forum [5 mins]</li> <li>■ Sir Geoffrey Vos MR, Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice, England &amp; Wales, Member of SIFoCC's international Steering Group [5 mins]</li> </ul>
1700	<b>End of ACJADR Forum and SIFoCC Roundtable</b>
1715	<b>Private session for Chief Justices: "Reflections and resolutions"</b>

