



**25th ANNUAL FAMILY LAW MDT/UWC CONFERENCE PRESIDENT HOTEL, CAPE
TOWN 8,9,10 March,2023**

The conference will be held over 3 days, but it is optional to only book for certain days, if you wish to. Presentations and delegates may be in person and online. The conference is interdisciplinary and delegates from various jurisdictions attend. The dynamic exchange of ideas, debating of developing family law, networking, and making of new friends are characteristics of the conference. We look forward to seeing you in Cape Town, South Africa!

1. 8 March 2023

This session is a departure from the usual conference programme and will be an exciting and innovative addition to the offering.

1.1 The IAFL will participate in the programme, with a particular focus on Africa. Rachael Kelsey, President-Elect:

“The International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) are delighted to be hosting a day of discussion in advance of the 25th Annual Family Law Conference. The day will be devoted to the Hague family law conventions in African jurisdictions, an informal exchange of information regarding developments in family law in Africa and an informal meeting to discuss the scope for the creation, and leadership, of an African Chapter of the IAFL.

The IAFL has nearly 1,000 fellows across the globe- presently from just under 70 jurisdictions. Membership of IAFL is by invitation to individuals who are recognised by their peers as the most experienced and skilled family law specialists in their jurisdiction. Since our inception in 1986 we have strived to improve the practice of law and administration of justice in the area of divorce and family law throughout the world. We have developed relationships with NGOs like the Hague Conference, where we have Observer status on a number

of the Special Commissions and Expert Groups, Governments and other practitioner organisations. We provide education for lawyers and non-lawyers on international family law matters, and enable our fellows to obtain the assistance of the highest calibre lawyers in other jurisdictions so to better support their clients.

IAFL want to bring together existing African IAFL fellows, IAFL senior leadership and individuals from Africa who are not yet fellows, but who might be interested in applying for fellowship to discuss whether there is an interest in the creation of a Chapter. If there is an interest in taking this forward, IAFL want to take soundings from those who would be wish to be involved, and to understand what practitioners in the region think the priorities should be. In other regions IAFL have found that the creation of a Chapter enhances opportunities for fellows to more fully participate in leadership of the organisation as a whole, allows us to enhance the education we can offer our fellows to offer a more global perspective and increases the network of fellows who are able to provide advice in cases that involve an international dimension.”

- 1.2 A Hague Convention programme highlighting the application of the Hague Conventions internationally, as well as new projects at the Hague, and whether and how these may impact on Africa will be presented.
- 1.3 There will be a separate training programme on Arbitration in Family Law matters focusing on children’s issues. The programme will be presented by Charles Hale KC, Barbara Mills KC, and Alex Verdan KC of London. The programme will run for the day and **registration for the programme is separate from the main programme**. We are privileged to have such an exceptional and excellent training programme available. Please register your interest in this training programme with zenobia@mdtcinc.co.za or bridget@mdtcinc.co.za
- 1.4 The IAFL will host a dinner in the evening for those attending the sessions in 1.1 and 1.2 above.

2. Thursday 9 March 2023.

- 2.1 A keynote speaker will open the conference (we are awaiting confirmation from the speaker).
- 2.2 Various topics and speakers are provisionally confirmed as referred to below. A programme shall be released late January 2023. Breakaway sessions will be presented in two venues at the hotel.
- 2.3 An optional dinner is available in the evening.

3. Friday 10 March, 2023.

- 3.1 Breakaway sessions will be offered again.
- 3.2 One of the breakaway sessions will deal with ADR, inter alia arbitration, mediation, and the SALRC's progress in this regard. Difficulties in and mechanisms of dealing with certain categories of persons, personality disorders, parental alienation and/or gatekeeping, whether in ADR or as clients, will be discussed, as well as the influence of culture and religion on family disputes.
- 3.3 A sponsored cocktail party will be held at the President Hotel at the end of the conference.
- 3.4 A Speakers' Dinner will be hosted by Zenobia du Toit.

4. Saturday 11 March 2023

- 4.1 A weekend breakaway is available at the award- winning Grootbos Nature Reserve (a 2 hour drive from Cape Town) from Saturday 11 March, 2023 until Monday morning 13 March 2023 with great food, wine tasting, spectacular scenery and trips to the beach reserve and the Khoi and San cave. Spaces are

limited, so please enquire and book through
zenobia@mdtcinc.co.za or bridget@mdtcinc.co.za

5. Tours and sightseeing.

- 5.1 If you wish to book tours (other than day tours) before and/or after the conference, this can be arranged through Abroad with Alwin and Associates- email: alwin@abroadwithalwin.co.za phone: +27 82 564 5172 .Alwin has asked that you arrange this with him latest end January 2023;
- 5.2 There are also numerous trips and tours in Cape Town available for companions and delegates such as to Cape Point, the Cape Peninsula, wine estates in Constantia, Paarl and Stellenbosch, art tours, beaches, boat trips, and shark cage diving. See below links:

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Products-g1722390-a_contentId.1176477804242260+268450071-Cape_Town_Western_Cape.html
<https://www.viator.com/Cape-Town/d318-ttd?mcid=33953&tsem=true&supci=1292393089&supag=3785131305&supsc=kwd-19618230467%3Aloc-168&supai=77172109854159&supdv=c&supnt=o&supkw=things+to+do+in+cape+to+wn&supti=kwd-19618230467%3Aloc-168&suplp=164220&supli=137943&m=33953&supag=3785131305&supsc=kwd-19618230467%3Aloc-168&supai=77172109854159&supdv=c&supnt=nt%3Ao&suplp=164220&supli=137943&supti=kwd-19618230467%3Aloc-168&tsem=true&supci=kwd-19618230467%3Aloc-168&supkw=things+to+do+in+cape+town&msclkid=e041b25223d5102353afd1f7b94960bc>

6. **Conference sessions will include:**

- 6.1 Developing family law and families. How do culture and religion influence family disputes?
- 6.2 Various forms of marriages, life relationships, and the consequences relating to patrimonial and maintenance claims flowing from such relationships and how this is implemented across jurisdictions. Comparative law panels will present.
- 6.3 Maintenance, the new SALRC issue paper, and international Hague Conventions.
- 6.4 ANCs/ PNCs – the risks in a mobile world.
- 6.5 Trusts and assets – developments, difficulties and possible solutions.
- 6.6 The interests and voices of children, new families, the relocation of children internationally (with reference to the SALRC issue paper) and parentage.
- 6.7 Same sex and transgender parents, children and LGBTQIA+ families.
- 6.8 Alternative reproduction developments and caselaw.
- 6.9 Immigration, visas, and the effect on internationally mobile families.
- 6.10 ADR (see paragraph 3.2 above)

7. **Provisional speakers will include:**

- Advocate Adelaide Benneh Prempeh, Ghana
- Advocate Anton Katz, RSA (TBC)
- Advocate Efosa Etomi, Nigeria
- Advocate Pat Moodley, RSA
- Advocate Saroj Krishna Ghimere, Nepal (TBC)
- Advocate Saul Miller, RSA (TBC)
- Advocate Shirin Ebrahim, RSA (TBC)
- Advocate Stuart Humphreys, RSA
- Alex Verdan KC, UK
- Barbara Connolly KC, England
- Barbara Mills KC, UK
- Charles Hale KC, UK
- Clement Marumoagae, Wits University, RSA

Presented by Miller Du Toit Cloete Inc (Zenobia du Toit)

and the Law Faculty of the University of the Western Cape (Prof Julia Sloth-Nielsen jsloth-nielsen@uwc.ac.za)

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Conference URL: www.mdtcinc.co.za/conference/

- Craig Schneider, RSA
- Diahann Gordon Harrison, Children's Advocate of Jamaica and National Rapporteur on Trafficking Persons, ISPCAN executive councillor, Jamaica
- Dr Jennifer Neoh, clinical psychologist, Australia
- Dr Robert A Simon, psychologist, USA
- Edward H Davis, Jr, SEQUOR law, USA
- Elvis Fokala, Head of Child Law at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, RSA
- Fiona Mwale, Child and Family Law Divisions of the High Court of Malawi
- Geoff Wilson, Australia (TBC)
- Hezi Margalit, Israel
- Hirotaka Honda, Japan
- Ian Kennedy, Kennedy Partners lawyers, Australia
- Jacqueline Julyan SC and Maria Scotland 5 SAH UK
- Janet Bytheway, psychologist, RSA
- Judge Dale Kemp, Australia (TBC)
- Justice Connie Mocumie, SCA, RSA (TBC)
- Karabo Ozah, Director of the Centre for Child Law, RSA
- Lady Justice Teresia Matheka, Chairperson of the NCAJ Special Taskforce on Children Matters, Kenya
- Larissa Panieri Pieters, Psychiatrist, RSA
- Lea Mwambene, Professor and Deputy Dean of Faculty of Law UWC (TBC)
- Marcus Dearle, Miles Preston, UK and Hong Kong
- Mia Dambach, NGO Child Identity, Geneva
- Nancy Zalusky Berg, USA
- Nkatha Murungi, Deputy Director of the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, RSA
- Professor De Jong, SALRC, RSA (TBC)
- Professor Domingo Wesahl, SALRC, RSA (TBC)
- Professor Julia Sloth-Nielsen, RSA/UK
- Professor Marilyn Freeman, UK
- Professor Nicola Taylor, New Zealand
- Rachel Kelsey, President-Elect IAFL, Scotland
- Rahima Nato-Kalfane, BWG Associates, France
- Rebecca Mugabe, Uganda (TBC)

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- Retired justice Belinda van Heerden, RSA
- Robert Doya Nanima, Associate Professor, UWC, Member of the African Committee on the Rights of the Child
- SALRC presenting on the issue papers
- Shani van Niekerk, Adams and Adams, RSA (TBC)
- Stephen Baker, Baker and Partners, Jersey
- Stephen Page, Page Proven Lawyers, Australia
- Vincent Papaleo, psychologist, Australia

In addition, we are awaiting final confirmation of a number of speakers and look forward to welcoming judges and lawyers from Africa.

8. Hotel Accommodation

Our website has a number of hotel options.

The President Hotel has requested that delegates urgently register for accommodation at the hotel as the rooms held for the conference are limited.