



## Press release

### “West African International Justice – Leadership, Challenges, and Opportunities” 21 – 22 March 2019

Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre  
Accra, Ghana

11 March 2019

On **21 March 2019**, Accra will play host to an International Justice Symposium entitled “[West African International Justice – Leadership, Challenges, and Opportunities](#)”, aimed at exploring the contributions to and on-going challenges in the fight to achieve justice and accountability for atrocities in the sub-region.

The Symposium is organised by the [Wayamo Foundation](#) and the [Africa Group for Justice and Accountability](#) (AGJA), in collaboration with the **Konrad Adenauer Stiftung's Rule of Law Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa**, and with the support of the **Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre** and the School of Law of the **Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration** (GIMPA).

The Symposium will take place at the **Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre** on **21 March 2019** from **9 am to 5 pm**. It will be followed by a special **lecture** on modern slavery and human trafficking on **22 March 2019** from **9 to 11 am** at the Moot Court of the School of Law, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA).

The event will commence with welcoming remarks by Training Centre Commandant, **Air Vice–Marshal Griffiths S. Evans**, and will be formally opened by **Bettina Ambach**, Wayamo Foundation Director, **Hassan Bubacar Jallow**, Chief Justice of The Gambia and AGJA Chair, **Christoph Retzlaff**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, and **Peter Wendoh**, Project Advisor, Rule of Law Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Nairobi, with a special address by **Her Ladyship, Justice Sophia Akuffo**, Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana.

During this conference, international and regional experts on international criminal justice and transnational organised crime, academics, practitioners and members of civil society will critically assess the contributions of West Africa to global justice and the continuing challenges to achieving justice for atrocity crimes in the region. Issues to be highlighted will include: **West African country responses, challenges and successes in tackling international crimes**; sexual and gender-based violence; and the International Criminal Court in West Africa (*for a detailed programme, please see: <http://www.wayamo.com/event/international-symposium-in-accra-ghana/>*).

Several AGJA members, such as **Zainab Bangura**, Former UN Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and **Navi Pillay**, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, will play a prominent role in the panel debates.

Guest speakers and panellists include: **Elise Keppler**, International Justice Programme, Human Rights Watch; **Eric-Aimé Semien**, President at Observatoire Ivoirien des Droits de l’Homme, Abidjan; **Matthew Odu Una**, Prosecutor, Complex Case Group, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Nigeria; **Adama**

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**K. Dempster**, Secretary-General, Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform of Liberia; **Philipp Ambach**, Chief of the Victims Participation and Reparations Section, International Criminal Court; **Reed Brody**, Counsel and Spokesperson for Human Rights Watch; **Justice Emile Short**, Former Chair, Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, Ghana; **Emmanuel Bombande**, Former Deputy Foreign Minister of Ghana and UN senior mediation advisor in the Central African Republic; and **Dr. Kwesi Aning**, Director, Faculty of Academic Affairs & Research, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Ghana and Clinical Professor of Peacekeeping Practice at Kennesaw State University, Atlanta.

On 22 March, **Rahel Gershuni**, UNODC Consultant and former National Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinator from Israel and **Richard Ansah Gyambiby**, Senior State Attorney, Ministry of Justice and Attorney-General's Department, Ghana, will deliver the special lecture on modern slavery and human trafficking at the Moot Court of the School of Law, GIMPA.

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- Full programme and press release: <http://www.wayamo.com/archives/west-african-international-justice-leadership-challenges-and-opportunities/>
- Regular updates on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WayamoFound/>
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