



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

24 March 2017

EDITOR AND PRODUCER BRIEF

4th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa, 23-26 April 2017, Cape Town

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this brief is to inform editors and producers of the upcoming 4th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA) scheduled to take place from 23 to 26 April 2017 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

2. ABOUT THE CCJA

- The CCJA is an independent institution, established by Constitutional Judiciaries in Africa. Its chief aim is to ensure that the Judiciary in each member state supports, and, deepens democracy by upholding the constitution and the rule of law.
- Madame Justice Marie Madeleine Mborantsuo, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Gabon, is the President of the Conference of African Constitutional Courts.
- The Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa, the Honourable Mogoeng Mogoeng, is one of the Vice Presidents of the CCJA and is expected to be elected President during the Congress.

- In each member state, this ideal is pursued through the Judiciary which is charged with the duty to interpret and enforce the Constitution of that State within its territorial boundaries. Each state Judiciary is also charged with the responsibility of upholding the rule of law within the confines of the national Constitution.
- As these two principles are the cornerstone of any democratic state founded on the supremacy of the constitution, human rights and freedoms, the CCJA has considered it fitting to host a conference in Cape Town, South Africa, with a view to strengthening and enhancing Judges' commitment to these important principles.
- The CCJA wishes not only to create a platform at which Judges in the continent of Africa will exchange views and experiences but they also wish to share lessons and experiences with jurisdictions outside Africa. Some of the jurisdictions in other continents have grappled with challenges similar to those we are now experiencing, long before constitutional courts were established in Africa.
- The congress theme is: ***“Strengthening the independence of the judiciary and respect for the rule of law”***.

3. CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1, 23 April 2017	Arrival, reception and registration of participants at the Cape Town International Conference Centre, South Africa Reception Dinner hosted by Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng
Day 2, 24 April 2017	Opening of the Fourth CCJA Conference Plenary presentations Debate session
Day 3, 25 April 2017	Plenary presentations Debate session
Day 4, 26 April 2017	Plenary presentations Debate session Election of new President of the Conference of African Constitutional Courts

4. MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS

- Members of the media must have accreditation to gain access to the Conference. The accreditation process requires for members to fill out the template provided and submit no later than 15h00 on 5 April 2017.
- Media houses with special requests for covering the Conference (e.g., live broadcast) must communicate these to the OCJ Communications Unit by no later than 14 April 2017.
- Media logistics queries may be directed to Ms Lusanda Ntuli (OCJ Communications) on 010 493 2520 or at LNtuli@judiciary.org.za
- Editorial inquiries and requests for interviews may be directed to the Spokesperson for the Judiciary, Mr Nathi Mncube on 010 493 2500 or 0848148364 or at NMncube@judiciary.org.za
- The Honourable Justice Raymond Zondo, as leader of the Judges' Planning Committee, will also be the official spokesperson for the Conference.
- Continuous updates leading up to the Conference will be emailed to media and posted on the OCJ's social media platforms:
 - Facebook - South African Judiciary
 - Twitter - @OCJ_RSA
 - Instagram - ocj_rsa
- Useful links
 - <http://www.cjca-conf.org/>
 - <http://www.judiciary.org.za/>