



## 2ND HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF WOMEN JUDICIAL LEADERS OF AFRICA

Theme: "The Maputo Protocol @ 20: Consolidating the  
Jurisprudence of Equality for the Next Generation"



**21 – 23  
APRIL 2026**

@Sandton Hotel,  
Benmore Gardens,  
Johannesburg

#CCJAWomen2026

# MEDIA STATEMENT

2 April 2026

Media Statement

### **SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST THE SECOND HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF WOMEN JUDICIAL LEADERS OF AFRICA**

The South African Judiciary led by Chief Justice Mandisa Maya, will host the Second High-level Meeting of Women Judicial Leaders of Africa in conjunction with the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA), from 21 to 23 April 2026 in Johannesburg.

The CCJA is an independent institution, established by Constitutional Judiciaries in Africa, and is made up of forty-nine constitutional jurisdictions on the African continent; and four observer members. 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. South Africa has been a member state of the CCJA since 2012.

This important continental gathering builds on the success of the inaugural meeting held in Libreville, Gabon, in 2023 and convenes women in judicial leadership across the African continent. The core aim of the conference is to strengthen collaboration and share expertise, whilst advancing constitutional justice and gender equality.

Built on the foundation aimed at advancing women's rights on the continent, the Meeting is convened against the backdrop of key regional and international instruments, including the Convention of the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and the Protocol to the



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[www.judiciary.org.za/ccjawomen2026](http://www.judiciary.org.za/ccjawomen2026)

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African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women, also known as the ***Maputo Protocol***.

The Meeting coincides with significant milestones which include the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Maputo Protocol, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the South African Constitution and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1956 Women's March to the Union Buildings, in Pretoria.

These integral moments underscore the enduring commitment to equality, dignity and freedom on the continent.

Whilst notable progress has been made across the African continent in the pursuit of women's rights, women still face persistent inequalities and barriers to justice. The Meeting will thus focus on strengthening gender-focused jurisprudence, enhancing judicial leadership and ensuring a more inclusive and representative justice system.

Members of the media who wish to attend the event are advised to submit their accreditation requests by no later than **10 April 2026**. Media accreditation link: <https://www.judiciary.org.za/ccjawomen2026/media-registration>

### **Enquiries:**

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***Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice***