



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

TRIBUNAL SUPREMO

## Regional Symposium on Greening the Judicial Education in Africa

### Concept Paper

#### Background and Justification

Greening the judiciary in Africa is a current and ongoing initiative that mainly focuses on building the capacity of Judges in applying and enforcing environmental laws, promoting the environmental rule of law. It is the appreciation that judges play a critical role in responding to the pressing environmental crises and as such, it is practical to develop and enhance the capacity of judiciaries to exercise their role in environmental matters as they are uniquely placed and an integral part of attaining environmental goals.

With the onset of "environmental justice" in Africa increasingly on the rise, strengthening judicial capacity to adjudicate on environmental laws becomes a necessity.

For this reason, Heads of a number of Judicial Training Institutes, magistrates and senior Judges attended a colloquium in Johannesburg in January 2017 on the theme of *integrating environmental training in the African judicial training schools*. The outcome was an informed judiciary on the importance of environmental law training and the culmination of the Johannesburg Action Plan on Environmental Law as a key action to support countries to mainstream and integrate environmental law in judicial training Institutions as part of sustainable curricula.

Subsequently, in June 2017, a train the trainer for judicial educators in Africa was held with the objective of enabling the heads of the institutions to improve their skills on integrating and developing environmental law education curriculum. The outcomes of these fora has been a concerted commitment by African countries to integrate environmental law training in their judicial education strategies, programmes and plans on a sustainable basis.

To keep up this momentum, a **Regional Symposium on Greening the judiciaries in Africa** is envisioned to be held in August 2018 where the creation of an African Judicial Network on environmental law education will be launched. The network will provide



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

TRIBUNAL SUPREMO

opportunities for exchanging information, create partnerships for collaboration, strengthen capacity, and provide research and analysis on environmental adjudication, court practices, and environmental rule of law. The symposium will embrace the inclusion of more countries from Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone African countries in the attainment of a judiciary equipped with sustainable knowledge and skills on environmental law education. With the foregoing, participation of Chief Justices is vital to forge a strong commitment to the network as well as strategically positioning the network in the countries' national agenda. The symposium will also create a platform to enhance Judicial Institutes capacity in curriculum development and approaches of integrating new areas of the law.

### Objectives

- I. Promote a sustainable integration of environmental law into judicial curricula in Africa;
- II. Review and validate the draft regional trainer's guide and framework for judicial education on environmental law;
- III. Create a platform for Francophone, Lusophone and Anglophone African countries to identify emerging environmental issues, exchange best practices and establish synergistic relationships;
- IV. Evaluate progress made and challenges faced by countries in advancing judicial education;
- V. Review and validate the draft rules and regulations of the Africa judicial educators network on environmental law;
- VI. To launch African Judicial Network on Environmental education, discuss and finalize governance matters.

### Outcomes

- A. An African Judicial Network on Environmental education with common goals on judicial education on environmental law in Africa
- B. A comprehensive plan to integrate environmental law into judicial curricula in Anglophone, Lusophone and Francophone African judicial training Institutes on a sustainable basis



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

TRIBUNAL SUPREMO

- C. Established monitoring and evaluation committee to ensure implementation of the agreed agenda

## Symposium

The Symposium will be held over a period of three days. Two days for the heads of judicial education institutions and Judicial Educators. One day for Chief Justices and Attorneys-General to launch the network, validate Regional Trainers guide and Framework for judicial education on Environmental law.

## Participants

The symposium targets Chief Justices, Senior Judges, Attorneys-General, Judicial Educators and Heads of Judicial education institutions from Anglo, Lusophone and Francophone countries.

## Collaborating Partners

UN Environment, Regional Economic Communities, La Francophonie, IUCN, networks, other organizations and development partners.

## Date and Venue

1-3 August 2018, Venue: Maputo, Mozambique

## Contacts

<p><b>Robert Wabunoha</b> Regional Coordinator Environmental Governance UN Environment <a href="mailto:Robert.Wabunoha@unep.org">Robert.Wabunoha@unep.org</a></p>	<p><b>Elisa Samuel</b> Juiza de Direito Directora do Centro de Formação Jurídica e Judiciária/CFJJ <a href="mailto:elisasamuelmz@gmail.com">elisasamuelmz@gmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:elisasamuel@hotmail.com">elisasamuel@hotmail.com</a>, Maputo-Mozambique</p>
---	--



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

TRIBUNAL SUPREMO