

Conference on the Decriminalisation of Same-Sex Laws and Eradication of Conversion Practices

24 – 25 November 2022

PROGRAMME

Day 1

- 08h00 – 08h30 Registration and arrival tea
- 08h30 – 08h45 Welcome
Professor Frans Viljoen and Dr Ayodele Sogunro
- 08h45 - 09h15 Keynote address
Justice Edwin Cameron
Former Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and Inspecting Judge of the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services
- 09h15 – 10h45 **Panel 1 – Contextualising queerness and criminalisation**
Moderator – Rui Garrido
Lizzy Muthoni
Kwa ground vitu ni different: Towards a grounded socio-cultural struggle for sexual minority rights
Mariel Reiss
War-of-Tug: LGBTIQ+ Rights in the African Regional Human Rights Architecture
Nansha Bholah
Decriminalisation of same-sex relations in Mauritius
- 10h45 – 11h00 Tea
- 11h00 – 12h30 **Panel 2 – Seeking justice: Litigating for decriminalisation**
Moderator – Michael Nyarko
Dr Adrian Jjuuko
To challenge or not to challenge sodomy laws in courts of law: Re-examining Uganda's incremental approach towards decriminalisation of homosexuality
Faith Chepkurui and Amboka Samson Muchiri
A path through the Kenyan wilderness: Litigation as a pragmatic approach to decriminalisation of same-sex relations

Thoko Kaime and Isabelle Zundel
The (un)successful strategy: Malawi's attempts for decriminalisation of same-sex laws

12h30 – 13h30

Lunch

13h30 – 15h00

Panel 3 – Human rights approaches to decriminalisation

Moderator – Dr Ayodele Sogunro

Landilani Banda

Exploring the use of a “human rights master frame” as a strategy towards decriminalisation of anti-sodomy laws in Africa

Onesmus Musungu

LGBTQI+ equality and the right to privacy

Sidney Tambasi Netya

Situating the fight for sexual minority rights within the larger human rights struggle in Kenya: Probing the High Court Decision in EG & 7 others v Attorney General

15h00 – 15h30

Tea

15h30 – 17h00

Panel 4 – “Decrim” when? Strategic timing for decriminalisation efforts

Moderator – Dr Adrian Jjuuko

Nelson Muparamoto

“Is it time yet for decrim?”: Perspectives of LGBTQI+ activists on the decriminalization agenda in Zimbabwe

Rui Garrido

Transitional Justice process as an opportunity for decriminalisation of same-sex relations in the Gambia

Tanyaradzwa Milne Manhombu

A new Constitution for Zimbabwe, the crime of sodomy and the hope for judicial decriminalisation

End of day 1

Day 2

- 08h00 – 08h30 Welcome
- 08h30 – 10h15 **Panel 5 – Contextualising conversion practices in Africa**
Moderator – Khanyo Farise
Amanda Odoi and Ernest Yaw Ako
Will recanting become the only means of survival? An exploration of conversion therapy practices in Ghana and future of the LGBT+ community
Godwin Kalu
The nature, extent and impacts of conversion practices in Nigeria
Samuel Ngigi
The drivers and maintainers of conversion practices in Kenya
Stella Nyanzi
Gay, Ex-Gay, Ex-ExGay: Pendulum Swings of Conversion in Uganda's Christian LGBTIQ Community
- 10h15 – 10h30 Tea
- 10h30 – 11h15 Video screening/open discussion session/round table
- 11h15 – 12h30 **Panel 6 – Human rights approaches to eradicating conversion practices**
Moderator – Nathan Milanzi
Khanyo Farisè and Timothy Fish Hodgson
The rights to health, safety and wellbeing are violated by conversion practices in Africa: An assessment of the African human rights framework's capacity curb these harmful practices
Milka Wahu Kuria and Shelmith Gatwiri Maranya
The "Normalisation" of Intersex Persons through Harmful Medical, Cultural and Religious Practices in East Africa: The "Rights" Way Forward
- 12h30 – 13h30 Lunch
- 13h30 – 15h00 **Panel 7 – Beyond litigation: Alternative strategies for rights' advancement**
Moderator – Kerigo Odada
Ilef Kassab
The fight for the abrogation of Article 230: The Tunisian experience towards freeing the body from the authority of the state
Johnson Mayamba
Media as allies in the decriminalisation of same-sex relations and eradication of conversion practices: A case study of Uganda
Patricia Muthoni Njuguna
Conversion Practices against LGBTQ+ Persons in Africa
- 15h00 – 15h30 Tea/Sharing and reflection
- 15h30 – 16h00 Closing