

**THE 2024 AFRICAN REGIONAL GROUP MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES**

**HOSTED BY THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRIAL JUDGES OF LIBERIA (NATJL)
EJS MINISTERIAL COMPLEX, CONGO TOWN, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

Conference theme:

**“The Judiciary in contemporary times;
dispensing Justice in the new information age”**

ITINERARY:

Sunday, May 5, 2024 - Arrival of all delegates

DAY 1 - Monday, May 6, 2024 - FORMAL OPENING

PART I:

1. **7:30am – 8:00am** – Registration
2. **8:00am – 9:00am** – Breakfast
3. **9:00am – 10.45am** – Formal Opening Program
 - Invocation/Chaplain, NATJL (**3 minutes**)
 - Welcome Remarks, Recognition of Guests and Introduction of the Program – Her Honor Nancy Finda Sammy, President of the National Association of Trial Judges of Liberia (NATJL), Resident Circuit Judge, Tenth Judicial Circuit, Lofa County & **Member**, Topics Selection Committee
4. **Greetings (3 minutes each):**
 - Commissioner of the Township of Congo Town
 - Representative of the Diplomatic Corps
 - Marcelle Kouassi, Justice at the Court of Cassation in Ivory Coast, President African Group
 - Duro Sessa, President of the International Association of Judges (IAJ)
 - Minister of Justice, Republic of Liberia
 - Her Honor Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia
5. **Special Remarks** – His Excellency, Joseph Nyumah Boakai, President of the Republic of Liberia
6. **Introduction of the Keynote Speaker** – Her Honor Ceaineh Clinton Johnson, Resident Judge, Criminal Court E, Montserrado County, Liberia & Chairman, Conference Organizing Committee

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Her Honor Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, **Chief Justice**, Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia
Topic: **“The Impact of the Media on the Public’s Perception of Justice in the New Information Age”**

7. Vote of Thanks – Her Honor, Victoria G. Duncan, **Stipendiary Magistrate**, Omega Magisterial Court, Montserrado County, Liberia
8. Closing Prayer – Chaplain, NATJL

END OF PART I.

Coffee Break – 10:45am-11:00am

PART II – BUSINESS SESSION:

Session 1: The Art of Judgeship-Holding Judges Accountable to their Sacred Oath

Justice Marcelle Kouassi, **President** of the African Regional Group – **(11:05am-11:30am)**

Moderator – Her Honor Lucretia Thomas Anderson, Judge, Juvenile Court; **Co-Chairman**, Hospitality Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 2: Reflecting on the Role of the Courts in Countering the Misuse of Police Power

Her Honor Jamesetta H. Wolokolie, **Associate Justice**, Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia – **(11:45am-12:10am)**

Moderator – Her Honor Madea T. Chenoweth, Resident Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit Court of Margibi County

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 3: The Role of the Judiciary in Protecting Persons from Discrimination

Mr. Christian Mukosa, Country Representative & Chief of the Office, United Nations Office of the High Commission for Human Rights in Liberia – **(12:20am-12:45pm)**

Moderator – Her Honor Josephine Y. Zogbaye, Associate Magistrate, Gbarnga City Magisterial Court; **Co-Chairman**, Conference Organizing Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

1:00pm-2:30pm – Lunch

Session 4: Monitoring Solitary Confinement, Mechanical Restraints and their Impact in Prisons

Justice Mr. Raffaele Gargiulo – **Dep. Secretary General** of the International Association of Judges – **(2:35pm-3:00pm)**

Moderator – His Honor, Shem Blafouley, Associate Magistrate, Sanoyea Magisterial Court, Bong County

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 5: Relations Between Judges and Lawyers-An Avenue for Improving the Dispensation of Justice

Her Ladyship Gertrude Araba Esaaba Sackey Torkornoo (Mrs), **Chief Justice**, Supreme Court of Ghana – **(3:15pm-3:40pm)**

Moderator – Her Honor Serena F. Garlawolu, Resident Judge, Criminal Court E, Montserrado County

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 6: The Emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Impacts on Private Rights
Justice Mr. Duro Sessa, **President** of the International Association of Judges – (3:50pm-4:15pm)

Moderator – Her Honor Golda Bonah Elliott, Relieving Judge, Republic of Liberia; **Chairman**,
Conference Topics Selection Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 7: Considering the Needs of Persons with Disabilities in Places of Detention

Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie, President, Liberia National Bar Association – (4:25pm-4:45pm)

Moderator – Her Honor Lynda Sulonteh, Associate Magistrate, Bong Mines Magisterial Court

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

5:00pm-7:00pm – Cultural Extravaganza & Welcome Reception-EJS Ministerial Complex,
Congo Town

DAY 2-Tuesday, May 7, 2024

1. **8:00am – 8:30am** – Registration
2. **8:30am – 9:30am** – Breakfast
3. **9:35am** – Invocation/Chaplain, NATJL
4. **9:35am – 9:45am** – Recap of Day 1-Her Honor Sharon Sims, Associate Magistrate, Owensgrove Magisterial Court, **Member**, Conference Organizing Committee
5. **9:50am** – Meeting of the African Group of the IAJ under the President of the Group Ms. Marcelle Kouassi. To be discussed, the points of the Agenda of the African Group (including the report of each national delegation on the situation of judicial independence of the concerned country).

1:00pm-3:00pm – Lunch

3:00pm – Continuation of the Meeting of the African Group of the IAJ under the President of the Group Ms. Marcelle Kouassi. To be discussed the points of the Agenda of the African Group (including the report of each national delegation on the situation of judicial independence of the concerned country).

Day 3 – Wednesday, May 8, 2024:

1. **7:30am – 8:00am** – Registration
2. **8:00am – 9:00am** – Breakfast
3. Invocation/Chaplain, NATJL (**3 minutes**)
4. Recap of Day 2 – His Honor Gabriel F. Ndupellar, Associate Magistrate, Salayea Magisterial Court, **Member**, Conference Organizing Committee – **10 minutes**

Session 8: Building Integrity through Positive Actions: A Means for Ensuring an Independent Judiciary

Prof. Patrick L.O. Lumumba, Republic of Kenya – (9:15am-10:00am)

Moderator – Her Honor Nancy Finda Sammy, Resident Judge, Tenth Judicial Circuit of Lofa County; **Member**, Conference Topics Selection Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 9: Reflecting on Judicial Independence and Justice for all in a Democratic State

His Honor Yussif D. Kaba – Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Liberia – (10:10am-10:35am)

Moderator – Her Honor, Gloria J. Reed, Associate Magistrate, Gbah Magisterial Court, Bomi County

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 10: Adequate Salaries and Benefits for Judges; Their Impact on an Independent Judicial System

Her Honor Eva Mappy Morgan, Chief Judge, Commercial Court, Republic of Liberia – (10:45am-11:10am)

Moderator – Her Honor Sally M. Fofana, Trainer, Judicial Institute; Member, Conference Organizing Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Tea Break – 10 minutes

Session 11: The Role of the Media in Enhancing Judicial Independence

Prof. Frank Senwoalah-Department of Mass Communication, University of Liberia (11:30am-11:55am)

Moderator – His Honor Daniel Dolokelen, Associate Magistrate, Gbarnga City Magisterial Court

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

12:05pm – Lunch

Session 12: The Role of the Judiciary in Ensuring Independent and Consistent Oversight of Places of Detention in Africa

His Honor Roosevelt Z. Willie-Resident Judge, Criminal Court A, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia – (3:00pm-3:25pm)

Moderator – His Honor Abraham F. Kantie, Associate Magistrate, Zorzor Magisterial Court; **Member**, Conference Organizing Committee

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Session 13: Well-being in the law

Her Honor Allyson Duncan, **President** of the ANAO Group – (3:45-4:15)

Moderator – Her Honor Florence Kun, Associate Magistrate, Greenville City Magisterial Court, Sinoe County.

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

Tea Break – 10 minutes

Session 14: The Role of Families in Prison Support, and the Stages of a Prison Visit

Assistant Minister for Rehabilitation, Ministry of Justice, Republic of Liberia – **(4:35pm-5:00pm)**

Moderator – Her Honor Emma Kolubah, Associate Magistrate, Omega Magisterial Court, Montserrado County

Questions & Answers – 10 minutes

5:10pm – End of Day 3

Day 4 - Thursday, May 9, 2024: 9:00am

1. **8:00am – 8:30am** – Registration
2. **8:30am – 9:30am** – Breakfast
3. Invocation/Chaplain, NATJL
4. Recap of Day 3-His Honor Anthony Doyah, Associate Magistrate, Sanniquillie City Magisterial Court, Nimba County; **Member**, Conference Organizing Committee- **10 minutes**
5. **10:00am – 13:00pm** – Excursion
6. **1:30pm – 3:00pm** – Lunch with the Justices of the Supreme Court of Liberia
7. **5:00pm** – Farewell/Gala Dinner-Colony Hotel, Congo Town – Wee Wee Hours

Day 5, Friday, May 10, 2024 - Departure of Delegates