



IOJT 2022 Informational Webinar

November 1, 2021

Transcript

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:00:14] Welcome to this informational webinar that marks a year until the opening of the 10th biennial conference of the IOJT. I'm Adèle Kent, the CJO emerita of the National Judicial Institute and the chair of the IOJT 2022 conference. I'm speaking to you from wonderful Ottawa, Canada, where the conference will be held, and I'm looking out a window and I see blue skies and temperatures of about 60 degrees Fahrenheit, about 10 or 15 degrees centigrade, so, hoping that next November, the weather will be as lovely and we'll be able to welcome you all. Bienvenue à tous mes collègues du monde francophone. Malgré que la conférence et les sites Web soient disponibles en français et en anglais, ce webinaire va se dérouler uniquement en anglais. Mais si vous avez des questions, vous pouvez me les demander en français. Bienvenidos a mis colegas del mundo hispanohablante. Aunque la conferencia ofrecerá interpretación al español, este seminario web se celebrará únicamente en inglés. I'd like to begin by introducing my colleagues who are with me in Ottawa today. On my immediate right, Justice Tom Crabtree. Justice Crabtree is the Chief Judicial Officer of the National Judicial Institute. Danielle May-Cuconato, the Chief Executive Officer of the National Judicial Institute. And we're very pleased to have with us today Jeff Apperson of the National Center for State Courts, who is in charge of international outreach with the NCSC and is here with us today and tomorrow to talk about planning for IOJT 2022. I now would like to welcome retired justice and professor Eli Rivlin, the president of the IOJT, to bring greetings. Justice Rivlin, over to you.

Retired Justice Eli Rivlin: [00:02:23] Thank you, honorable Justice Kent, Dr. McQueen, and Dr. Moshoeu. Distinguished guests, dear colleagues, mes chers amis. Good morning, bonjour, or rather, bonsoir in other parts of the world. IOJT is an international organization. Welcome to this informational webinar. Thank you, Justice Kent, for your initiative in holding this launch meeting, and thank you, Dr. McQueen, for your indispensable contribution to the steering committee. Subject to health conditions, of course, the steering committee is planning an in-person conference next year. Welcome, Dr. Moshoeu, the head of the South African Judicial Education Institute. Thank you for taking part in this webinar, and thank you for hosting the recent conference in beautiful Cape Town in 2019. In exactly one year from now, we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the IOJT, the International Organization for Judicial Training, in Ottawa, Canada. This is very fitting, as Canada was one of the founding parents of the IOJT. Representatives from Canada were partners in the establishment of the organization. Its first conference was held in 2002. Two years later, in 2004, the

second world conference was held in Ottawa. The Canadian National Judicial Institute organized the conference, and it was a resounding success. More than 300 participants from many countries took part. The discussions were vivid and fruitful. They more than show that the second Ottawa conference will be an even greater success. Seven more world conferences have been held since the first Ottawa conference: Barcelona, Spain; Sydney, Australia; Bordeaux, France; Washington, D.C.; Recife, Brazil; Manila, in the Philippines; and in Cape Town, South Africa. They attracted judges and judicial educators from all over the globe, from North America and Central and South America, from the Pacific and from Europe, from Asia and Africa, from China and Japan, from Mongolia, in the Middle East, and from a multitude of other countries.

[00:05:11] In fact, the IOJT embraces 77 countries and more than 120 legal training institutes. It is always a heartwarming experience to witness the friendship that develop among the delegates during the conferences. The stimulating symposiums and discussions at conferences are very interesting and enlightening. It is always profitable to take an active part in the proceedings. Past conferences focused on methods of judicial training per se and on judicial education as a means to promote the rule of law, to safeguard judicial independence, and to promote judicial excellence. The Ottawa conference next year will address the needs of those who are the most vulnerable based on gender, race, and other factors. Portions of the program will be dedicated to the effects of the COVID pandemic on the vulnerable. Indeed, the pandemic affected the world population. People, at large, have become more vulnerable. Yet, the disadvantaged groups have become even more vulnerable than ever and their needs are only growing in these perilous times. Past conventions taught us that despite the various different judicial systems, there is a common denominator for judicial education. We all face similar challenges, and we can all benefit from our professional meetings. The Ottawa world conference next year will offer a unique opportunity to exchange ideas and techniques. We can always learn from the experience of our peers and thereby strengthen judicial training institutes around the world. I encourage you all to take part in the coming conference and to support the institutes in your countries by sending delegates. You will benefit from the academic program, you will sense that you are among close friends, and you will enjoy every moment, I can assure you. Looking forward to seeing you all in Ottawa a year from now. Be safe. Thank you.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:07:47] (Thank you) Justice Rivlin. Let me just say a few words about how the rest of this webinar will unfold. I should tell you, to begin with, that the webinar is being recorded. We will have remarks from, next, Mary McQueen, then some remarks from Dr. Moshoeu, and then I thought I'd spend some time explaining to you a bit about how the conference will be organized and the work that we've started to do on the themes, and so on. We'd like, after that, if you have questions or comments, to provide those to us, so feel free, as the webinar goes on, to put questions in the chat. We'll also give an opportunity, if people want to speak, speak à haute voix, in your own voice, after we finish the presentations, to offer your questions and comments. So with that, I would now like to welcome Mary McQueen, the Secretary-General of IOJT, and she is coming to us from her institute, and as you can see from her wonderful background, celebrating 50 years of anniversary, I think, this year. So, Mary, over to you.

Mary McQueen: [00:09:08] I think all of you can tell by the shadows that we're enjoying the same sunshine that you're sending us from Ottawa, and I really wish that I could have been there to join you. Thank you so much for bringing us all together because I think, just as we started earlier, Justice Kent, the last two years have introduced the meaning of words in a different way than I think any of us ever assumed. Just to say "are you muted?" seems to be a new concept. And in the past, "zooming" was basically restricted to how fast a vehicle would go. I think that alone reinforces the need for continuous learning in the judiciary. So IOJT is a relatively new organization. The idea of professional training for judges really didn't become universally accepted until right after the Second World War. I mean, I think we all laboured under a misconception that judges already knew everything they needed to know when they came to the bench. That changed, and I think we only have to look at the issues that now come before judges, the pandemic being our most recent, but the pandemic then fostered the need to not only think about how we could provide education to judges virtually, but how judges could provide justice virtually. Not only does the IOJT concentrate on judicial training principles—and if you go to the website of IOJT, you can see the judicial training principles that Canada took an essential leadership role in hosting the meeting of that working group to develop the first-ever international judicial training principles.

[00:11:16] The additional resources that have been developed from the IOJT include the journal, our website (that includes language access), a mentoring program, and of course, webinars like these. I think you don't have to look further than the daily news to be aware of the changing issues that face those in the judiciary, from terrorism trials to human trafficking, virtual hearings, virtual training, language access, and now, vulnerable populations. And we once again look to Canada to provide us that leadership in helping us look over the horizon to what the challenges are, that the judiciary and the institutes that support them will be facing. As Justice Rivlin shared, the instigation of the need for an international organization to share information, to create a network, to learn from each other, began with, actually, the Sao Paulo Declaration. It was just a group of representatives, and, as Justice Rivlin recognized, Canada has been at the forefront from the beginning. And basically the Sao Paulo Declaration just said, yes, we need to prepare, we need to think about doing this. And it was followed, as Justice Rivlin shared with you, by a convening in Jerusalem, and the Jerusalem Declaration was basically where we established the international organization, we convened the first conference, and we actually, at the leadership of the Israeli Supreme Court, established our first coordinating center with staffing provided by the government of Israel.

[00:13:27] I would have to say that moving forward, I want to just share with some of you, briefly, what the governance structure is of the International Organization of Judicial Training, because I think that, in and of itself, demonstrates the inclusive nature of what we do and how we share. There is a General Assembly that's made up of 125 institutes, that convenes every two to three years during an international conference. And the focus of those conferences is the education programs, but also a convening of the General Assembly to address issues that may have come before the IOJT in the last year. And both Justice Rivlin and Justice Kent have been very active and working with the UN and the

World Health Organization in providing the support for IOJT and moving forward in those areas. There is a board of governors that consists of four officers that are elected by the membership: the president, the secretary-general, a deputy secretary-general, and a treasurer. The additional members of the board of governors are five members of the executive board, which are appointed by the president. They represent, currently, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America and the Far East. Then there are five regional deputy presidents that are elected. From Africa in the Middle East, Amady Ba, from Senegal—I think Amady may be joining us on the call.

[00:15:15] Asia and the Pacific is Paul Quan, from Singapore. The European representative is currently vacant. North Central America and the Caribbean is Danielle May-Cuconato, from Canada. And South America is Leonel Gonzalez, from Argentina. There will be upcoming elections in 2022, and those of you who may be interested can refer to the IOJT website. There are staggered terms. My position as secretary-general and the treasurer's position were elected at the South African conference. The president's position and the deputy secretary-general positions will be on the ballot this next time, as will three of the deputy regional presidents. So I wanted to thank Canada once again for stepping forward with the leadership to develop what is going to be a very, very essential conference, because all of us, whether we're dealing with refugees or Indigenous people or domestic violence or drug abuse, are dealing with vulnerable populations. And certainly, the judiciary is the protector of hope, is the protector of rights, but it also is the one that demonstrates why governments are effective. So it's very fitting that on this 10th anniversary of the international conference that Canada, who was one of the founders who helped establish the IOJT, is there to help lead us forward into the future. So welcome. Thank you again, Justice Kent, for bringing us all together, and we look forward to the discussions later this morning. Thank you.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:17:09] Thank you, Mary. Alright, so the last conference, as you heard from Justice Rivlin, was held in Cape Town, South Africa, in the fall of 2019, and these are usually held biannually. So theoretically, this should be the kickoff of the next conference in Ottawa, but I think we all know why it had to be postponed for a year. We thought, however, that for those of you who weren't in Cape Town or interested in the organization, that this would be a wonderful time for us to revisit, a bit, the Cape Town conference with Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu, the head of the South African Judicial Education Institute, and she's warmly known by all of us as Dr. G. So, welcome, Dr. G., to this Zoom webinar. How are you today?

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:18:05] I'm fine, thank you, Justice, thank you very much.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:18:08] And I see from your background that it looks like the 10th anniversary of the South Africa Judicial Education Institute, correct?

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:18:18] Yes, indeed. It is the 10th anniversary in November.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:18:21] Well, congratulations.

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:18:23] Thank you very much.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:18:24] Congratulations. So we thought, as the organizer for IOJT 2019, a little bit of background and information might be of interest. So to do that, I think we need to—certainly for people like myself, from North America—to situate and understand judicial training in South Africa and in Africa. So perhaps I could ask you to give a little bit of an explanation about judicial training in South Africa.

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:18:56] Thank you. Thank you very much, Justice Kent, and hello to everybody on this webinar. The way we organize judicial training in South Africa is that every year in November, we write to the leadership of the judiciary to give us their training needs, and that, then, we collate into the annual training schedule that is then delivered for the magistracy and the and the judiciary. In South Africa, we only focus on the members of the judiciary. We don't train prosecution and officials of the court. And, also, one of the other responsibilities of South Africa is to, as indicated in our Act, is to train those from African neighbouring countries. So we do contact them, and they do ask us to assist them in specific area. For example, in 2019, we assisted Botswana to train the newly appointed judges as well as their newly appointed magistrates. Thank you very much, Justice.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:20:03] And I know, Dr. G., from a webinar that I participated in a few weeks ago that you work closely with institutes throughout Africa. Is there a network of training institutes in Africa itself?

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:20:18] Yes. In 2016, we focused on an area of environmental law, which—I always say to people, people like me who studied law earlier in the years—when we studied, there was no curriculum on environmental law. But as we speak now, there's a lot of matters that appear in court that judges have to deal with. So we then approached a certain donor to work with us to establish a network on trying to integrate environmental law in the African judicial institutes. Through that event, in 2019, we launched a network on what we call African Judicial Education Network on Environmental Law, and this particular network is being supported by our institute, where we serve as a secretariat, but also the other areas, like trafficking in persons. Trafficking is a serious problem in Africa. We have worked with a few institutes in Africa and we are working on having a formal network just focusing on trafficking in persons. And the other area is illegal wildlife trade. We have also spearheaded a network on illegal wildlife trade and that will be formalized soon. So we are really working very closely with some of the other JTIs in Africa. Thank you, Justice.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:22:02] Now, something I'm certainly interested in as we start our organization here in Canada—can you tell me how SAJEI and the judges in South Africa and you worked together to organize the conference? I guess it'll be two years ago now, three years till our next one?

Dr. Gomolemo Mshoeu: [00:22:23] Yes. Well, after we received that request through Mr. Jeff Apperson to host the event in South Africa, we then, as the SAJEI, approached the Chief Justice as the chairperson of our council. And that will be—unfortunately now, he is our former Chief Justice, he has just retired a month ago. That Chief Justice then set up a local organizing committee, which was chaired by the Deputy Chief Justice. But as you know, it's all over the news, our Deputy Chief Justice, in the last three years, has been focusing on the Commission on Corrupt Activities. What the Deputy Chief Justice did is he then delegated our esteemed judge from the Constitutional Court, Justice Khampepe, to chair the local organizing committee. That committee played a very critical role. They also proposed topics for the conference and they asked us, SAJEI, as the institute, when time came for the delegates to travel, those who needed visa letters—we did organize those visa letters. We also extend invitations to our African judicial training institutes. And as you know, we are financially deprived on this continent. So as SAJEI, we then contacted the donors to assist them to attend the conference and indeed, were successful in doing that. Also, SAJEI—in order for us to have maximum participation of the judges in our country, we had to cancel some of our judicial education seminars. As a result, we managed to register 80 judges to be part of the IOJT conference. And I need to say that—I need to thank the support and the leadership of Dr. McQueen and Mr. Jeff Apperson to SAJEI. We went through tough times, I must say, it was not an easy task. But we all weathered the storms. SAJEI will be ever thankful because we think in our—we think that we have made history on the continent to host the IOJT conference. Thank you, over to you.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:24:36] Thank you. And my last question, Dr. G., what would you say the legacy was for the judges in South Africa, perhaps wider, of being at the conference in Cape Town?

Dr. Gomolemo Mshoeu: [00:24:53] I have to say that there was little known about IOJT on the continent and the judges in South Africa. And just by having that conference in South Africa, in Cape Town, that enhanced the awareness of IOJT and, with specific reference to IOJT principles on judicial education, IOJT as an organization, and the meaningful impact that IOJT has around the world. And also, it assisted—we have seen, since the conference, there's enhanced commitment from the members of the judiciary for continuing judicial education. We continuously receive different topics from the judges on which they feel that there has to be further training, which we didn't—it was not there before 2019. And also, there is that enhanced involvement on continuing judicial education by members of the judiciary, as well as contribution to our current SAJEI publications, which are in the newsletters [accessible in the news section on the SAJEI website]. And there is also—the benefit to SAJEI—this wide international network that we are benefiting from because of the contacts that we made at the conference in Cape Town. And for that, we are ever thankful to IOJT. Thanks, over to you, Justice.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:26:19] Well, thank you very much, Dr. G. And now I'm going to put in a shameless plug for the seminars that you are organizing to celebrate your 10th anniversary. And next March, Leonel Gonzalez, a board member of IOJT, who I believe is on the call with CEJA, in South America, and I are organizing a webinar with CEJA on two of the 10 principals of IOJT in terms of judicial education. So, as I say, that was a shameless plug. And if you want to get in touch with Dr. G. about dates and times for that seminar, please do. So I want to move, now, to an explanation. You've seen the structure of IOJT, you've heard a bit about how these conferences have been put on in previous years, and so now I'd like to look to the future and IOJT 2022. I have a short PowerPoint that I want to share with you, and it will be on our website shortly. In that regard, our website, I'm pretty sure we're going to be able to launch an updated website today. It's iojt2022.org, but don't go on quite yet because I'm not sure whether the button has actually been pushed. You'll go to a rather simple website that has been a holding place for the last couple of years. But as I say, the website is iojt2022.org. You'll see bits and pieces of it are under construction, but that's because the conference is under construction and it will be built in the coming weeks as we move forward.

[00:28:17] So, I'd like to start by explaining how we have organized the conference. So we have created a steering committee. We are very fortunate that Chief Justice Richard Wagner, the Chief Justice of our Supreme Court, is the honorary chair. Chief Justice Wagner is a wonderful supporter of the NJI. He is the chair of our Board of Governors. He is very, very keen on reaching out internationally in all manner. He will be opening the conference on the first morning and also will be available at some of the more casual events. So we're very pleased that the Chief Justice was agreeable to leading the organization. I, as I've said, am president and chair; my colleague, Danielle May-Cuconato, is vice-chair; and of course, Mary, as Secretary-General of IOJT, is on our steering committee. But here's the rest of our steering committee. I won't read out names to you. Some of you on the call might recognize a name here or there, but perhaps if you look at titles and organizations, you'll see that we have a broad steering committee of judges, members of the academy, community members. And so we hope that with that breadth in our steering committee, we will hit the mark in terms of how this conference proceeds. So with the next slide, I will just very briefly mention our subcommittees, because again, there's lots to do and many organizations. Program Content and Design, and this is kind of the guts of any organization or any conference in terms of how it's organized, and I'll talk a little bit more about that in a moment. Ottawa Outreach—we hope that there will be an opportunity for delegates to meet, not always at the conference site, but perhaps at locations like the University of Ottawa, some of the judicially related organizations that are based in Ottawa because, of course, Ottawa is the capital of the country, so that there is a broad understanding and look at judicial organization in Canada. Of course, digital resources. This takes on two aspects. Not only do we want to ensure that as much of our conference is paperless, but also to the extent—and I hope it's minimal—but to the extent that COVID may prevent some access to the conference in person, of course, we will be ensuring that that is addressed as well. IOJT always asks the host organization to have some portion of its closing dinner, cultural. We are in Canada, a very diverse country. We have a deep history, some of it with great accomplishment, some

of it as a result of great sorrow. So we hope to provide a cultural event that reflects all of Canada. And, of course, we will have a health and safety committee; health, obvious reasons, and also safety, because that's an important aspect as well.

[00:32:08] So let me go on to the theme, and you heard it mentioned by both President Rivlin and by the Secretary-General, Mary. I wanted to just talk about it a little because it's an important theme. It is one close to my heart, to the heart of everyone at the National Judicial Institute, certainly one that is important to Canadians. And I think it would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the contribution of the Government of Canada. About two years ago, right, Danielle? I think, when the government—obviously, to put on a conference, you need a little bit of seed money to ensure that you're able to hold the conference, and it's important to acknowledge the work of the Canadian government, and they, too, were supportive of the theme, *Understanding Vulnerable Populations*. So the objectives of the conference: we want to share tools and knowledge to institutions so we can all take those tools, that information, back to our judges. This includes good pedagogy. I think we all know, who are part of judicial institutions. It's not difficult, necessarily, for someone to explain a new section of a piece of legislation or a new case that comes from your Supreme Court. But getting judges to understand the skills of being a good judge, how to communicate, how to explain, how to ensure respect in their courtrooms—that's truly a skill, and teaching that itself is a skill. And, of course, teaching judges to understand the context of all the people who come into their courtroom; again, ensuring that they are dealt with fairly and respectfully is a skill in judicial training. So, what the pedagogical tools are. Institutional strengthening; we have members from countries who are economically very fortunate, but other countries who are not, and to support institutional strengthening and sharing of information is always important. So, as I said, all of these kinds of general topics are all in the context of ensuring that everyone coming into the courtroom—a settlement room, if you're in a jurisdiction where part of the judicial role is to encourage settlement, you don't do that necessarily in a courtroom, but it takes skills, and those skills need to be taught. There are other judicial processes that I'm not even sure I know about, but are all part of the judicial toolbox in doing our job. And so, the objectives of the conference are to talk about those venues, those areas of the judicial job and to ensure that everyone coming into the courtrooms are treated with impartiality. So the theme, *Understanding Vulnerable Populations*, is a broad theme, and I'm going to talk to you a little bit more in depth about some of what those specifics might be. But it's all in the context of how judicial training institutes do their work to provide judges with the skills they need. So, if we can move on to the next slide, please. We've had one meeting of the subcommittee program, content and design, and it was a wonderful meeting, but I decided that the conference, after all of the ideas we had, would probably have to be two or three weeks long, not just five days, because all of these topics are so important.

[00:36:09] And let me just talk about a couple. I have been fortunate to work with the OSCE in the last year and a half. They have a major project on human trafficking, and we are working now on a judicial toolkit, and that will be one of the themes of the conference in terms of human trafficking and what that judicial toolkit looks like. Obviously, there are so many issues that have come out of the pandemic

in terms of balancing the rights of citizens with the imperatives of a health emergency; rights of the child, dear to my heart; hearing the voices of others, so all of the vulnerable people who you may not be able to identify but come into our courtrooms and to ensure that they are looked after. We are a multi-jurisdiction in Canada, and how you balance the training of judges when it is either bijural or multijural is an issue, and so on. So that list is some of the specific issues around vulnerability that will likely be on the agenda. As I say, there will be a specific skill in designing the agenda to address all of these.

[00:37:42] And I skipped over one I did want to mention, and I think it's important to mention—it came up in our meeting—and that's vulnerable judges. And if judges aren't safe, if they aren't secure, if they aren't supported, it is harder for them to do their job. How do you train judges who may be in situations of vulnerability, and how do we, as institutions, support judges who may be in jurisdictions where they are very vulnerable? So, if we can move on to the next slide, please, the last slide was talking about the conference themes and the kinds of specific topics that might be addressed. This just gives you the kinds of IOJT topics that are always on our agenda, and it will be a matter of weaving them together with the topics on the previous slide. So, those of you who haven't seen the IOJT principles of judicial training know that number one is that judicial training must be judge-led to ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. But we don't have all the answers, we can't do all the teaching. So one of the skills that judicial institutes need to work on is how the judiciary, as the leaders, work with academics who do have answers. How do we work with the community? How do we ensure that we invite in members of the community, whether it would be on matters of domestic violence or in countries like Canada, our Indigenous community, or communities of people who have recently arrived and have come into your country? How do you engage with them to ensure that it becomes part of the judicial education? Again, it's a skill.

[00:39:47] The role of judicial leaders in strengthening judicial training institutes. So, training institutes don't run by themselves. There is a need for leaders in institutes to engage with the executive branch of government. A need to engage with communities and with the judiciary itself. So, how does that all fit together and how does that build a strong institution and strong training for the judges? The last two I might not have had on my list if it hadn't been for the last two years and the pandemic. I think we've all learned a lot about distant learning. We've learned a lot about technology in the last two years as we've tried to remain connected with our judges, with the community, online, as we can't travel. But there's a lot of good that we've learned and a lot that is not so useful—so how judicial training institutes can keep in touch with judges, whether they're in a small country but without a lot of resources, or a big country, like Canada, that has more resources but is geographically very challenging in terms of bringing judges together in person. So those topics, as I say, will frame the discussions that we deal with in terms of addressing the needs of vulnerable populations.

[00:41:20] That is all I wanted to say about organization and where we've been so far. I next wanted to show you a couple of screenshots of our website. Here's the first one. I thought I'd make you all dizzy if I got the website up and then scrolled down. So these are just a couple of screenshots that go to things that I wanted to say to you and inform you of, and you'll see here that we will be calling for presentations and roundtable topics. So at IOJT conferences, sometimes there are panel presentations that will be organized by theme. And certainly, we'll be calling for presentations because we will have some of those panels, either in plenary or in smaller groups. But as I discussed with some of you, who I know are on this call, in Cape Town, I would hope that we would have some roundtable discussions where everyone at the conference can participate, in terms of building tools and information kits and so on, on specific topics. So one I use that I hope comes to pass is how do we work with the community and with the academy in doing our judicial training? And that would be a roundtable so that everybody would share, as opposed to just two or three people or four people presenting their ideas. So soon, not today, but soon, you'll be able to click and we will invite ideas for presentations and roundtable topics.

[00:43:09] Then it will be a job of the organizing committee to sift through all of that and draw up the agenda. So that's one—as I say, don't do it today because it'll take you nowhere, we're just building it. We will, for IOJT members, be sending you out periodic announcements as to when certain things are available, like our call for presentation and roundtables and so on. So the next slide is the program. And again, you'll see this today, it's just a placeholder because it's, I think, obvious from what I've been saying that we haven't built the program, but please check back here periodically as we build the program for you. Registration is not open today, but I know something that we're going to be working on in the next couple of weeks is the registration form, and we will inform you again by way of email when registration is open for you to access it. So, that's all I wanted to say. I'll ask our technicians to take down the PowerPoint now. So we're back on screen and I am here, but I'm here as moderator. Maybe I can answer questions, but we have others with me in the room. I know President Rivlin, Mary McQueen are on to take questions. So if you have questions about anything you've heard this morning, I would invite those now. I see we have nothing in [the] chat. Any comments?

Mary McQueen: [00:44:54] I think Amady has his name up.

Judge Amady Ba: [00:44:56] Yes.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:44:57] Good morning, Amady. I suppose I should say good afternoon.

Judge Amady Ba: [00:45:01] It's the afternoon in the Hague, and I wanted to thank you for inviting me to this meeting. It's very important and very interesting. First of all, as usual, I apologize for my English. I'm a francophone speaker. I am very welcoming this meeting at this stage of the organization of the next event in Canada. I welcome the program, welcome everything. I just wanted to make two comments about judicial training in Africa. Africa—when you talk about judicial training in Africa—I'm talking on my behalf, on my status as vice-president for Africa and Middle East—we are talking

about Africas. We have not—we have different, according to the system, civil law or common law or Arabic law. The organization of the training, the content of the training, even if the method could be the same, are totally different. And I'm not sure Africa, African or State Judicial Center did not know IOJT. Now, they know. If you see the list of the creator, we were accompanied by Organisation de la Francophonie, and a lot of African francophone judicial systems are members of IOJT. My colleague from South Africa, it's normal, did not know the history and the background, if you see the list of how many schools and judicial centers are members of IOJT.

[00:47:01] The problem is—first, is a pandemic; some financial issues. But the African training in francophone countries, in a lot of countries, even in Middle East, are very dynamic, and I will be very happy to share with you what we did in this last year despite the pandemic. It will be another session. I will be happy to share what we did. This is first. Second, and I will be very happy to see the steering committee putting vulnerable people who are victims of massive crime. It's not because I'm working on ICC, since all, of course, we are trying to tackle this kind of massive crime. Each victim, from kids, children, women, and the manner these crimes are committed target some vulnerable people. And I will be very happy to share what we are doing here, trying to bring a judicial system to take the responsibility because the court is a court of second resort. We are working for them to strengthen them, to be able to investigate and prosecute themselves, following workshops around the world, but also to give them competencies and the national system for them to be able to implement complementarity. It means, you take your responsibility to investigate first these crimes and prosecute them.

[00:48:48] It's only when there is a lack of willingness or lack of capacity that the courts step in as a second resort. This is very important because the world is a world of crisis and we have big countries and small countries fighting all day. I am a member of my school, I had in the past, which was a francophone school, also galvanizing all francophone countries until now, there are 40 countries working together to train the judges at the initial training and continuous training. I respect the South African example, a great country, a great school. We have now 25 years of experience we are sharing around the world, it's good to take, also, Western African, Senegalese schools as among the leaders. Now what are we doing? Just, I conclude. We train, in these countries, what are the crimes, how to investigate them, how to prosecute them, how the court to be out of the international system to do the job, we have realized that at the national system judges, prosecutors, investigation judges in Africa, are not trained in international humanitarian law. It means, at the school, I'm working with La Francophonie to disseminate an initial training at the School of Judges, the curriculum on international justice. Because the more you focus at the early stage, to train judges at the early stage, when they are at school. I'm not talking about the Anglo-Saxon law system, I'm talking about francophone system. When judges are recruited from the university after their masters, train in a school where I—like the one I manage—two years, doing internships in court and doing judicial training, do an exam and in the beginning are interns in the court and become judges after a few

years. It is this system I'm talking about. We need to have curriculum on tools on international justice for them to be able to not need the court, the ICC. It's my target now, and I would like, really, if you have a window of opportunity, at the Canada conference, take this and share the experience we have on it. This is my comment, first of all, African training is not one. There are 'Africas' in terms of training because of the judicial system, which are not the same. Thank you.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:51:49] Thank you for that, and I hope we do have many members from La Francophonie who attend our conference in Ottawa. Mary.

Mary McQueen: [00:52:00] Yes. As we're moving forward, I know that as far as this last 18 to 24 months, the use of virtual technology has become not only a tool for training, but also a tool for providing justice. And if we're talking about vulnerable people, I just hoped that Danielle or one of the members of the steering committee could make a note. One of the issues we're dealing with in the US, it's called the digital divide. And those people who are relying on receiving access to justice, whether it is a judge holding a 30-minute hearing for someone to check in who may be on probation, we need to make sure that there are ways of providing those people who don't have as much access to software or hardware, and I think a lot of us have some experience with that. I would definitely—but as you were saying, Adèle, when you're talking about the community, what we've found is corporate organizations, large and small, are more than willing to step up and help with that, whether it's providing tablets for someone to go to a local library if they don't have internet connection at home, or providing free minutes to people to use if they do have a smartphone. So I don't want to go into a lot of depth. I just, guess I wanted to get to that topic, because it does create a vulnerable gap, the justice gap, as we move to embrace some of the lessons learned from virtual proceedings. Thank you.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:53:55] Thanks, Mary. Yes, Dr. G.

Dr. Gomolemo Moshoeu: [00:53:58] I just wanted to ask whether, in Canada next year, is not an opportunity where we need to get feedback from several countries in terms of their experience on moving from in-person training to virtual training, as well as those that—just linking it up with what Dr. McQueen said—about access to justice using virtual technology. Maybe—I saw one of the topics is about using technology to enhance training. Maybe we could have something along those lines. But also just to—what Dr. Amady said about the different systems in Africa. In our network, which is under environmental law, we managed to have anglophone, francophone, and lusophone countries in Mozambique, where we launched a framework for judicial training on environmental law. I think it's time that we need to be communicating with Mr. Amady to see how we can recruit, because there are countries from the Francophonie that are part of our network, but I can't remember Senegal being part of that, so that we can be able to try to strengthen our network in Africa. Thank you very much.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:55:38] Thank you. Dr. G. I understand Leonel Gonzalez, another one of our regional vice presidents, wants to speak. Good morning, Leonel.

Leonel Gonzalez: [00:55:49] Good morning, Justice Kent, Justice Crabtree, Danielle May-Cuconato, my dear friend, Jeff Apperson, there in Ottawa, and our president, Eliezer Rivlin, our Secretary-General, the representative of the embassy of my country, Argentina, in Canada, and all of the colleagues that are sharing this event with us. As the Deputy President for South America, I am really pleased to know that we are getting closer to the next IOJT conference, and I would like to congratulate the NJI and the IOJT after these difficult times we had in the last two years. I would like to center my comments on the Declaration of Judicial Training Principles that we drafted at the General Assembly of the IOJT, adopted in 2017 in the conference realized in Manila. As it is said in its preamble, the Declaration sets out guiding principles for judicial training that try to reflect how the IOJT members conceptualize and strive to implement judicial training. So based on this declaration, we understood, with Justice Kent, that it was necessary to follow up that work. We started with the drafting committee, in which Amady and other colleagues were part of it, and to follow up the way the principles were used, or not, in the day-to-day practice of the institutions responsible for judicial training. That's why, since the end of the last year, we are organizing a project entitled "Judicial Training in Times of Crisis", recognizing the challenges created by the pandemic.

[00:57:51] The intention of this project is to concentrate on one principle, in particular principle number 10, which states that judicial training should reflect the best practices in professional and adult training program design, and that it should employ a wide range of up-to-date methodologies. Over the last months, the IOJT emailed a copy of a questionnaire, a short questionnaire, in which the institution's members of the IOJT would be able to share their own experiences concerning the methodologies they employed to develop the training programs in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. So, I am of the opinion, and this is my comment, looking for the conference in Ottawa, that the next conference would be an excellent opportunity to maybe present the results of this questionnaire, of this survey, and also encourage a discussion about these five years since the improvements of the principles in 2017 in Manila. So just thinking aloud and taking what Justice Kent has just presented, I believe it could be organized—a workshop or a session or a round table—I am just thinking with you for this purpose, to maintain and enrich the debate around this declaration. So that will be my comment. And again, thank you and congratulations for this event.

Justice Adèle Kent: [00:59:46] Thank you, Leonel. I see that there are no other comments. I'm just going to take a breath and be quiet for a moment and see if anyone wants to say something. Alright, hearing nothing, and I see nothing and no hands raised, right?

Waleed Malik: [01:00:08] Judge Adèle, this is Waleed Malik from the World Bank who wanted to come in.

Justice Adèle Kent: [01:00:11] Yes. Good morning, Waleed. Nice to hear you.

Waleed Malik: [01:00:15] Thank you so much. Thank you so much. First of all, congratulations on moving the judicial training agenda forward globally. Major appreciation. Given all the challenges posed by the pandemic, I think moving forward is the right way to go, so, really happy that you're taking the lead and shaping the way forward. So that's very important. The second aspect we wanted to share with you, we would be more than happy to bring any of the World Bank project experiences for any of the sessions that you would like to develop. And we would encourage the organizers to really plan a few, let's say, planning webinars right through the next 12 to 14 months of preparation of this event, because that will help not only sharpen the agenda, but also build momentum for people to either travel, physically or virtually connect. And I think that would be very important, particularly on the francophone side or lusophone side, or globally otherwise. We would be happy to contribute as needed. And I look forward to this very important topic of vulnerable populations or citizens or those who want to access the justice system. And raising this skillset along those lines would be of high priority, and we thank you for the invitation to join today. Thank you so much.

Justice Adèle Kent: [01:01:51] Thank you, Waleed. And I'll just pick up on that. About almost two years ago, when we all realized that we were going to be having to work virtually, we didn't know for how long—it's been perhaps longer than all of us had hoped. I had big plans to try and have some webinars, IOJT related, over the past while. As some of you will know, we did have one on new judge training with our colleagues from the United Kingdom, explaining the strategies that they were using moving online to train their new judges. Events took over. As the CJO, at the time, of the NJI, we were very busy working with our judges domestically. Now, as a retired judge and CJO emerita, I hope—Waleed, and I think Amady mentioned the same thing—I hope that we organize, over the next few months, some meetings virtually as part of the lead-up to the in-person program next November. So thank you, Waleed, and to Amady for those suggestions, and I will take them to heart. I want to thank everyone for attending this webinar. Remember, iojt2022.org will be live today, and keep checking back as we build it as the conference plans. I want to thank my colleagues here in Ottawa. A huge thank you to the NJI team who put this all together, both in the room and, I know, back at our virtual office. So thanks to all of you for getting this organized and making it work so seamlessly, and watch your emails. We will continue to update you about the in-person conference and events leading up to it. So, have a good rest of your day or your evening. Everybody, stay well, and we'll talk soon. Thank you.