



2023 JUDICIAL COLLOQUIUM

JUDICIAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND PUBLIC INTERESTS AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION FROM CHEMICALS AND WASTES

3-4 April 2023

Geneva | Palais des Nations | SALLE XVIII

PROGRAMME

Chair of the Judicial Colloquium: Mr. Luc Lavrysen, Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Justice, President of the European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment and President of the Constitutional Court of Belgium

MONDAY, 3 APRIL 2023
10:00 – 13:00 and 15:00 – 18:00

I. INAUGURAL SESSION

Welcoming remarks:

- Mr. Marco Keiner, Director, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- Mr. Arnold Kreilhuber, Deputy Director, Law Division, United Nations Environment Programme
- Mr. Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary, the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- Mr. Antonio Benjamin, President, Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and Judge, the National High Court of Brazil (video-message)

10:00 – 13:00

II. SETTING THE SCENE: DEVELOPMENTS IN SCIENCE, POLICY AND LAW

The session will focus on recent developments in science, policy and law that could support effective adjudication of cases related to chemicals and wastes in the light of the requirements of the Aarhus Convention and other relevant international law.

- Mr. Alen Mocilnikar, Registrar, Board of Appeal, European Chemicals Agency
Ms. Marijke Schurmans, Member, Board of Appeal, European Chemicals Agency
- Ms. Lesley Onyon, Head, Chemical Safety and Health Unit, World Health Organization

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Susan Wingfield, Programme Management Officer, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention Secretariat Ms. Lara Ognibene, Legal Officer, Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
13:00 – 15:00	BREAK FOR LUNCH
	III. LESSONS LEARNED FROM CASE LAW
15:00 – 16:00	<p>The session will focus on trends, experience and lessons learned in adjudication of cases protecting human rights and public interests against environmental pollution by chemicals and wastes.</p> <p>III (a) Perspectives from supranational courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Natalia Kobylarz, Senior Lawyer, Registry, European Court of Human Rights Mr. Christoph Sobotta, Legal Secretary, Court of Justice of the European Union
16:00-18:00	<p>III (b) National case studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Robert Bilott, Partner, Taft, honoured by the Right Livelihood Award 2017 (online) Mr. Peter Provoost, First Auditor and Head of Department, Council of State, Belgium Ms. Ganna Vronska, Judge, Supreme Court, Ukraine <p>Wrap up of day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. David Boyd, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment (online)

TUESDAY, 4 APRIL 2022
10:00 – 13:00

III. LESSONS LEARNED FROM CASE LAW

10:00 – 11:00

III (b) National case studies *(continued)*

- Mr. Sina Darjel, Judge, Supreme Court, Albania
- Ms. Ksenija Dimec, Judge, European Forum of Judges for the Environment (online)

IV. PERSPECTIVES ON EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

11:00 – 12:45

Based on the discussion on the preceding items, the participants will share the perspectives on future trends in access to justice, in particular regarding effective remedies, and discuss the ways to strengthen capacity-building for judiciary and other independent review bodies.

- Mr. Foteh Quvvatzoda, Judge, Constitutional Court, Tajikistan
- Mr. Richard Humphreys, Judge, High Court, Ireland
- Ms. Marija Milakovic, Head of Department, Judicial Academy, Serbia
- Ms. Ainura Bekkoenova, Policy Specialist, UNDP Regional Hub for Europe and Central Asia
- Mr. Antonio Benjamin, President, Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and Judge, the National High Court of Brazil

V. CLOSING: KEY OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS

12:45 – 13:00

Speaker

- Mr. Luc Lavrysen, Chair of the Judicial Colloquium

Further Information:

<https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/2023-judicial-colloquium>

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