

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**TSELISO SCHELESENGER THIPANYANE**

## **Personal Data**

**DATE OF BIRTH:**

**SEX:** Male

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married

**DEPENDANTS:**

**DRIVER'S LICENSE:** Code

**NATIONALITY:** South African

**HOME LANGUAGES:** Sesotho

**OTHER LANGUAGES:** English and isiZulu

**Physical Address:**

**ID number:**

**Cell phone number:**

## **Professional Experience**

**2023 May 2023 to date**

**Chief Director for coordination and head of legal services in the Office of the Secretary General of the Chief Justice**

Contracted to assist the Office of the Secretary General in providing administrative support to the South African judiciary and the Office of the Chief Justice (contract appointment). Also managing the legal services division reporting to the Secretary General.

**2023 February - 2023 April**

Contracted by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development from February 2023 to April 2023 to assist in the planning and holding the National Conference on the Constitution: Reflections and the Road Ahead. Held on 22-24 March 2023.

**2022 (June) to date**

**Chairperson: Southern African Institute for Responsive and Accountable Governance (SAIRAG)**

The Southern African Institute for Responsive and Accountable Governance (SAIRAG) is a non-profit company registered in South Africa and focusing on good governance of public and private bodies in the Southern African region. One of its key activities is the effective protection and support for whistle blowers in South Africa.

**2017- 2022**

**South African Human Rights Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa**

**Chief Executive Officer: 1 June 2017 – 31 May 2022 (Level 16: DirectorGeneral equivalent)**

The South African Human Rights Commission is a constitutional body established to strengthen constitutional democracy through the promotion and protection of human rights in South Africa. Its constitutional mandate is to promote respect for human rights and a culture of human rights; promote the protection, development, and attainment of human rights; and monitor and assess the observance of human rights in South Africa.

**2015 - 2017**

**Safer South Africa Foundation, Pretoria, South Africa**

**Chief Executive Officer: 20 January 2015 – May 2017**

The Safer South Africa Foundation exists to mobilise under-resourced communities to build awareness and ability to work together in the 'fight against crime'. The Foundation fosters a better understanding of community safety issues and to improve relationships between communities and the law enforcement agencies. In addition to its work with communities, the Foundation seeks to actively

contribute to the national discourse on crime and community safety issues through research and advocacy campaigns.

### **2010 - 2014: Independent Consultant on Human Rights and Good Governance (US-New York)**

Independent Consultant on Human Rights, Democracy and Good Governance and an adjunct lecturer in law, Columbia University School of Law, offering a seminar course on African Human Rights Systems from a Comparative Perspective since January 2012, and an adjunct lecturer on African Politics and Human Rights at Ramapo College of New Jersey with effect from January 2014.

#### **Consultancies**

- Capacity Assessment of the Rights of the Child Commission, the Women and Gender Equality Commission, and the Indigenous Peoples' Commission of Guyana. Commissioned by the UNDP (Guyana): November 2012 - April 2013.
- Review of the implementation of recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review Process in East and Southern Africa. Commissioned by the United Nations Regional Service Centre (Johannesburg): September - November 2011.
- Background research and presentation on 'International Comparative Perspectives on Developments Pertaining to Multiple or Single National Human Rights Institutions per Country.' Commissioned by the Kenya National Human Rights and Equality Commission: 1 July 2011.

#### **Guest Lecturing, Speaking and Writing Engagements**

- International School for Transparency: Open Governance Leadership Program, Stockholm, Sweden 9-12 June 2013.
- Africa Institute of South Africa, Pretoria, 10 October 2011. Lecture on 'South Africa's Foreign Policy in the Zuma Government'.
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) Board, New York, 26 June 2011. Presentation on combating xenophobic violence in South Africa.
- Guest speaker, Columbia Law School, February, and April 2011: Role of African National Human Rights Institutions and the African Human Rights System (2 presentations)
- Guest Lecturer, Seton Hall Law School (US), March 2011: International Criminal Law, Truth Commissions, and the African Human Rights System (2 lectures)

- Guest speaker, Bard College (US), November 2010: Human Rights Developments in South Africa
- Adjunct Senior Fellow, International School for Transparency, University of Cape Town October 2010: Obstacles to the effective realisation of the right of access to information
- Guest Lecturer, Centre for Global Affairs, New York University, April 2010: Human Rights Developments in South Africa (1 lecture)
- Feature writer on human rights, democracy and good governance issues in the African continent for Afrobeatradio.net at <http://afrobeatradio.net> and a columnist for SEADiaspora (a blog on African Affairs) at [www.SEADiaspora.com](http://www.SEADiaspora.com)
- Producer on African human rights issues for AfrobeatRadio program broadcasting at WBAI FM 99.5 (New York): [www.afrobeatradio.com](http://www.afrobeatradio.com)

## **2006 - 2009**

### **South African Human Rights Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa**

Chief Executive Officer (Deputy Director - General equivalent in South Africa's Public Service) [1 May 2006 to December 2009]

Managed the development and implementation of policies and strategic plans of the Commission. Had overall responsibility for financial and human resources as the accounting officer and ensured good and clean audits from the Office of the Auditor-General. Contributed to turning the organisation into a leading national human rights institution in the country.

Represented the Commission on its work and submissions on legislation in various committees of the South African Parliament. Participated in national and international forums and presented papers on behalf of the Commission. Served as a spokesperson of the Commission. Lectured on national security and human rights at the South African Defence Force College (2004 to 2009).

## **2005 – 2006**

### **South African Human Rights Commission**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Chief Director equivalent) - 6 June 2005 to April 2006

Managed national operational programmes (Legal Services, Research and Education and Training) and the eight provincial offices of the Commission. Facilitated better integration between provincial offices and the national office of the Commission and co-chaired the planning committee for the tenth anniversary

celebration of the Commission on 30 September 2005. Served as the acting Chief Executive Officer from 14 November 2005 until formal appointment as the CEO on 1 May 2006

#### **2005 - 2005**

##### **South African Human Rights Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa**

Executive Director of the Secretariat of African National Human Rights Institutions (Chief Director Level) - 14 April 2005 to June 2005.

Managed the Secretariat and implemented resolutions of the Executive Committee

#### **2004 - 2005**

##### **Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Commission), Johannesburg, South Africa**

Corporate Affairs Officer (Chief Director Level) - August 2004 to April 2005

Managed the operational business of the Commission and provided administrative support and legal services to the various committees of the Commission. Also organized and managed the first National Consultative Conference of the Commission held in Durban from 28 November to 3 December

2004 attended by over 500 delegates. Drafted the Commission's first complaints handling procedures.

#### **1996 - 2004**

##### **South African Human Rights Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa**

Head of the Research and Documentation (Director Level) - July 1996 to July 2004

Conducted research on human rights issues for the Commission and established and maintained a human rights library and documentation unit. Managed the Commission's mandate to monitor and assess the realisation of socio-economic, equality and access to information rights and contributed to the development of the Commission's economic and social rights protocols (monitoring tool)

Drafted the Commission's first report on Human Rights Developments in South Africa – report used as a background report for the first Commission's conference on human rights in May 1997. Drafted the framework document for the National

Action Plan for Human Rights approved by Mandela's Cabinet in April 1998 and later served as a member of the team that drafted the first South African National Action Plan for Human Rights submitted to the UN on 10 December 1998

Represented the Commission in the 1998 Non-Aligned Movement Summit preparations and in the team that drafted human rights resolutions for the Summit's Declaration

Part of the team that drafted the Durban Declaration adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of African National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held in Durban 1- 3 July 1998

Co-ordinated the process to produce the first Commission's report on socioeconomic rights submitted to the South African Parliament in March 1999, followed by subsequent reports in 2000, 2001 and 2003.

Organised and raised funds for the Commission's international conference on Food Security and Nutrition as Human Rights held in March 1999.

Chief co-ordinator of the team that organised the first African Human Rights Day celebration in South Africa on 21 October 1999. The team consisted of representatives from the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, the Independent Electoral Commission, and the OHCHR.

Conceptualised and co-ordinated a research project on indigenous peoples' rights conducted by the Commission on behalf of the Department of Provincial and Local Government in 2000.

Member of the Steering Committee that organised the first South African National Conference on Racism held in Johannesburg from 30 August - 2 September 2000 and member of the drafting team that drafted the South African Millennium Statement on Racism adopted by the Conference.

Co-ordinated the colloquia held during the UN World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban between August and September 2001.

Served as the Deputy Information Officer of the Commission in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act.

Drafted several human rights and policy papers for the Commission in areas such as economic and social rights, child rights and the role of national human rights institutions.

**1994 -1996**

**University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa**

Law Lecturer (Public Law and Criminal Procedure) - October 1994 to June 1996

Review and reform of the South African Judiciary at the Magistrate level (lower tier of the judiciary). The co-authored report, 'Administration of Justice in South Africa: Magistrates and their Courts (Commissioned by the Community Peace Foundation,) November 1994 was presented to the first Minister of Justice in post-apartheid South Africa

Conducted part-time research work for the National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research from December 1995 to June 1996

**1990-1994**

**Centre for Criminal Justice, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa**

Research Fellow - September 1990 to September 1994

Conducted research on the South African criminal justice system in an endeavour to contribute towards the formulation of a new criminal justice system for the post-apartheid South Africa founded on the protection and promotion of human rights. Organised and conducted training workshops on community policy. Served as the acting director of the Centre from July to September 1994

**1989-1990**

**Lesotho Government, Minister of Justice, Maseru, Lesotho**

Registrar of Deeds, Patents, and trademarks - August 1989 to August 1990

Registration of patents, trademarks, and industrial designs

Designed and produced the first Lesotho Industrial Property Journal and drafted amendments to the Lesotho Industrial Property Act.

**Education and Training**

**Higher Education**

- 2018 University of Johannesburg  
LL.M (Corporate Law): Awarded the Spoor and Fischer Prize for the best results in a dissertation in the Faculty of Law in 2017
- 1997 University of the Western Cape, Cape Town  
South Africa:  
LL.M (International human rights, Constitutional law, Criminal Justice and Administrative law - the human rights course taken at the University of Cape Town)
- 1989 National University of Lesotho, Roma, Lesotho:  
LL. B (Bachelor of Laws – postgraduate qualification and top graduating student)
- 1986 National University of Lesotho, Roma, Lesotho:  
B. Sc. (Bachelor of Science - Biology and Chemistry Majors)

### **SPECIAL COURSES**

- 2022 Nyukela Public Service SMS Pre-Entry Certificate
- 2020 Gauteng Society of Advocates: Practical Vocational Program (Pupillage)
- 2007 Regenesys Management, Johannesburg, South Africa:  
Certificate on Corporate Governance and Strategic Planning (30 October-02 November 2007)
- 2002 UNDP and Teleos Leadership Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa:  
Certificate on HIV/AIDS Leadership for Results (June/July 2002)
- 2000 Commonwealth Secretariat, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Training Programme on Management for Constitutional Oversight Organisations (3-7 April 2000)



- 1999 South African Management Institute, Pretoria,  
South Africa  
Project Management (10-11 November 1999)
- 1999 International Institute of Public Administration, Paris,  
France: Certificate on the Protection of Human Rights  
(25 January-12 February 1999)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles:

1. A comment on Goldstone Commission report: *South African Journal of Criminal Justice*, Vol. 4 March 1991.
2. A book review: Towards Justice: Crime and state control in South Africa: *South African Journal of Criminal Justice*, Vol. 4 March 1991.
3. A comment on the Arms Ammunition Act and the presumption of *doli in capax*: *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* Vol. 5 No 1 1992.
4. Case comment - The Trust Feeds case: reflections on policing in South Africa: *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* Vol. 5 No 3 1992.
5. Gun control in South Africa: a critical review (co-authored): *South African Journal of Criminal Justice*, Vol. 6 1993.
6. A National Framework for the Promotion and Protection on the Rights to Food Security and Nutrition: A Case Study by the South African Human Rights Commission: SCN NEWS, Number 18 July 1999 [SCN: United Nations Sub-Committee on Nutrition].
7. The Post-Apartheid South African Experience: Combating Racism [Coauthored] *International Peace Update* Vol. 65 No 4-5 Sept-October 2000 [Published by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom].
8. A Book Review: Human Rights Watch, Protectors or Pretenders? *Government Human Rights Commissions in Africa*: *South African Journal on Human Rights* Vol. 17 Part 3 (2001).
9. The Monitoring of Social and Economic Rights by the South African Human Rights Commission in the Second Decade of the Bill of Rights:

Methodology Review, *Economic and Social Rights Review* (University of the Western Cape), Vol. 8 No 1 May 2007.

10. Challenges facing National Human Rights Institutions: A South African Perspective, *African Legal Aid Quarterly* (AFLA) April-June 2009.
11. South Africa's Foreign Policy under the Zuma Government: A human rights-based policy or a pragmatic policy based on political and economic considerations, Pretoria, South Africa: Africa Institute of South Africa, 2011 [Policy brief, No 64 of December 2011].
12. Strengthening Constitutional Democracy: Progress and Challenges of the South African Human Rights Commission and Public Protector, 60 *NYL. Sch. L. Rev.* 125 (2015-2016).
13. Human Trafficking Around the World: Perspectives from Sub-Saharan Africa, *International Affairs Forum* Vol.7, Issue 2 (2016, Fall).
14. "Concerns and implications of using the K-word. *African Law Review* Vol.2 Issue 1 2019.
15. "The regulation of corporate funding of political parties and activities in South Africa: Towards transparency, accountability, and good corporate governance (co-authored with Prof Kathleen Van der Linde) 2020 *TSAR* (Journal of South African Law) 271-291.

#### **Published Books/Reports:**

1. *Political Violence in Mooi River and Bruntville: The Role of the Criminal Justice System*. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal, 1993.
2. Rachel Adams *et al* (2021). *Human Rights and the Fourth Industrial Revolution in South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press. (Also wrote the Foreword).

#### **Chapter Contribution in Books (Sole Author):**

1. 'Current Claims, Regional Experiences, Pressing Problems: Identification of the Salient Issues and Pressing Problems in an African Post-colonial Perspective,' in George Ulrich and Louise Krabbe Boserup (eds.). *Human Rights in Development Yearbook 2001-Reparations: Redressing Past Wrongs*. The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 2003 pp 35-55.

2. 'Human dignity and democracy: Can socioeconomic rights be realised without human rights?' in Richard Calland and Paul Graham (eds.). *Democracy in the time of Mbeki*. Cape Town: IDASA, 2005, p 211.
3. 'Culture, Religious and Linguistic Rights,' in Nasila Rembe (ed.), *Reflections on Democracy and Human Rights: A Decade of the South African Constitution (Act 108 of 1996)*. South African Human Rights Commission, 2006, pp 173 -190.
4. 'You can't eat the Constitution: Is democracy for the poor?' in Kristina Bentley, Laurie Nathan, and Richard Calland (eds.). *Falls the Shadow: Between the Promise and Reality of South African Constitution*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press, 2013.
5. 'The High Commissioner and National Human Rights Institutions,' in Felice D. Gear and Christen L. Broecker (eds.). *The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Conscience for the World*. Leiden and Boston: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2014.
6. 'Arab Spring: Implications for South Africa and Swaziland' in Sanya Osha (ed.). *The Social Contract in Africa*. Pretoria: Africa Institute of South Africa, 2014.
7. 'Foreign Policy of Major States: South Africa,' in Ajit M. Banerjee (ed.) (2015). *Global Perspectives on Foreign Policy of Major Powers*. Academic Foundation.

**General Contribution in Books (joint contribution):**

1. International Conference on the Rights of the Child: Paper and Reports of a Conference by the Community Law Centre, Cape Town, 1992.
2. Children and Women in South Africa: A Situation Analysis Johannesburg: The United Nations Children's Fund and the National Children's Rights Committee, 1993.
3. L Pollecutt, M Motshekga and A Gardner (eds.) the *Legal Rights of children in South Africa*: National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research, 1995.
4. African European Institute: *Protecting Human Rights after Conflicts: Actors, Methods, and Responsibilities*, 1998.

5. C Petty and M Brown (eds.) *Justice for Children: Save the Children Fund*, 1998.
6. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, *Open Sesame: Looking for the Right to Information in the Commonwealth*. New Delhi: Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, 2003.

**Acknowledgment in books:**

1. Ann Skelton, *Children in Trouble with the Law* Pretoria: Lawyers for Human Rights, 1993.
2. International Council on Human Rights Policy, *Racial and Economic Exclusion: Policy Implications*, 2001.
3. UNDP & Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *UNDPOHCHR Toolkit for Collaboration with National Human Rights Institutions*, New York & Geneva: UNDP & OHCHR, 2010.
4. Ryan Goodman and Thomas Pegrum (eds.), *Human Rights, State Compliance, and Social Change: Assessing National Human Rights Institutions*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

**General Information**

1. Admitted as an advocate of the High Court of Lesotho and of the High Court of South Africa in April 1993 and October 2003 respectively.
2. Appointed as a Fellow of the Salzburg Seminar, Session 359, "Human Rights: An International Legal Perspective," convened in Salzburg, Austria, August 1998.
3. Member of the National Children's Rights Committee's Legal Forum (1993-1996). The forum conducted research on children's issues with the view to ensure effective promotion and protection of children's rights in South Africa and made several submissions on children's rights in both the Interim Constitution and the draft final Constitution. Appointed as chair and convenor of the Legal Forum in January 1996.
4. Member of the National Children's Rights Committee's board (1995 - 1999).

5. Chairperson of the South African National NGO Coalition [Gauteng Province] (June - September 1997).
6. Member of the SA Law Commission's Juvenile Justice Project Committee. Appointed to the Committee by the Minister of Justice in December 1996 to assist in the reform of the South African Juvenile Justice System and drafting of the South African Child Justice legislation (1996-2000).
7. Member of the International Board of Advisors of the Children's Institute of the University of Cape Town (2004 - 2014).
8. Board Member of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (March 2005 - September 2007).
9. Board Member of the Open Democracy Advice Centre (2006 – 2009).
10. Member of the Executive Committee: Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution (2016 to date)
11. Board Member of the Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI) (2017 to 2023)
12. Board Member of the South African Broadcasting Services (SABC) and member of the Governance and Appointments Committee, Human Resources Committee and the Social and Ethics Committee (chair): Nominated as a Board Member of the SABC the National Assembly in December 2022 for a five-year term and appointed by the President in April 2023.

**Study Tours, Conferences and Seminars Attended:**

**International**

1. A 3 - week study tour on prison management and reform in Canada and UK from 19 February - 11 March 1994. Sponsored by SAETF (South African Education Trust Fund) and SAAEP (South African Advanced Education Project).
2. The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2-4 February 1996 (UNICEF).

3. Presented a paper on nutrition and human rights from a South African perspective at the UN Sub-Committee on Nutrition in Geneva, April 1999.
4. Presented a paper on socio-economic rights at a human rights camp in Arusha, Tanzania, in November 1999. Organised by the Human Rights Institute of South Africa
5. Conducted a training workshop on project management and research methodology for the Malawi Human Rights Commission in Lilongwe, Malawi, December 1999.
6. International Encounter on the Right to Food and Nutrition in Oslo, 18 - 21 June 2000.
7. General discussion organised by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on "State Violence against Children". Held in Geneva on 22 September 2000.
8. Presented a paper on regional law and practice relating to children's rights and juvenile justice in a seminar on the Administration of Juvenile Justice organised by the Defence for Children International and the UN office of the High Commissioner for Human rights. Held in Uganda, 23 - 26 October 2000.
9. International seminar on "The Economics of Racism" held in Geneva on 24 - 25 January 2001. Organised by the International Council on Human Rights Policy and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
10. Presented a paper on the South African National Action Plan for Human Rights at a workshop organised by the UNDP in New York on 24 April 2001.
11. Presented a paper on Reparations for Slavery and Colonialism in Africa at a seminar organised by the Danish Centre for Human Rights in Copenhagen on 27 April 2001.
12. Expert Reflections on Pathways to Social Development. Held in Convento da Arrabida, Portugal on 28-30 May 2001.
13. Presented two papers on the international human rights system and human rights monitoring systems at a summer school course on the Human Right to Food and Nutrition: Principles and Policies. Held at the Central European University, Budapest, Hungary on 30 -10 August 2001.

14. Presented two papers on socio-economic rights and globalisation and human rights at a human rights camp at Entebbe, Uganda on 2–5 November 2001 organised by HURISA (Human Rights Institute of South Africa).
15. Study tour to London on the implementation of the United Kingdom's freedom of information legislation, 28-31 July 2002. Guest of the British Foreign Affairs Office.
16. Presented a paper on constitutional reform in Nairobi, Kenya on 2 August 2002. Invited by the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission.
17. Represented the South African Human Rights Commission in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul, The Gambia on 18 - 21 October 2002. Made a statement on behalf of the Commission after receiving affiliate status.
18. Presented two papers on 'promoting and protecting socio-economic rights' and 'sustainable development' at the African Human Rights Camp organised by HURISA and held in Cairo, Egypt from 22- 23 November 2002.
19. Presented two papers for Portuguese speaking African countries on the role of national human rights institutions and the national action plan for human rights in Mozambique, 26 - 29 January 2003. Organised by the office of the UNHCHR.
20. Three presentations on the monitoring of economic and social rights, the national action plan for human rights and strategic planning for a national human rights institution for the Kenyan National Human Rights Commission in Kenya, 26 - 30 October 2003.
21. Study tour to Canada on the implementation of freedom of information legislation in Canada, 15 - 23 February 2004 (funded by the Canadian Government through CIDA).
22. Presented a paper on human rights in Stockholm, Sweden on 2 April 2004 as part of the celebration of ten years of democracy in South Africa. Invited by the South African Ambassador to Sweden.
23. Presented a paper on "Equality, Fraternity and Freedom: new frameworks, new challenges" at the Dialogue on Human rights: emerging needs and new commitments, "in Barcelona, Spain on 20 September 2004. The dialogue was organised by the Human Rights Institute of Catalonia.

24. Presented a paper on "the general principles and practical steps towards the establishment of a national human rights commission" in Maseru, Lesotho on 11 November 2004. The workshop was organised by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Pretoria.
25. Conference on the establishment of an effective African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights, 7-10 April 2005, Nairobi, Kenya. Chaired a session, was one of the conference's rapporteurs and a member of the drafting team that produced the Nairobi Declaration on an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.
26. The 8th International Conference of National Human Rights Institutions on "Migration and the Role of National Institutions", 24 - 27 October 2006, Santa Cruz, Bolivia.
27. The 6th Conference of African National Human Rights, 9 October 2007, Kigali, Rwanda.
28. Universal Periodic Review seminar for Commonwealth countries reporting in 2008, Commonwealth Secretariat, London, March 2008.
29. The 9th International Conference of National Human Rights Institutions on "National Human Rights Institutions and the Administration of Justice", 21-24 October 2008, Nairobi, Kenya. Presented a paper on the human rights protection role of the South African Human Rights Commission.
30. Universal Period Review seminar for Commonwealth countries reporting in 2009, Commonwealth Secretariat, London, November 2008.
31. Represented the South African Human Rights Commission in the UN Durban Review Conference held in April 2009 in Geneva.
32. Human Rights Conference on the national action plan for human rights, Windhoek, Namibia, 27- 28 May 2009. Presented a paper on the South African drafting process of its national action plan for human rights.
33. The 7th Conference of African National Human Rights Institutions on "Peace and Justice and the Role of National Human Rights Institutions", 3 - 5 November 2009, Rabat, Morocco. Presented a paper on Transitional Justice and Reconciliation.
34. Workshop on the universal periodic review process held in Lilongwe, Malawi in November 2009. Organized by the Human Rights Unit of the Commonwealth Secretariat.



35. The 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions, "Advancing the Human Rights of Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities - the Role of African National Human Rights Institutions"- 20-21 October 2011, Cape Town, South Africa.
36. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Conscience for the World - convened by the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights in collaboration with the Roosevelt House Public Institute at Hunter College, New York, 7-8 February 2012.  
Presented a paper on 'Prevention through National Protection Systems: Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Commissions.
37. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebration of the International Celebration of the International Day of Older Persons "Longevity Shapes the Future" – convened by the NGO Committee on Ageing/New York in collaboration with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations and Pfizer Inc, 10 October 2012. Presented a paper on "South African Perspective on Aging Policies and Programmes."
38. Public Lecture: "Upholding Good Citizenship and promoting a culture of human rights in a university space." University of Zululand (UNIZULU) - KwaDlangezwa Campus: 19 February 2020.
39. Key speaker: South African Revenue Service (SARS) Commemoration of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against - 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and Femicide 2022 – 25 November 2022.

**National (Attended before Joining the South African Human Rights Commission in 1996):**

1. Policing in the new South Africa (Centre for Criminal Justice and the Harvard Law School's Centre for Criminal Justice), Pietermaritzburg, 4 - 6 June 1991.
2. National Workshop on Monitoring and Research into Political Violence (Centre for Intergroup Studies), Pietermaritzburg, 17-19 June 1991.
3. International Conference on the Rights of the Child (Community Law Centre, University of the Western Cape), Cape Town, 10-13 June 1992. Presented a paper on violence against the child in a panel discussion.

4. Policing in the New South Africa (Centre for Criminal Justice), Durban, 1921 September 1992.
5. The Society of University Teachers of Law Congress (University of Stellenbosch, 18-21 January 1993. Presented a research report on the role played by the criminal justice system in political violence in Mooi River, Natal.
6. The Child and the Constitution in Post Apartheid South Africa (National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research and the National Children's Rights Committee), Johannesburg, 29-30 May 1993. Presented a research paper on the legal rights children in greater Pietermaritzburg.
7. State of South Africa's Children (National Children's Rights Committee and UNICEF), Johannesburg, 17-18 June 1993. Chaired a group discussion on legal and constitutional defence of children and drafted a declaration coming out of the conference. Also chaired a drafting committee that produced the final declaration - The Thembisa Declaration.
8. Police-Community Relations: The Future (National Peace Secretariat and the Police Board), Johannesburg, 30 June 1993.
9. The future role of traditional rule and customary law in South Africa (CONTRALESA), Broedestroom, 16-18 July 1993. Presented a paper on legislation affecting traditional rule in South Africa.
10. Violence, Corruption, and the South African Prosecution Service - The Road Ahead (Centre for Criminal Justice), Pietermaritzburg, 28 - 30 August 1993. Also involved in the co-ordination of the conference.
11. Violence and Corruption (UNISA), Pretoria, 2 - 3 September 1993. Presented a paper on political violence.
12. Children in Trouble with the Law: Seminar on Legislation and the National Action Plan (Community Law Centre), Cape Town, 15 - 17 October 1993.
13. Conference on the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women: Implementation in South Africa (National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research - Community Law Centre), Johannesburg, 26 - 28 November 1993. Chaired a session on sex role stereotyping and prejudice and discrimination against women in employment.

14. Workshop on the Simplification of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in the South African context. (National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research - Community Law Centre), Johannesburg, 29 - 30 January 1994.
15. Seminar on Children's Right in South Africa (National Institute for Public Interest Law and Research - Community Law Centre and UNISA Centre for Women's Studies), Pretoria, 5 February 1994. Chaired a session on Children and Political Violence.
16. Prison Management and Reform (Police and Prison Civil Rights Union and SAAEP (South African Advanced Education Project)), Durban 21- 23 March 1994.
17. The Rights of a Child to a Secure Family Life (Community Law Centre, University of the Western Cape), Cape Town, 25 - 27 March 1994.
18. Towards Democratic Policing (Community Peace Foundation), Cape Town, 10 - 12 April 1994.
19. Children Involved in Prostitution: Exploring a social progress to manage the problem (HSRC), Pretoria, 10 March 1995. Presented a paper on indigenous law and child prostitution.
20. Congress of the Society of University Teachers of Law, University of the Western Cape, 22 - 25 January 1996. Chaired a session on criminal justice.
21. Challenges for Law and Lawyers in the next Millennium: Democracy in Domestic and International Law (International Association of Democratic Lawyers), Cape Town, 31 March - 6 April 1996.

**Other Interests:** Reading, Gardening, Music, Travelling and Taekwondo (Black Belt, First Dan).

#### **REFERENCES:**

Professor Nasila Rembe  
Former UNESCO Oliver Tambo Chair of Human Rights  
University of Fort Hare  
Mobile:

**Judge Jody Kollapen**

**Former Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission, former Judge of the South African High Court (North Gauteng High Court, Pretoria) and Judge of the Constitutional Court Mobile:**

**Rev. Chris Nissen**

**Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission  
Mobile:**