



19 - 21
August 2026



APEC Haus, Port Moresby,
Papua New Guinea

2026 LAWASIA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAM and SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



PROGRAM

Days - 1 & 2 | Sessions 1 - 4

Wednesday 19 August & Thursday 20 August, 2026

Wednesday 19 August 2026

4.00 pm Conference Registration

5.00 pm Welcome reception dinner at APEC Haus, Port Moresby

Thursday 20 August 2026

9.00 am **Session 1: Opening session**
Master of Ceremony: Mr Anthony Roden – Paru, Managing Associate, Allens
Welcome Remarks:

- **Mr Teong Liang Yap**, President of LAWASIA
- **The Hon. Chief Justice Sir Gibuma Gibbs Salika GCL KBE CSM OBE**, Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea
- **Mr Hubert Namani**, President of Law Society of Papua New Guinea
- **Mr Steven Thiru**, President of Commonwealth Lawyers Association

9.30 am **Opening address:**
Speaker: The Hon. James Marape, MP, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, and Member for Tari Pori

10.00 am **Keynote address: The Hon. Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi GCL, CBE**, Deputy Chief Justice, Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea.
“Rising to the challenge: How to uphold the environmental rule of law today”

10.45 am **Morning tea**

11.15 am **Session 2: Content of the Environmental Rule of Law**
Moderator: Ms Una Doyle, Chief Executive, Judicial Commission of New South Wales, Australia.

1. **Mr Robert White**, Barrister and Vice-President of the Environment and Planning Law Association of NSW, Sydney, Australia.
“The meaning and content of the environmental rule of law”
2. **Mr Shyam Divan**, Senior Advocate, Delhi, India and Immediate Past President of LAWASIA.
“Translating the normative principles of the environmental rule of law into functioning institutions, enforceable standards and accountable governance”
3. **The Hon. Justice Vergil Los Narokobi**, Justice of Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea, Resident Judge, Madang National Court.
“Concentric constitutionalism – A Melanesian/Papua New Guinean response to eco-centric constitutionalism”
4. **Dr Bal Kama**, Principal Solicitor & Director, Kamana Legal and Advisory, Canberra, Australia.
“Constitutionalism in the Age of Environmental Rule of Law: Promises and Disappointments for Protection”
5. **Ms Nina Pindham**, Barrister and Chair of the U.K. Environmental Law Association, London, United Kingdom.
“The influence of the International Court of Justice’s Advisory Opinion on the Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change in Developing the Environmental Rule of Law”

12.45 pm	Lunch
1.45 pm	Session 3: Implementation of the Environmental Rule of Law Moderator: Mr Nichodemus Mosoro, Secretary, National Judicial Staff Services, Papua New Guinea. Mr David Denniston, Special Counsel, LLLS Lawyers, Papua New Guinea Council Member for the Commonwealth Lawyers Association. “Implementation and enforcement of PNG environmental law” Ms Ana Coculescu, Barrister, Wellington, New Zealand. “Light at the end of the tunnel? The trend towards hybrid environmental governance” Mr Felix Aglen Ndaru, Policy Analyst and Criminal Investigator, Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia. “Can law enforcement agencies synergize: Reactivating multidoor institutions for natural resource law enforcement in Indonesia” Dr Loganathan Krishnan, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. “ESG, Indigenous Rights, and the Rule of Law: Pathways to Environmental Justice”
3.15 pm	Afternoon tea
3.45 pm	Session 4: Threats to the Environmental Rule of Law Moderators: Mr Balasubramaniam Jayabala-Krishnan, Lawyer, Malaysia. Ms Melinda Janki, Environmental Lawyer, Georgetown, Guyana. “Jewel in the Crown or attack on the environmental rule of law – a look at Exxon Mobil’s oil production offshore South America” Mr Dirk Heinz, Solicitor at Macpherson Kelley, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia and Mr William Kadi, Barrister and Vice President of the Solomon Islands Environmental Law Society, Honiara, Solomon Islands. “Getting environmental justice in Melanesia: The hard road to do the right thing” Mr Mimin Dwi Hartono, Senior Policy Analyst, National Commission on Human Rights of Indonesia (Komnas HAM), Indonesia. “COP 30 and the rights of Indigenous Peoples to the environment” The Hon. Lady Justice Jacqueline Kamau, High Court of Kenya, Nanyuki, Kenya. “Integrity of combatting noise pollution in Kenya” Ms Ilona Millar, Partner, and Ms Lily Morton, Lawyer, Gilbert + Tobin, Sydney, Australia. “Upholding the Environmental Rule of Law through Carbon Markets: Legal and Institutional Pathways in Papua New Guinea and the Asia Pacific.”
5.15 pm	Close of Day 1
6.30 pm	Conference dinner

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Day - 2 | Sessions 1 - 4

Thursday 20 August, 2026

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 1: OPENING SESSION



Mr Teong Liang Yap

President | LAWASIA
Director | T L Yap Law Chambers LLC
SINGAPORE

Mr Teong Liang Yap was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in June 1992 and runs his boutique law firm specialising in Family Law since 10 June 1992.

Mr Yap has been engaged as leading counsel in both first instance and at appellate levels in the Family Division of the High Court, Appellate Division and the Court of Appeal, handling complex cross-border international child abduction and relocation cases, jurisdictional and forum issues, domestic violence as well as children's and financial disputes. He has provided expert opinion on Singapore divorce laws as a Single Joint Expert and is listed as a Leading Family & Divorce Lawyer in the Doyle's Guide 2025 and Litigation Star for Family and Matrimonial Disputes in Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2025. From 2021 to 2025, the firm was ranked one of Singapore's Best Law Firms in Family Law in the Straits Times/Statista survey.

He also practices as a Collaborative Family Practitioner, Parenting Coordinator, Principal Mediator and Senior International Mediator and was appointed onto the panel of Child Representatives by the Family Justice Courts in October 2014.

He is currently the Chairperson of the Family Law and Family Rights Committee and President of LAWASIA and a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers.

Mr Yap has moderated and presented papers at both local and overseas family law conferences and authored the chapters on Maintenance of Wife and Children and Ancillary Relief: Orders That can be made and co-authored the chapters on Dispute Resolution Options and Relocation in various leading publications.



The Hon. Chief Justice Sir Gibuma Gibbs Salika, GCL KBE CSM OBE

Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea,
Supreme and National Courts of Justice of PNG
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Hon. Chief Justice Sir Salika is the longest-serving Judge of the Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea, having served on the Bench since 1989. He was appointed Deputy Chief Justice before being knighted as a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (KBE) on 14 June 2014. On 29 November 2018, Chief Justice Sir Salika was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea.

Born on 11 August 1955 in Umniao, South Fly District, Western Province, Chief Justice Sir Salika received his primary and secondary education in the Fly River District before attending the University of Papua New Guinea, where he earned a Bachelor of Laws degree. Admitted to the Bar in 1979, he began his legal career with the Office of the Public Prosecutor, serving as a State Prosecutor for six years before joining the Ombudsman Commission as Legal Counsel. A devoted elder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Chief Justice Sir Salika is married to Lady Rossica Salika, and together they have five children.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Mr Hubert Namani**

President | Papua New Guinea Law Society
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr Hubert Namani is President of the Papua New Guinea Law Society and Principal Lawyer of Namani & Associates. A respected legal practitioner and leader, he has extensive experience in law, governance, and public service, and is widely recognized for his commitment to professional excellence and the rule of law in Papua New Guinea.

As President of the Law Society, Mr Namani advocates for legal reform, ethical standards, transparency, and accountability, while supporting the continued development of Papua New Guinea's legal profession.

**Mr Steven Thiru**

President of Commonwealth Lawyers Association
Vice President | LAWASIA
MALAYSIA

Mr Steven Thiru is the Managing Partner of Messrs. Steven Thiru in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He is a senior litigation lawyer and has been in practice for more than 30 years. His main areas of practice are General Litigation, Contract and Tort, Constitutional & Administrative Law, Corporate Law, Employment Law, Energy Law, and Native Title Law.

Mr Thiru read law at the University of Leicester and graduated (LLB (Hons)) in 1990. He was admitted to the Bar of England and Wales at Middle Temple in 1991 and was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1992. Mr Thiru also holds a Master of Law (LL.M) degree from the University of Malaya (2000).

Mr Thiru was recognized as a highly recommended lawyer by the Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2017 and as a market-leading lawyer (Labour and Employment law) by the Asialaw 2017. He was ranked for "Dispute Resolution" by the Chambers Asia Pacific 2018 and recognized that he draws admiration from market sources as a "well respected advocate". He specially handles administrative and employment cases and has also recently been the Malaysian Bar Council President. Mr Thiru was also ranked by the Chambers Asia Pacific 2018 for Employment and Industrial Relations, and it was noted that he is "renowned among market sources, who declare that he "has all the qualities of an excellent advocate". He is highly experienced in relation to employment litigation, often acting for GLCs and international clients". He was categorised as a "Leading Individual for Dispute Resolution" by the Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2019 and as a "Distinguished Practitioner" by Asialaw 2020 and 2021. Chambers Asia-Pacific 2021 has recognized Mr Thiru as "...a well-regarded and experienced practitioner..." in the Dispute Resolution practice and "...well regarded for contentious matters, frequently acting on a range of employment disputes" in the Employment & Industrial Relations practice area. Recently, Chambers Asia Pacific 2022 has reported that clients have observed that Mr Thiru "is an experienced counsel. He is measured and calm and takes a balanced view on things" and "he gives us practical and commercial advice." Mr Thiru has continued to be recognized by Chambers and Partners Asia-Pacific and Legal 500 (Asia-Pacific) in 2023, 2024 and 2025. Recently, Mr Thiru was recognized as a Litigation Star in Commercial & Transactions and Labour & Employment in the Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2024.

Mr Thiru was the 21st President of the Malaysian Bar from 2015 to 2017. He is currently the President of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association and Vice President of LAWASIA.

OPENING ADDRESS



The Hon. James Marape, MP

Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, and
Member for Tari Pori
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Hon. Prime Minister was sworn in as the 8th Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea by the National Parliament on 30 May 2019. Prior to being Prime Minister, the Prime Minister had an extensive political career, serving as the Minister for Finance and Leader of Government Business, Minister for Education and Minister of Foreign Affairs, amongst other political roles.

The Hon. Prime Minister holds a Bachelors in Arts degree from the University of Papua New Guinea and a Postgraduate Honours in Environmental Science.



The Hon. Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi GCL, CBE

Deputy Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Keynote address: "Rising to the challenge: How to uphold the environmental rule of law today"

The Hon. Deputy Chief Justice Kandakasi was appointed Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme and National Courts of Justice of Papua New Guinea (PNG) on 13th December 2018. He was appointed a Justice of the same Courts in 2000. He is an accredited, practicing and teaching mediator. Prior to his judicial appointment, he was a partner of the firm of Young & Williams and taught law at the University of PNG.

Since 2001, he has chaired the PNG Judiciary's ADR Committee overseeing the development and successful implementation of court annexed mediation, arbitration, and other forms of ADR. He is actively involved in continuing legal, judicial, mediation and other forms of ADR education and training domestically and internationally. Environmental rule of law, training, and practice is one of his honour's current interests. He is assisting in establishing a specialist resources, environment and climate change track of the PNG National Court and training of judges and lawyers in environmental rule of law. His honour has attended and presented at numerous local and international conferences, workshops and trainings and published numerous papers in several areas of the law, including mediation, arbitration, and other forms of ADR and environmental rule of law apart from many judgments.

He is a member and Vice President of the Asia Pacific Mediation Forum. He is a member of the governing councils of other international and regional organizations like the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and Australian Institute of Judicial Administration. He is a member of several international working groups on various projects.



The Hon. Justice Brian J Preston AO FRSN SC

Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of
NSW, Sydney, NSW, Australia
AUSTRALIA

The Hon. Justice Preston is the Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales. Prior to being appointed in November 2005, he was a senior counsel practising primarily in New South Wales in environmental, planning, administrative and property law. He has lectured in post-graduate environmental law for over 30 years. He is the author of Australia's first book on environmental litigation and 175 articles, book chapters and reviews on environmental law, administrative and criminal law. He holds numerous editorial positions in environmental law publications and has been involved in a number of international environmental consultancies and capacity-building programs, including for judiciaries throughout Asia, Africa and the European Union.

The Hon. Justice Preston is an Official Member of the Judicial Commission of NSW, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law, Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW and Honorary Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. He was awarded a Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) by Macquarie University in 2018 and a Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) by Western Sydney University in 2022. He is a member of various international environmental law committees and advisory boards, including serving on the Governing Council and as Vice President for Oceania of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and as Chair of the Environmental Law Committee of the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific (LAWASIA).

The Hon. Justice Preston was recognized with the Award for Excellence - Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Law by the Law Council of Australia's Legal Practice Section in 2021. In 2023, he was awarded the Medal of Honour by the World Jurist Association at the United Nations in New York and was granted Life Membership by LAWASIA. He was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in the Australia Day Honours List 2025.

The Hon. Justice Preston is currently a Visiting Professor at Durham University (UK), an Adjunct Professor at three Australian universities, the University of Sydney, Western Sydney University and Southern Cross University, and a former Visiting Fellow at Corpus Christi College and Magdalen College at Oxford University (UK).

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 2: CONTENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW



Ms Una Doyle,
Chief Executive, Judicial Commission of New
South Wales, Australia
AUSTRALIA

MODERATOR: Content of the Environmental Rule of Law

Ms Una Doyle is the Chief Executive of the Judicial Commission of NSW, responsible for overseeing the Commission's operations. She has input into all aspects of the Commission's work, from financial management to research, complaints, information systems management and education activities. Ms Doyle was appointed Chief Executive of the Commission in July 2022. She was previously the Director, Education at the Commission since December 2015. Ms Doyle has worked for over 30 years in law, legal education and executive management. She has extensive experience in judicial education and training. She is a member of the Judicial Council on Diversity and Inclusion (JCDI) and the Advisory Board of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute (CJEI) and is also a past President of ACLEA, the International Association for Continuing Legal Education (2016–2017). She was appointed as Regional Vice-President (Asia and Pacific) of the International Organization for Judicial Training (IOJT) in 2025. Ms Doyle is also the Nominee of the Participating States and Territories Attorney's General to the Council of the National Judicial College of Australia (NJCA).



Dr Bal Kama
Principal Solicitor & Director, Kamana Legal and
Advisory, Canberra
AUSTRALIA

"Constitutionalism in the Age of Environmental Rule of Law: Promises and Disappointments for Protection"

Dr Bal Kama leads Kamana Legal and Advisory with a reputation for calm judgment, rigorous analysis, and an innate ability to translate complex legal challenges into clear, defensible strategies and actionable next steps. Bal combines senior legal practice with deep scholarly depth to serve clients across Australia and the Pacific. He maintains a distinct, dual-pillar professional practice:

- Legal Practice: Delivering precise, technical legal services for matters of law.
- Strategic Advisory: Providing high-level technical support and advisory on governance, policy, and development.

His work across the region has included overseeing strategic litigation as a Managing Lawyer at a leading Australian public interest law firm; advising Tuvalu on world-first, climate-resilient constitutional reforms addressing statehood; and serving as a Senior Legal Expert in Papua New Guinea. Dr. Kama was a law academic at the Australian National University and the University of Canberra before entering legal practice. He has published widely on legal, governance, and development matters, including his book, *Rethinking Judicial Power in Papua New Guinea: A Mandate for Activism in a Transformative Constitution* (2024). He holds a PhD (Law), LLB (Hons) and BA (International Relations and Politics).

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Mr Shyam Divan,
Senior Advocate
Immediate Past President of LAWASIA
INDIA

“Translating the normative principles of the environmental rule of law into functioning institutions, enforceable standards and accountable governance”

Mr Shyam Divan is a senior advocate and practices before the Supreme Court of India. His areas of practice cover constitutional law and most branches of civil litigation including banking, securities law, arbitration, administrative law, and environmental law.

He has appeared in several environmental cases decided by the Supreme Court of India including *M.K. Ranjitsinh v. Union of India*, 2025 SCC OnLine SC 2899 (Great Indian Bustard); and *Samaj Parivartana Samudaya v State of Karnataka*, (2018) 5 SCC 732; 2024 SCC OnLine SC 569 (illegal mining of minerals in the Karnataka forests). He is the co-author of *Environmental Law and Policy in India: Cases and Materials* (3rd Ed, Oxford, 2022) and has authored chapters on Public Interest Litigation in the *Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution* (2016) and on *The Environment and the Constitution* in the *Oxford Handbook of Environmental and Natural Resources Law in India* (2024). Mr. Divan assists the Supreme Court as amicus curiae in cases relating to the detention of foreigners facing prosecutions in India and with respect to developing norms for AI use in litigation. In 2021 he received the International Privacy Champion Award from the Electronic Privacy Information Center for his role in a set of privacy protection cases.

Mr. Divan served as President, LAWASIA between November 2023 and October 2025. He is Vice President, The Bar Association of India. Mr. Divan serves on the Governing Boards of the Centre for Policy Research and the Independent and Public-Spirited Media Foundation.



Mr Robert White
Barrister and Vice-President of the Environment
and Planning Law Association of NSW, Sydney
AUSTRALIA

“The meaning and content of the environmental rule of law”

Mr Robert White practices exclusively in the fields of environmental, planning, resource and climate law, including in the NSW Land & Environment Court, Federal Court of Australia and the Supreme Courts of the Australian states and territories.

Mr. White is recommended as one of the leading NSW Planning & Environment barristers in *Doyle's Guide* (2023) and a leading Australian climate change lawyer in the publication *Best Lawyers 2023*. Mr. White is currently the Vice-President of the NSW Environmental Planning Law Association.

Mr White was awarded the Public Interest/Justice Innovation Award at the 2023 Victorian Bar Pro Bono Awards for his work as counsel for the Applicant in *Tipakalippa v National Offshore Petroleum Safety Environmental Management Authority (No 2)* [2022] FCA 1121, a judicial review case concerning failure to consult with aboriginal persons living in the Tiwi Islands on the merits of an off-shore gas drilling project. The case was heard by the Federal Court of Australia partly on country in the Tiwi Islands and evidence by the community members was given by way of traditional story telling.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



The Hon. Justice Vergil Los Narokobi
National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea
and Judge Administrator, Madang National Court
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

“Concentric constitutionalism – A Melanesian/Papua New Guinean Response to Ecocentric Constitutionalism”

The Hon. Justice Vergil Los Narokobi, is a judge of the National Court and Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea and Judge Administrator, Madang National Court, appointed to the bench in 2020.

He was Legal Counsel of the Papua New Guinea Ombudsman Commission prior to his appointment. As Counsel to the Commission, he argued several important public interest Constitutional cases. The Hon. Justice Narokobi holds a PhD from the Victoria University of Wellington, in New Zealand (2016), and is a fellow of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute (Canada).

The Hon. Justice Narokobi has written three books, one of which is a publication of his PhD thesis entitled, “Implementing Constitutional Goals, Proposals for Papua New Guinea.” His articles have been published in academic journals in Papua New Guinea, United States, Australia and New Zealand. The Hon. Justice Narokobi is the resident judge of Madang Province, hearing both civil and criminal cases and occasionally sits in Supreme Court appeals.



Ms Nina Pindham
Barrister and Chair of the U.K. Environmental Law
Association, London
UNITED KINGDOM

“The influence of the International Court of Justice’s Advisory Opinion on the Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change in Developing the Environmental Rule of Law”

Ms Nina Pindham is a specialist planning and environmental law barrister. She has appeared as junior counsel in a number of leading environmental law claims in England and Wales, including *Finch v Surrey County Council* and the successful challenges to the UK Government’s Carbon Budget Delivery Plan and Net Zero Strategy. She has also successfully represented the UK Government in an environmental law dispute before the United Nations.

She is ranked as a Tier 1 barrister in the Legal 500, a leading junior in Chambers and Partners, and has featured in The Planner’s Women of Influence list and the ENDS Power List of the most influential environmental professionals: “she is one of, if not the, leader in her field”. She was awarded a Global Leadership Award during COP27 for her work building the capacity and knowledge of the legal sector concerning the climate crisis.

She is currently establishing a global technical legal assistance project under the UNFCCC and UNCBD to provide legal assistance to member states to implement their obligations under these conventions. She serves as the current Chair of the UK Environmental Law Association.

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW



Mr Nichodemus Mosoro,
Secretary, National Judicial Staff Services, Papua New Guinea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MODERATOR: "Implementation of the Environmental Rule of Law"

Mr Mosoro is currently the Secretary for National Judicial Staff Services. He has held previous roles in the executive government which include Acting Secretary for Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG), Deputy Secretary for DJAG, Deputy Public Trustee, Director General of the National Narcotics Bureau, various other managerial roles and has qualifications and experience in both law and business administration.



Mr David Denniston
Lawyer, Port Moresby
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

"Implementation and enforcement of PNG environmental law"

Mr David Denniston is a Special Counsel at LLLS Lawyers, Port Moresby, PNG. Prior to this David consulted to PNG corporates and government and was also a DFAT/AGD funded advisor to the Solicitor General's Office, DJAG, PNG. Before this David worked in Australia for large law firms and State and Commonwealth Government.

He has a broad commercial practice which includes mergers & acquisitions, foreign direct investment, oil & gas, mining, carbon, conservation, forestry & environment, property, development & construction, renewable energy, land, water, employment, fintech, data protection & cybercrime, AML/CTF/sanctions, corruption, administrative law, disputes and international development.

Mr Denniston is admitted to the National & Supreme Courts of PNG and the Supreme Courts of NSW, QLD, the ACT and the High Court of Australia.

He is the PNG Council Member for the Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA) where he primarily organises CPD events. He is also the Secretary for AmCham Coral Sea.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ms Ana Coculescu

Barrister, Wellington
NEW ZEALAND

“Light at the end of the tunnel? The trend towards hybrid environmental governance”

Ms Ana Coculescu is an environmental lawyer who is highly engaged in ESG matters. She has over 15 years’ experience working with government and corporate clients, helping them navigate planning, environmental and climate-related regulations. She brings a global perspective to her work, having practised for 10 years in Sydney as an Australian qualified lawyer, and having studied environmental law in both Australia and the European Union.

She has worked on a wide range of projects involving planning and Resource Management Act (RMA) issues, including consenting processes and strategies, interpretation of consent conditions, enforcement and compliance. Her experience spans infrastructure projects such as transport (roads, rail), waste (landfills, resource recovery facilities, container deposit schemes), water pipelines, energy (renewable energy, power stations, mines), as well as commercial developments and residential aged care. She has also assisted clients with plan changes.

She is deeply engaged in ESG and climate change law, advising clients on ESG baselines and strategies, climate risk management under the RMA, obligations under the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and financial transactions with New Zealand Units. Ms. Coculescu works closely with colleagues across Dentons as part of the Dentons global ESG initiative, and she is a lead editor for, and contributor to, the NZ ESG newsletter.

Ms Coculescu has played an active role in policy development, assisting clients with submissions on major environmental law reforms, including the RMA and ETS reforms. Her expertise extends to biodiversity conservation; compulsory acquisition; contaminated land, including managing liability and remediation; regulation of activities in the exclusive economic zone; hazardous substance management and compliance; heritage. She has also advised local government clients on council processes and Official Information Act matters, and assisted with internal reviews of council decision making and of councilor’s conduct.

She was recognised in Doyle’s Guide (Australia) as a rising star in environment and planning and is a Lexology (New Zealand) recommended lawyer for environment and climate change law. Ana is currently a senior associate in the Environment and Planning team at Dentons New Zealand. She will be joining the New Zealand Bar, practising as a barrister, in April 2026.



Mr Felix Aglen Ndaru

Policy Analyst and Criminal Investigator,
Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, Jakarta
INDONESIA

“Can law enforcement agencies synergize: Reactivating multidoor institutions for natural resource law enforcement in Indonesia”

Mr Felix Aglen Ndaru, is a Policy Analyst and Criminal Investigator at the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia. He holds a Bachelor Degree of Administrative Science in 2015 from Universitas Indonesia. He has extensive experience in research, legal advocacy, regulatory drafting, and forestry crime investigations. Since 2016, he has been actively involved in various national and international collaborations related to environmental law enforcement, natural resource management, and the eradication of green financial crimes.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

He also serves as an author and contributor to several publications, including books, journals, and international conference proceedings. His work and expertise encompass issues such as forest fire law enforcement, environmentally based money laundering, conservation of natural resources, and contemporary legal issues. He remains committed to strengthening equitable and sustainable environmental and forestry governance.



Dr Loganathan Krishnan

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Universiti Malaya,
Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA

“ESG, Indigenous Rights, and the Rule of Law: Pathways to Environmental Justice”

Dr Loganathan Krishnan is an accomplished academic and legal scholar specializing in corporate and constitutional law. He obtained his LLB (Hons) from the University of London, followed by an LL.M and PhD in Law from the University of Malaya, focusing on corporate law. He also holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education from Curtin University of Technology, reflecting his commitment to pedagogy and academic excellence. He also has a Diploma in Corporate Governance from Basel Institute, Switzerland.

He lectures corporate law to both undergraduate and postgraduate students and serves as Chief Examiner and External Moderator for professional examinations conducted by the Chartered Tax Institute of Malaysia. His teaching contributions extend internationally, having been a guest lecturer at Sussex University, University of Tunku Abdul Rahman, and Taylor’s University. In recognition of his dedication, he received the Pro Vice-Chancellor’s Letter of Commendation for Excellence in Education in 2017 whilst teaching at Monash University Malaysia.

Dr Krishnan has presented his research at national and international conferences and published extensively in refereed, indexed journals. His book *Principles of Business and Corporate Law, Malaysia* is now in its fourth edition, complemented by book chapters published with Routledge and De Gruyter. His expertise has been supported by several research grants, including the Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS). He also contributes to the scholarly community as a reviewer for multiple journals and as an Editorial Board Member of the *Australasian Journal of Law, Ethics and Governance*.

Beyond academia, Dr. Krishnan plays an active role in professional and regional legal associations. He is a council member of the ASEAN Law Association of Malaysia and a member of LAWASIA’s Constitutional and Human Rights Committee as well as its Corporate Securities and Investment Committee.

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 2026 | SESSION 4: THREATS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW



Mr Balasubramaniam Jayabala-Krishnan
LLB (Hons) London, CLP (Hons), Malaysia
MALAYSIA

MODERATOR: Threats to the Environmental Rule of Law

Mr Balasubramaniam Jayabala-Krishnan is an highly experienced legal profession with more than 30 years in corporate law, commercial litigation and regulatory compliance. Proven expertise in legal strategy, corporate governance and cross border negotiations. Extensive experience working in Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Australia with working rights in these countries, advising multinational corporations and leading legal teams. Recognised for leadership in legal advisory, mediation and capacity building within commercial organizations and government entities. Adept at stakeholder engagement, regulatory compliance and strategic policy development. The recipient of the National Logohu Medal for exemplary service to charity and the community.



Ms Melinda Janki
Environmental Lawyer, Georgetown
GUYANA

"Jewel in the Crown or attack on the environmental rule of law – a look at Exxon Mobil's oil production offshore South America"

Ms Melinda Janki was awarded the Commonwealth Law Conference Rule of Law Award in 2023 for her work to uphold the rule of law nationally and internationally. At the TED Climate Countdown in Nairobi 2025 she received a standing ovation for her presentation 'How we took on an oil giant and won'. Also in 2025 she was admitted as a Member of the Worshipful Company of Solicitors of the City of London (a prestigious livery company whose membership is limited to solicitors who have worked in the 'Square Mile'.)

She is a former oil lawyer having worked inhouse for BP and as a consultant to the oil industry. As an international lawyer she has advised international companies, governments and international financial institutions (including the World Bank (IDA and IFC), Inter-American Development Bank, DfID (British Government), KfW (German Government), USAID (American Government), FAO, UNDP, Commonwealth Development Corporation. Ms Janki has worked on projects in the United Kingdom, Guyana, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Croatia, France, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, Slovenia, Turkey and the USA. She has advised on matters in Costa Rica, Ethiopia, India, Russia, Serbia, Trinidad and Venezuela.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

She has worked on the frontline with indigenous/Amerindian peoples in Guyana and drafted the law which now guarantees their collective ownership of land and natural resources including the carbon sequestration services of their forests. Ms Janki worked with the WaiWai people to enable them to obtain absolute collective ownership of 2,300 square miles of pristine Amazonian forest and then create their own community managed protected area.

Ms Janki is a Member-at-Large on the Council of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association. Former positions include being a member of the Steering Committee of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Vice-President of the Guyana Bar Association, Chair of the Greater Caribbean For Life, trustee of various conservation trusts and in advisory positions for various grass-roots conservation groups including Karanambu Trust, Guyana Amazon Tropical Birds Society, South Rupununi Conservation Society.



Mr Dirk Heinz

Principal Lawyer | Pacific Legal Network
Melbourne, Victoria
AUSTRALIA

"Getting environmental justice in Melanesia: The hard road to do the right thing"

Mr Dirk Heinz After 14 months acting as a volunteer environmental lawyer in the Solomon Islands. Mr Heinz has a passion for working with clients and Pacific Islanders who are interested in tackling the environmental and economic threats posed by the impacts of climate change. He has in depth knowledge of the administrative and environmental compliance matters specific to delivering successful and sustainable projects in the Pacific region and has been involved in a number of high-profile cases defending the rights of customary landowners across Melanesia.

Together with colleague and friend William Kadi, he has led two of the biggest environmental law cases in Solomon Islands jurisprudence being the Wagina Bauxite Mine judicial review and the Rennell Island Oil Spill class action on behalf of customary landowners of the Solomon Islands, which is currently ongoing.

He also splits his time working in the commercial space and has worked on a number of large infrastructure projects of regional importance across the Pacific as part of his role with the Pacific Legal Network, the only law firm with a truly regional Pacific presence. His areas of commercial law expertise span across a number of areas of practice including environment, banking, construction, telecommunications, trade and ICT law.

His on-the-ground experience in the Pacific working with local land and business owners, government organisations and Pacific legal practitioners has given him a unique understanding of how business is done in the region. When paired with his experience as commercial lawyer at national law firms in Sydney and Melbourne, this regional understanding allows Mr Heinz to deliver commercial advice which his Pacific clients can rely on.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Mr William Kadi**

Barrister and Vice President of the Solomon Islands
Environmental Law Society, Honiara
SOLOMON ISLANDS

“Getting environmental justice in Melanesia: The hard road to do the right thing”

Mr William Kadi is a Solomon Islands-based commercial and environmental lawyer at Primo Afeau Legal Services. William graduated with a Masters of Law (LLM) on Energy Law with Professional Skills, from the University of Aberdeen, UK.

Mr Kadi has varied legal experience in environmental law, mining law and commercial law. He has expanded and diversified his law practice to also focus on company restructurings, mergers and acquisitions, investment and policy analysis in natural resources development.

He is a co-author of the first edition Environmental Law and Governance in the Pacific Climate Change, Biodiversity and Communities (Chapter 12) published by Routledge 2020 and is Vice President of the Solomon Islands Environmental Law Society.

Mr Kadi was previously a member of the Protected Areas Advisory Committee in the Solomon Islands, providing advice and working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and rural communities, by introducing and promoting alternative development models with their forests through conservation and the protected areas strategies. Together with colleague and friend Mr Heinz, he has led two of the biggest environmental law cases in Solomon Islands jurisprudence being the Wagina Bauxite Mine judicial review and the Rennell Island Oil Spill class action on behalf of customary landowners of the Solomon Islands, which is currently ongoing.

He is also a well known local musician and made fame in 2021 with the co-recorded global island jam hit song “UKULELE”, voted first at the 2021 DJOOKY Music Awards – the world’s largest online song competition.

**Mr Mimin Dwi Hartono**

Senior Policy Analyst, National Commission on Human
Rights of Indonesia (Komnas HAM)
INDONESIA

“COP 30 and the rights of Indigenous Peoples to the environment”

Mr Dwi Hartono is a human rights practitioner and policy analyst with more than 20 years of experience in national human rights institutions, civil society research and academia. He has extensive expertise in human-rights based approaches to public policy, access to justice, freedom of expression, environmental and land rights, energy transition, policing reform and SDGs.

Mr Hartono currently works as a Senior Policy Analyst at the National Commission on Human Rights of Indonesia coordinating national research and policy studies on human rights, law reform and environmental governance. Mr Hartono was previously active in several NGOs working on local community/indigenous rights issues and community-based natural resource management including Walhi (Indonesia Environmental Forum), Wana Mandhira Foundation (Community based environmental organization) and SEACA (South East Asia Committee for Advocacy).

Mr Hartono holds a Bachelor of Economics, Development Economics from Universitas Gadjah Mada and a Master of Arts in Sustainable International Development from Brandeis University in the USA.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



The Hon. Lady Justice Jacqueline Kamau
High Court of Kenya, Nanyuki
KENYA

"Integrity of combatting noise pollution in Kenya"

The Hon. Lady Justice Jacqueline Kamau is currently based at the High Court of Kenya Nanyuki, where she is the Presiding Judge. She has also worked at High Court of Kenya, Voi, Taita Taveta County and Vihiga, Vihiga County where she was also the Presiding Judge and at the High Court of Kenya Civil Division, Milimani Law Courts, Nairobi. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Women Judges Kenya Chapter then known as Kenya Women's Judges Association (KWJA) and served in the Association's Project and Planning Committee.

She is a past President of the Kenya Magistrates and Judges Association (KMJA) and a past Chair of KMJA-Coast Region. She is also a past Council Member of East African Judges and Magistrates Association (EAMJA). She currently sits in the EAMJA Gender Sub Committee which came up with the Gender Policy for the Judges and Magistrates of the East African Region.

Upon her appointment in the Judiciary of Kenya, she was appointed as a member of the Integrated Court Management (ICMS) Committee that was and still is charged with the responsibility of automating the Kenya Judiciary and served for about eight (8) years. She also served as a member of the Mediation Committee that came up with the Mediation Rules for the pilot Court-mandated mediation in the Family and Commercial and Admiralty Divisions of the High Court of Kenya.

She served on the conciliation panel of the World Bank funded, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), headquartered in Washington, U.S.A for two (2) terms. She was in the panel of International Commercial Disputes Tribunal headquartered in New Delhi, India.

She was also member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Child Practitioners Committees of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and member of the Governance Sector of Kenya Private Sector Association (KEPSA). She served in the Board of Management of Mukerenju Secondary School for over twenty (20) years.

She was admitted to the bar of the High Court of Kenya in 1993 and was a practising advocate prior to her appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Kenya. Prior to joining the Kenya Judiciary in 2012, she was the Chair of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (K) Kenya.

Apart from being trained by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, she also received her Mediation training from the Centre for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR) which is affiliated to the California State University, Sacramento, USA.

She is a member of Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) Kenya. She is also a Director of the Board of Strathmore Dispute Resolution Centre (SDRC), Strathmore University in Kenya. She is currently a Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator and an accredited tutor of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (K) Kenya and its headquarters in London, UK.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

In September 2025, she was elected as the High Court Representative to the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) Kenya, the Chair of the Gender Section Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association (CMJA) of the East Central and Southern Africa Region and the Global Vice Chair of the Gender Section of CMJA.

She has participated and presented papers in domestic, regional and international meetings in the area of arbitration, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods and many other topics.

In 2024, she received awards for Leadership and Pioneer women in ADR. She was also voted as the Outstanding Woman in ADR in 2024. She was also inducted as a Judiciary Fellow of the Presidential Precinct in the same year. She was awarded the Outstanding Jurist of the Year Award 2025 by Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA- Kenya).



Ms Ilona Millar

Partner | Gilbert + Tobin, Sydney
AUSTRALIA

"Upholding the Environmental Rule of Law through Carbon Markets: Legal and Institutional Pathways in Papua New Guinea and the Asia Pacific."

Ms Ilona Millar is a partner in Gilbert + Tobin's Banking + Projects group, specialising in Climate Change and Sustainability. She previously headed the climate change group of a global law firm and has worked for over 20 years on climate law and finance, including the development of law and policy and its implementation by both governments and the private sector. This experience extends to complex multi-jurisdictional transactions as well as the development of innovative responses to climate change and sustainability problems.

Ms Millar has worked extensively on the development of carbon contracts, carbon funds and other environmental product transactions in both the compliance and voluntary markets. She also has a deep expertise in advising on natural capital projects and investment as well as on geological sequestration and the legal frameworks for carbon capture and storage. More recently she has been leading work exploring the role of hydrogen in transitioning to a low carbon economy.

Her experience also extends to all aspects of environmental law and policy and she has a strong background in all aspects of natural resource management, planning and projects.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ms Lily Morton

Lawyer, Gilbert + Tobin, Sydney
AUSTRALIA

"Upholding the Environmental Rule of Law through Carbon Markets: Legal and Institutional Pathways in Papua New Guinea and the Asia Pacific."

Ms Lily Morton is a lawyer in the Climate Change + Sustainability Team at Australian law firm, Gilbert + Tobin. Ms Morton works with clients across all sectors in Australia and the Asia Pacific to support their decarbonisation strategies, manage regulatory compliance risks and capitalise on the opportunities that the decarbonising market presents. She is also a Visiting Fellow at the University of New South Wales, lecturing environmental law, and a member of the LAWASIA Environmental Law Committee. Ms. was previously the Research Officer and Associate to the Hon. Justice Preston AO FRSN SC, Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, and Associate to the Hon. Judge W J Neville at the Federal Circuit and Family Court in Australia.

PROGRAM

Day - 3 | Sessions 5 - 8

Friday 21 August, 2026

9.00 am

Session 5: Institutions for the Environmental Rule of Law

Moderator: The Hon. Justice Teresa Berrigan, Justice of Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea.

1. **Mr Steven Thiru**, Lawyer and President of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

“Silenced for speaking out: Protecting environmental defenders from SLAPPs”

2. **Mr Robert White**, Barrister and Vice-President of the Environment and Planning Law Association of NSW, Sydney AUSTRALIA.

“SLAPPED: Challenges lawyers face in upholding the environmental rule of law”

3. **Mr Matthew Baird**, Director, Asian Research Institute for Environmental Law, Bangkok, Thailand and Executive Director, Centre for ESG Law and Practice, College of Law, Australia.

“Environmental and human rights defenders and the protection of lawyers – the role of the Luxembourg Convention”

4. **Professor Jennifer McKay**, Professor of Business Law, Adelaide University, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.

“Environmental human rights defenders and the courts: Ensuring justice in a changing climate”

10.30 am

11.00 am

Session 6: Courts for the Environmental Rule of Law

Moderators: The Hon. Justice Oagile Key Bethuel Dingake, Justice of Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea & Judge Administrator, Judicial Review and Appeals Track.

1. **Professor Amanda Kennedy**, Dean and Head of School of Law, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia and **The Hon. Justice Brian J Preston AO FRSN SC**, Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of NSW, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

“Judicial capacity-building in environmental law in Cambodia and Lao PDR”

2. **The Hon. Justice Bambang H Mulyono**, Chief Judge of the Denpasar High Court, Bali, Indonesia.

“Environmental law training and Environmental Judge Certification in Indonesia”

3. **The Hon. Justice John Carey**, Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea and Judge Administrator of the Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

“Judicial capacity-building in environmental law in Papua New Guinea”

4. **Dr Chandra Kanta Gyawali**, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Nepal, Nepal.

“The central role of Nepal’s judiciary in institutionalising the environmental rule of law in Nepal’s constitutional democracy”

5. **Mr Solomon Yeo**, Pco-founder of the Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change, PhD candidate at Te Herenga Waka-Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand.

“From Pacific to the World: How a student and government-led campaign have transformed international and global climate law”

12.30 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	Session 7: <u>Environmental Dispute Resolution</u> Moderators: The Hon. Justice Berna Collier, Justice of National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea and Justice of Federal Court of Australia and The Hon. Justice Larissa Andelman, Justice of Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea Ms Deborah Lockhart, CEO of Australian Disputes Centre, Sydney, NSW, Australia. <i>“Beyond the Western lens: Adapting ADR for environmental justice in the Pacific – The ADC Partnership Process”</i> Ms Susan Dixon, Senior Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court of NSW, Sydney, NSW, Australia. <i>“Framing the Forum to Fit the Fuss: Bespoke Environmental Dispute Resolution”</i> Ms Briony Eales, Consultant to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Team Leader for Judicial Capacity Building in Environmental and Climate Change Law, Manila, Philippines. <i>“Remedies at the frontline: Can Community-Level Dispute Resolution deliver environmental accountability?”</i> Mr Bryce Williams, Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), The Hague, The Netherlands. <i>“The Permanent Court of Arbitration’ international perspective and expertise on environmental dispute settlement and its relevance in the Pacific context”</i> Ms Mary Walker, OAM, Barrister, 9 Wentworth Chambers, Sydney, Australia. <i>“Modelling Complex Environmental Dispute Resolution Processes - The Challenges</i>
3.00 pm	Afternoon tea
3.30 – 4:30pm	Session 8: <u>Closing Session</u> Master of Ceremony: Mr. Anthony Roden – Paru, Managing Associate, Allens Keynote address: The Hon. Justice Antonio H Benjamin, Chief Justice of the National High Court of Brazil <i>“The Enduring Importance of the Environmental Rule of Law in Times of change”</i> Closing remarks: Mr Shyam Divan, Immediate Past President of LAWASIA. The Hon. Justice Derek Wood, Justice of the Supreme and National Courts, and Judge Administrator, Resources, Environment and Climate Change Track, National Court, Papua New Guinea. Mr Hubert Namani, President of the Law Society of Papua New Guinea. Mr Steven Thiru, President of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association. Dr Gordon Hughes AM, Deputy Chair of South Pacific Lawyers Association.
4:45pm	Closing address: His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Bob Bofeng Dadae GCL, GCMG, KStJ, Governor General of Papua New Guinea.
5.15 pm	Close of conference

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Day - 3 | Sessions 5 - 8

FRIDAY 21 August, 2026

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 5: INSTITUTIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW



The Hon. Justice Teresa Berrigan

Justice of Supreme and National Courts of
Papua New Guinea,
Judge Administrator of the National Court Crimes Fraud and Corruption
Track.

MODERATOR: “Institutions for the Environmental Rule of Law”

The Hon. Justice Teresa Berrigan was appointed to the Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea in 2018. She is the Judge Administrator of the National Court Crimes Fraud and Corruption Track. She is a judicial educator with the PNG and Pacific Centres for Judicial Education. She serves on several judicial committees, including the Judges Rules Committee, the Law Reporting Council, the Judges Think Tank Committee and the Judges and Staff Terms and Conditions Committee.

She was the inaugural Vice President of the Pacific Islands Judicial Officers Association (PIJOA) and is currently the editor of its newsletter. She is a member of the PNG Judicial Women’s Association and the Pacific Association of Judicial Women Officers.

The Hon. Justice Berrigan’s earlier work includes more than 20 years as a lawyer at the national and international levels, with particular expertise in criminal and related law, having been a specialist federal prosecutor in Australia overseeing fraud and market cases, an advisor to the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Papua New Guinea, where she also prosecuted fraud and corruption, homicide and sexual violence offences at trial and on appeal, and an advisor to the Ombudsman Commission of PNG on the prosecution of misconduct under the Leadership Code.

She was legal advisor and trial attorney in the Office of the Prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UN ICTR) and the lead legal officer in the Office of the Prosecutor of the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (UN MICT), Arusha Branch. The Hon. Justice Berrigan is a former Team Leader of the Papua New Guinea and Australia Justice Services & Stability for Development Program, a sector-led program to strengthen law and order and improve access to justice.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Mr Matthew Baird

Director, Asian Research Institute for Environmental Law, Bangkok Thailand
Executive Director Centre for ESG Law and Practice, College of Law, Australia

“Environmental and human rights defenders and the protection of lawyers – the role of the Luxembourg Convention”

Mr Matthew Baird has over 35 years experience in environmental and planning law in the Asia-Pacific Region. He was admitted to the NSW Bar in 1991 and practised for 25 years in environmental and planning law. Mr. Baird has worked on environmental law and governance issues in Asia and the Pacific since 2010. He has written and spoken on environmental, social and governance laws and practice and provided advice to governments on incorporating ESG principles into national processes. He was awarded his doctorate for a study on a Framework Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment in ASEAN in 2025.

He was the primary consultant for the work on the recent ASEAN Declaration on the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment and a member of the Working Group under AICHR.

From September 2016 to September 2020, he was a Visiting Scholar of the Myanmar Environmental Governance Program of Vermont Law School. He is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business and a Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. He was appointed a Teaching Fellow of the College of Law (Australia) in 2021 and leads the ESG Law and Practice Group.



Professor Jennifer McKay

Professor of Business Law, Adelaide University,
Adelaide, South Australia
AUSTRALIA

“Environmental human rights defenders and the courts: Ensuring justice in a changing climate”

Professor Jennifer McKay is a leading scholar in water law, environmental governance, and sustainability law. She is based in Adelaide, South Australia, and has held senior academic positions at University of South Australia (UniSA), ANU College of Law and UniFiji .

She is a fellow of International Water Association and senior Fellow of Higher Education Academy where she is recognized for excellence in teaching and academic leadership. She was made an AM for services to law and legal profession in 2023.

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 6: COURTS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW



The Hon. Justice Oagile Key Bethuel Dingake,
Justice of Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea
& Judge Administrator, Judicial Review and Appeals Track

MODERATOR: Courts for the Environmental Rule of Law

The Hon. Justice Dingake is a distinguished jurist serving as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the national courts of Papua New Guinea and is the first African to hold this position. In 2013 he was appointed by the UN secretary-general to be a judge of the Residual Special Court of Sierra Leone, and in 2020 he became a justice of the Seychelles Court of Appeal. The Hon. Justice Dingake has been nominated the Botswana's candidate for election as Judge for the ICJ for the 2027–2036 term.

Previously, The Hon. Justice Dingake served as a judge of the High Court and Industrial Court of Botswana and taught law at the University of Botswana. He has been a visiting scholar at the University of Pretoria, the University of Cape Town, and the Institute of Development Labour Law in Italy.

The Hon. Justice Dingake holds a PhD in law from the University of Cape Town, an LLM from the University of London, and an LLB from the University of Botswana. He also earned postgraduate certifications from the University of Oslo and the London School of Economics. An honorary professor of public law at the University of Cape Town and an adjunct professor at James Cook University, Australia. He has authored several books on law and justice. He is a leading figure in African judicial and human rights initiatives.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES


Professor Amanda Kennedy

Dean and Head of School of Law, Queensland
University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland
AUSTRALIA

“Judicial capacity-building in environmental law in Cambodia and Lao PDR”

Professor Amanda Kennedy is Professor of Law and Dean and Head of School at the School of Law, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia. Her research focuses on environmental and natural resource governance, with particular expertise in agri-environmental regulation, mining and resources law, environmental justice, land use conflict and decision making, sustainable development, and regulatory approaches to complex sustainability challenges. She has secured competitive Australian Research Council and industry funding, with publications in leading international journals, scholarly monographs and edited collections. Her work is interdisciplinary and policy-engaged, examining how legal frameworks can support more just and sustainable transitions in resource use and environmental management.

Professor Kennedy is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. She currently serves as Chair of the Governing Board of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law (elected member for Oceania), Deputy Co-Chair of the LAWASIA Environmental Law Committee, and is a Fellow of the Asian Research Institute for Environmental Law. Professor Kennedy has also worked with the Asian Development Bank and the Agence Francaise De Developpement to undertake training and capacity building for environmental law academics, lawyers and judicial officers throughout several countries in Asia.


The Hon. Justice Bambang H Mulyono

Chief Judge of the Denpasar High Court, Bali
INDONESIA

“Environmental law training and Environmental Judge Certification in Indonesia”

The Hon. Bambang Hery Mulyono began his judicial career in 1999, serving as a Judge and Chief Judge in eight first-instance courts across various provinces in Indonesia. In 2019, he was appointed as an Appeal Judge at the Jambi High Court, and later that year, he became Head of the Judicial Training Center of Indonesia. In 2022, he was promoted to Head of the Agency for Policy Strategy, Judicial Education and Training at the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia. Since September 2025 he was promoted as Chief Judge of the Denpasar High Court, Bali – Indonesia.

He has a strong focus on environmental law and human rights, actively participating in judicial capacity-building activities since 2004 as a course manager and lecturer. His involvement extends internationally through the UNEP Judicial Portal, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), the Asian Judges Network on Environment (AJNE), the Working Group on Judicial Education & Training (WG JET) under the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices (CACJ), and collaborations with various NGOs in the term of judicial capacity building.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



The Hon. Justice John Carey

Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea and Judge Administrator of the Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

"Judicial capacity-building in environmental law in Papua New Guinea"

The Hon. Justice John G.F. Carey is a Judge of the Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea and Executive Director of the Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE). He is also a member of the Council of the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association (CMJA).

An internationally recognised judicial educator, The Hon. Justice Carey has devoted much of his professional work to strengthening judicial competence, leadership, ethics, and institutional excellence across Commonwealth jurisdictions. He is the creator of the CARE and CARE+E Models, innovative frameworks designed to enhance judicial education, professional development, and organisational effectiveness.

Through his leadership of PNGCJE, The Hon. Justice Carey has led initiatives focused on continuing judicial education, mediation, judicial ethics, court administration, and institutional capacity-building. His work supports courts and judicial training institutions in small and developing jurisdictions seeking to improve judicial performance and access to justice.

The Hon. Justice Carey is an Adjunct Professor at Griffith University.

He is the author of several books on law and judicial practice, including *Judicial Education in Practice: A Guide to Effective Training for Judges*. An active contributor to judicial education initiatives and professional development programmes, he works with courts, judicial academies, and universities to promote judicial excellence and institutional strengthening throughout the Commonwealth.



Dr Chandra Kanta Gyawali

Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Nepal
NEPAL

"The central role of Nepal's judiciary in institutionalising the environmental rule of law in Nepal's constitutional democracy"

Dr Chandra Kanta Gyawali is a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court of Nepal, renowned for his expertise in constitutional law and human rights. With over three decades of distinguished legal practice, he has played a pivotal role in advancing legal and social reforms in Nepal through landmark public interest litigations and constitutional advocacy. He holds a Ph.D. in Constitutional Law from Tribhuvan University and currently serves as the Vice President of the PhD Association of Nepal and an Executive Member of the Nepal Council of World Affairs. He is also a former Board Member of the Institute for Foreign Affairs and former Councilor of the Nepal Bar Council.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

He has been a key figure in legal reforms through public interest litigation and has brought over 161 public interest litigation matters on right of mothers' citizenship to their children end of polygamy system in Nepal, right of senior citizens, rights of minorities, Dalits, rights of the disabilities persons, dissolution of Parliaments, election of three level government as well as pleading over five thousand cases in the High Court and Supreme Court of Nepal and constitutional advocacy in Nepal. He has contributed to the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal through his active involvement in the Constituent Assembly's Constitution making process.

He is a prolific author and has written over three dozen books on constitutions, interpretation of the constitution, federalism and restructuring of the State, electoral system, constituent assembly, equality and citizenship issues, good governance etc. He has also written over 55 peer reviewed articles and over four dozen research reports regarding legal, social and political reforms in the society. He has presented at numerous national and international forums, contributing significantly to the legal sector on federalism, inclusion, judiciary, electoral system, citizenship issues, governance, and human rights.



Mr Solomon Yeo

Co-founder of the Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change, PhD candidate at Te Herenga Waka-Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand
SOLOMON ISLANDS

"From Pacific to the World: How a student and government-led campaign have transformed international and global climate law"

Mr Solomon Yeo is the organisation's first president and campaign director of the Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change – the student-led organisation that was the instrumental grassroots organisation that spearheaded the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on States' Obligations Concerning Climate Change.

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026 |

SESSION 7: ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION



The Hon. Justice Berna Collier,
Justice of National and Supreme Courts of Papua
New Guinea and Justice of Federal Court of Australia

MODERATOR: Environmental Dispute Resolution

The Hon. Justice Collier was appointed a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia in February 2006 and a Judge of the Supreme and National Courts of Papua New Guinea in September 2011. Her Honour has also been a judicial Deputy President of the Administrative Review Tribunal, formerly the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, since November 2015 and an additional Judge of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory since May 2016. From late 2021 to early 2022 her Honour served as the acting President of the former Administrative Appeals Tribunal, and from 2007 to 2010 her Honour served as a part-time Commissioner of the Australian Law Reform Commission.



The Hon. Justice Larissa Andelman,
Justice of Supreme and National Courts of
Papua New Guinea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MODERATOR: "Environmental Dispute Resolution"

The Hon. Justice Larissa Andelman is a Judge of the Supreme Court and National Court of Papua New Guinea appointed in 2025, and as of 2026, she serves as a Judge in Papua New Guinea and is based in Kimbe, West New Britain Province.

Before joining the PNG judiciary, she was an Australian barrister practicing first in Victoria and later in New South Wales. Her legal practice focused on workplace law, discrimination and defamation. From 2021, she served as a Senior Member of the New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

The Hon. Justice Andelman became a mediator with the Community and Justice Centre while studying at university and has been a life time supporter of alternative dispute resolution, practicing as a mediator throughout her career in the law.

The Hon. Justice Andelman is a published author on employment law and has held leadership roles in the legal profession, including serving as President of Women Lawyers Association of NSW from 2019 to 2021.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Ms Deborah Lockhart**

CEO of Australian Disputes Centre, Sydney, NSW
AUSTRALIA

“Beyond the Western lens: Adapting ADR for environmental justice in the Pacific – The ADC Partnership Process”

Ms Deborah Lockhart has served as the CEO of Australian Disputes Centre (ADC) since 2013. She is a thought-leader for ADR in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. ADC is an independent not-for-profit, dedicated to helping businesses, governments, communities, and individuals thrive by accessing world-class conflict management and dispute resolution processes and skills.

Before joining the not-for-profit sector, Ms. Lockhart worked for over 20 years as an executive, consultant, and expert to a range of ASX 100 and Fortune 500 companies as a change agent and dispute resolution specialist. Ms. Lockhart introduced the efficacy of ADR processes for the financial services sector from the early 1990's, including establishing and managing the successful greenfield Dispute Resolution team for INGA Australia and leading multiple remediation programmes where ASIC Enforceable Undertakings were threatened or imposed.

Ms Lockhart holds an LLB from Victoria University of Wellington and was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand. She trained as a mediator with Harvard Law School in the early 1990s and is a nationally accredited mediator in Australia. Deborah also holds ADC's Advanced Mediator accreditation and has completed additional ADR training with LEADR, the University of Technology Sydney and Cinergy Conflict Coaching.

Ms Lockhart is a founding member of the Council for Australian Dispute Resolution and Editorial Panel Member, LexisNexis ADR Bulletin.

**Ms Susan Dixon**

Senior Commissioner of the Land and Environment
Court of NSW, Sydney, NSW
AUSTRALIA

“Framing the Forum to Fit the Fuss: Bespoke Environmental Dispute Resolution”

Ms Susan Dixon is the Senior Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales. Prior to being appointed in January 2018, Ms Dixon served as a full time Commissioner of the Court from 2009 and the Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the Court from 2004 to 2009. She is an Australian lawyer, having worked in private practice for 12 years before moving to the public sector in 2002. She has extensive experience in planning, environmental, local government, resource and administrative law and alternative dispute resolution.

Ms Dixon has a BA/LLB from Macquarie University and she holds an AGSM Graduate Certificate in Management 2024 from UNSW Business School and is a Nationally Accredited Mediator. She also acts as a Mining Commissioner with the Court.

Before her appointment to the Court she was in-house counsel in the Department of Primary Industry and Mineral Resources and a Senior Member of the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal.

Ms Dixon is an occasional lecturer in environmental litigation and alternative dispute resolution at the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, University of New South Wales, University of Technology Sydney and University of Notre Dame, Sydney.

She has been involved in a number of Court-facilitated environmental capacity-building programs, including for judiciaries throughout Asia.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES


Ms Briony Eales

Consultant to the Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Team Leader for Judicial Capacity Building in Environmental
and Climate Change Law, Manila
PHILIPPINES

“Remedies at the frontline: Can Community-Level Dispute Resolution deliver environmental accountability?”

Ms Briony Eales specializes in climate, environmental, social, and governance law. As a consultant to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), she serves as Team Leader for Judicial Capacity Building in Environmental and Climate Change Law. The program supports the Asian Judges Network on the Environment and regional judicial conferences that facilitate judicial exchanges across Asia and the Pacific. Ms. Eales has led the development of judicial curricula and training in environmental law, with particular emphasis on legal syllogism and case management. She regularly speaks on Asian and Pacific environmental and climate change law.

With 25 years of experience advising public- and private-sector clients across Australia and Asia, Briony’s work has spanned national climate law updates, climate change strategy, and reviews of environmental law frameworks. She has also advised corporate entities on resettlement, environmental and social impacts, indigenous community engagement, governance, and risk management.

Ms Eales served as editor-in-chief and lead author of ADB’s four-part climate law report series, *Climate Change, Coming Soon to a Court Near You* (2020), which explores climate change law, policy, and litigation across Asia and the Pacific. The second report offers a thematic review of regional climate and environmental litigation compared with global approaches. She co-authored “Mind the Gap: Biodiversity and Climate Change” in the 2024 Edwin Elgar Research Handbook on Climate Change and Biodiversity Law and wrote “Bridging Climate and Biodiversity Law: Toward Coherent, Rights-Based Environmental Governance in Asia and the Pacific” (2025), a discussion paper supporting ADB’s Asia-Pacific Climate Report 2025.


Mr Bryce Williams

Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)
THE NETHERLANDS

“The Permanent Court of Arbitrations’ international perspective and expertise on environmental dispute settlement and its relevance in the Pacific context”

Mr Bryce Williams is Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague, the Netherlands.

As Legal Counsel, Mr Williams has acted as registrar in a range of inter-State, investor-State, and other arbitral proceedings, including a number of disputes with an environmental dimension.

Mr Williams regularly briefs State officials and practitioners on environmental dispute settlement, including in the Pacific region (most recently in Port Vila in October 2025, and in Nadi and in Port Vila in November 2024). Mr Williams is also the Court’s representative to the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Prior to joining the PCA, Mr. Williams was an associate in the London office of Latham & Watkins, where he acted as counsel in international commercial and investment arbitrations. Mr Williams holds an LL.M. in International Dispute Settlement (MIDS) (Honours) from the Graduate Institute and University of Geneva, and an LL.B. (First Class Honours) and Bachelor of International Studies, both from the University of Sydney.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Ms Mary Walker OAM**

Barrister | 9 Wentworth Chambers, Sydney
AUSTRALIA

“Modelling Complex Environmental Dispute Resolution Processes - The Challenges”

Ms Mary Walker OAM has been at the forefront of ADR in Australia for the last 36 years during which, as a member of an independent Bar, she has arbitrated, acted as expert determiner and expert appraiser, provided ombudsman services, mediated, facilitated and negotiated across jurisdictions and substantive legal areas. She is also internationally recognised as an ADR practitioner. She was Co-Chair of the International Bar Association Mediation Committee and is a member of the IBA Mediation Committee Advisory Board as was Chair of the Law Council of Australia (LCA) International Law Section 2020-2023. She is a Co-Chair of the LCA International Dispute Resolution/International Arbitration Committee and South Pacific Issues Committee and a long term Chair of the Federal Dispute Resolution Section ADR Committee.

In 1995, she was sponsored by Harvard University to teach with Professor Frank Sander (the originator of the modern ADR movement) and she has trained hundreds of mediators and ADR practitioners and lectured in many university courses on ADR. She has appeared before UNCITRAL on behalf of the International Bar Association (55th and 56th Sessions re Codes of Conduct and Guidelines for judges, arbitrators and mediators for international dispute resolution). She has been a member of many Taskforces on mediation and ADR including as a member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Task Force on ADR and Arbitration, Paris and committees such as the Supreme Court of NSW ADR Committee and International Mediation Institute (IMI) Standards Commission. Ms Walker OAM is an Australian delegate to the ICC Paris. She is a member of the Hague Court of Arbitration for Aviation Advisory Board and a member of the IMI Ethics Committee and Quality Assurance Committee.

She is a member of many international ADR panels including the CEDR Investor-State mediation panel and the Abu Dhabi Global Market Financial Centre (ADGM) panel. She is a multi-award winning ADR professional, including being inducted into the Australian ADR Awards Hall of Fame as its Inaugural member in 2019, she was appointed a Fellow of the Australian Dispute Resolution Association (ADRA) for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Australian Dispute Resolution’ and was later (in 2021) awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for ‘Service to the Law’.

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026 | SESSION 8: CLOSING SESSION



The Hon. Justice Antonio H Benjamin
Chief Justice of the National High Court of Brazil
BRAZIL

Keynote address: *"The enduring importance of the environmental rule of law in times of change"*

The Hon. Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin is a Justice and President of the Superior Tribunal de Justiça (STJ), the National High Court of Brazil. He was appointed to the court in 2006 by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. He was appointed as President in 2024. Prior to his appointment, Justice Benjamin was an Assistant Attorney General of the State of São Paulo for over twenty years.

His academic credentials include a Masters degree from the University of Illinois College of Law and a Doctorate in Law from UFRGS in Porto Alegre. He has held positions as a Visiting Professor at the University of Texas School of Law and currently serves as a Professor at UNISANTA.

Recognized as one of Brazil's leading authorities in Environmental, Civil Liability, and Consumer Law, Justice Benjamin has contributed significantly to judicial education as the Vice Director of the Sálvio de Figueiredo Teixeira National School for Training and Improvement of Judges.

His environmental leadership extends globally as President of the Brazilian Environmental Forum of Judges and director of the LLM Program on Justice at Brazil's National Judicial Academy (ENFAM). He served as the Chair of the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) of the IUCN, President of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment, and Secretary-General of the International Advisory Council for Environmental Justice of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Additionally, he is a member of the UN Secretary-General Legal Expert Group on Crimes against the Environment and has served for a decade as Councillor of the Brazilian Environmental Council.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Mr Shyam Divan**

Immediate Past President of LAWASIA
INDIA

Mr Shyam Divan is a senior advocate and practices before the Supreme Court of India. His areas of practice cover constitutional law and most branches of civil litigation including banking, securities law, arbitration, administrative law, and environmental law.

In 2021 he received the International Privacy Champion Award from the Electronic Privacy Information Center for his role in a set of privacy protection cases.

He is the co-author of Environmental Law and Policy in India: Cases and Materials (3rd Ed, Oxford, 2022) and has authored chapters on Public Interest Litigation in the Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution (2016) and on The Environment and the Constitution in the Oxford Handbook of Environmental and Natural Resources Law in India (published in 2024).

Mr Divan is the immediate Past President of LAWASIA.

**The Hon. Justice Derek Wood**

Justice of the Supreme and National Courts, and Judge
Administrator, Resources, Environment and Climate
Change Track, National Court
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Hon. Justice Derek Wood was appointed as a Judge of the National Court and Supreme Court in December 2023 in Papua New Guinea. He was previously a partner with Ashurst Lawyers in Port Moresby, having arrived in Papua New Guinea in 2004. Whilst at Ashurst, The Hon. Justice Wood practiced in a number of areas, including commercial litigation, employment law, defamation law and mining law.

Prior to working in PNG, The Hon. Justice Wood was a solicitor with Blake Dawson Waldron (now known as Ashurst) in Melbourne.

The Hon. Justice Wood is an accredited mediator in Papua New Guinea and has conducted mediations across a broad spectrum of matters in National Court disputes. He is a member of the National Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, which was responsible for the drafting of the first ADR Rules, which were introduced into the National Court in early 2010. The ADR Rules provide the mechanism for the referral of National Court disputes to mediation.

The Hon. Justice Wood is the Judge Administrator of the newly formed Resources, Environment and Climate Change Track within the National Court.



Dr Gordon Hughes AM

Deputy Chair of South Pacific Lawyers Association
Secretary-General | LAWASIA
AUSTRALIA

Dr Gordon Hughes AM, a leading international expert on IT and Data Protection Law, became a LAWASIA member in 1988. His considerable service to the legal profession is documented through election to the roles of President of the Victorian Society for Computers and Law (1991-1994), President of the Law Institute of Victoria (1992-1993), and President of Australia's peak body, the Law Council of Australia from 1999 to 2000.

After serving as an Executive Committee member and Vice-President he became LAWASIA President in 2001 and played a fundamental role in increasing its profile in all areas. He worked actively throughout the region during his presidency, earning the respect and admiration of many for his dedication to positioning LAWASIA as an invaluable resource for all lawyers with an interest in the international legal community.

He was appointed a Distinguished Member of Council in 2005 and in 2007 he was made an honorary Life Member of LAWASIA in recognition of his significant and continued support. Subsequent to his presidency, he chaired the LAWASIA Business Law Section and in 2021 he assumed the role of LAWASIA Secretary-General on a part-time basis.

In 2017, Dr Hughes was awarded an Order of Australia "for significant service to the law, to professional organisations and to international affairs and legal practice in the Asia-Pacific region".

Closing Address



His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Bob Bofeng Dadae GCL, GCMG, KStJ

Governor General of Papua New Guinea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Bob Bofeng Dadae is the current Governor-General of Papua New Guinea, having been appointed in 2017. Prior to his appointment, His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Dadae was elected to the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea in 2002 and had a significant political career, service as Deputy Speaker and Defense Minister.

His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Dadae was appointed to the Order of St Michael and St George and the Order of St John in 2017.

He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Papua New Guinea and a Master of Business Administration from Griffith University.

