

African Regional Group of the International Union of Judges. Meeting in Casablanca, April 21-24, 2025

PROGRAM

Monday, April 21, 2025

Morning session in the conference room of the Mohammed VI University of Sciences and Health

8:30 a.m. Welcome and registration of representatives of delegations participating in the congress.

9:30 a.m. :Opening session featuring official speeches by:

- M. Mohamed Redouane, President of the Organizing Committee, President of the Hassania Association of Magistrates.
- M. Mohamed Abdenabaoui, First President of the Court of Cassation and Delegate President of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary.
- M. Moulay Hassan Dakki, Attorney General to the court of cassation and President of the Public Ministry.
- M. Abdelatif Wehbi, Minister of Justice.
- Mr. Giacomo Oberto, Secretary General of the International Union of Judges.
- Mme Kouassi Marcelle, President of African Group.

12:00 p.m. : Screening of a documentary on Morocco's parallel judicial diplomacy, highlighting Morocco's prominent role in strengthening legal and judicial cooperation at the African and international levels.

12:30 p.m. : Signing of a partnership and cooperation agreement Between the Hassania Association of Magistrates and the Mohammed VI Institution for Science and Health

1:00 p.m. : Official luncheon in honor of the participants

Afternoon Session in the conference room of the Mohammed VI University of Sciences and Health

3:00 p.m:

International Conference

"Justice and Media in the Age of Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence."

Session Management:

Session Chair: [M. Mohamed ESSEDIQ MAANINOU](#), Moroccan Journalist and Writer

Session Secretary: [Mrs. Samiha LAALAJ](#)

Session General Reporter: [M. Youssef BOUNAILLAT](#)

Scientific Presentations:

3:10 p.m / First Presentation:

"Investigation and Judgment Procedures in Crimes Related to Online Press."

Speaker: [M. Abdellaziz RAJI](#), Attorney General at the Court of Appeal of Rabat.

3:30 p.m / Second Presentation:

"Digital Media and the Challenges of Preserving Public Opinion: Combating Fake News and Protecting Democratic Values."

Speaker: [Mrs. Latifa AKHARBACH](#), President of the High Authority of Audiovisual Communication.

3:50 p.m / Third Presentation:

"Judicial Security in the Digital Age and Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Protection Strategies."

Speaker: [M. Mohammed BOUZLAF](#), Dean of the Faculty of Legal, Economic, and Social Sciences - Mohammed Ben Abdellah University/Fès.

4:10 p.m / Fourth Presentation:

"Judicial Independence and Freedom of Expression: Safeguards in the Age of Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence."

Speaker: [M. El Houcein ZIANI](#), President of the Moroccan Bar Association.

4:30 p.m / Fifth Presentation:

"The Relationship Between Media and Justice: Towards a Partnership to Strengthen Justice and Democracy."

Speaker: [M. Khalid Belyazid](#), CEO of Eco-Medias Group.

General Discussion.

8:30 p.m Official dinner in honor of the participants

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at Hotel Sofitel:

African Regional Group of the International Association of Judges

AGENDA

Morning session:

1. Opening and Welcome ;
2. Approval of summary report of the Group's meeting held in Cape Town (South Africa) in October 18, 2024;
3. President's report ;
4. African Group member association's reports;

10:30 a.m

Tea break

11:00 a.m : Continuation of the presentation of national reports

5. Declaration(s) et Resolution(s) ;

1:00 p.m

Lunch

Afternoon session:

6. Assistance Fund for Judges: election of 1 member per RG;
7. Election Group's preferred candidate as IAJ Vice-President ;

4:00 p.m

Tea break

4:30 p.m

8. Meeting in Baku with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Prof. Margaret Satterthwaite:

**Preparation of an overview of the situation of the judiciaries
in their respective regions to be submitted by the President**

9. Associations which have not paid their contributions for several years;
10. Budget ;
11. Venue of the next meeting ;
12. Miscellaneous.

8:30 p.m

Dinner in honor of members and their companions

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Morning session at Hotel Sofitel:

International Conference:
"Perspectives on Judicial Independence in Africa"

First Focus Area:
"Challenges Impacting Judicial Independence in Africa"

Session Management:

Session Chair: [Mrs. Amina Bouayach](#),

President of the National Human Rights Council;

Member of the High Council of the Judiciary;

President of the World Federation of Human Rights Institutions

Session Secretary: [Mrs. LAMIAA ABOUZOUR](#)

Session General Reporter: [M. Abdelrahim ELJAMAL](#)

Scientific Presentations

9:00 a.m / First Presentation:

**"Constitutional Safeguards of Judicial Independence in Africa:
Fundamental Principles and Applications."**

Speaker: [M. Idriss DAHAK](#), Former First President of the Supreme Court.

9:20 a.m / Second Presentation:

"The Professional Security of Judges in Africa."

Speaker: [M. El Alami MECHICHI IDRISI](#), Former Minister of Justice.

9:40 a.m / Third Presentation:

**"The Judiciary in Morocco: Analysis of Challenges and Achievements
in the Context of Judicial Reforms."**

Speaker: [M. Ahmed EL GHAZALI](#), Member of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary.

10:00 a.m / Fourth Presentation:

**"The Social and Economic Protection of Judges
in Light of International Standards."**

Speaker: [M. Mohamed Ben Alilou](#), President of the National Commission for Integrity, Prevention and the Fight against Corruption

10:20 a.m / Fifth Presentation:

**"Challenges and Future Perspectives of Judicial
Independence in Africa."**

Speaker: [M. Mamadou KONATE](#), Former Minister of Justice of Mali, Lawyer at the Mali and Paris Bars

10:45 a.m

Tea break

11:15 a.m

General Discussion.

1:00 p.m

Official dinner in honor of the participants

Afternoon session at Hotel Sofitel:

Second Focus Area:

"Judicial Sovereignty of African Countries" Session Management:

Session Management:

Session Chair: [M. Abdellah MAOUNI](#), Member of the High Council of the Judiciary

Session Secretary: [Mrs. Wafaa LAMLES](#)

Session General Reporter: [M. Abdelrahim ELJAMAL](#)

Scientific Presentations

3:10 p.m / First Presentation:

"Internal Challenges in African Countries: Corruption, Political Instability, and Their Impact on Judicial Independence."

Speaker: [M. Mustapha EL BAAJ](#), Advisor to the Court of Cassation, Judge at the United Nations International Rehabilitation Mechanism

3:30 p.m / Second Presentation:

"Colonial Legacy and Its Effects on Judicial Independence in Africa."

Speaker: [M. El Ghali Ghilani](#), Professor of Legal Sciences at Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech and President of the International Diplomatic Center.

3:50 p.m / Third Presentation:

"Economic and Social Impacts on Judicial Independence: Coastal Countries as a Model."

Speaker: [M. Guindo Issika](#); Professor at Sorbonne University in Paris, France.

4:10 p.m / Fourth Presentation:

"Regional and International Judicial Cooperation: A Tool to Enhance Judicial Independence and Development in Africa."

Speaker: [Mrs. Wafaa Ezouidi](#), President of the International Judicial Cooperation and Human Rights Division at the Public Ministry.

4:30 p.m / Fifth Presentation:

"External Interventions and Their Impact on Judicial Independence in Africa."

Speaker: [M. Mohammed Aiyat](#), Academic and International Expert.

5:00 p.m

Tea break

5:30 p.m

General Discussion.

6:30 p.m

Reading of recommendations and the message of loyalty and fidelity addressed to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God glorify him.

8:30 p.m

Official dinner in honor of conference participants

Thursday, April 24, 2025

Institutional and Cultural Visits - the city of Rabat

As part of exploring the judicial and cultural institutions of the Kingdom of Morocco, an institutional and tourist visit will be organized in the capital Rabat, including visits to several iconic sites of legal, historical, and cultural significance, according to the following program:

Visit to judicial institutions

10:00 a.m• The headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary, to understand its role in strengthening judicial independence and anchoring the rule of law.

11:00 a.m• The headquarters of the Public Ministry, to learn about its missions in implementing criminal policy and protecting rights and freedoms.

12:00 p.m• Office of the Ombudsman

1:30 p.m

Lunch in honor of the guests

Visit to archaeological and cultural sites:

3:00 p.m• The Mohammed V Mausoleum and Hassan Mosque.

4:00 p.m• The archaeological site of Chellah, one of the oldest historical monuments in Morocco, symbolizing the crossroads of civilizations through the ages.

8:30 p.m

Free evening

Friday, April 25, 2025

Gradual departure of delegations participating in the congress.