



3^o International Conference on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems

Tbilisi, November 13-15, 2018

Programme of Breakout Sessions

Breakout sessions are an opportunity for conference participants to gather in smaller groups for discussion on specific topics of interest to their region, role in the criminal justice system, and particular areas of development. Participants are encouraged to provide examples from their own experiences, and critically engage with the informations provided by moderators and other participants to pull out the practical lessons that can be applied in their work going forward.

There are eight (8) breakout sessions each on Day 1 and Day 2 of the conference. These sessions will occur simultaneously, so please review the below and choose which breakout session you would like to attend each day. A more detailed list of the breakout sessions, including moderators and locations, will be included in the information you receive upon checking into the conference.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



DAY 1

13 November 2018

16:15 – 18:00

1	<p>STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS IN THE MENA REGION</p> <p>Location: Meeting Room 5</p> <p>Language: Arabic/English</p> <p>Participants from the Middle East and North Africa will discuss issues of common concern, e.g., many have large and active lawyers associations and yet underdeveloped criminal legal aid systems and structure. The right to legal aid may also be limited (i.e., to those charged with felony offenses). Participants may also explore regional partnerships or potential conference follow-up that may help to advance the right to legal aid.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Monica Rispo, UNDP Jordan Ms. Nicole Taylor, The International Legal Foundation</p>
2	<p>STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS IN AFRICA</p> <p>Location: Meeting Room 3</p> <p>Language: French/English</p> <p>Participants from countries in Africa will discuss issues of common concern, e.g., a lack of resources and lawyers to provide legal aid services. Participants may also explore regional partnerships or potential conference follow-up that may help to advance the right to legal aid in Africa, including establishing a regional legal aid network, and implementation of regional instruments intended to protect the rights of the accused, including the Luanda Guidelines on Arrest, Police Custody, and Pretrial Detention adopted by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Judge Motsamai Makume, Legal Aid South Africa Ms. Patricia Ntahorubuze, UNDP Burundi</p>
3	<p>STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS IN ASIA-PACIFIC</p> <p>Location: Meeting Room 8</p> <p>Language: English</p> <p>Participants from Asia and the Pacific will discuss issues of common concern, and explore ways to expand regional innovations and best practices throughout the region. Participants may also explore regional partnerships or follow up that may help to advance the right to criminal legal aid in Asia and the Pacific.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Holly Hobart, The International Legal Foundation Mr. Kenta Inagaki, UNDP New York</p>
4	<p>STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS IN EURASIA</p> <p>Location: Congress Hall</p> <p>Language: Russian/English</p> <p>Participants from Eurasia will discuss issues of common concern, and explore ways to expand regional innovations and best practices. Participants may also explore regional partnerships or follow up that may help to advance the right to criminal legal aid in Eurasia.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Sezin Uskent, UNDP Turkey Ms. Rusudan Tushuri, UNDP Georgia</p>

5	<p>STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS IN EUROPE Location: Grand Ballroom – Left Side Language: English</p> <p>Participants from Europe will discuss issues of common concern, and explore ways to expand regional innovations and best practices, including through implementation of the EU directive on legal aid. Participants may also explore regional partnerships or follow up that may help to advance the right to criminal legal aid in Europe.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Jago Russell, Fair Trials Ms. Irmina Pacho, Open Society Justice Initiative</p>
6	<p>THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF LEGAL AID BOARDS IN ADMINISTRATION OF LEGAL AID SYSTEMS Location: Grand Ballroom – Right Side Language: English</p> <p>This session will discuss the role of legal aid boards in the administration of legal aid services, whether in developing or well-established legal aid systems, including some of the challenges and inefficiencies that legal aid boards often face, and ways that they can maximize their effectiveness and efficiency.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Sophio Chachava, Chairperson of the Georgia Legal Aid Board Ms. Jennifer Smith, The International Legal Foundation</p>
7	<p>THE ROLE OF BAR ASSOCIATIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN LEGAL AID Location: Meeting Room 4 – Right Side Language: English</p> <p>This session will enable bar association representatives, government officials and defense lawyers to discuss the role and responsibility of bar associations and the private sector in ensuring quality legal representation to the indigent accused, including the role of bar associations, the role of civil society and other private organizations in delivering legal aid, coordinating assigned counsel systems, adopting performance standards for legal aid providers, and providing training.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Ainura Bekkoenova, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub Mr. Rick Jones, Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem; Director, The International Legal Foundation</p>
8	<p>ESTABLISHING LEGAL AID DELIVERY SYSTEMS IN CRISIS-AFFECTED, FRAGILE, AND TRANSITIONING COUNTRIES Location: Meeting Room 4 – Left Side Language: English</p> <p>Participants from crisis-affected, fragile, and transitioning countries with nonexistent or newly established criminal legal aid systems will discuss their unique challenges, including limited financial resources and inadequate numbers of lawyers, and share best practices about how to develop laws, policies, and effective legal aid institutions.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Najaf Rajai, UNDP Afghanistan Ms. Betsy Walters, The International Legal Foundation</p>

DAY 2
14 November 2018
16:00 – 18:00

1	<p>BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO PROVIDING PROMPT ACCESS TO LEGAL AID IN THE MENA REGION Location: Meeting Room 5 Language: Arabic/English</p> <p>Participants from the Middle East and North Africa will discuss the common barriers to providing early access to quality representation, as well as potential solutions such as the establishment of official mechanisms to ensure early access to counsel, and institutionalizing training for legal aid providers and other key stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Corrado Quinto, UNDP Tunisia Ms. Nicole Taylor, The International Legal Foundation</p>
2	<p>BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO PROVIDING PROMPT ACCESS TO LEGAL AID IN AFRICA Location: Meeting Room 3 Language: French/English</p> <p>Participants from Africa will discuss the common barriers to providing early access to quality representation, as well as potential solutions such as the establishment of official mechanisms to ensure early access to counsel, and institutionalizing training on both legal knowledge and skills for legal aid providers and other key stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Benoit Turcotte, Board Member, Court Access Project Professor David McQuoid-Mason, Professor of Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal</p>
3	<p>BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO PROVIDING PROMPT ACCESS TO LEGAL AID IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC Location: Meeting Room 8 Language: English</p> <p>Participants from Asia and the Pacific will discuss the common barriers to providing early access to quality representation, as well as potential solutions such as the establishment of official mechanisms to ensure early access to counsel, and institutionalizing training on both legal knowledge and skills for legal aid providers and other key stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Tek Tamata, UNDP Nepal Raja Bagga, MSc Criminal Justice Policy, London School of Economics</p>
4	<p>BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO PROVIDING PROMPT ACCESS TO LEGAL AID IN EURASIA Location: Congress Hall Language: Russian/English</p> <p>Participants from Eurasia will discuss the common barriers to providing early access to quality representation, as well as potential solutions such as the establishment of official mechanisms to ensure early access to counsel, and institutionalizing training on both legal knowledge and skills for legal aid providers and other key stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Marine Malkhasyan, UNDP Armenia</p>

5	<p>PUSHING FORWARD ON ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16 Location: Grand Ballroom – Left Side Language: English</p> <p>This session will address progress and challenges in achieving Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. More than two years after its adoption, experiences have been made in many countries, moving forward to increase access to justice for all, including through translating the global framework into national level approaches. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss progress achieved towards SDG 16 that through strategies, policies and concrete measures, as well as setbacks and obstacles they are facing and approaches to overcome these obstacles.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Anika Holterhof, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Ms. Ainura Bekkoenova, UNDP Istanbul Hub</p>
6	<p>USING LITIGATION AND ADVOCACY TO ADVANCE RIGHTS AND IMPACT SYSTEM REFORM Location: Grand Ballroom – Right Side Language: English</p> <p>Legal aid service providers and other stakeholders will discuss effective means of using litigation and advocacy in ways that look beyond the individual client and case, and seek to address systemic abuses and advance the protection of the rights of all accused.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Ms. Holly Hobart, Program Director, The International Legal Foundation Mr. Jago Russell, Chief Executive, Fair Trials</p>
7	<p>STRATEGIES FOR PLANNING AND ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL AID IN NEW AND DEVELOPING LEGAL AID SYSTEMS Location: Meeting Room 4 – Right Side Language: English</p> <p>Participants will discuss strategies for strengthening the capacity of the government to ensure effective criminal legal aid, use of statistical information for the management of legal aid, assessing the workload of public defenders, and assessment of necessary financial and human resources to meet the legal needs of vulnerable populations.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Mr. Kakha Tsikarishvili, UNDP Georgia Mr. Nicolás Laino, Office of the Federal Public Defender, Argentina</p>
8	<p>ESTABLISHING REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS OF LEGAL AID PROVIDERS Location: Meeting Room 4 – Left Side Language: English</p> <p>This session will discuss the role that regional bodies, networks, and instruments play in the development of effective legal aid systems, including by clarifying the obligations of States in providing access to legal aid, promoting best practices, advocating for the right to legal aid at the highest levels, and providing forums for continued discussion and learning, in line with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) 2016 resolution 25/2, entitled “Promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers”.</p> <p><u>Facilitators:</u> Marina Ilminska, Open Society Justice Initiative Betsy Walters, The International Legal Foundation</p>

